



Artist: Bob Neft
Album Title: Celtic Tales
Label: Earth Cat Records
Genre: Celtic Fusion Rock Opera



- CD Track Listing:**
- 1- Battle on Ventry Beach
 - 2- The Fianna
 - 3- Celtic Tales
 - 4- Lore
 - 5- Dawn in Countae Chiarrai (County Kerry)
 - 6- Fionn's Lament
 - 7- Oisín's Promise
 - 8- Welcome to Tir Na Nog
 - 9- Everything
 - 10- Marry My Daughter
 - 11- The Goodbye
 - 12- The Journey Home

- 13- St. Patrick
- 14- Love is Gone

Discography:
Solo:
Celtic Tales
On the Edge of Discovery

Radian Revisited:
A Journey's End
The Demise of Gaia
Cacophony of Life

The Anagram Principle.
Realm of Being
Inventor
Odd Martian Equation

Hailing from Pittsburgh, USA, we find multi-instrumental solo artist **BOB NEFT**. Over the years Bob has backed artists such as Bo Diddley, recorded with Todd Clark and composed original scores. He also worked with a band called Radian with Tedd Arnoldm and both the guys formed the

well received The Anagram Principle. His new solo album is a fourteen-track album called 'Celtic Tales' which clocks in at around forty-seven minutes long and is the artists sophomore full length release which is conceptual album based on a lot of Irish mythology. The album opens up with '*Battle on Ventry Beach*'. This track starts off with chugging guitars and is quite melodic. It has an early Styx feel, particularly Bob's vocals, which are in the vein of Tommy Shaw and quite high powered. The song as a whole, that whilst conceptual, is catchy and vibrant with a classic rock vibe. I love the way that the guitar sounds on '*The Fianna*' this track has a strong experimental loop feel, something that you hear Ed Sheeran doing. If you have ever seen Ed live, then you will have seen him getting quite progressive and branches

out songs to over seven minutes long, he's not prog of course, but you get the drift. This song is catchy and up-beat with progressive edges. I love the guitar feel here which reminds me a lot of Mark Knopfler, the added violin adds atmosphere to the track.

'*Celtic Tales*' opens up with sounds of birds chirping away. I love the vocal harmonies which have a strong Americana meets Styx feel, coupled with wonderful Celtic influenced violin and acoustic guitar/mandolin work.

'*Lore*' is an organic Celtic/ violin/ guitar/ mandolin instrumental composition. The theme is beautiful and you can imagine this in a TV show such as Poldark. It's such a strong instrumental, somewhere along the lines of say Loreena McKennit.

Actually to describe Bob's music, in my view one could simply say "Classic Progressive Rock meets Loreena McKennit and Mark Knopfler."

'*Dawn in Countae Chiarrai (County Kerry)*' has a more folkish meets renaissance vibe, The female vocals on this track give the song a stronger up-tempo feel, unsure who she is sadly, but she is very good.

'*Fionn's Lament*' is a short vocal led piece, quite dramatic with strong vocals.

Meanwhile on '*Oisin's Promise*' the music conjures up images of The Lords of the Rings soundtrack. This is a brilliant grand piece, big sounding, and balladic/poetic yet only a couple of minutes long. We then dance the jig with the fun and catchy

'*Welcome to Tir Na Nog*', The female vocals here are again warm and strong. The whole song is a catchy celebration, the

instrumental musical work explores traditional Celtic/gypsy folk music, maybe even a little Fleetwood Mac here.

'*Everything*' for me is one of the albums highlights here, this track is beautiful melodic ballad, beautiful sung by Bob and the female singer, its quite and endearing song that pulls you in, very organic and soothing, oozing a slight Peter Gabriel vibe. Bob should release this as a single. This song also showcases just how good a songwriter Bob is.

'*Marry My Daughter*' is even more dramatic with an atmospheric cinematic feel. However, this song gets quite groove based with a vintage sonic progressive edge. Bob's vocals here soar high.

'*The Goodbye*' is melodic and based around acoustic guitars and male/female vocals and is quite an organic and up-beat catchy ballad. Still following the melodic path is '*The Journey Home*' with soaring high vocals from Bob. It's catchy with a vintage progressive vibe.

The epic '*St. Patrick*' meanwhile will give you goosebumps with its enchanting Gregorian atmospheric start. This is a beautiful composition, and another album highlight, superb musicianship. The album ends with the beautiful led 'Love is Gone'. Here the female vocals soar high, yet are calm and graceful as the song progresses, love the songs Celtic ending, in fact I enjoyed this album so much.

'Celtic Tales' is an interesting an enjoyable diverse album that needs a few spins to get into. My partner Jeanette is Irish, so I shall be playing this to her and see if she gets it. Highly recommended.

Web and Social Media Links:

<https://www.bobneft.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/BobNeft/>
<https://twitter.com/ran57>
<https://bobneft.bandcamp.com/>
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