John Martyn - Solid Air (1973)

01 - Solid Air.mp3 - 5'46" 02 - Over the Hill.mp3 - 2'55" 03 - Don't Want to Know.mp3 - 3'04" 04 - I'd Rather Be The Devil.mp3 - 6'19" 05 - Go Down Easy.mp3 - 3'37" 06 - Dreams by the Sea.mp3 - 3'19" 07 - May You Never.mp3 - 3'42" 08 - The Man in the Station.mp3 - 2'54" 09 - The Easy Blues.mp3 - 3'24" John Martyn – vocals, acoustic & electric guitar; synthesizer on "The Easy Blues" Richard Thompson – mandolin on "Over the Hill" Simon Nicol – autoharp on "Over the Hill" Sue Draheim – violin on "Over the Hill" Tony Coe – saxophone on "Dreams by the Sea" & "Solid Air" John "Rabbit" Bundrick – acoustic & electric piano, organ, clavinet Tristan Fry – vibraphone on "Solid Air" Danny Thompson – acoustic bass Dave Pegg – bass Dave Mattacks – drums Neemoi "Speedy" Acquaye – congas

Solid Air (whose title track was written for John Martyn's friend, songwriter Nick Drake) is one of the defining moments in British folk, in the same league as Fairport Convention's Liege & Lief, Richard & Linda Thompson's Shoot Out the Lights, and Michael Chapman's Rainmaker. Martyn stepped out of his comfort zone to record and produce it, including not only jazz and blues but rock and plenty of sound effects, and featuring Rhodes piano on some of its tracks, dismaying some fans while winning a ton more for its genre-blurring presentation. A number of its cuts -- such as the title track, "Over the Hill," "I'd Rather Be the Devil," and "May You Never" -- remained staples in his live sets until the end of his life. ---Thom Jurek, Rovi

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