

Joy Lynn White, Duane Jarvis

2 Bar Club, London, April 15

Joy Lynn White is one of my favourite singers, and Duane Jarvis came very highly recommended by Gail Comfort of Spyda radio (www.spydaradio.co.uk),



Joy Lynn White

David Knowles

and so I could not have asked for a better show to finally kick-start my return to the live gig scene. Joy had been complaining of feeling unwell, and having a problem with her throat. But to hear her sing you would not have known, as she sounded in tremendous voice. J.L.W. got proceedings underway with the tune made famous by the Dixie Chicks *Tonight The Heartaches On Me*, and it made me realise why I have always preferred her version, as she absolutely perfected the vocals! She followed up with the wonderful *I Doubt If It Does To You*, from her superb THE LUCKY FEW album.

Duane Jarvis then took his turn on vocals, and started with the great Texas border-styled *Spread My Soul Too Thin*, and his expertise on the guitar quickly shone through. Next came *The Prayer*, which he said he wrote approximately 22 years ago, and has recently been used in a Disney movie. Joy then sang a new song *If You Want My Heart*, which was very akin to the Carter Family music, and is from her new album which is waiting to be taken on by a record company before it can be released. In fact going back to the Carter Family, Joy has not long finished acting in a stage show in Virginia, playing Maybelle Carter herself. She is hoping to get some pictures of her as Maybelle onto her website, so if you would like to see these you can log onto www.joylynnwhite.com.

Girls With Apartments In Nashville was as popular as ever with the audience, and it was great hearing her sing it with her co-writer on that song. It is a shame that American country radio hasn't caught onto this song, as it is a very catchy and radio friendly tune. Duane again took his turn on lead vocals, and performed his Lucinda Williams co-written song *Still I Long For A Kiss*, and also *Broke* on which he executed some excellently varied guitar solos. By this time I was totally agreeing with everything good that Gail Comfort had said about this guy. J.L.W. then ended the first half of the show with another very catchy and radio friendly tune, which I think was called *Yeh! Yeh! Yeh!*, and the superb *Secret Crush* which had the hairs standing up on the back of my neck; you could've heard a pin drop. In fact words just cannot describe how

beautiful this song sounded, and how magnificently special Joy Lynn's vocals were!

After a short drinks break Duane got things underway again with a couple of songs, including the fun Tex-Mex *Forgive The Fool*, then Joy produced some more heart-rending vocals on the powerful torch song *Burning Memories*. Her voice is just so individual, and at times can melt your heart away. Then came another new song, *I'm Free*, which she co-wrote with Kostas, again with some powerful yet very controlled vocals. Joy then asked Duane if she could do one more song that had been requested by John Graveling, who arranges her tours in the UK. *Nobody's Girl Again*, a wonderfully offbeat ballad, was very well received by the audience. Then I had to head off to catch my train, but already this had proved to be a top class gig by two extremely talented artists. This was proved by the fact that such a good crowd turned out to see them, even though Chris Hillman, the Drive-By Truckers, Reckless Kelly and Jonathan Richman were all playing in London on the same night. Well I knew which gig I wanted to see, and I'm glad I did! David Knowles