



John Turrell releases his debut solo album

The Kingmaker on The Big Chill Label

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A Train Entertainment/Distribution 13 – US Territories

Release Date: September 8th 2013 – CD/Download/Vinyl

A & R: Kwame Kwaten (Rumer/Laura Mvula) ATC Management

Produced by: Nick Faber **Vocal Production by:** Smoove

Mixed by: Rob Chiarelli (Rumer, Madonna, Christina Aguilera)

Track Listing: 1. To The City 2. The Temper 3. Wrong Time 4. Low 5. The Kingmaker
6. Day In Day Out 7. These Things 8. Eating Stones 9. Chasing Shadows
10. Stella Maris 11. Won't Get Fooled Again 12. Home

Press on John Turrell's previous releases: "It's a badly kept secret that a lot of people believe John's heading for future stardom – with a voice with the timbre of the greats of Soul music." **Snowboy** "To say, Smoove & Turrell are the greatest modern Soul act in to emerge from the U.K would be an epic understatement!" **Craig Charles (BBC6 Music)** "mahogany-toned vocals" **Andy Gill/The Independent - On The Kingmaker Album:** "John Turrell is the next big voice in British music" **Paul Knott/Sabotage Times**

Not since Mick Hucknall sang "The Money's Too Tight To Mention" has a British soul vocalist summed up the feelings of the masses as well as John Turrell does on the opening lines of his debut album *The Kingmaker*. **"I believe in nothing more than those who got and those who ain't. Your house to the poor house the line you cross if you can't pay"**. Cometh the hour, cometh the man, because we all feel that vulnerability and no one is immune, but John growls, aches, sings and pleads with us till we get past it and join him in his defiance. It is an album that references a diverse set of influences; Springsteen for 'honest man' song content, Heaven 17 (Penthouse & The Pavement era) for social conscience and stylistically the heartfelt soul of the industrial landscapes of the USA as expressed by artists like James Brown and Sam Cooke.

'The Kingmaker' has afforded John the opportunity to really explore the soul and blues roots of his extraordinary and critically acclaimed voice. The album has a panoramic soul sensibility that is centered on John's bold, humane and authentic traits as a writer and singer; if John sings something, you will believe it and you will be moved by it. "The thing with music is you have to feel something for it to be real, the whole ethos of this album is a year in the life of myself and writing partner Nick Faber. Looking at the ebb and flow of a normal man's life seen from two perspectives, Nick in London and myself in Newcastle. From the start we knew that with the help of some truly talented musicians we could craft something that we were both proud to call ours. "

John has delivered twelve stunning raw vocal performances on emotionally searing tracks like *The Temper* ("I'm the temper, how you gonna like me now?") and *Low* ("Said you regret it, please don't sweat it. I have no time for automated replies") and the album's breathtaking closer *Home*. There is a more minimal approach on tracks like "Day In Day Out", which is the audio equivalent of a L.S Lowry landscape and the same philosophical ache radiates out of "These Things", that is the most melodic documentation of a drunk returning home in the history of recorded music ("I smoke because I know it will get me in the end"). Then there is the Stevie Winwood/Robert Palmeresque transatlantic soul of tracks like the debut single 'Wrong Time' and 'Eating Stones', plus the Stax inspired soul of the title track *The Kingmaker*.

"I still believe in the "Album", a set of chapters that can only really be understood in its entirety," says John. "I never wanted to lose sight of this in the making "The Kingmaker". I never held back in the writing of lyrics or the way I sing. It's the only way, if you want people understand what you're going through. At the end of the day we aren't put here to just be happy or we would never know what happiness was."

John initially emerged as one half of the band Smoove and Turrell who have been releasing music since 2009 and their third album is due later in 2013. Their debut album *Antique Soul* followed by *Eccentric Audio* attracted the attention of the great and the good. They were play listed on BBC Radio 2 and 6 Music and championed by LA hipsters KCRW. They played to 10,000 punters at Glastonbury and supported soul legends like Nile Rogers, Chic and Martha Reeves and The Vandellas. It is from this solid grounding that John will be releasing his debut solo album with the full support of his band mate Smoove who recorded his vocals in Newcastle for the 'The Kingmaker'. John has also collaborated with Ashley Beedle on his 'Mavis' project, sung for Craig Charles as part of his 'Fantasy Funk Band' and has worked with James Taylor, Dr Rubberfunk, Kraak & Smaak and more recently can be heard contributing vocals on the Featurecast single 'Ain't My Style'.

