

Rolling Stone®

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Who does **Pink Floyd's David Gilmour** talk to about *On an Island*, his first solo album since 1984? Nobody -- except the Smoking Section. Gilmour dropped us a line from the London studio where he's putting the final touches to the album, due in March. "I hope people will think it's great," says Gilmour. "It's the best thing I've ever done." Gilmour has been collecting song ideas since releasing Pink Floyd's *Division Bell* in 1994, but *On an Island* began taking form in 2004, when Gilmour teamed with **Phil Manzanera** to co-produce and tapped his wife, **Polly**, a writer, to add lyrics. The title track features harmonies from **Graham Nash** and **David Crosby**, and -- put fresh water in the bong -- there are three instrumentals. Gilmour's ten-date U.S. tour in April will include Floyd tunes, but don't hold your breath for a full-fledged reunion. Gilmour politely says he enjoyed their Live 8 set "immensely" but adds, "Taking the gravy train for a Pink Floyd greatest-hits show is not what I need to be doing at this stage in my life."

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