
Gene Clark

Two Sides to Every Story HIGH MOON



Of the original Byrds, Roger McGuinn, David Crosby and Chris Hillman were far better known and more prolific than **Gene Clark**. But Clark—who died in 1991—might have had the most fanatical following of all—a coterie of hardcore fans who not only consider his compositions for The Byrds (“I’ll Feel a Whole Lot Better,” “Set You Free This Time”) as some of that band’s best music, but also cherish his solo work. *Two Sides to Every Story* came out in 1977, after the experimental *No Other* and just before Clark reunited with McGuinn and Hillman for an album and tour. A pure and honest slice of country-rock, bluegrass and folk-inspired balladry, *Two Sides* shows off Clark’s songwriting acumen and underrated vocals generously. “Give My Love to Marie” is a moving ballad that casts Clark as a bold crooner amid swells of orchestration, while “Hear the Wind” rivals the best that Nashville, Tenn. had to offer at the time. The traditional “In the Pines” becomes a full-blown hoedown in Clark’s hands and “Marylou” flirts with a funky R&B rhythm. Although it’s not Gene Clark’s best-known work, *Two Sides to Every Story* nonetheless remains one of his most enjoyable releases.

Jeff Tamarkin
