

Taking half a year to re-visit one's first album is definitely not the typical way forward for most independent artists. But for singer and one-man-band virtuoso JC Harris, re-mastering 2003's 'Positive' was an artistic necessity. "I really only intended Positive to be a demo. People responded to it, but certainly not because of the recording quality! So when I started having something of a 'career', I felt I owed it to both the songs—which I still think are among my best—and to those who first supported me, to make the time and finally give these songs a proper finish." Now that's perfectionism.

And definitely worth the effort. With it's new polish, Positive impresses even more; at once original and familiar with echoes of progressive bands like **Peter Gabriel, Talking Heads, Roxy Music, Steely Dan** and **Level 42**. All twelve songs feature skilled arrangements and highly literate lyrics, blending elements of rock, pop, Irish trad and even funk into a seamless whole.

About The Songs

The most apparent change from the original is running order. Over the years, fans argued that Positive should have opened with more of a 'bang'. After much hand-wringing, Positive now opens with **This Time** a samba featuring passionate lyrics, a jazzy keyboard solo, and rhythms that may remind listeners of Paul Simon.

Next is **Mr. Parker**, a perky song, but with a lyric worthy of the darkest Steely Dan story (the original worker gone 'postal') plus some great fretless bass.

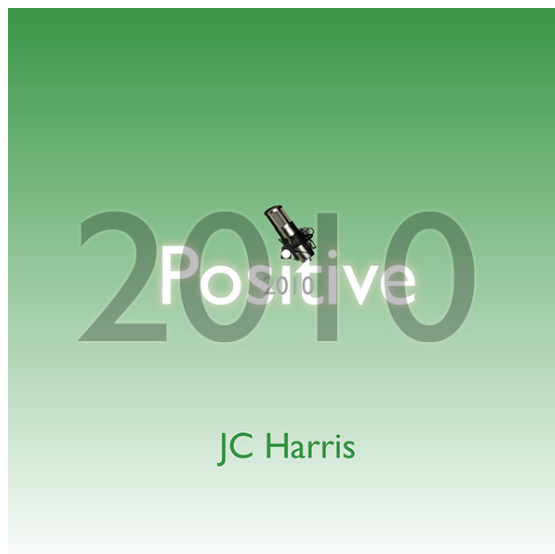
Commitment, the original opener, is a sort of 'mini-epic', of power-pop with soaring lyrics and a huge chorus.

In comparison, **The Zen Song** is a brief bit of a tongue in cheek; a riff on new age culture with all the psychedelic trimmings.

Next is **Paul Sees The Light**, a religious song (yes, *that* Paul) with bass and guitar work worthy of the best early Yes records.

The sad ballad **Who Goes First?** is a play on words about one person's last day in divorce court.

Things go a bit 80's synth-pop with **Just A Job**. A typical story of a guy struggling with a boring retirement after a very fulfilling career. As a Nazi.



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SUGGESTED TRACKS:

This Time

Samba with passionate vocal and subtle rhythms. Think: later Paul Simon.

Mr. Parker

Quirky synth-pop with dark lyrics. Think: late era Talking Heads or Peter Gabriel.

Why Don't You Come In?

Melancholy power-pop ballad. Think: early Genesis

You Are Loved

Angry mid-tempo rocker with piano and guitar. Think: Mott The Hoople

On My Way Home is an almost jarring follow-up; mostly just voice and a Telecaster. It's a stark confessional filled with a heart-breaking sense of guilt.

We then shift from sad to mad as hell with **You Are Loved**, a mid-tempo rocker with pounding piano and angry guitar. This is someone we all know: they have it all but *refuse* to be loved.

Why Don't You Come In? follows and while it couldn't be more different in style, the sentiment is much the same; about someone who can't feel good no matter how hard we try to help.

Danielle Cameron is a passionate love song. It starts with a highly ironic voice-over then switches to an epic theme worthy of Peter Gabriel.

About JC Harris

A galaxy of styles and sounds come naturally for a musician who grew up playing traditional music in Ireland and then went on to play with international artists from Motown, jazz, blues, folk and even The Shrine Circus.

It may not be unusual these days that JC plays almost every sound you hear on Positive. What *is* unusual is how well he plays; a true multi-instrument virtuoso. Even more unusual, especially these days, is that he insists on playing everything in real time without loops or other 'modern' electronic trickery.

JC records at his studio near Seattle, WA. All seven of his albums, including Positive (2010), are available now at JChMusic.com, Amazon.com and iTunes.com.

For complete media information, visit jchmusic.com/mediakit. For bookings and press, please contact Cyndi Wallace cyndi@jchmusic.com.



PO Box 98570 Seattle, WA 98198

Voice: 206-878-0578 Fax: 206-428-6035

www.jchmusic.com