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LEST WE FORGET

John Brodie Good          Dave McMann          Mick Farren
THE THREE COMMANDMENTS OF GONZO WEEKLY:

1. Art is as important as science and more important than money
2. There is life after (beyond and before) Pop Idol
3. Music can and sometimes does change the world

If you think those three ideas are stupid then you should probably give up reading this magazine now. Otherwise... enjoy
Dear friends,

Welcome to another issue of this peculiar little magazine, which gets more peculiar as the months roll by.

My peculiar life has become even more peculiar over the last few days, when events have forced me to re-visit stuff that I did sixteen and twenty-five years ago. Intrigued? Then you had better read on.

First of all, I want you to imagine that it is the May of 2004. And that you are somehow driving down one of the back streets of a little town called Mattoon, Illinois. You are driving down a leafy suburban road, in the rain. On either side are smallish, square houses with white aluminium siding and slightly pointed roofs. In front of you is a tiny car, being driven slightly unsteadily by a woman in late middle-age. Suddenly, she pulls to a halt, the passenger door opens, and out squeezes a tall, bulky Englishman, with long hair and a beard. He looks at one of the houses with reverence, pulls out a camera and takes a photograph of it, sings a few bars of a song that is not familiar to you (mainly because it appeared on a record that nobody bought), stands in the rain with bowed head for a few seconds, before getting back into the car. A few hundred
...out squeezes a tall, bulky Englishman, with long hair and a beard.”

yards down the road, the unlikely couple repeat this peculiar activity.

The fat Englishman with long hair was, as none of you will be particularly surprised to learn, me. The lady driving the car was the mother of my then girlfriend, Jessica, and the song was The Mad Gasser of Mattoon by ‘Jon Downes and the Amphibians from Outer Space’, from an album called ‘The Case’, which had been released to almost universal lack of acclaim, back in 1995.

Over to those jolly nice fellows at Wikipedia:

“The Mad Gasser of Mattoon (also known as the "Anesthetic Prowler," Friz, the "Phantom Anesthetist," or simply the "Mad Gasser") was the name given to the person or people believed to be responsible for a series of apparent gas attacks that occurred in Mattoon, Illinois, during the mid-1940s. More than two dozen separate cases of gassings were reported to police over the span of two weeks, in addition to many more reported sightings of the suspected assailant. The gasser's supposed victims reported smelling strange odors in their homes which were soon followed by symptoms such as paralysis of the legs, coughing, nausea and vomiting. No one died or had serious medical consequences.

Police remained skeptical of the accounts throughout the entire incident. No physical evidence was ever found, and many reported gassings had simple explanations, such as spilled nail polish or odors emanating from animals or local factories. Victims made quick recoveries from their symptoms and suffered no long-term effects. Nevertheless, local newspapers ran
alarmist articles about the reported attacks and treated the accounts as fact.

The attacks are widely considered to be simply a case of mass hysteria. However, others maintain that the Mad Gasser actually existed, or that the perceived attacks have another explanation, such as industrial pollution.

Scott Maruna argued, in a book written in 2003, that the culprit was a local man, called Farley Llewellyn, the son of a well-liked local grocery store owner. A very bright young fellow, Llewellyn had studied chemistry at university and had built a laboratory in the trailer in which he lived. In addition, he had been pretty much shunned by the community because he was homosexual and his behaviour was often unbalanced. He had the knowledge and means to create a poison gas and the motive of revenge against the town that spurned him. He became suspect number one.

Back in August 1944, Mrs. Bert Kearney had just gone to bed when... let’s have
Yanks in Germany
"Anesthetic Prowler"
MRS. KEARNEY 3Yr. OLD, G.O.P.
AND DAUGHTER CHALLENGE FIRST VICTIM ROOSEVELT
Both Recover; Robber Fails to Get Into Home

A prowler who used some kind of anesthetic or gas to knock out the
injured victim was on the loose
in Mattoon Friday night.

Mrs. Fred Kearney and her
three-year-old daughter, Dorothy, were victims of the anesthetic pro-

wler when they slept in bed at
their home, 1409 Marshall avenue. Both had recovered today, although
Mrs. Kearney said that her mouth
and throat were numb and punished and her

eyes balled up from effects of whatever

was used by the prowler who

was unsuccessful in getting into the

home.

Here's What Happened:

Mrs. Kearney told the following story:

"It was shortly after 11 o'clock

Friday night when I went to bed,

talking with my son, son's daughter, Hor-

day. My sister, Mrs. Edgar Haney

was in the living room of the house,

and my daughter Carol, 3, and Mrs.

Breed's son, Roger, 2, were in an-

other part of the house.

"I first noticed a sickening sweet

odor in the bedroom, but at the time I

was..."
The Mattoon Daily Journal-Gazette report her story: “I first noticed a sickening, sweet odour in the bedroom, but at the time thought that it might be from flowers outside the window. However, the odour grew stronger and I began to feel a paralysis in my legs and lower body.”

A gas was said to have been pumped in through a window. Interestingly, the article was entitled “Mrs. Kearney and her Daughter First Victims,” as though the newspaper knew there were more to come. Curious.

 Skipping forward sixty years, and I wrote:

“It was a strange experience standing in the warm, early summer rain outside the home where, 60 years before, the Kearney family had been attacked. For the first time, I understood why generations of American tourists would fly to London and stand in awe outside a building society in Baker Street, as they searched for the authentic Sherlock Holmes experience. I may have been six decades too late, but I was looking at one of the real ‘Mad Gasser’ locations, and nobody could take that away from me.”

I went around the town on my pilgrimage, finally summoning up the courage to ask some of the locals about the subject:

I gritted my teeth and asked the old man whether he had heard of the Mad Gasser. Fully expecting ridicule, I was amazed by his answer. “Yeah, sure. It was that young fool Farley. His family used to own this store.” […]

It has always been implied that, like Jack the Ripper or Spring-heeled Jack, the culprit was never identified or caught, but this is simply not true. Everywhere I went in Mattoon I was told the same thing. Yes, of course they knew about the Mad Gasser — and they all knew who he was: a tragically disturbed young man called Farley Llewellyn.