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The Kingmaker – Track by track by John Turrell (Singer/Songwriter) and Nick Faber (Producer/Co-writer)

To The City (76 bpm) JT. “I keep thinking how much more of what we love can we give up, while the City and those who run it get more and more.” **NF.** “This was the first track John and I worked on and has become an anthem for the project. I’ll never forget John singing his ideas down the phone to me when I was in the supermarket” **Track Credits.** John Turrell: Vocals; Nick Faber: Keyboards, Rhythm Guitar, Percussion; Rob Lucas: Bass Guitar; Rich Milner: Organ; Michael Coleman: Lead Guitar

The Temper (80 bpm) JT. “I’m not an angry man but all people have their breaking point, the time when the red mist just won’t let you go. **NF.** “One of my favorite tracks and one I really relate to, another explosive vocal from John”. **Track Credits.** John Turrell: Vocals; Nick Faber: Keyboards, Synthesizer; Paul Tyagi: Percussion; Rob Lucas: Bass Guitar

Wrong Time (121.5 bpm) JT. “Autobiographical to the point transparency. Two very different John’s fighting in the same body”. **NF.** “I wanted to create a simple track with a hypnotic groove. John did the rest.” **Track Credits.** John Turrell: Vocals; Nick Faber: Electric Guitar, Electric Piano, Percussion; Rob Lucas: Bass Guitar; Rich Milner: Organ

Low (90.5 bpm): JT. “I look on this song like a protection to my family a sort of stay away message.” **NF.** “I wanted to create a Boz Scaggs feel with the drums and bass. We could’ve taken it even further and I really love Mike’s guitar solo” **Track Credits.** John Turrell: Vocals; Nick Faber: Guitar, Percussion; Rob Lucas: Bass Guitar; Ade Meehan: Drums, Mike Porter: Electric Piano, Piano Synthesizer; Michael Coleman: Lead Guitar

The Kingmaker (130.5): JT. “Rupert Murdoch, the man who made our leaders. The whole affair just made me realize how our democracy is owned by just a few and no leader can ever be leader without the Kingmaker.” **NF.** “I’d had the backing track for a while so I stripped it back and sent it to John. Ade Meehan’s drums really gave it the energy it needed. The original will make a great faux disco remix!” **Track Credits.** John Turrell: Vocals; Nick Faber: Guitar, Synthesizer, Percussion; Rob Lucas: Bass Guitar; Rich Milner: Keyboards; Ade Meehan: Drums; Special Thanks to Oli Bayston

Day in Day Out (64 bpm): JT. “For 6 years I drove the same way in to work passing under a bridge that had Day in Day out spray painted on it. Something must have rubbed off.” **NF.** “John sung me the melody and I sat at the piano and worked out the chords. The lyrics and tune are so intense I decided it didn’t need anything else” **Track Credits.** John Turrell: Vocals; Mike Porter: Piano

These Things (82 bpm): “I drink because I’m me, an argument I’m not supposed to win when I raise my head my eyes feel dead in the stupor that’s gotten me, well I smoke because I know it’ll get me in the end, I may’s well have these things I have, these things that I call friends” **NF.** “John’s ‘Wonderwall’ but with better lyrics. And a better tune” **Track Credits.** John Turrell: Vocals; Nick Faber: Percussion; Rob Lucas: Bass Guitar; Mike Porter: Piano, Organ, Synthesizer; Paul Tyagi: Drums; String Arrangement; Mike Stobbie

Eating Stones (84 bpm): JT. “I remember how hard it was to stop smoking, I couldn’t even begin to think about not singing and writing music. How long does it take for a man to eventually think he’s there? I don’t honestly know, until then I’m just eating stones.” **NF.** “The music might be straightforward funk but the lyrics are pure genius: “When the green is gone all you’re left with is the blues” **Track Credits.** John Turrell: Vocals; Nick Faber: Percussion; Rob Lucas: Bass Guitar; Ade Meehan: Drums; Michael Coleman: Lead Guitar Mike Porter: Organ

