

capturing the interesting stuff in song is clearly the less travelled pathway that Hannah Gillespie wants to follow.

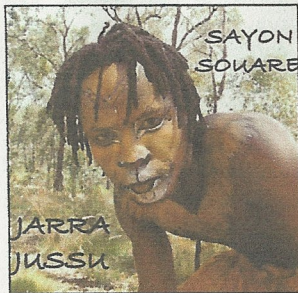
Lost love, lost dreams, fading shadows and fleeting glimpses of a better life are the themes that inhabit these songs.

There are glimpses of a better life (Sapling), of a chance to grab some happiness on the way through (Under Covers, You Come Over), but there's more than a few broken hearts along this lonely highway (Headlights, Poor Boy, There Are Songs).

All of this, by the way, is superbly recorded, at Infidel Studios, Queanbeyan, with a hot country rock band (Ken Stringfellow on guitars, keys, mandolin; Matt Nightingale on bass, guitars, mandolin and Kev Nichol on drums), with other contributors on brass, strings, banjo and dobro.

The artwork on the album is equally superbly presented, with repeated images of wide open plains behind the lyrics.

A great album, but be prepared for the sorrow, heartbreak and pain!! You can find out more at www.hannahgillespie.com.au.



Available from Trad&Now
TN1811-39 - \$25.00

Sayon Souare - Jarra Jussu

CD review by John Williams

You have to love our multicultural society, especially when it comes to music.

Some CDs available for review take you right out of your comfort zone and that can only be a good thing.

This CD by Sayon Souare is one such offering.

Prior to listening to the CD I had never heard songs from Guinea with their interesting percussion work (apart, maybe, from some background music in old jungle films).

Sayon Souare sings in his native language but the accompanying notes translate his words in to English.

This provides the listener with the ability to follow Sayon as he sings and plays his percussion

instruments.

He has written all the songs himself.

When translated the lyrics discuss life, love, the World and the place of Allah (God) in his beliefs.

This CD would be a must have for those who indulge in drumming workshops at festivals around Australia.

Sayon plays a variety of drums and the percussion is varied and interesting to say the least.

It is not a CD for everyone but I am sure it will have its adherents who would love to have this CD in their collection.



Available from Trad&Now
TN1814-72 - \$28.00

Vanessa Craven - Filtered Light

CD Review by John Williams

Vanessa hails from

Daylesford, Victoria where she has played a big role in getting the first two Daylesford Spring Folk/Blues Festivals off the ground.

She is a multi instrumentalist with a Welsh/Indian background who sings all vocals on the CD.

Vanessa has won busking competitions and been a finalist in both the prestigious Brunswick and Maldon songwriting competitions.

You might say she has paid her musical dues with the release of this, her first album.

And it shows.

This is a lovely CD to listen to from start to finish, literally.

The first track, 'One Last Shot' makes you want to sit up and listen and the final track, 'Lullaby for Monty' is a beautiful instrumental which leaves you feeling at peace after listening to it.

Both tracks were composed by Vanessa along with another six on the CD.

They are all of high quality covering topics as diverse as neighbours, chooks, water, office gossip, tea and beloved pets.

Talk about a variety of topics.

In addition there are five song covers on the CD.

The highlight was a superb rendition of 'Knights in White Satin'.

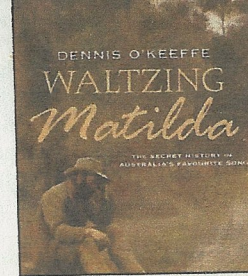
I also enjoyed Vanessa's interpretation of the Bob Dylan song, 'I Believe in You'.

Vanessa is accompanied on the CD by Pete Fidler (dobro), George Condos (latin guitar), Peter Vadivelou (udu, percussion), Paul Jones (violin) and Aurora Jane (bass) who also recorded, mixed and produced the CD.

You can catch Vanessa around the Daylesford/Hepburn Springs area where she has regular gigs.

Better still, buy this CD and support the local music industry.

It is a CD well worth considering.



Available from Trad&Now
TN1814-72 - \$28.00

Book Review

Waltzing Matilda

by Dennis O'Keeffe

Reviewed by John Williams

Twenty years of research, travel, interviews and rewriting went into this publication and it shows.

The book is scholarly and backs up the many points of view it covers but is very easy to read.

I literally read it in one sitting and that rarely happens for me and certainly not with a book about History.

It was a case of not being able to put it down.

The author will be well known to Folk Festival audiences through his previous presentations at the many smaller festivals he attends and the National and Port Fairy Festivals on a regular basis.

Dennis O'Keeffe has been passionate about this subject for over twenty years

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Vol 11
No. 5
JUNE
2012