

# 'No More the Green Hills' by Janice Burns & Jon Doran

Reviewed by Carl Filby



As an old folkie/fogie my first thoughts on hearing this album were to wonder whether we needed yet more interpretations of the traditional folk songs and Irish ballads that make up this new album which is due for release on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

On a second play, once I had got the renditions of

some of these songs by earlier popular pioneers of the folk tradition out of my head, I began to appreciate the beauty and simplicity of these new arrangements. Of course, it is also quite true that the 'original' versions are not always the best versions and anyway the 'original' artists are increasingly no longer around to perform them. I can also imagine on the strength of this album that the pair would provide a very good evening's entertainment especially for followers of the folk tradition.

Both Janice and Jon have voices which would grace any solo performance and they take turns in coming to the fore throughout the album, whilst also coming together beautifully when required as on one of my favourite tracks *'She Moves Through The Fair'*. They both also play a variety of instruments – Janice on mandolin, tenor guitar, harmonium and piano, Jon on bouzouki, acoustic guitar, harmonium and fiddle which add variety and depth.

I hadn't heard of them before I received the CD to review but I can understand why they are becoming increasingly in demand at folk festivals around the country.

They are about to embark on a 20-date tour around the UK to mark the release of this album and I suggest that you go and see them if you can. Their website <https://www.janandjon.com/> has all the details and more about the duo themselves.