..I visited several shops and spoke to a number of the older members of the community I found there. Everybody knew of the Mad Gasser; everybody knew that it was Farley; and everybody told me that, because Farley’s father had been such a well-loved and popular member of the community, nobody had been prepared to pillory the family in public just because his son was insane. In order to protect the reputation of Farley’s family, the whole town had put up with 50 years of visiting UFO freaks, conspiracy theorists, and assorted nutcases...

Now there were no longer any living relatives, people were prepared to talk, and several told me they were happy to do so because — at long last — the myth of Mattoon’s Mad Gasser could be laid to rest.

I had been fascinated about the case, ever since I first read about it in a book called Mysterious America by Loren Coleman. And I’m sure you will agree that it is a fascinating case, but why am I bringing it up now, in an editorial for what is ostensibly a music magazine?

Well, back in the mid-1990s, I wrote a song called The Mad Gasser of Mattoon, which has become one of my more popular numbers. Indeed, when I briefly returned to making live appearances
four or five years ago, I resurrected it, playing it solo on an acoustic guitar rather than with the vaguely Beatlesy arrangement which the band played it.

And this week, it all came back to bite me in the bum. I received an instant message on Facebook Messenger from a young man called Brad, somewhere in the American Midwest. Would I, he asked diffidently, be prepared to talk about the Mad Gasser?

Of course I was. The case still intrigues me now, fifteen years after the article I wrote for Fortean Times, which I have shamelessly plundered for this editorial. It turned out that Brad had been planning to write a stage-musical about the Mad Gasser for years, and this is such a delightfully nutty project that I could not have forgiven myself if I didn’t get involved.

Life is so shitty at the moment, anyway, that the presence of a few delightfully nutty projects in my life to take away the bitter taste of reality can do no harm whatsoever. So here I am, and here you are. I am writing about collaborating on my first stage musical, and you are reading about it, thinking that I must be mad to take on yet another project in such a busy time in my life.

And back on the timestream, somewhere in the mid-1940s, Farley Llewellyn, with wild, staring eyes, is filling a flit gun with nitromethane.

What a peculiar world we live in.

Sleep tight, and don’t let the Mad Gassers bite.

Hare bol,
Jon
THE GONZO WEEKLY
all the gonzo news that’s fit to print
ISSN 2516-1946

This is quite simply the best magazine you will ever find that is edited by a mad bloke (and his small orange cat), and produced from a tumbledown potato shed on the outskirts of a tiny village that nobody’s heard of in North Devon. The fact that it is published with Gonzo Multimedia - probably the grooviest record company in the known universe - is merely an added bonus.

NAMING THOSE RESPONSIBLE
This issue was put together by me and Captain Frunobulax the Magnificent, (who is, in case you didn’t know, an insane orange cat) ably assisted by:

Corinna Downes,
(Sub Editor, and my lovely wife)
Alan Dearling,
(Contributing Editor, Features writer)
Douglas Harr,
(Features writer, columnist)
Bart Lancia,
(My favourite roving reporter)
Thom the World Poet,
(Bard in residence)
Graham Inglis,
(Columnist, Hawkwind nut)
C.J.Stone,
(Columnist, commentator and all round good egg)
John Brodie-Good
(in memoriam)
Jeremy Smith
(Staff Writer)
Richard Foreman
(Staff Writer)
Mr Biffo
(Columnist)
Kev Rowland
(Columnist)

Richard Freeman,
(Scary stuff)
Dave McMann,
(Sorely missed)
Orrin Hare,
(Sybarite and literary bon viveur)
Mark Raines,
(Cartoonist)
Davey Curtis,
(tales from the north)
Phil Bayliss
(Ace backroom guy on proofing and research)
Dean Phillips
(The House Wally)
Rob Ayling
(The Grande Fromage, of whom we are all in awe)
and Peter McAdam
(McDada in residence)

This is the nearest that you are ever going to get to a posh weekend colour supplement from the Gonzo Daily team. Each week we shall go through the best bits of the week before, and if there aren’t any we shall make some up, or simply make our excuses and leave (you can tell the editor once did contract work at the News of the World can’t ya?)

This weekly magazine is free, and will remain so. It is published by Gonzo Multimedia in conjunction with CFZ Publications, or is it the other way round? We’re actually not that sure. Contact us with bribes and free stuff:

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No this is FREE as in Gratis. Not a Sausage. But I digress. So make an old hippy a happy chappy and
SUBSCRIBE TODAY

It is simple; my name is Jon and I'm the editor of the Gonzo Multimedia daily online bloggything, and wot what a long, strange trip it is gonna be…

I keep on thinking that I ought to have some sort of a mission statement in each issue, but it is more than a little difficult to do one.

Basically, (if you don't mind me sounding more like a wishy washy old hippy than my haircut in the photograph on the previous page would imply) I think that books and music are immensely important.

I look around and see that we are living in a world where the things that I think are important are valued less and less by society as a whole; a world where asinine gameshows and so-called reality TV (which is actually a complete oxymoron, but don't get me started) are of more importance to most people than anything of cultural or spiritual value.

I am also very disappointed by much of what the contemporary music press puts out, and I decided many years ago, that probably the only way I could read the things that I want to read, would be to publish them myself.

So this is what I have been doing for much of my life. I am also naive enough to think that music and art can change the world, and as the world is in desperate need of change, I am gonna do my best to help.
In this lavishly illustrated celebration of classic and progressive rock bands of the 1970s, author Doug Harr shares his vivid memories of the mind-altering rock spectacles he witnessed in his hometown of Los Angeles—the City of Angels—at the genesis of a new art form. Get a front-row seat at three-dozen spectacular concerts and the albums that spawned them. Revisit these legendary records and concerts along with reviews of the best video documents of the era, each band illuminated by a hand-picked collection of brilliant images—most never-before seen—by the era’s best rock photographers. This 396-page hardcover book features over 600 images. Foreword by Armando Gallo.

Available now!
Amazon.com and GonzoMultimedia.co.uk
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Rockin' the City of Angels features the work of some of the rock era’s greatest photographers, including Richard E. Aaron, Jørgen Angel, Fin Costello, Ian Dickson, Armando Gallo, Stacey Katsis, Terry O’Neill, Neal Preston, Michael Putland, Jim Summara, Lisa Tanner, Brian Weiner, Neil Zlowzower and more!
Lincolnshire Time and Tide Bell Newsletter July 2020

We may have been staying at home recently but some of us from the national Time and Tide Bell organisation and Bell communities around the country have been holding regular Zoom meetings to plan a major arts project that seeks to link the Time and Tide Bells together and their place as the sea level rises.

