

David Gilmour

On an Island (EMI)

★★★☆☆

It doesn't take long for Gilmour to hit his stride.

After a spot of sonic noodling on Castellorizon — just as a reminder of the man's avant-garde credentials — the title song drifts in.

It's one of those slow-building epics, complete with comfortably vague lyrics fleshed out by the sweet voices of David Crosby and Graham Nash, that is really nothing more than a showcase for the man's trademark Mt Everest-scaling guitar.

I can already see a million cigarette lighters raised aloft in salute.

Despite the occasional intrusion of a modern noise, this is a thoroughly traditional rock album, expertly produced and played by true craftsmen. It's Pink Floyd without the dreaded pomp.



Pete Clark