

# Only A Glance

## Wayne Long

***Slickhead Productions, 2004***

Originally published February 10, 2005

in F5 AltNews Wichita

by **Jedd Beaudoin**

Acoustic fingerstyle guitarist Wayne Long steps up with 14 instrumentals that bring together tracks composed by artists such as Ry Cooder (the ever delightful "Brothers"), Pat Kirtley ("Daisy Goes A Dancin'" and "Wasn't It You") with a few of Long's originals ("Only A Glance," "Simone"). The results? A refreshing batch of fingerpickin' goodness with easy, breezy good timin' tunes such as Willie Brown's "Ragged and Dirty," deep and down ones such as Mike Dowling's "Swamp Dog Blues" and others that are elegant in their clarity (John Denver's "Late Winter Early Spring").

Equally refreshing is Long's take on traditionals such as "Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus" and the nearly obligatory "Amazing Grace" which prove (no pun intended) inspirational. With each, he's taken a semi-tired composition, given it new life and offered listeners plenty of reason to invest their time in rediscovering each.

As a player Long emphasizes clarity over flash — you hear each of the notes and each is played with meaning and loads of feel that suggest solo acoustic guitar can be as exciting as its electrical counterpart without having to resort to unnecessary pyrotechnics. To hear *Only A Glance* is to hear a master practicing his craft with uncompromising grace and beauty.

Aspiring and practicing guitarists take note — Long includes the tuning that each song was written in in the disc's liner notes. Don't miss Long and partner Arthetta when you get the chance.

