


Jon Simons >> reviews and quotes



"With Spoon bassist Josh Zarbo and various string arrangements providing a fine gray-day backdrop, Simons offers a seamless collection of brooding, Church-meets-Nick Drake melodies and boyish-wonder lyrics. Just when you feel he's stuck in depressed mode ("I learned to fly when I was 5, I lost the skill at 22"), the songwriter pulls out life-affirming lines like this: "Turned off the news today/Turned off my fears to say everything's OK."

Chris Riemenschneider
Star Tribune, Minneapolis

"This is a CD that absolutely needs to be listened to with the lights down low, and you just sit and listen to it. Don't do anything else. Don't read, don't talk to others, and don't play video games. Just enjoy it."

Erik Deckers
Indie-Music.com

"The disc delivers on many fronts. There is a quote in the bio from a reviewer who likened it to "Pink Floyd in a coffee house," and I would only add that it's the "freshest" side of Floyd seeping through the veins of Jon Simon's work. The best moments are reminiscent of the soul-bearing freedom you can feel inside "Ummagumma" or "Atom Heart Mother," more so than the Floyd of "Meddle" and beyond."

Glenn Pfeifer
2 Walls Webzine

"You don't hear many new artists in Austin that evoke Nick Drake or Shawn Phillips."

Charlie Martin
KO.OP Radio, Austin

"There isn't an uninteresting moment in Through the Walls and it has become an aural companion in my room."

David Price
Wherehouse Music, Houston

"Jon Simons' stunning Through The Walls is as much a musical journey as an intellectual one, creatively influenced by some of the past greats, while bringing the fresh perspective of someone 'coming of age' at the dawn of the new millennium."

Mark Hallman
Congress House Studios, Austin

"Maybe it's because I picked this up at a Nick Drake tribute concert, but Jon's way with atmospheric song structure, sparse arrangement and obliquely intimate lyrics touches me like none more than ND. They also share a willingness to go deep and stay there, without obliging nods to rock traditions for which they have no apparent affinity."

Paul Sonnenberg
Austin, Texas

"The lyrics are profoundly deep, thought provoking, and if time allowed, could be interpreted and applied to various aspects of ones life."

Terry Hausman
San Antonio, Texas

"This album is full of thought-provoking imagery and rich music. Share with a date on a rainy day in front of the fire place or on a long road trip. The music is original and the poetry well crafted."

Deric Rosenblatt
New York, New York