

DAVID GILMOUR

ON AN ISLAND



ON AN ISLAND ★★★★★

David Gilmour, SonyBMG

David Gilmour, CBE, is nothing if not considered and measured.

This is the 61-year-old's third solo album. His second, *About Face*, was 22 years ago, and his first self-titled one was 28 years ago. To be fair he has had band duties, that band being Pink Floyd. He was Syd Barrett's replacement as guitarist and he has been at the centre of one of the most bitter splits in rock history when the band and Roger Waters parted ways. *On an Island* is Gilmour's defining moment. It combines his trademark guitar solos that soar into the star belt with an ethereal harmonic structure that is alternatively wistful, melancholic and spiritual.

Key track: the title number, *On an Island*. It starts slowly with acoustic guitar and Gilmour's breathy, dreamy, high vocals; David Crosby and Graham Nash join voices before the electric guitar builds up the intensity then fades as the harmonies drift back in.

Warwick McFadyen