

## Songdog



### A Life Eroding

ONE LITTLE INDIAN

**Captivating noir trio go  
widescreen on budget.**



Despite props from Bruce Springsteen – he covered 2003's Days Of

Armageddon – the phrase “cult band” has long been synonymous with Songdog. This fifth album from the Blackwood, South Wales-formed act seems both milestone and progression, however. Lyndon Morgans' lyrics are as evocative as ever, but his graphic, oddly magical songs haven't previously enjoyed such well-plotted arrangements. Acoustic guitar, banjo and accordion are the enduring Songdog staples, while harp, alt-country strings and tuned-bottles are among the stirring new flavours. So teamed, our host/award-winning playwright's long-standing

facility with drama and poignancy pays extra dividends, especially on the mesmerising Gene Autry's Ghost and the delicate meditation upon ageing that is the title track. “Sometime later I took an evening job selling crap from a suitcase round the semis...” intones Morgans on the Johnny Cash-indebted Elaine. You'll be with him all the way.

*James McNair*

**MOJO**  
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