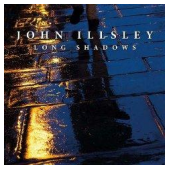
John Illsley - Long Shadows (2016)



1: Morning 2: In The Darkness 3: Comes Around Again 4: There's Something About You 5: Ship Of Fools 6: Lay Me Down 7: Long Shadow 8: Close To The Edge John Illsley – Lead vocal, electric & acoustic guitar & Fender bass Simon Johnson – Mandolin, electric guitars, acoustic lead guitar, slide guitar Paul Beavis – Drums and percussion Phil Palmer – Electric lead guitar, electric guitar Steve Smith –Yamaha grand piano, piano, Wurlitzer, Hammond organ, Taurus bass pedals Guy Fletcher – Hammond organ, backing vocals, Yamaha CS80 synthesiser, electric piano Jess Greenfield, Jess Illsley & Dee Dee Illsley – backing vocals Robbie MacIntosh – Slide guitar Everton Nelson -1st violin Ian Humphries – 2nd violin Bruce White – Viola Caroline Dale – Cello

Illsley jokes: “I have been working on these songs for 18 months – no point in rushing!” But in reality, he has been in highly productive form in recent years: he made his first two solo records while Dire Straits were at their 1980s peak, 1984's Never Told A Soul and Glass in 1988. But the new release will be his fourth studio project, including 2008's Beautiful You with Greg Pearle, in just eight years.

John notes that the album's lyrical themes address “the obvious political and social elements which have always concerned me. 'In The Darkness,' for example is a take on the internet and how it seduces us all in some ways, but particularly those young people who get influenced to join radical religious groups.” --- amarkintime.org

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