

TOMMY EMMANUEL
'ACCOMPLICE TWO'
CRITICS QUOTE SHEET (2023)

tommy emmanuel
cgp



accomplice
two

“By any measure, Australia’s Tommy Emmanuel is one of the most spellbinding and accomplished acoustic guitarists working today...Accomplice Two...serves as a reminder that Emmanuel is not only another hotshot, but also a player capable of welding sophistication to imagination....On duets with [his] compatriots, Emmanuel proves to be a strong and resourceful, leader, and simpatico accompanist.”

—Jeff Tamarkin, **RELIX**, April/May 2023

“... rich, diverse collection of duets...Many ‘all-star’ collaborations offer more hype than music. Not this joyful, thoroughly substantive effort.”

—Rich Kienzle, **VINTAGE GUITAR**, June 2023

“Tommy Emmanuel ranks as one of the most fearless guitarists you'll ever hear. He's played with many virtuosic musicians and always rises to their level. Here he's joined by Billy Strings, Molly Tuttle, Raul Malo, Jorma Kaukonen, and 12 other players. If you want to hear what occurs when musicians challenge each other, give Accomplice Two a listen.”

—Steven Stone, **ABSOLUTE SOUND**, July/August 2023

“Tommy Emmanuel is a guitarist’s guitarist, and Accomplice Two is another master class in hot licks and crisp guitar stylings put on by Emmanuel and his ‘accomplices’ — some of the best guitarists and string instrument musicians playing today. Emmanuel and company take flight from the first note and seldom come down from the sonic stratosphere...Accomplice Two showcases Emmanuel’s melodic range as he traverses the musical landscape from old time to bluegrass to jazz to pop, and he does so with effortlessness and grace, all the while having a blast with friends that throw back the licks as fast as he can pitch them.”

—Henry Carrigan, **NO DEPRESSION**, 4/26/23

“This Australian whiz is so immersed in American country music there’s a good chance he’s received a passport out of respect by the State Department for all he’s done for the idiom. This knocked-out release has many special guests, much musical excellence and just downright righteousness to it, Emmanuel might even be awarded a Medal of Honor from the Congress in D.C. Listening to Accomplice Two in one sitting is like getting a history lesson and massive jolt of country juju simultaneously. There haven’t been many albums quite like it, ranging from special guests like Billy Strings, Jamey Johnson, Sam Bush, Little Feat, Michael McDonald, Jerry Douglas, Del McCoury Band, Jorma Kaukonen, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, David Grisman, Raul Malo and a hay bale more, all playing their hearts out for the sheer love of country songs. The logistics and legal contracts alone are enough to melt a stick of butter on an ear of corn. In the end, it is worth it because Tommy Emmanuel sounds like not only is he on fire to deliver his very best, but so are all his guests. The album is nothing short of epic. The song selection—ranging from Townes Van Zandt’s ‘White Freight Liner Blues’ to Jimmie Driftwood’s ‘Tennessee Stud’—even includes new Tommy Emmanuel originals that can stand side-by-side with the classics. That, of course, is a feat in itself. At a time when modern country music can head a bit too close to the beauty shop, all it takes is an album like this to show the towering strengths of an absolute American art form. And the way Tommy Emmanuel fits right in and helps fuel the fires is a timeless testament to what this music can be at its height. What a world.”

—Bill Bentley, [AMERICANA HIGHWAYS](#), 5/31/23

“A more riveting record would be hard to find.”

—Lee Zimmerman, [THE ALTERNATE ROOT](#), 5/26/23

“Accomplice Two by the two-time Grammy-nominated acoustic guitar virtuoso Tommy Emmanuel, serves up a gourmet feast of delightful collaborations between the master himself and some of the best acoustic guitarists and multi-instrumentalists in the world today... a lively mix of new takes on enduring classics and brand-new originals from the great Tommy Emmanuel. There’s nothing like hearing superb musicians having the time of their lives playing together. And that’s what you find on Accomplice Two. Produced by Emmanuel, the album is alive with joy and tremendous energy, songs with an emphasis on melody and mood.”

—Martine Ehrenclou, [ROCK AND BLUES MUSE](#), 4/26/23

“[Billy] Strings also recently celebrated another legend, making an appearance on Tommy Emmanuel’s latest release, ‘Doc’s Guitar/Black Mountain Rag.’ A two-song bluegrass medley and tribute to the great Doc Watson, the new offering showcases an intoxicating collaboration between the two passionate performers...their dueling guitars make for an exhilarating display.”

—Alli Patton, [AMERICAN SONGWRITER](#), 4/28/23 on “Doc’s Guitar/Black Mountain Rag” featuring Billy Strings

“...joyous collaboration...”

—[RELIX](#), 4/5/23 on “Cajun Girl” video premiere featuring Little Feat and Sam Bush

“Everybody wants to play with Tommy Emmanuel. At least the ones that can keep up with him. Nothing less than a phenomenon, the Australian acoustic fingerstyle guitarist communicates every note and complex pattern as if they are alive. Fired up six decades ago by a childhood fascination with Chet Atkins, Emmanuel’s brain snaps with a complete understanding of bluegrass, jazz, blues, folk, and rock. His fingers simply follow suit...Tommy Emmanuel’s Accomplice Two features sixteen extremely attractive songs brimming with musical excellence.”

—Tom Clarke, [MAKING A SCENE MAGAZINE](#), 4/21/23

“Great album that you will end up dancing to.”

—Tim Martin, [AMERICANA UK](#), 4/28/23

“The third single from Emmanuel’s new Accomplice Two collaborative record is a quite simply jaw-dropping display of flattop picking prowess from one of the all-time acoustic greats and one of its most exciting new voices in Billy Strings.”

—Michael Astley-Brown, [GUITARWORLD.COM](#), 4/28/23 on “Doc’s Guitar/Black Mountain Rag” featuring Billy Strings

“...acclaimed acoustic guitarist Tommy Emmanuel teamed up with Billy Strings for an onslaught of otherworldly musicianship. ‘Doc’s Guitar’ makes up the first half with Emmanuel continuing to expand his sound until Strings comes in for his equally impressive exploration into bluegrass.”

—Ryan Dillon, [GLIDE MAGAZINE](#), 4/28/23 on “Doc’s Guitar/Black Mountain Rag” featuring Billy Strings

“I cannot sit in my chair when I hear this rousing rendition of standard ‘White Freight Liner Blues’ from magic guitar man, Tommy Emmanuel. On his upcoming release, Accomplice Two (out on April 28th), Emmanuel is doing what seems to be his most favorite thing to do: playing fast guitar songs with friends.”

—Cindy Howes, [FOLK ALLEY](#), 3/10/23 on “White Freight Liner Blues”

“Here Tommy, Del, and the boys give it a swiny acoustic/bluegrass vibe, with Del singing up high and all the guys tearing through their solos.”

—John Lawless, [BLUEGRASS TODAY](#), 6/6/23 on “Sweet Temptation”

“‘Far Away Places’ is a beloved standard that’s in wonderful hands in this entrancing video. Tommy Emmanuel is a perfect accompanist to vocalist Malo, playing gorgeous chordal backup on nylon strings. He holds his well-documented guitar chops in reserve here, playing exactly what’s needed and nothing more. Even in his solo, he never breaks the yearning mood of the moment. Malo’s lead vocal is beautifully executed, pulling your heart into the lyrics immediately. The combination of these extraordinary musicians and this timeless song is quietly magnificent and will take you with it where it goes. Make it a priority and your day will improve.”

—Martine Ehrenclou, [ROCK AND BLUES MUSE](#), 8/7/23 on “Far Away Places”

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