



## **KEVIN KELLY -THE INSTINCT OF CHOOSING IN NOW**

by Devon Wendell

The world looks motionless out there. The madness of ballad, the chosen action of a scene as it barks from the depths of the woods "The toothless men are silent this evening." Kevin Kelly bludgeons the automatons, nursing watered down cocktails in search for the sub-genre cartoon caricatures of American music and fragments of a performance.

Kelly pounds and shakes the stage into some skim milk Hell, sweat pouring, hands convulsing over everyone's guitar chord in that place called now.

Ghosts of old Hollywood scurry past in acknowledgment of their mortality. The "Far Way Star" may it be Brando, "Boggie", Cagney, and with them; Woody Guthrie in tiny glimpses of outrage or Dylan when peering into an emotional musical scene choice that resonates with all human conditions and experiences.

Kevin Kelly's awareness that theater and a live performance of rock or "folk" are only separated by lack of movement and decision, are present at all times.

Mere enthusiasm or a simple wanting, have no time up on his stage. Connecting to that intimate, naked place of vulnerability can frighten those who avoid risk and want an

overly defined self to return to.

Those "Cracks In The Modern World" may nurture those phobias and if Dylan bolting out "Idiot Wind", Robert Johnson "Hellhound On My Trail"

or Anthony Quinn's feral yet lonely beast in La Strada scare you from that needed look inward, you'll miss The Kevin Kelly Show.

That manic monkey on Avenue B, and 10th in NYC all the way to the all night diners in Hollywood in search of another poem, an unwritten play, or one last song before crash time, is the real action of an artist amidst mankind on its unattended axis.

Kevin Kelly will always go there instinctively through that series of choices. The hunger for that honesty is returning again through that cathartic process of delving face first into terror and dread of higher ownership and surrender to the simplicity of joy and laughter. It's all right there in Kevin Kelly and like he proclaims in his song; "It's All Good."

***Devon Wendell; Acclaimed Critic for The International Review Of Music and legendary guitarist/Engineer for Steely Dan, Lou Reed, Bob Dylan, Keith Richards, Otis R***

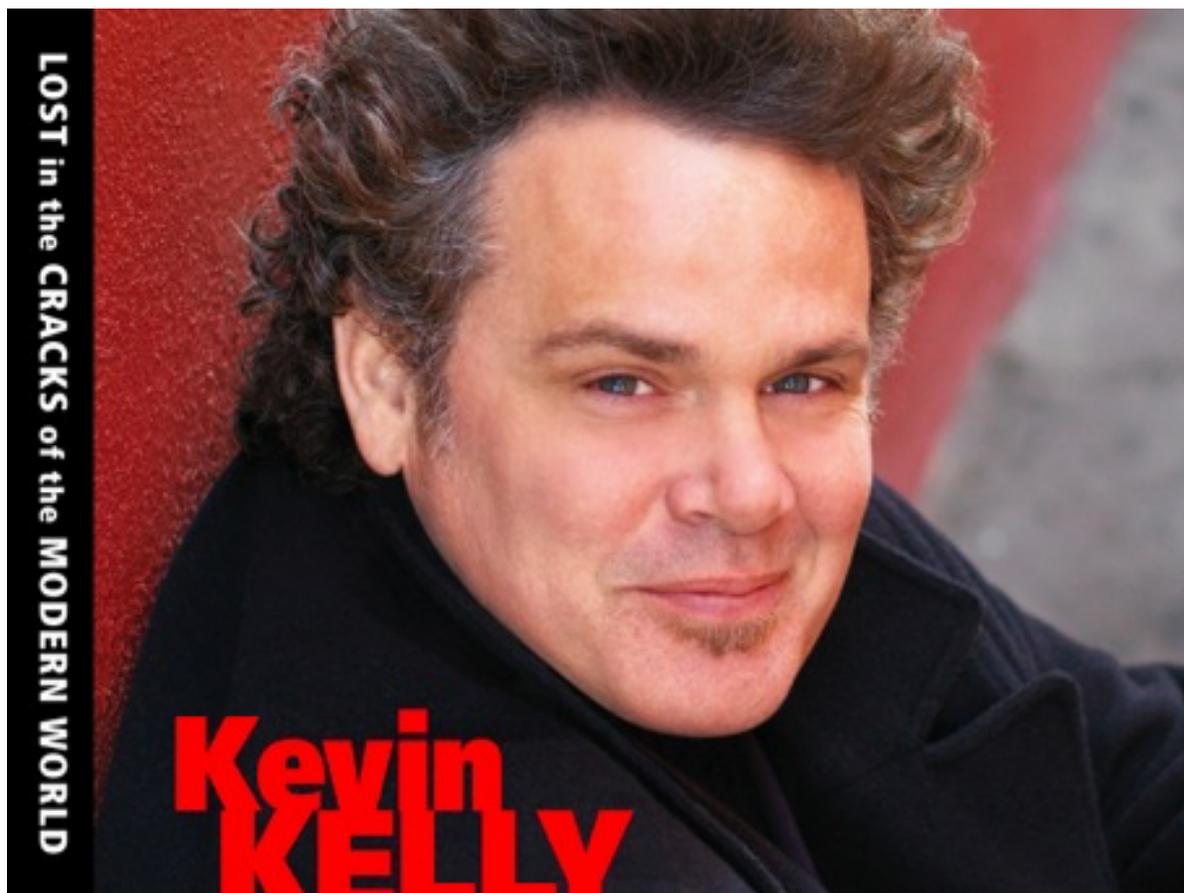
## **BLUESBUNNY REVIEW OF KEVIN KELLY RECORD!!! ("LOST IN THE CRACKS OF THE MODERN WORLD")**



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**Record Review (Highest Rating)**

Tuesday, December 16, 2008



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## **KEVIN KELLY**

### **LOST IN THE CRACKS OF THE MODERN WORLD**

#### **NO CATALOGUE NUMBER**

**2008**

First impressions can be misleading. Looking at the cover of this album by Kevin Kelly gave that familiar feeling of dread - yet another shandy drinking singer songwriter writing angst ridden songs of personal woe. However, what we actually get here is something entirely different - an album with true mass market appeal.

As is often the case with all the biggest albums, Kevin Kelly does go over the top sometimes. Well, actually he goes over the top quite a lot. Not that it is a bad thing of course. The world needs a bit of drama and Kevin Kelly is nothing if not dramatic. As an example, "Car World" blasts its way out of the speakers in a way that makes Meatloaf look positively laidback. On "These Days" our Mr Kelly even manages to sound like a rather camp Bruce Springsteen. However, even when you think he can't go any further and he will surely fall deep into the valley of the mundane, Kevin Kelly just kick starts another song and does it again. Even songs with serious subject matter like "War on the Poor" are handled with such dramatic intensity that you can't fail to be impressed. Its not that his lyrics are particularly poetic for they are not, but they are in a language that many will understand and relate to. That's an important point actually. Just think how many copies were sold of Springsteen's "Born in the USA" album.

This was an album that brought a smile to my face for another rather ironic reason. It occurred to me that our Mr Kelly is also an actor and here he is showing up the independent musicians of the world. Not the quirky oddball ones who follow their own trail but the ones wanting to travel on the highway to mainstream success. Now I don't know if this will actually sell one copy or sell a million but I do know which of those outcomes "Lost in the Cracks of the Modern World" deserves and it is most certainly the latter.

This album could easily be turned into a Broadway musical too. Just a thought...

Review by: [Bluesbunny](#)

Rating