We are now launching our commission, worth a serious amount of money, so if you are an artist, or represent a group of artists then read on. We want to move quickly and to reach as many artists as we can. Please help by forwarding this on to any contacts you may have in the arts community.

“We are delighted to announce the launch of a major new project, to take place in the Summer of 2021. This starts with an open call for Expressions of Interest from creative practitioners in a broad range of artforms. The project aims to connect the diverse communities which host a Time and Tide Bell, and to explore the similarities and differences of these unique coastal places. The commission will strengthen the ties between bell communities through a unique shared artistic project that will be imaginative, captivating and surprising. It will have at its heart the magic of the sea and the shoreline, a passionate sense of place and an inspirational care for the planet.”

Full details of the commission are available in the attached document and from our website at
"Capitalism is the extraordinary belief that the nastiest of men for the nastiest of motives will somehow work for the benefit of all."

John Maynard Keynes


https://timeandtidebell.org/commission/

Expressions of Interest need to be submitted by August 16 2020.

Cheers

Biff
WHO GONZO? WHY GONZO? WHAT GONZO?

What? You don't know who Hunter Thompson is/was/might have been/will be? Without Hunter Thompson there would be no Gonzo Multimedia. It would have been completely different and that would have been an unforgivable pity. So here is:

- A potted history of his life and works
- Rob Ayling explains why he called his company 'Gonzo'

C.J. Stone suggested that as well as explaining Gonzo to those wot don't understand, we should do a weekly quote from the man himself...

“In a closed society where everybody's guilty, the only crime is getting caught. In a world of thieves, the only final sin is stupidity.”

Hunter S. Thompson

Elton John, Dua Lipa and Charli XCX are among the stars who have signed an open letter to the British Government calling for a ban on conversion therapy.

The letter, addressed to Liz Truss - the Minister for Women And Equalities, urges her to "introduce a truly effective ban" on the practice, used to change the sexual orientation or gender identity of a person.

"Conversion therapists use a variety of shaming, emotionally traumatic or physically painful stimuli to make their victims associate those stimuli with their LGBTQ identities," according to The Trevor Project - the organisation behind the initiative. "(They think) LGBTQ is a mental illness that should be cured."

"Any form of counselling or persuading someone to change their sexual orientation or behaviour so as to conform with a heteronormative lifestyle, or their gender identity should be illegal, no matter the reason, religious or otherwise - whatever the person’s age," the letter reads. "Let’s end it now. Let’s finish what was pledged two years ago and ban ‘conversion therapy’ for all lesbian, gay, bi, trans, and gender diverse people, of all ages. Until you do, torture will continue to take place on British soil."

BITCOIN SCAMMER


Kanye West and Elon Musk have been targeted as part of a major hack on high profile Twitter accounts. Former U.S. leader Barack Obama, 2020 presidential hopeful Joe Biden, and Bill Gates have also been alerted to the security breach, according to multiple reports.

"We are aware of a security incident
impacting accounts on Twitter," a representative for the site said in a statement posted on the micro-blogging platform's support account. "We are investigating and taking steps to fix it. We will update everyone shortly. "You may be unable to Tweet or reset your password while we review and address this incident."

The hack appeared to be a bitcoin scam with messages posted to users' accounts asking followers to send them money. Corporate accounts, including those belonging to Uber and Apple, were also hacked.

This week my favourite roving reporter sent me excellent news for fans of Genesis' ex-guitarist:

"Steve Hackett will now headline the Saturday evening at next year's Night Of The Prog Festival at Loreley. Hackett steps in after Ayreon could no longer make the rescheduled dates.

The XV Night Of The Prog Festival will take place from 16 to 18 July 2021 on the festival grounds of the Loreley Amphitheater in St. Goarshausen, Germany, which is part of the UNESCO world heritage.

"I'm thrilled to headline the 15th Night Of The Prog in 2021 with my Genesis Revisited: Seconds Out & More show," says Hackett. "Genesis played a memorable gig at Loreley in 1976 which is a happy memory for me. I always enjoy returning with my own band. I hope to see many of you there on this magnificent festival site."

https://www.loudersound.com/news/steve-hackett-to-headline-next-years-night-
Bob Geldof has confessed his Live Aid heroics cost him his marriage to the late Paula Yates and his career. The Boomtown Rats singer was dubbed Saint Bob for putting together the global music event 35 years ago along with Ultravox frontman Midge Ure. The concerts raised more than $127 million (£100 million) for the victims of African famine, and Geldof has always been the face of the event, but in a new interview to mark the 35th anniversary, the singer said the shows took a huge personal toll on his life.

"For a while I was bewildered," he told the Associated Press. Adding that he didn't have much money at the time, Geldof said fronting the concerts impinged entirely on his private life and likely cost him his marriage. Yates eventually left Geldof for Australian rock star Michael Hutchence. The Rat Trap singer also admitted it was difficult to revive his music career after Live Aid.

"I wasn't allowed go back to my job," he explained, "I'm a pop singer. That's literally how I make my money. That's my job. I get up in the morning, if I'm in the mood. I'll try and write tunes. I'll go and try and rehearse."
Este, Danielle, and Alana Haim have insisted equal representation at festivals 'shouldn't even be a question', as 'women make the best rock music'.

The Haim sisters discussed the debate surrounding gender balance at music events during an interview with NME.com, saying it was 'laughable'.

"I mean... it’s like all these festivals, it shouldn’t even be a question," Alana said, “Why is it even a thing? Book women. Just do it.”

"It really is kind of laughable, right?" Este agreed, "That it’s even a thing. It’s crazy. I think women make the best rock music. There, I said it!"

Danielle said that she and her siblings had ‘definitely’ been having the conversation about festival gender equality with their agents, and sighed: "It feels kind of like a slap in the face. I’m (not) gonna mince who it was, but I saw some quote from a festival Booker that was like: ‘There’s just not enough women.’ And it’s like, what are you f**king talking about?"
Queen's scheduled European tour was doomed before the coronavirus pandemic shut it down due to Brian May's health, according to drummer Roger Taylor.