Chasing Shadows (91 bpm): JT. “In any relationship you look back and see how far and how much you have done to be with that person. What you have fought for to be together, this is just my way of telling her.” **NF.** “I wasn’t sure what would happen when I gave John a mid 90s hip hop backing track but he smashed it.” **Track Credits.** John Turrell: Vocals; Nick Faber: Guitar, Synthesizer, Percussion; Rich Milner: Organ

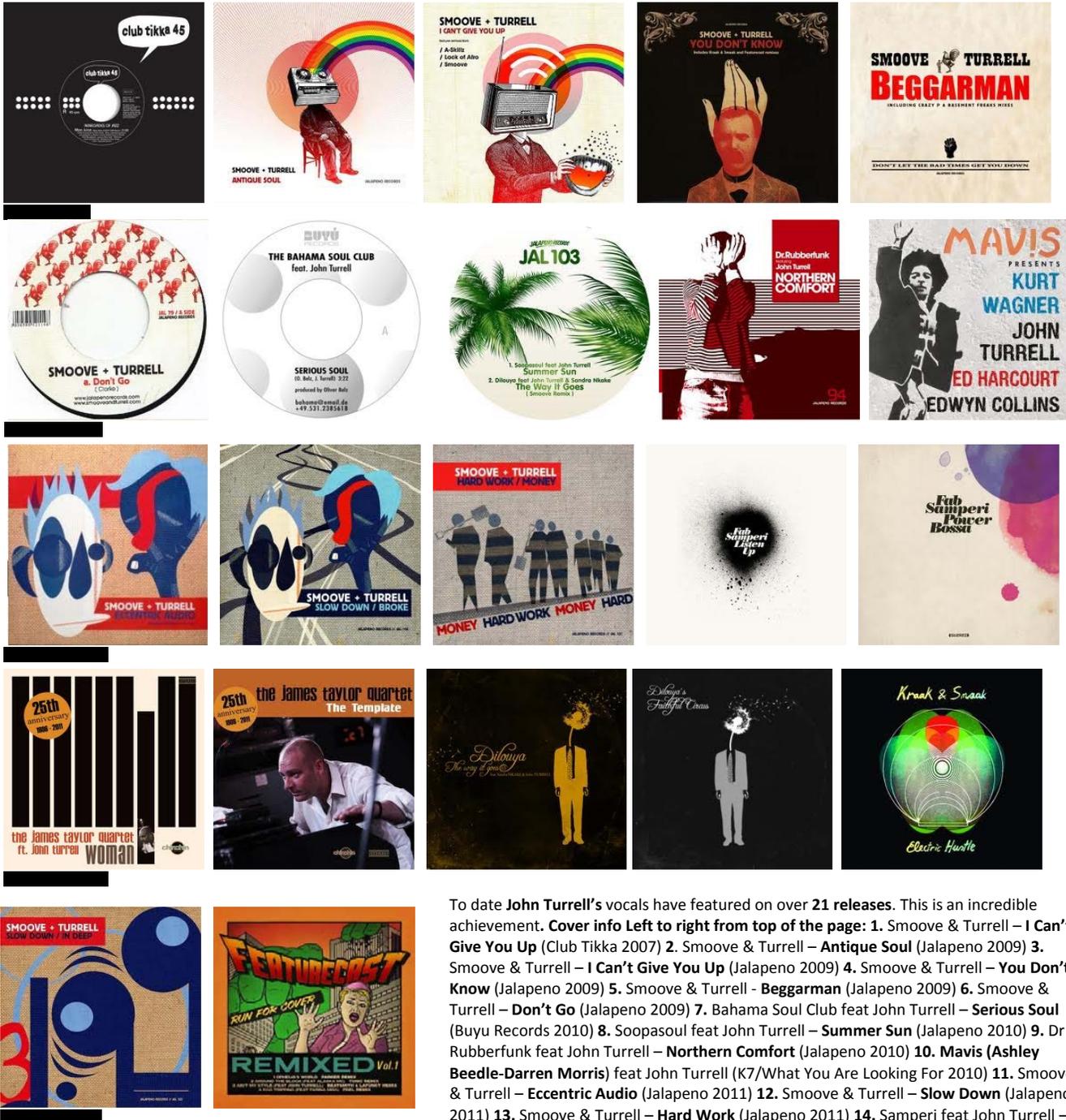
Stella Maris (111.5 bpm): JT. “The star of the sea. The person I run to when I’m lost. Just knowing I have that person makes things a lot easier.” **NF.** “The drone in the background was meant to be a sitar, since I don’t have one I detuned my telecaster” **Track Credits.** John Turrell: Vocals; Nick Faber: Guitars, Synthesizer, Percussion; Rob Lucas: Bass Guitar; Ade Meehan: Drums; Mike Porter: Organ

