

## Gary Boyle - The Dancer (1977)

Written by bluesever

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A1 *Crowshed Shuffle* 5:08 A2 *The Dancer* 7:30 A3 *Now That We're Alone* 1:30 A4  
*Lullaby For A Sleepy Dormouse (For Georgie)* 5:25 [play](#) B1 *Almond Burfi* 5:02 [pla](#)  
[y](#)  
B2 *Pendle Mist* 5:40 B3 *Apple Crumble* 3:18 B4 *Maiden Voyage (For Brian Auger)* 4:15

Musicians: Gary Boyle - Guitar Steve Shone, Doni Harvey - Bass Rod Argent, Zoe  
Kronberger, Dave MacRae, Robin Lumley - Keyboards Jeff Seopardie, Simon Phillips - Drums  
Morris Pert - Percussion Maggie Pert - Vocals

Hearing Isotope guitarist Gary Boyle's debut solo album for the first time way back when, the album seemed like a bold and daring progressive guitar showcase — and it's aged exceptionally well across three decades. Boyle plays like a cross between Steve Hackett and John McLaughlin, and his backing band — including Rod Argent on organ and Morris Pert and Simon Phillips on percussion and drums — is just as good at the same level of playing. Boyle has a great bag of songs and tricks that he parades out here in full glory. The 2006 CD reissue only enhances the crispness of the sound and, in the process, the precision of the playing and the detail of what all of these musicians are doing. This is a very busy record, encompassing elements of progressive rock and jazz, and even a little tribute to Brian Auger in "Maiden Voyage." --- Bruce Eder, allmusic.com

Gary Boyle's career began in the 1960's working with top British Singer Dusty Springfield. His 'first big gig' with Dusty was soon followed by the first of two stints with Brian Auger and Julie Driscoll (best known for their 60s hit, 'Wheel's On Fire'), with Gary playing on the act's two albums and touring the UK, Europe and the USA. Gary attended the Leeds College of Music

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and on leaving joined cult folk/rock band ELECTION with Gerry Conway (Fairport Convention) and the late Trevor Lucas (Fotheringay). During the 1970s, Gary began three years of highly productive studio work in London, which included recording albums, radio and television jingles and film music. During this period Gary contributed to album releases by Mike Westbrook, Mike Gibbs, Norma Winstone and Keith Tippett. Other highlights included a season at Ronnie Scott's in London with American sax player Eddie Harris, four albums with Japanese percussionist Stomu Yamashta, and an album with folk legend, Bert Jansch.

In 1973 Gary formed jazz-fusion band Isotope recording three albums and touring extensively in the UK, Europe and the USA. After Isotope disbanded in 1975, Gary recorded several solo albums, "The Dancer" and "Electric Glide" with engineer/producer Martin Levan (with whom he was to renew a working relationship years later with his new release, 'Games'.) During the 70s, Gary was voted New Star in the Melody Maker Poll while 'The Dancer' won the Pop/Jazz Award at Montreaux Jazz Festival.

From 1980-81, Gary lived in Copenhagen where he recorded two albums, one of which 'Stepout' was also produced by Martin Levan. On returning to the UK, Gary formed the trio Triple Echo featuring the Roland Guitar Synth. Gary has toured the UK with artists such as guitarists Jim Mullen, John Etheridge, German bass player Eberhard Weber and double bass supremo, Danny Thompson. Gary currently teaches guitar at Wigan and Leigh College and the Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts (known as the Paul McCartney school). While regularly working with his own trio, Gary also co-fronts the Gary Boyle/Nat Birchall Quartet as well as working in duo and band format with fellow Red Kite Artist, Brigitte Escobar.

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