

ROOTS, SINGER-SONGWRITER, FOLK, ROCK, WORLD AND BLUES

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MARTY MANOUS

★★
Know My Name

(LUCKY STREET) www.martymanousband.com



Following up his 2015 EP *Transcendence*, Marty Manous hands out more of his forceful blues-rock and evolving sound with

Know My Name. With a suitably gruff vocal turn and clearly comfortable in songwriting, there is no doubting his potential in an overcrowded field. His guitar playing is low-strung and heads towards the rock sound rather than tonal blues.

'My Girl' gives us the riffs for rock and the instrumental 'Transcending' adds a lively progressive ascendancy to proceedings. These are followed by his Stevie Ray Vaughan homage, 'Look Over Yonder Wall', which plays well but could be seen as at odds with the previous numbers.

Back in familiar riff territory with 'Love In Vain', Manous then brakes the momentum again, this time with a very sweet and short acoustic number, 'Duh-Bro', before cranking it up for 'Drown My Tears'. Produced by Manous and Sketch Ellis at the Tone City Studios in Georgia, U.S.A., this will satisfy those who know him, but we may have to wait until the next album before he really finds his signature sound.

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Gareth Hayes