

Edition – a song which sums up what it's all about.

"I start playing it and then after a minute I disappear for the next seven minutes and come back when it is time to finish."

It's that glorious moment when it's not Duncan playing the guitar, but the guitar playing Duncan: "I go to a trance-like hypno place. I am thinking of injecting a few subliminal messages into the track!"

Ordinary Man this summer will be his first album since 2002 – part of the current creative burst.

"Everyone said I ought to have another album, and now I have got about four or five ready. I now feel really awake musically. There have been lots of changes.

"In the past couple of years I have been able to completely separate the fact that music is very spiritual from the business side of the whole thing. The business is a business with a capital B... It's fickleness and it's empty promises.

"I think I have realised that at the end of the day you have just got to get on with your craft and do it as best you can. You have got to be brave and see that the commercial side does not matter.

"To be a singer-songwriter, a poet, an artist, there has to be a time when you develop the courage of your convictions and pursue what you believe in whatever the cost."

It's not easy to survive as a musician, far from it. But Duncan manages it – though a regret is the fact that so much of his work is abroad.

"I can play to 10,000 people in Switzerland and back here I can be playing to 12 people in a pub!"

But Ltd Edition followed by Ordinary Man this summer should – if there is any justice in this world – see those native audiences grow.

Duncan cites the multi-millionaire who commented that the difference between a person who wastes far too much time tinkering on his guitar and a dedicated genius is simply success.

The point is the hard work behind it, something Duncan has never shied away from.

Originally from South London, he gave music a go for a year or so, but it didn't work out so he took the offered advice and got himself a 'proper job.'

But he continued playing the guitar and inevitably the guitar finally claimed him: "It was always calling to me. I was playing and doing my job, and my job involved me not really telling people that I was a player. It was a dual role.

"But the mask was wearing thinner and thinner. The music was screaming at me so loud that I just couldn't ignore it. And so – about ten years ago – I thought, right, from this moment onwards I am a musician for better or worse.

"I had to start right at the bottom, but I thought 'right I am now going to do what I really believe in.'

Grab a copy of Ltd Edition, and you'll believe in it too.

