

## The Waterboys - Modern Blues (2015)

Written by bluesever

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*01. Destinies Entwined 05:44 02. November Tale 05:18 03. Still A Freak 03:58 04. I Can See Elvis 05:47 05. The Girl Who Slept For Scotland 04:55 06. Rosalind (You Married The Wrong Guy) 05:09 07. Beautiful Now 03:57 08. Nearest Thing To Hip 05:41 09. Long Strange Golden Road 10:22* Mike Scott – vocals, guitar, piano Steve Wickham – electric fiddle, mandolin Ralph Salmins – drums Paul Brown – keyboards, backing vocals

THE WATERBOYS are back with a new album, *Modern Blues*, early in 2015 and will be playing Seapoint Ballroom on October 29th.

“People should expect the unexpected from The Waterboys,” says Mike Scott. It’s a mission statement which has inspired three decades of compelling musical shape-shifting, and one which yields thrilling results on The Waterboys’ magnificent eleventh album, released in January.

A freewheeling rock and roll record with a southern soul edge, *Modern Blues* was recorded in Nashville by a line-up including Muscle Shoals legend David Hood on bass, Austin guitar-slinger Zach Ernst, and Memphis keyboard wizard Brother Paul, all of whom feature in the 2015 touring line-up of the band. They join Mike Scott, Irish electric fiddle great Steve Wickham and ace drummer Ralph Salmins at a time when the relevance and popular reach of The Waterboys has never been greater.

In 2013 Ellie Goulding scored a top 3 UK hit with their “How Long Will I Love You” and earlier this year Prince performed “The Whole of the Moon”, while Waterboys songs have featured big in recent hit movies *About Time*, *Dom Hemingway* and *What We Did On Our Holiday*.

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Modern Blues blows in on the back of the creative momentum built up by The Waterboys over the past few years. The band were at their potent, poetic best on An Appointment with Mr Yeats, the 2010-2012 album and tour of W.B. Yeats poems set to rapturous rock music widely acclaimed as a career peak. That was followed in 2013 by Fisherman's Box, an astonishing seven-disc collation of The Waterboys' epic Irish sessions between 1986 and 1988, released to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Fisherman's Blues. Now with the Modern Blues album and tour the Waterboys crash thrillingly back into the present with a new sound, a new line-up and, as always, the promise of the unexpected. --- roisindubh.net

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