Won’t get fooled again (110 bpm): JT. “An ode to a previous relationship, there’s no better way to say it” **NF.** “For me this is a pure and simple ‘white disco’/r’n’b track with a great live feel and amazing sax solos from Dave Wild. Perfect playing all round. **Track Credits.** John Turrell: Vocals; Nick Faber: Guitars, Percussion; Rob Lucas: Bass Guitar; Aaron Graham: Drums; Mike Porter: Organ; Dave Wilde: Saxophone

Home (59 bpm): JT. “I just wanted my girls to know how much I love them, that I’m always thinking about them even when I’m not there. Home has always been the biggest building block in my life. Always knowing I was welcome back gave me the confidence to go and do what I wanted.” **NF.** “Gary Baldwin is one of the best Hammond players in the country, his performance here is exceptional. Combined with the perfectly judged drum take from Sugarcubes drummer Siggı Baldursson, simple but so effective.” **Track Credits.** John Turrell: Vocals; Nick Faber: Guitars; Rob Lucas: Bass Guitar; Siggı Baldursson: Drums; Gary Baldwin: Hammond Organ



At A Glance Discography – Releases Featuring John Turrell on Vocals



To date **John Turrell's** vocals have featured on over **21 releases**. This is an incredible achievement. Cover info Left to right from top of the page: 1. Smoove & Turrell – **I Can't Give You Up** (Club Tikka 2007) 2. Smoove & Turrell – **Antique Soul** (Jalapeno 2009) 3. Smoove & Turrell – **I Can't Give You Up** (Jalapeno 2009) 4. Smoove & Turrell – **You Don't Know** (Jalapeno 2009) 5. Smoove & Turrell - **Beggarman** (Jalapeno 2009) 6. Smoove & Turrell – **Don't Go** (Jalapeno 2009) 7. Bahama Soul Club feat John Turrell – **Serious Soul** (Buyu Records 2010) 8. Soopasoul feat John Turrell – **Summer Sun** (Jalapeno 2010) 9. Dr Rubberfunk feat John Turrell – **Northern Comfort** (Jalapeno 2010) 10. Mavis (Ashley Beedle-Darren Morris) feat John Turrell (K7/What You Are Looking For 2010) 11. Smoove & Turrell – **Eccentric Audio** (Jalapeno 2011) 12. Smoove & Turrell – **Slow Down** (Jalapeno 2011) 13. Smoove & Turrell – **Hard Work** (Jalapeno 2011) 14. Samperi feat John Turrell – **Everyman** (Agogo Records 2011) 15. Fab Samperi feat John Turrell – **Heaven Sent** 16.

James Taylor Quartet feat John Turrell – **Woman** (Chin Chin Records 2011) 17. James Taylor Quartet – **The Template** (Lighten Up Your Soul/Why Cant We Get Along/Loneliness (Chin Chin Records 2011) 18. Dilouya – **The Way It Goes** feat John Turrell (Magnificent 2011) 19. Dilouya – **Faithful Circus** feat John Turrell (Magnificent 2011) 20. Kraak & Smaak feat John Turrell – **Wasted With A Smile** (Jalapeno 2011) 21. . Smoove & Turrell – **In Deep** (Jalapeno 2011) 22. Featurcast feat John Turrell – **Ain't My Style** (Jalapeno 2011)