

ALBUM PRESS RELEASE

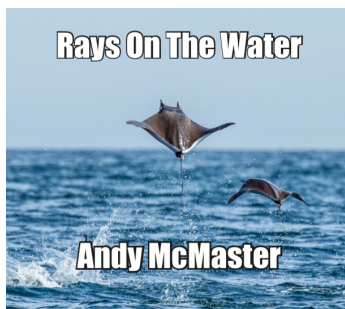
# RAYS ON THE WATER

## ANDY MCMASTER



OUT 9 APRIL 2021

**Andy McMaster** gave the world one of its most enduring pop songs, in 1978, when he sang the international smash hit, **Airport**, with **The Motors**. All these years later, he now unveils his second solo album, **Rays On The Water**, featuring an eclectic mix of pop and rock songs; some deeply personal and others full of acerbic social commentary but all of them underpinned by his trademark strong melodies.



**“Andy’s strength was always his grasp of pop songwriting. It’s good to see his talent undimmed. (His) lyrical breadth is really quite impressive..... He roams around the lyrical spectrum and the musical styles he’s exploring are very diverse”**

(James Griffiths, Guardian Music Critic (2000-2006) review of Rays on The Water)

The album’s cryptic title, Rays On The Water, is a poignant nod to the sound engineer, Ray Davis, who sadly died last year. Ray enjoyed a drink and when rehydrating the next day he would sometimes say, “I’m on the water”. Andy said, **“This became a standard joke among us and, hence, the album title pun. Ray knew his stuff and was a great engineer, producer and guitarist. Sadly, his ill health took its toll and we recorded less and less. When he passed on, we were left with an incomplete album so the only solution was to include a couple of songs I had recorded unreleased in 1987: ‘Another Politician’ and ‘Hard Drugs’.”**

How has Andy’s writing changed since ‘Airport’ and what keeps him motivated? He says, **“My writing has changed in the sense that it’s more fun now but it’s still the same process of hard graft. The intensity of *having* to come up with the goods is gone. Now, I can come up with the goods in a different way. Is there anything else to do coming up for my 80th? That’s the goal.”**

Judging by the carefully crafted songs on this album, Andy most definitely has not run out of ideas. His co-producer, Lynton Guest (ex-keyboardist with Love Affair) sums it up nicely: **“From the moment I heard these songs, I knew I wanted to help produce them. Andy’s experiments with music and lyrics are a dream to work with and the sounds he wants to achieve give the musicians the scope and freedom to play at their best. All in all, recording Rays On The Water was a fabulous and happy experience.”**

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[Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andy_McMaster)   [www.andymcmaster.net](http://www.andymcmaster.net)   [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/user/andy_mcmaster)   [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/andy.mcmaster)

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Album tracks:

1. **The Road To Montgomery:** A brass-inspired groove about the marches for the right to vote. Sometimes you have to get beaten down before you get back on your feet. It reminds us that courage and sacrifice are needed to make progress.
2. **Impossible Is Nothing:** A magical ballad inspired by the great Muhammad Ali
3. **Another Politician (No Joy):** They talk sense to get your votes then go insane once when they get them
4. **Au Revoir Tristesse:** Chopin-inspired etude about loneliness and the greatness of joy
5. **Jerusalem (Come Dancing):** About unholiness in the Holy Land during a visit
6. **Hysteria:** A look at recent events. We've all got it. It's a disease.
7. **Leicester City:** An ode to this great multicultural city written after a visit there
8. **This Is The Day:** Today is the kingdom. There is no other time.
9. **Hard Drugs:** A lost weekend put a stop to that!
10. **Love Again:** A notion that only by forgiving can you love again
11. **Death Cafe:** People all over the world meet in death cafes to talk about...death of course!
12. **When Germany Was Bad:** United in purpose, we were all friendly to each other in the air-raid shelters when Hitler was doing his damndest. After his defeat, we went back to our hate-loving stereotypes.

Available on all streaming platforms including Spotify, Apple Music, YouTube and Soundcloud.

Download WAVs or MP3s for radioplay: <https://www.andymcmaster.net/press-media>

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