

On an Island

David Gilmour

EMI

Pink Floyd became as swollen and preposterous as the inflatable pigs that used to float over their mega-concerts. So this solo album, David Gilmour's first since 1984, is a shock. Aided by a crack squad of antique rockers, including David Crosby, Graham Nash and Robert Wyatt, it's reflective and beguiling. "Ebb and flow, let it go," Gilmour sings, as if describing the rippling ambient-rock riffs he coaxes from his guitar in these sweeping, wide-eyed songs. Pink Floyd's reunion concert at Live 8 was their last, he insists. This album is his sigh of relief. *Ludovic Hunter-Tilney*