

BRIAN VANDER ARK

"The follow-up to the incredible debut solo album by Brian Vander Ark, Angel, Put Your Face On showcases the fact that this guy may be one of the most creative songwriters on the planet. We were incredibly amazed by what he was able to accomplish with his band, and then we were blown away when he went on his own and stepped it up, but we could never have prepared ourselves for this album."

Thisismodern.net

★★★★ "Angel, Put Your Face On . . . captures a whole new side of Vander Ark, one that just further proves why he's still one of the most talented songwriters in the industry today."

Alternativeaddiction.com

"Back again is Vander Ark's full-throated singing, a 5-o'clock-shadow of a voice with surprising range. Angel, Put Your Face On stands on the strength of its songs, and Vander Ark is a top-flight songwriter, smart and provocative, one of the few latter-day pop songwriters devoted not just to lyrics but to actual songcraft – words that sing as well as signify. Brian Vander Ark is a heavyweight who really can't be dismissed, whatever the style du jour."

Lansing State Journal

"Angel, Put Your Face On . . . (is a) distinctive work that draws on Vander Ark's strengths – his guitar-playing, his voice and, most importantly, his songwriting. And those things win over fans who show up to hear *The Verve Pipe* classics and his own material. "

thedailytimes.com

"Light and dark share equal billing on Angel, Put Your Face On, a 10 song album that explores themes of love, life and loss. Vander Ark's sensitive guy rock is chock full of stirring lyrics and impassioned vocals that tug at listeners' souls, as if he is sharing secrets from deep within himself."

Press & Sun-Bulletin/Knoxville

"The songs are definitely the priority on Angel Put Your Face On, with an absence of excessive instrumentation. One of the album's shining points is his voice. Because of the acoustic-based nature of the songs . . . Vander Ark is able to make his voice a primary instrument and enhance the intimate story telling aspect of his songs. If you're looking for a solid, well-written album that blends elements of acoustic, electric, country, pop, rock, orchestration and songwriting, look no further."

SoundAffects.net

"Vander Ark's set featured one man, one guitar and a mix of material from his days with *The Verve Pipe* and his solo work. Vander Ark mixed old *Verve Pipe* favorites with his new, fresh and soul-inspiring solo material. His set was very laid-back, allowing an intimate, involved and attentive audience a chance to relax, breathe and let the music flow. Vander Ark's modest approach to performing live music was very refreshing during a music age of nasty, in-your-face media sensations that die out before their 15 minutes are up."

New Paltz Oracle

"Resurrection is . . . sincere and captivating. Vander Ark's music is now stripped down to a more personal level than his writing with *The Verve Pipe* allowed him to reach. Delivered in a way that strips pretense and pomp, the lyrics are there to cut the listener to the core. Vander Ark's words flow between clear prose and musical allegory. Most solo albums don't reach this level of solidity and honesty. Vander Ark emotes through his music . . . when a musician like (him) can show that there is a musical life beyond the sliver of spotlight that the industry provides, it's hard not to put on the headphones and take notice."

IGN

"Resurrection is an album about interiors – extremely personal, understated and often beautiful songs that call for introspection and an intimate setting. Which isn't to say there aren't any blissful pop moments here – 'A Million Things' wastes no time delivering its superglue hook and a jaunty, uptempo drum shuffle, and the title track offers an ascending guitar riff. The real gem here, however, is the gentle, melodic 'And Then You Went Away.' As with most of the album, the song hits the sweet spot between poetry and bald-faced directness, and embraces simplicity without being simplistic. Resurrection is Vander Ark's most refined and inspired songwriting yet. With a mixture of pop hooks, contemplative moments and unusual instrumentation, Resurrection further establishes Vander Ark as a creative force that extends well beyond past accomplishments."

The Grand Rapids Press

"Resurrection is the ideal vehicle for Vander Ark to show that he is one of the most underrated songwriters in music."

Allmusic.com

"Stadium rock shows can be fun and arena concerts have their pleasures, but there's little better than seeing a rousing show in an intimate joint. Vander Ark is an imposing figure, who wields a mighty pen as well as a guitar."

Washington Post

"The new songs show the sense of melody that made *The Verve Pipe* successful, but with added melancholy and heartbreak. Vander Ark performed the majority of the set solo, with only a guitar. (His) rich voice really shined through the acoustic melodies all night."

Nuvo

★★★★ "You'll instantly recognize his voice . . . in his solo debut, Resurrection, Vander Ark emerges as a viable musician with just as much to offer as *The Verve Pipe* had. 'And Then You Went Away' is a harmonious heartfelt song about loss, and in it, Vander Ark sings genuinely. His legendary deep, throaty voice gives this acoustic rock record its claim in the music industry, and Vander Ark exuberates potential as a soloist."

Discoveringartists.com

". . . you get the feeling that Resurrection is just the beginning of a whole new chapter in Vander Ark's already impressive career."

Amplifier Magazine