The rocker reveals the lockdown could not have come at a better time for the band as it quickly became clear May needed a break from the road.

"We cancelled the tour and then Brian got really sick," Roger tells Rolling Stone. "We may have had to cancel it anyway, which is the irony.

"He's very much on the mend. We're in daily contact. It was quite a scare. He had a real scare. It's been strange. We were struck doubly. Our manager had a pretty major heart attack too. It's been a very weird year for us in all kinds of ways."
former Kasabian frontman Tom Meighan is standing by her man after he completed rehab to curb his anger issues and alcohol addiction.

The singer stepped down as the band’s leader on Monday, a day before he pleaded guilty to a charge of assault against his partner, Vikki Ager in Leicester Magistrates Court, England.

Meighan was sentenced to 200 hours of community labour and on Wednesday, he issued a statement to fans after his bandmates revealed Tom had to go when they heard of the charges against him: "There is absolutely no way we can condone his assault conviction," they wrote in a statement. "He left us with no choice but to ask Tom to leave the band."

Apologising for his actions and revealing all about his alcohol addiction and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder diagnosis, the rocker revealed Ager is standing by him.

"I would like to make a statement about recent events and publicly apologise to my partner Vikki, my band-mates, my friends, family and fans," he wrote. "I am very sorry and deeply regret my recent behaviour... I am completely to blame and accept all responsibility.

"I have struggled for many years with alcohol addiction... (and this served as) a wake-up call for me, for who I was, and what I was becoming.

ETHICAL Ms MACCA

Stella McCartney has been trying to avoid ordering new fabrics as she creates her Spring/Summer 2021 collection. The British fashion designer is known for creating clothes which are environmentally friendly and free from leather, fur, skins, and feathers, and is always looking to make her brand even more sustainable. In an interview with U.S. Harper’s Bazaar magazine, she revealed she is trying to go one step further in her mission for sustainability by trying to reuse old fabrics for her next collection.
"Even before this (coronavirus) situation happened, I was thinking about my Spring 2021 collection and how to not order any new fabrics. What have we got left over that we can repurpose?" she shared, before adding that she hopes the Covid-19 pandemic has forced people to take stock of their habits as consumers and buy less.

**NEIL YOUNG VS DONALD TRUMP**


Neil Young has stated he is 'not OK' with Donald Trump using his songs at his Fourth of July weekend event. During Trump's rally, held at the base of Mount Rushmore on Friday, the U.S. leader played three of the rocker's songs, to Young's apparent irritation.

"This is NOT ok with me." the 74-year-old tweeted from his official account, alongside a video of his 1989 hit Rockin' in a Free World playing over the sound system at the gathering. After another clip emerged of his track Like a Hurricane playing before Trump took the stage, Young added: "I stand in solidarity with the Lakota Sioux & this is NOT ok with me."

The comment referred to the Indigenous peoples in the area, who were historically forced off the sacred land when gold was discovered in the region.
NO Water Life
For quite a few years now, I’ve been writing in these pages that we are living in strange and peculiar – not to say, disturbing – times. I continually get reports of strange stories sent to me, and they seem to weirdly compliment some of the other things that appear as if by magick in these pages.

Enjoy.

SASHIMI BATTLES THE PINK ROBOTS

Near-4cm-long nematode roundworm is thought to have come from raw fish.

An unpleasant sensation at the back of the throat can be a sign that a cold is on the way. But for one Tokyo woman, the cause of the pain was not a sniffle but a live worm that had lodged itself inside one of her tonsils.

Doctors at St Luke’s International hospital in the Japanese capital removed the long black worm with tweezers after the patient had complained of throat pain and irritation, according to a case study published in the American Journal of
Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

The worm, which was 38mm (1.5ins) long and 1mm wide, was still alive after being retrieved from the woman's left tonsil, the journal said, adding that her "symptoms rapidly improved" after the procedure.

The worm was identified as a nematode roundworm – one of several parasites that can infect people who eat raw fish or meat.

The 25-year-old patient confirmed that she had eaten assorted sashimi five days before the worm was removed.

According to the journal, doctors said the worm was a fourth-stage larva of the worm, adding that the infection had been caused by its younger incarnation as a third-stage larva that was present in her sashimi dish.

OFF TO LONDON TO SEE THE QUEEN


A parliamentary committee was joined by an unexpected guest during one of its hearings: an MP's cat.

Members of the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee had gathered both in person and virtually to consider the future of public service broadcasting.

As MP John Nicolson was asking about the use of subtitles on children's TV, his cat Rojo decided it was the perfect moment for a Zoom star turn.
It is very difficult to be a journalist in these times with the story that is on everybody’s lips changing so rapidly. Each day I am receiving stories from all around the world; some from people I know, others from total strangers. This is undoubtedly the worst global crisis to happen in my lifetime, and I am 61 this year, and I think it’s going to be the biggest game changer at least since 9-11, and possibly since the end of the Second World War. Whatever happens during the unfolding crisis, nothing will ever be the same again.

I am not even going to attempt to keep an up-to-the-minute journal of events, but I would like to try and produce an ongoing oral history of what happens, and how – most importantly – it affects the readers of this magazine. Please grab me on Facebook, (using my personal account as Jonathan Downes, rather than the magazine account) or by email at jon@eclipse.co.uk if you want to contribute.
Once upon a time, back in the day, I worked on a building site for a few short weeks. I didn’t mean to, I didn’t want to, and only did it because of a concatenation of events that I can’t be bothered to recount. One of the people with whom I worked, and in fact about the only person of whom have any memory whatsoever, was a tall, thin geezer with a big nose and an improbable Croatian name. I say improbable, because at the time (early 1978) not only was Croatia still a part of Yugoslavia, but there were far less mainland European people living in the UK than there now.

