



Nicky Moores NEW ALBUM,

Hog on a Log; now without even taking into account the stunning artwork on the cover (who can the artist be?) this is The Fat Ones finest hour. Backing him is The Blues Corporation, comprising son Tim on electric lead, Danny Kyle on acoustic, Ed Collins on drums and the ubiquitous Pete Shaw on bass. All of these musicians have talent enough to fill a venue on their own account, so put together behind The Voice and you're looking at a hefty bag of talent. First track is:-

The Man—accapella harmonies and just perfect—uncle Nicky saving the big vocal for the end, watch out for those speakers.

That's the Blues— is country with our man belting splendidly and for the bonus, a great solo from Danny, lovely run into a crisp stop at the end.

Hog on a Log—is going to be a Blues Corp. standard: rocking on in fine Bob Segar style, satisfying hook line with nice answering vocals, Tim blazing on guitar. Live, this one will be a killer.

Northern Girl—my favourite track: mid tempo ballad with Nicky understating pleasingly and co-writer Dan hitting his solo with shades of Mark Knopfler and Amos Garret, lilting subtly throughout.

Sweet Love— nice fat tone guitar work from Tim, listen to the drum sound from Ed in the break and well done to Nicky and engineer/overseer Tim Riley for catching it.

In Another Life—another Kyle/Moore number: gentle rolling song with a busy but paradoxically relaxed solo from Tim. Listen out for the singing of “anticipating your love” in the second bridge-vintage Moore.

Dear Dad—a J B Goode style rocker that again will please when they give it the big ‘un on stage.

Picture—time for the splendid Pete Shaw to shine on bass: the Fretless Wonder weaves in and out of this song to great effect and electric and acoustic guitars contrast well in the solos.

Dowatchagottado— cleverly constructed number written by Nicky, with a Doobie Bros syncopation in the hook that will have you tapping your tiny metatarsals.

Use Me Up— Danny Kyle arrangement of the Bill Withers funky favourite, lazy lounge lizard solo from Tim, very pleasing. Vocal is a bit too bravura for me towards the end but all is subjective and I shan't belabour the point as The Moore is bigger than me.

Sweet and Tender Kiss— Moody, soaring ballad from the master, beautiful bass lines and finely constructed Timbo guitar heartbreaker solo with Nicky giving up those soul-splitting howls that (damn him) only he can do. Whenever Nicky yells, somewhere, the ghost of Wilson Pickett is smiling. Buy this album. Buy it. Buy. Bye.