

DROPKICK – Balance The Light

Rock Indiana Records / Sound Asleep Records

Available formats: Download, Vinyl (Lindi 419/ ZZZ034) and CD (Cindi 419/ ZZZ033)

Album released 25th March 2016

www.dropkickmusic.co.uk

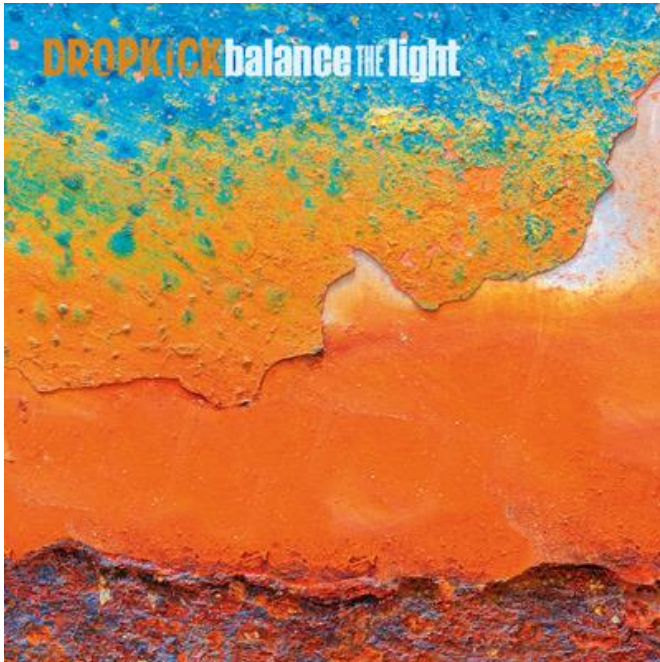
Hailing from the east of Scotland, Dropkick have drawn on influences such as Wilco, Tom Petty and The Everly Brothers to produce their own blend of harmony-driven alt-country powerpop.

“Songs that capture a power pop spirit tinged with a country edge, shimmering guitars and vocal harmonies recall classic California bands and more local contemporaries such as Teenage Fanclub and Daniel Wyllie.” Americana UK

“Their music has an originality about it that defies explanation.....blending almost equal parts alternative, indie-pop, folk and country.”
Maverick Magazine

“Scotland’s finest alt-country power-pop band.” Tom Morton, BBC Radio Scotland

“Scotland’s 3rd best band ... fabulous melodies a-plenty and more hooks than Bob Nudd’s fishing bag.” The Scotsman Newspaper



Dropkick is:

Andrew Taylor – Vocals, guitar

Roy Taylor – Vocals, guitar

Scott Tobin – Vocals, bass

Ian Grier – Piano, organ, synth

Mike Foy – Drums

Tracklisting

1. Save Myself
2. I'm Over It
3. I Wish I Knew
4. Where Do You Think I Went Wrong?
5. Out Of Love Again
6. Wake Me In The Morning
7. Homeward
8. Slow Down
9. A Long Way To Go
10. Think For Yourself

Produced, Engineered and Mixed by Andrew Taylor

Mastered by Alastair Taylor

Artwork and Design by Alan Lennon

'Balance The Light' is Dropkick's most accomplished and creative collection of songs to date, demonstrating a growing maturity and confidence in their songwriting and arrangements. 'Balance The Light' showcases the ear for melody and harmony that has helped Dropkick's music appeal to a growing band of fans around the world and is their most varied album of material to date. Their 14th album, 'Balance The Light' features the vocals and guitar talents of Roy W. Taylor, returning to the band after a 5 year hiatus, replacing founding member Alastair Taylor. Recorded mostly live in their own Edinburgh rehearsal space, 'Balance The Light' is the sound of a band at the peak of their powers, drawing on a variety of influences across genres to create a unique mix of Pop, Americana and Folk.

Since the release of their self-titled, self-released debut album in 2001, the band has now released a total of 13 albums and 3 EPs, making them one of Scotland's most prolific bands. Their 2008 album 'Dot The I' was re-issued on Rock Indiana Records of Spain and was also "album of the week" on BBC Radio Nan Gaidheal. In autumn 2008 Dropkick's relationship with Sound Asleep Records of Sweden began with the release of the critically acclaimed album 'Patchwork'. This was followed by a further 3 albums and 1 EP over the next four years. In 2013, Dropkick released the 'Homeward' which was well received and was also licensed for release in Spain on the Discos Bobo Integral label. The album saw Dropkick expand to a 5 piece line up for the first time, allowing the band to explore new sounds, showcasing organ and synths, creating a richer production with more sonic depth than previous releases. In 2014, Dropkick revived their relationship with Spanish label, Rock Indiana Records, to release a compilation of tracks from their earlier, hard to find, albums. The compilation, 'Good Vibes: The Dropkick Songbook Vol.1' was released specifically to coincide with a highly successful, headline tour of Spain.

Dropkick have played countless numbers of gigs in their career, including several headline Scottish tours, the Darvel Festival, Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival, International Pop Overthrow Festival, Summer Pie Festival Mallorca, numerous Spanish shows (including an album launch gig in Madrid in May 2011) and, most recently, 7 headline shows in Spain. They have also had significant airplay recently, including BBC Radio 2 and BBC Radio Scotland's Tom Morton, Roddy Hart, Brand New Country, Iain Anderson, Get It On, Vic Galloway and Janice Forsyth shows. Dropkick have performed 10 songs live on the Tom Morton Show on BBC Radio Scotland, firstly on an outside broadcast in July 2007 and then at the BBC studios in Glasgow as part of a Children In Need special. They have also played live on the same station's 'Highland Café' show in July 2008 and again in July 2009. Elsewhere, Dropkick have had a huge amount of airplay around the world, but most notably in Spain where the band's popularity increased dramatically thanks to the internet. In 2015, Dropkick, played a live song for Balcony TV, filmed in Palma, Mallorca and showcased worldwide online.

