Gary Boyle – Electric Glide (1978)

1 Snap Crackle 5:17 2 Electric Glide 3:59 play 3 Gaz 6:39 4 Hayabusa 4:10 5 Grumble 2:35 6 Morning Father Joys 5:04 7 Brat No. 2 4:20 8 It's Almost Light Again 4:16 play Personnel: Guitar - Gary Boyle, Gary Moore, Kenny Shaw, Robert Awhai Bass Guitar - John Giblin, Phil Chen Keyboards - Pete Jacobsen Drums - Richard Bailey, Simon Phillips Percussion - Simon Morton

Fans of mid-'70s King Crimson or early-'70s John McLaughlin could do a lot worse than land Gary Boyle's second solo album in their CD player or on their turntable. The ex-Isotope guitarist shows a thorough familiarity with the scales, and he (and the rest of the instrumentalists here) show a great affinity for 16th and 32nd notes, but the playing is always interesting enough and the shifting textures sufficiently diverse to hold one's interest across just over a half-hour — the presence of guitarist Gary Moore, among others, doesn't hurt in that regard either. Electric Glide is very much of its era, steeped in mid-'70s jazz-rock, and there are a few moments that come perilously close to recalling the Mahavishnu Orchestra's Birds of Fire album — luckily, he surrounds those intensely challenging moments with some more gently lyrical material, most notably the title track, which might have had a shot at some radio success, had it been a single. ---Bruce Eder, allmusic.com

In 1973, Gary Boyle formed the brilliant jazz-rock band, Isotope. He engaged three other superb jazz musicians; Nigel Morris, Brian Miller & Jeff Clyne (ex Nucleus). Gary and Nigel had previously been in Stomu Yamash'ta's East Wind band. Before that ,Gary had worked with artists as varied as Dusty Springfield, and Brian Auger & Julie Driscoll. During the mid '70s, Isotope released three albums which earned the band global acclaim. After Isotope disbanded,

Gary went solo, and his debut album, "The Dancer", deservedly won the prestigious 1978 Montreux Jazz/Pop Award. Gary is an adventurous and fluid fusion guitarist, and his playing has often been compared to that of John McLaughlin & John Goodsall, and nothing wrong with that. "Electric Glide" is a great vintage fusion album, and since the end of the seventies, music of this nature is rare, especially when it's as adventurous and original as this. There are some class musicians on this album, including Gary Moore, and Pete Jacobsen. Try and find Gary's "Step Out" album, and listen to the superb "Isotope & Gary Boyle Live At The BBC" album. Gary's "The Dancer" album can also be found on this blog. For music of a similar genre, listen to Brand X's great "Masques" album.

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