His name was Gaiko Petrovic but for some reason everybody called him Bill. And the two of us were sacked from the building site on the same day, and went through the bonding activity of signing on and doing our best to get some benefit money out of the unwilling coffers of the government. Lots of people look back upon those days with rose tinted spectacles and claim that it was very easy to get state benefits in those days, but believe me, at least for Bill and me, it was nigh on impossible.
So we went busking, singing Rolling Stones songs in the middle of the shopping precinct which is the hub of Bracknell, nipping into The Bull whenever we had made enough money to buy a couple of pints. I see, with horror, that my old watering hole is now described as having “Traditional pub plates and craft beers served in a casual, rustic-chic setting with outdoor seating” whereas 40+ years ago it was just a boozer where a cross section of the lower echelons of society would happily meet and get pissed.

It was one inebriated afternoon after signing on that I first decided that Gaiko should become a blues singer, “Screaming Bill Petrovitch”. And I announced him as such when we went back to perform a late afternoon set. (I, by the way, was ‘Captain Thrust’ - don’t ask). It had no appreciable effect upon our earning capabilities, but it always amuses me to recollect that he has kept the nickname to this day.

I had a vague attempt at rekindling his musical career nearly 30 years ago when we recorded a version of Young Gifted and Black; it seemed appropriate because he was middle-aged, white and completely talentless. Soon after, he moved to Scotland where he has remained ever since. I hear from him very occasionally, most recently a few days ago.

No one can fail to be aware of the fact that the lockdown in the UK is falling apart massively. Indeed, it could be argued (and is argued by one of the
regular contributors to this magazine) that we never really had one. What is more disturbing, however, is the way that the gradual lessening of the relevant legislation is being taken over by various pressure groups for political ends.

When you add to that the fact that temperatures are running high for pressure groups of all sorts of different subjects, and, if you don’t mind me doing a little bit of homemade pop psychology, people who’ve been stuck indoors for x-number of months are coming out, and are ready for, a ruck. Not everybody, obviously. The last thing on my mind is a ruck. The only thing I wanted from life after lockdown (that’s a great album title, and I will charge copyright fees for anyone who uses it) was to get my roof fixed, which is currently underway. But, the sort of people who go out looking for trouble appear to be doing so in a much redoubled manner. I have been sent several pictures of political groups, both in the UK and the US, which make my hair curl. Add to that the fact that there are both legitimate and other protests about visitors from England invading the relatively COVID-19-free Scotland. Add to this, the fact that Nicola Sturgeon warned the Daily Mail that she has repeatedly refused to force those crossing the border into Scotland to self-isolate for fourteen days, saying:

“These are not decisions I will take lightly but they’re equally not decisions I will shy away from. We need to be
sure that any outbreaks in England have been properly managed, just as England will want to be sure any outbreaks in Scotland are being properly managed.”

...whereas Boris Johnson has been facing up to her in a remarkably bellicose fashion.

In the last issue, I described this as the year that Bob Dylan warned about, when he wrote *A Hard Rain’s Gonna Fall*. The events of the last two weeks have not changed my opinion one iota.

Something very nasty is around the corner!
MORE MASTERPIECES from RICK WAKEMAN

TWO SIDES OF YES
Double CD set. The very best of Yes, Wakeman style
HG2100C2

THE STAGE COLLECTION
Recorded live in August 1993 in Buenos Aires
HG2100C3

TIME MACHINE
Guest vocalists include John Parr, Tracey Aberman, Ashley Holt, and Boy Wood
HG2100C2

GASTANK
Double DVD set. Rick’s classic 1982 music and chat show
HG2100C2

CÔLE!
Soundtrack album featuring Tony Fernandez and Jackie McAuley
HG2100C2

COUNTRY AIRS
The original recording, with two new tracks
HG2100C2

THE BURNING
Rick Wakeman
HG2100C2

LURE OF THE WILD
With Adam Wakeman. Entirely instrumental
HG2100C2

STARMUS
With Brian May and The English Rock Ensemble, EDD
HG2100C2

MYTHS AND LEGENDS
Double CD set. The expanded 2016 version
HG2100C2

LIVE AT THE WINTERLAND THEATRE 1975
Live in San Francisco
HG2100C2

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
Double CD + DVD
HG2100C2

CAN YOU HEAR ME?
Featuring The English Chamber Choir
HG2100C2

CRIMES OF PASSION
A wicked and erotic soundtrack!
HG2100C2

BEYOND THE PLANETS
With Jeff Wayne and Kevin Pink
HG2100C2

Available from rickwakemansmusicemporium.com
and all other good music retailers
It is both sad and shameful that when night falls and the setts of southern England stir, their gentle folk will be needlessly slaughtered. That in spite of science and public will, the wrath of ignorance will further bloody and bleed our countryside of its riches of life. That brutalist thugs, liars and frauds will destroy our wildlife and dishonour our nation's reputation as conservationists and animal lovers. I feel sick, sad, disempowered, betrayed, angry and crushed by the corruption of all that I know as right.

-Chris Packham

Right On Chris

IT IS TIME TO STAND UP AND BE COUNTED
For those of you interested in such things several members of the Editorial Team put out a monthly web TV show covering cryptozoology, green issues and all sorts of other stuff that we basically make up as we go along...

IF YOU ARE NOT A PART OF THE SOLUTION YOU ARE A PART OF THE PROBLEM.

ELDRIDGE CLEAVER
Portobello Shuffle CDs still at special low price of £5.00 each, 1 x CD inc. p&p = UK £6.80; Mainland Europe £8.90; USA £9.95; Rest of the World, contact Rich Deakin for postage price: arsydeedee@yahoo.co.uk

I stand with the volunteers on the Greenpeace ship Esperanza to speak for the Arctic.

Michael Des Barres on Little Steven's Underground Garage - Maximum Rock and Roll

Mornings 8am - 11am ET
SiriusXM Channel 21
(Filling in for Andrew Loog Oldham)
"If you don't want your tax dollars to help the poor, then stop saying you want a country based on Christian values, because you don't."

Jimmy Carter

---

Trying to pick my favorite politician is like trying to decide which STD is just right for me.
Gonzo Web Radio started off as a medium by which interviews and radio programmes about the various acts covered by Gonzo Multimedia could be broadcast to an eagerly attentive world.

But over the past few years, it has become more than that. We now host regular weekly shows by Neil Nixon, a lecturer in professional writing at North West Kent College who uses his weekly radio show, Strange Fruit, as a learning experience for his students on the Foundation Course. I’ve known Neil for years, and he approached me with the idea of syndicating his show.