In recent years Dropkick have shared the stage with acts such as Mark Olson (The Jayhawks), Seasick Steve, The Primary 5, Half Man Half Biscuit, Snow Patrol, Kit Clark (ex-Danny Wilson), The Hazey Janes, Nigel Clark (Dodgy), The Lost Brothers, Sid Griffin (The Long Ryders), Aberfeldy, Roddy Hart & The Lonesome Fire, Andrew Wazlysk (Idlewild), The Supernaturals and 'Guitar George' Borowski. Andrew Taylor has also produced recordings by many other bands, most notably the critically acclaimed albums "The Long Haul" and "The End of the Golden Age" by The Wynthtown Marshals.

Following a short German and Scottish tour in April and some festival appearances in the summer, Dropkick will head to Spain once again for a 5 date tour in October 2016.

REVIEWS

"The result is a multi-layered collection of pure pop songs that range from pedal steel laced ballads to more baroque opuses with sumptuous keyboards and occasional studio effects.... their most accomplished effort to date, an album that is polished and proud outgrowing their various influences which have dotted previous album reviews." No Depression review (Paul Kerr) of 'Homeward' album.

"Their music has an originality about it that defies explanation.....blending almost equal parts alternative, indie-pop, folk and country." Maverick Magazine review of 'Homeward' album.

"The harmonies and songwriting is like The Byrds.....it is really interesting and good!" Mark Olson, founding member of The Jayhawks, Glitterhouse Records Magazine

"Dropkick are very good. Scotland's finest alt-country power-pop band." Tom Morton, BBC Radio Scotland.

"Scotland's 3rd best band ... fabulous melodies a-plenty and more hooks than Bob Nudd's fishing bag." The Scotsman newspaper.

"Twelve songs that capture a power pop spirit tinged with a country edge, shimmering guitars and vocal harmonies recall classic California bands and more local contemporaries such as Teenage Fanclub and Daniel Wylie." Rating 8/10. Americana UK review of 'Dot The I' album (Paul Kerr).

"The title is hugely appropriate, as these guys really know how to play in a stylish, classy, tradition busting way ... an EP of solid, professional musicianship and lyric writing that both dazzles and endears itself to the listener ... thoroughly good fun and a joy to listen to." Rating 4/5. Is This Music? review of 'Style EP' (Jonathan Whitelaw).

"Inspired and inspiring, soaked in sweetness and confirming an impressive ability to produce beautiful songs" Powerpop Station (Brazil) review of 'Time Cuts The Ties' album.

"Songs of shimmering beauty, chiming chords and an emotional honesty that resonate with a warm familiarity. Moreover, they are masters of melody; forgers of tunes that take up residence in your head and refuse to go away." Kool Kat Music review of 'Paper Trails' album.

"A stunning album ... hazy country balladeering merged with intoxicating dreamy pop makes for a lusciously woozy collection of brilliant songs ... intricate, convincing and zingingly catchy throughout ... no doubt Dropkick have created a record of soaring greatness and personality." Music News Scotland review of 'Dot The I' album (Alan Baillie).

"Sweet-sounding harmonies and quietly melancholic alt-country ... like a wet kiss between the Pernice Brothers and Teenage Fanclub." Rating 4/5. Corren newspaper (Sweden) review of "Patchwork" album.

"A gem of power-pop and pop-country ... all the voices of the group combine to seem like classic Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young." Rating 5/5. Pecan Pie blog (Spain) review of 'Abelay Hotel' album.

"Sibling harmonies reminiscent of The Everly Brothers, sparkling pop guitars, and soft pop melodies with a touch of twang ... fans of The Jayhawks, Teenage Fanclub, and The Lemonheads will love Dropkick." International Pop Overthrow Festival preview.

"Inescapably wonderful ... the album is a gem." Netrhythms review of 'Turning Circles' album (Michael Mee).

"Somewhere between Teenage Fanclub, The Posies and the Cosmic Rough Riders ... thirteen wonderful memories of sunny songs from days gone by with harmony vocals nearing a level of perfection." Rating 4/5. 'Abelay Hotel' album review in Alt-Country Netherlands website (Hugo Vogel).

"An extraordinary talent for writing melodic pop music ... Dropkick is a well kept secret that requires disclosure." Rootsy (Sweden) review of "Patchwork" album.

"Have a listen ... but set aside some time - once you introduce yourself to Dropkick, you're going to want to delve into that deep back catalogue" Absolute Powerpop review of 'Time Cuts The Ties'.

"The harmony between the vocals of the brothers characterizes the whole record ... every single song is a pleasure to listen to and to sing along is accepted, maybe even recommended." Rootstime (Belgium) review of 'Dot The I' album (Valère Sampermans).

"Dropkick are one of Scotland's best kept secrets and a band that any power pop fan will fall in love with at first listen ... beautiful and timeless songs that would even make Teenage Fanclub proud." Stereo Pills music blog (Juan Fiter Gomez).

"Dropkick seem to pull things from hats effortlessly and without arrogance. If they know how good they are live it never becomes immodest. They play beautiful songs beautifully." Subba Cultcha website live review.

"A dynamic combination of ballsy country twang, wry lyrics and luscious pop harmonies." CMU Music Network live review.

CONTACT

Dropkick is available for interviews or live sessions and can supply additional information if required.

High resolution images are available to download from www.dropkickmusic.co.uk/press.

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