

## **What's Behind The Dusk? - Zar Acoustic**

Zar Acoustic has set us all a challenge – a better understanding of nature and how it evolves, and for himself, also for us – an exploration of various methods of recording guitar techniques and how they evolve. Clearly a voyage of discovery for the artist, a journey we have also been invited to take.

The song starts with an eerie background before the acoustic guitar enters with its lap tapping techniques. This technique involves the use of the guitar as a percussive instrument to accompany chords, broken chords (arpeggios), various rhythms and melody played on various parts of the guitars neck, often using harmonics to great effect.

Tempo plays a big part in music, it plays a huge role here as the opening section with its percussive effects is played at a steady speed, with the introduction of a more guitar-based theme the tempo speeds up before returning to the more percussive opening. This idea is repeated; however, the more acoustic theme is accompanied by the percussive effects and what sounds like a bird calling in the distance.

The change between the various chords major, minor, augmented, diminished etc also contribute hugely to the atmosphere of the music. Here the more major segments seem to represent hope or optimism whilst the minor phrases encourage thoughtfulness, a time to reflect.

All of this contribute to the magic of Zar Acoustic's music.

The video is beautifully filmed adding to collage that fills the mind – nature, sound, thought. Guitar work filmed in daylight; close ups of the head filmed later in the day as dusk falls. If you watch carefully you can actually see the ripples of a fish that had jumped during the filming

After having watched the video one thing is abundantly clear – watch Zar's face, he clearly enjoys his music. It also enhances the viewers enjoyment.

Beautiful music, thoughtful music!

**Drew Jarvie – The Delerium Trees**

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