I agreed, and then the floodgates opened. We have regular weekly shows from the mysterious M Destiny on the other side of the pond with Friday Night Progressive. We also have a regular visit to the world of the Canterbury Scene courtesy of our friend Matthew Watkins. There are several other shows in the wings, waiting to join us, so stay glued to your seats boys and girls, your life is never going to be the same again!
Bye Daddy! I'm leaving for my date tonight!

Hmph... You be careful, those boys only care about one thing.

Sex?

No...

Prog

ME TRYING TO FIND GIRLS IN A PROG CONCERT
Strange Fruit is a unique two-hour radio show exploring the world of underground, strange and generally neglected music. All shows are themed and all shows set out to give the most hardened of sound-hounds some new delight to sample.

The show is also unique in providing homework for undergraduate students on North West Kent College’s Foundation Degree in Professional Writing (who dig up many of the odd facts featured in the links between tracks).

Neil Nixon, the presenter of the show, has released a book about rare albums for Gonzo Multimedia.

The show is broadcast on Miskin Radio every Sunday from 10-00-midnight.
I first came across Friday Night Progressive totally by accident, but I soon found myself beguiled by the style and taste of presenter M Destiny who presents a weekly two-hour show showcasing all sorts of progressive music that you are unlikely to hear anywhere else. This is surely a man after my own heart. I also very much approve of the way that it is the hub of a whole community of artists, musicians, and collaborators. I hope that you enjoy them as much as I do. Welcome aboard, chaps.

Hello, I am M Destiny host of Friday Night Progressive. You will find it to be an incredible independent internet broadcast show. But it’s more than that. We tend to boast that the musicians played on FNP are above the status quo. This includes the multi-instrumentalist and the educated musician. We tend to shy away from computer generated creations and rely on talent using musical instruments and steer this talent for purposes of sheer inspirational indulgence. It is only in the FNP chat room where you will find the most talented musicians packed at one time into such an honored space.


Cloud Over Jupiter
https://www.facebook.com/CloudOverJupiter/
Eitan Kenner
https://www.facebook.com/KennerMusicPage/
The Biology of Plants
https://www.facebook.com/thebiologyofplants/
Custard Flux
https://www.facebook.com/custardflux/
Marco Ragni Songwriter
https://www.facebook.com/Markspiders/
Moon Letters
https://www.facebook.com/MoonLettersBand/
IZZ
Both yer esteemed editor and yer Gonzo Grande Fromage are interested in the great mysteries of the universe, and so it was truly only a matter of time before Fortean related content began to seep its way into the magazine and onto Gonzo Web Radio…

“Mack Maloney is the author of the best-selling “Wingman” science-fiction series, plus “UFOs in Wartime, What They Didn’t Want You To Know,” (Berkley Books). He’s a member of SKY CLUB, Gonzo recording artists. He’s been a radio host since 2010. He lives with his wife, Doreen, on an island off the coast of Massachusetts.”

AND LOOK WHAT MACK HAS FOR YOU THIS WEEK

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UJ00-j0un6E

The Merrell Fankhauser Show - Rockin and Surfin Instrumental Album #4

The Merrell Fankhauser Show - Rockin and Surfin Instrumental Album #4

Tonight we will be featuring Rockin and Surfin Instrumental Album #4. Hope you enjoy the Show! Make sure to check out Merrell Fankhauser's You Tube Channel https://www.youtube.com/user/manfrommu And his Website www.merrellfankhauser.com
We at Gonzo Web Radio are very proud to bring you Canterbury Sans Frontières - a podcast dedicated to the music of the 'Canterbury Scene' and more. Creator Matthew Watkins writes:

As with Canterbury Soundwaves, a new three-hour episode will be released with each full moon. I decided to wind down Canterbury Soundwaves so that I didn't end up

(i) repeating myself,
(ii) scraping the bottom of the Canterbury barrel, or
(iii) becoming increasingly tangential.

This new podcast broadens the musical remit, so it'll be about one-third 'Canterbury sound', together with progressive/psychedelic/experimental music from the Canterbury of today, the remainder being a mix of music from various times and places which I feel to be in a similar spirit of creative adventurousness. I'll be doing a lot less talking, and the programme will be less expository – so no interviews, barely listenable bootlegs, etc. I also plan to include guest one-hour mixes from various musicians from the current music scene in Canterbury (Episode 2 features a mix from Neil Sullivan from Lapis Lazuli).

And for those of you who wonder what Matthew was referring to when he writes about Canterbury Soundwaves we have brought you all the back catalogue of that as well. Those wacky guys at Gonzo, eh?

**THIS EPISODE FEATURES:**

A tribute to Keith Tippett (RIP), an extraordinary mutant-Hatfield-Gong-Caravan improvisation from '74, an equally extraordinary Matching Mole studio jam from late '71, a couple of Robert Wyatt pieces, including one dedicated to Bridget St. John (whose work is celebrated beyond the obvious Kevin Ayers collaborations), Eno, Moondog, Lonnie Liston Smith, Orlando Gibbons and some new Canterbury-influenced material from Nottingham's Zopp. From the Canterbury of today, a guest mix from local producer Caroline Jago (aka Shadow Biosphere) and another track from that recent Koloto EP.
The Real Music Club has been a Brighton musical institution for over 15 years, founded by ‘Judge’ Trev Thoms, Tim Rundall and Stuart McKay as ‘Real Festival Music’ the idea was to bring the diverse styles of the anarchistic free music festivals indoors and to make sure the performers got paid. The club has always been run by a committee who decided on the acts that would be asked to play at the monthly shows and that meant that the music was as diverse as its members. I had been going to the club for a few years when Trev died and the loss of one of its founders was a bit of a setback. It did not put any shows on for a couple of months and, when I innocently said, ‘You can’t let it die down now’ I got asked to join the committee. One of the first things I suggested was that we ran a Radio Show and we were offered a weekly slot on Brighton and Hove Community Radio – a station that Judge Trev had helped set up.

I have been doing the weekly shows for nine years now and the main ideas behind them are to promote the live Real Music Club events by playing tracks for the participating artists and to find and play new and less mainstream music. I have had many guests on the show over those nine years and I usually ask them to bring in tracks that influenced them or that they particularly like and I talk to them about new releases and how they have got started in music.

