

ANDY M. STEWART

Called one of Celtic music's most gifted singers and arguably the best songwriter in the entire folk tradition, Andy M. Stewart has been delighting audiences with his music and humour for two decades.

Born in Perthshire, Scotland, Andy grew up in a family noted for its fine traditional singing. He first drew the attention of the music world with his work as lead singer and instrumentalist for Silly Wizard, with whom he toured until their break-up in 1988. It was while Andy was in the Wizards that he gained much recognition for his beautiful interpretations of the traditional songs of Scotland and Ireland and also became known as a master of songwriting in the traditional style.



Self-penned gems such as "The Ramblin' Rover", "Golden, Golden", "The Queen of Argyll", and "Where are You Tonight, I Wonder" have become almost instant classics, and have been recorded by June Tabor, The Dubliners and Deanta, to name a few. As an accomplished banjo player, his ear for a good tune has been displayed in his arranging and composing abilities; a style that set the precedent for many an up-and-coming band in the ever-expanding world of Celtic music.

Known for his wicked wit and sterling live performances, Andy M. Stewart is among the finest singers in the Scots/Irish traditional genre, with a voice that "conveys more emotion in one line than most singers do in a lifetime." (Beacon Herald)

Andy has recorded four solo albums, *By the Hush*, named Folk Album of the Year by Melody Maker Magazine, *Songs of Robert Burns*, *Man in the Moon*, and his most recent release, *Donegal Rain*, Mojo's Folk Album of the Month, Jan. 1998. He has also recorded three albums with Manus Lunny: *Fire in the Glen* (also featuring Phil Cunningham of Silly Wizard), *Dublin Lady*, and *At It Again*.

WHAT THE PRESS SAYS ABOUT ANDY M. STEWART

"Stewart has the knack of writing direct, effective and memorable songs as well as singing them with taste and style."

-Barton Evening News

"...his (Andy M. Stewart's) songs and his singing have deep Celtic roots and touch sensitive emotional chords."

The Scotsman Magazine

(about the album, Dublin Lady) "...standouts include "Freedom is like Gold", a fierce attack, both musical and lyrical, on the power that money can buy, and "Take Her in Your Arms," a very funny love song based on an old Bothy Band reel. The finest moment, though, comes on "Heart of the Home," which is both beautifully simple and simply beautiful."

Hot Press Dublin

(About Man in the Moon album) "Seriously this is an absolute stonker of an album that kicks off well with "The Echo Mocks the Corncrake" and progressively gets better and better as it winds its way through the tracks.... Outstanding plus."

The Living Tradition, Hector Christie

"As a member of Silly Wizard, he (Andy) wrote stunning originals such as "The Queen of Argyll", "The Valley of Strathmore", and "The Ramblin' Rover." His is as much at ease with a heart-rending ballad such as "My Heart Belongs to She" or "If I Never Spend a Morning Without You" as he is with lighter fare such as "Take Her in Your Arms."

The Columbus Dispatch

(About Man in the Moon) Andy's songs, "gentle, poignant, poetic, as if much time had been spent on mountain-tops eyeing the deserted glens beneath him.... But no one listening to "MacGregor's Gathering," based on lines by Scott, could doubt there's fire in the belly, too."

The Scotsman, Alastair Clark

"Andy M. Stewart is among the finest interpreters of Scottish Folk songs and a wonderful songwriter."

The Boston Globe