



JOE CANG

"BETTER PLACE"

RELEASE DATE: 2nd June 2014

RECORD LABEL: MONDO RECORDS
FORMATS: CD & DIGITAL DOWNLOAD

ONE OF LONDON'S GREAT SINGER-SONGWriters CREATES A BETTER PLACE

"Classic self-penned songs in a perfect /soul-pop mould which could have been recorded at virtually any time in the past four decades." – Uncut magazine

JUNE 2014 sees the release of **Better Place**, the new twelve-track album from London's mercurial musical talent Joe Cang.

This soulful new album is an evolution from Joe's previous album, 2012's 'Bed', as Better Place builds on the multi-instrumentalist's roots, evoking Sam Cooke, Bill Withers and Ry Cooder as it travels through ska and samba via New Orleans on a journey of personal lyrical landscapes over live, smoke fuelled grooves.

An elusive character, when Joe Cang has previously emerged from the relative anonymity of his studio and songwriting life, he has never failed to make his mark. Joe's last singles 'Make Love' was playlisted for five weeks on BBC Radio 2's coveted playlist, winning him a new army of fans that led to series of sell-out live shows, before coolly exiting the spotlight until the next time his muse forced his hand.

Joe's trademark *joie de vivre*, distinctively rich vocals and unique blend of pop, blues and soul are a winning combination, and all present and correct on 'Better Place'.

Arguably the strongest body of work to-date, Joe Cang's fans – including music mogul Clive Davis, who first signed the artist described by The Evening Standard as *"one of London's great singers and songwriters."* - will not be disappointed.

Amongst the album's 12 tracks is Joe's Cuban-tinged version of the multimillion-seller 'Shine', which Joe originally co-wrote with British reggae legends Aswad.

www.joecang.com / www.facebook.com/joecangmusic www.twitter.com/joecang

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BETTER PLACE

A track-by-track guide, by Joe Cang

1. **Long Time Dead:** A Ska tastic wake up call to 'seize the day' or at least the afternoon and be inspired by the sunshine bass line, 'cos you're a long time dead!
2. **Why Must It Be:** Deep seventies soul stabbed pleading for an explanation as to why everything's so hard!
3. **Addicted:** A piano thumping, infectious, sleazy head nodder describing the delicious, decadent descent into acceptance and celebration of addictive power of the pleasures of the flesh.
4. **Better Place:** A Stax inspired homage, renouncing external distraction on the search for serenity within, starting small and growing to a gospel powered climax of conviction.
5. **Court of public opinion:** A Bill Withers styled country soul grove, written with Don Blacks son Grant, it's the tale of living with oneself and ones actions despite the judgments of society....it's a fair cop guv'ner!
6. **Just A Feeling:** Bossa piano groove, tex mex guitars and a tale of caffeinated indecision and inner debate, looking for clue's...'it's just a feeling...'
7. **Blue Mountain:** A Latin tinged, rain-soaked, bass line led lament to lost London love.
8. **Superhero** - A jaunty gypsy jangling grove lyrically inspired by the impact of 'reality' music TV on artistic development, smiling in the face of adversity!
9. **Let it go:** Smiling saunter of a New Orleans second line, written in the forests of Dorset! Accordion, ukulele, trumpets and trombones all call us to drop what's not useful, to enjoy what is before it isn't!
10. **Joni Mitchell:** A head nod beat, dreamy guitar landscapes, no bass just space for words to float ...'Gentle like Joni Mitchell and everything she makes me feel...'Joni on a soft summer's evening.
11. **Shine:** I finally got round to recording my version of the international hit which I wrote with UK reggae giants, Aswad. A Cuban tinged, sun filled celebration of ability and determination over limitation and resistance
12. **Old Days:** - A song written for absent friends. Remembering the good times often missed but never forgotten. Simply voice and ukulele with a sprinkle of piano. 'We're not here for very long, just a moment then we're gone'.

Credits:

Recorded at Manjo Studios

Except **Shine** recorded at Titan Sounds

Long Time Dead, Why Must It Be and **Better Place** drums recorded at Boogie Back

Mixed by Joe Cang

Except **Shine** mixed by Howard Gray/Joe Cang

EQ Guru – Michael Scherchen

Mastered by The Mix Factory