It has normally gone out live from the BHCR studio but, during the Covid crisis, I have been recording the show at home. I still, however, do it as a live show. When I do the without guests I use tracks I have found or been sent and one of the other problems of the lockdown has been that I cannot browse the shelves of Resident Records in Brighton for new music. I often take a punt on something sometimes you hit lucky and find a new ‘Wow!’ This is a habit I got into back in the early 70s when I lived in Barking. Just down the hill from the station was a second hand record shop which had shelves of LPs marked ‘Not For Resale’. Obviously a reviewer lived in the area and was selling off the stuff they were sent. It was this way I found ‘Rupert Hine’, an artist I have liked all through his career and, in many ways, that find set the theme for how I seek out music for the show.

There are eight years of archive recordings you can browse (we lost the first couple of years when the archive got wiped): http://therealmusicclub.com/radio-archive/

With an index here: http://therealmusicclub.com/radio-show-index/

Do have a listen.
AND LOOK WHAT MACK HAS FOR YOU THIS WEEK

Lois Lane Saves the World ...Again
Mack, Juan-Juan, Cobra & Switch discuss press reports about new, deeply secret activities happening at Area 51. Also, more crazy DARPA X-Files, a visit from Lois Lane and a conversation with “The Redhead” aka Mrs. Switch.


Both yer esteemed editor and yer Gonzo Grande Fromage are interested in the great mysteries of the universe, and so it was truly only a matter of time before Fortean related content began to seep its way into the magazine and onto Gonzo Web Radio…

"Mack Maloney is the author of the best-selling "Wingman" science-fiction series, plus "UFOs in Wartime, What They Didn't Want You To Know," (Berkley Books).

He's a member of SKY CLUB, Gonzo recording artists. He's been a radio host since 2010. He lives with his wife, Doreen, on an island off the coast of Massachusetts."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UJ00-j0un6E
Charles Edward Daniels (1936 – 2020)

Charlie Daniels was an American singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist known for his contributions to Southern rock, country, and bluegrass music. He was best known for his number-one country hit "The Devil Went Down to Georgia". Daniels was active as a singer and musician from the 1950s. He was inducted into the Cheyenne Frontier Days Hall of Fame in 2002, the Grand Ole Opry in 2008, the Musicians Hall of Fame and Museum in 2009, and the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2016.

SESSoNS IN HEAVEN
FEATURING CHARLIE DANIELS-
Multi-instrumentalist and super session player
who formed his band in 1970, after playing since 1950.
In 1975 he scored two hits—"The South is Gonna Do It again"
and "Long Haired Country Boy". He embraced a diverse demographic—from outlaw to gospel, urban cowboy to Southern rock.
Apart from his beard, pot belly, and hat—his fiddle playing in THE DEVIL CAME DOWN TO GEORGIA secured his fame—inducted into the Cheyenne Frontier Days Hall of Fame in 2002, the Grand Olde Opry in 2008, the Musicians Hall of Fame and Museum in 2009, and the Country Music Hall. CDB went from AM to FM with his own YOUTUBE Channel.
He will always be remembered for his singular performance skills—he gave every audience BOTH types of music—country AND western!

Thom the World Poet

THOSE WE HAVE LOST
A Fistful of Dollars, all Giuseppe Tornatore’s films since Cinema Paradiso, The Battle of Algiers, Dario Argento’s Animal Trilogy, 1900, Exorcist II, Days of Heaven, several major films in French cinema, in particular the comedy trilogy La Cage aux Folles I, II, III and Le Professionnel, as well as The Thing. Once Upon a Time in America, The Mission, The Untouchables, Mission to Mars, Bugsy, Disclosure, In the Line of Fire, Bulworth, Ripley’s Game and The Hateful Eight. Morricone is widely regarded as one of the greatest and most influential film composers of all time.

Eisenstein had Prokofiev. Hitchcock had Hermann. Fellini had Rota. Sergio Leone had Ennio Morricone. Famed for his musical soundtracks, Morricone scored 500 movies, as well as 100 classical works. We remember his Spaghetti Western themes, but his works also include evocative music for THE MISSION, THE BATTLE OF ALGIERS, Bertolucci’s 1900, Quentin Tarentino’s THE HATEFUL EIGHT—such a wide range of emotions, techniques and styles. Pan flutes, oboes, trumpets, strings, drums always evoking an era or a period musically, often more powerful than the images accompanying. ONCE UPON A TIME IN AMERICA will always conjure up his theme music. Same with DAYS OF HEAVEN. Sergio Leone will always be remembered.

Ennio Morricone, OMRI (1928 – 2020)

Morricone was an Italian composer, orchestrator, conductor, and trumpet player who wrote music in a wide range of styles. Morricone composed over 400 scores for cinema and television, as well as over 100 classical works. His score to The Good, the Bad and the Ugly (1966) is considered one of the most influential soundtracks in history and was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame. His filmography includes over 70 award-winning films, all Sergio Leone’s films since 1964.
when we recall those movie soundtracks. Spaghetti Westerns were only part of his skill set. 91 years of positive and productive harmonies. Name the films-BUGSY, BULWORTH, DISCLOSURE, THE UNTOUCHABLES, THE THING-then sing their memorable soundtracks. Music remains-Images fade. Now play that GOOD, THE BAD and THE UGLY just one more time!

Thom the World Poet

Andrew Kishore Kumar Baroi
(widely known as Andrew Kishore),
(1955 – 2020)

Kishore was a Bangladeshi playback singer.

His notable songs include Jiboner Golpo Achhe Baki Olpo, Dak Diyachhen Doyal Amare, Haire Manush Rongin Fanush, Amar Shara Deho Kheyo Go Mati, Amar Buker Moddhe Khane, Amar Babar Mukhe Prothom Jedin Shunechilam Gan, Bhengeche Pinjor Meleche Dana, and Shobai To Bhalobasha Chae.


Ranjon Ghoshal
(Bengali: ৰঞ্জন ঘোষাল)
(1955 – 2020)

Ghoshal was an Indian theatre director and musician. He was a member of the Bengali
Edward Gale Stevens Jr.  
(1941 – 2020)

Eddie Gale, was an American trumpeter known for his work in free jazz, especially with the Sun Ra Arkestra. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Gale studied trumpet with Kenny Dorham. He recorded with Cecil Taylor, Sun Ra, Larry Young, and Elvin Jones, and performed with John Coltrane, Jackie McLean, Booker Ervin, and Illinois Jacquet.

In the early 1960s he was introduced to Sun Ra by drummer Scoby Stroman. He spent many hours exposed to Sun Ra’s philosophy about music and life. Eddie explains, "Playing with Sun Ra is a great experience--from the known to the unknown. You play ideas on your instrument that you never imagine. His
IN AUSTIN, ON EAST 11TH STREET—KENNY DORHAM’S BACKYARD

JUST A BLOCK OR TWO AWAY—TEXAS MUSIC MUSEUM

On the walls of which—pix of Kenny Dorham (master trumpeter)

It was Kenny Dorham who trained Edward Gale Stevens Jr in free jazz composition.

Edward went on to record with Sun Ra, Larry Young, Elvin Jones and Cecil Taylor.

He performed with John Coltrane, Jackie McLean, Booker Ervin and Illinois Jacquet.

Edward’s main touring was with Sun Ra (during the 1960s and 70s)

After a yearlong stint as artist in residence at Stanford University, Gale moved to San Jose, California in 1972.

Helping to bring jazz into the 21st century, the trumpeter made numerous appearances with Oakland hip-hop outfit The Coup, whereby Gale’s trumpet could be heard engaging with the music’s breakbeats and turntables. In the late 1990s Eddie Gale also held regular creative music workshops at the Black Dot Café, a grassroots performance space in Oakland run by artist/activist Marcel Diallo and his Black Dot Artists Collective.

Eddie’s collaboration with Desert Storm Veteran Dennis Kyne, that began in the 90s, helped develop Music in our schools and a free trumpet program for underserved youth in San Jose. Holding concerts with the Inner Peace Orchestra and fundraisers for musicians’ health care, Eddie Gale took the music to churches, universities and colleges. Gale died on July 10, 2020, aged 78.

LONG LIVE FREE JAZZ!

THOSE WE HAVE LOST
Sutherland was a British DJ who produced music in various genres, including R&B Hip Hop, 2 step vocals, 4x4, and grime. He was also a club DJ, radio presenter, voiceover artist, and television presenter. He did much work in clubs and radio shows within the Urban genre. He has released 12 'live' studio albums, 7 of which have reached the Top 40 compilation charts in the UK. He also won four MOBO Awards.

Sutherland got his first break in radio via an introduction from the then-BBC Radio 1 producer Ivor Etienne, (who dubbed him 'Steve 'Smooth' Sutherland'), to the then-controller of Radio 1, Matthew Bannister, to host a four-hour radio show encompassing Hip Hop, R&B, Soul, UK Garage, Dancehall and House. He enlisted Seamus Haji, and after that brief foray, did various radio mixes for Kiss 100, before London's Choice FM approached him in 2000. He then brought co-host Asha on board; the duo had one of the most successful shows on Choices' new sister station Choice 107.1, with two shows during the week. Sutherland quickly picked up on the craft of running a successful radio program and went on to guest-host other shows on Choice FM 96.9.

On 1 December 2008, Global Radio, owners of Galaxy Radio, suspended Sutherland along with his producer, after a number of listeners complained about offensive lyrics on a song played on his Saturday night show at 9:58 pm on 29 November 2008. The song was Arab

Steve "Smooth" Sutherland ( ? - 2020)

THOSE WE HAVE LOST
Gabriella Tucci (1929 – 2020)

Tucci was an Italian operatic soprano who was particularly associated with the Italian repertory and performed at notable opera houses worldwide. She appeared at the Metropolitan Opera in eleven Verdi roles across 13 seasons, including Violetta in La traviata and Desdemona in Otello.

Those we have lost

Money by Busta Rhymes. Following a one-week suspension and a full investigation, Ofcom, the independent regulator and competition authority for the UK communications industries, deemed that Sutherland and Galaxy Radio was not in breach of industry codes or regulations. The report concluded that "the programme was not in breach of Rule 2.3" and "noted that the practice of sampling content from a diverse range of sources is common in this genre of music."

Sutherland's weekly shows on 'Galaxy FM' continued until the station network was rebranded Capital FM in 2011.

A founding DJ of urban club brand Twice As Nice, he held residencies at Pacha Ibiza, Ministry of Sound, Gatecrasher and Cookies and Cream London. Sutherland died on 10 July, 2020 just a few days before his birthday (15th July). The circumstances surrounding his death are currently unknown.
Judith Aileen Dyble
(1949 – 2020)

Judy Dyble was an English singer-songwriter, most notable for being a vocalist and a founding member of Fairport Convention and Trader Horne. In addition, she and Ian McDonald joined and recorded several tracks with Giles, Giles and Fripp, who later became King Crimson. These tracks surfaced on the Brondesbury Tapes CD and Metaphormosis vinyl LP.

Dyble performed at Fairport’s Cropredy Convention Festival with her own Band of

Rod Bernard
(1940 – 2020)

Bernard was an American singer who helped to pioneer the musical genre known as “swamp pop”, which combined New Orleans-style rhythm and blues, country and western, and Cajun and black Creole music. He is generally considered one of the foremost musicians of this south Louisiana-east Texas idiom, along with such notables as Bobby Charles, Johnnie Allan, Tommy McLain, and Warren Storm.

THOSE WE HAVE LOST
THOSE WE HAVE LOST
Perfect Strangers; and she also appeared with the surviving original members of Fairport Convention, celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the formation of the band in 2017. The songs sung by the "early years" line-up were "Time Will Show The Wiser", "I Don't Know Where I Stand" and "Reno Nevada". All three songs were often performed in the first year of the band's live performances in 1967–68.

A new album in collaboration with David Longdon, Between A Breath And A Breath, containing seven new songs with lyrics written by Dyble and music by Longdon, was scheduled for release in September 2020.

Dyble died on 12 July 2020 at the age of 71. She had been suffering from lung cancer in the years leading up to her death, and revealed the diagnosis in November 2019 when she began chemotherapy.

Written on Monday:

This morning I had a message from Kev Rowland in New Zealand. He had sad news for me; my friend Judy Dyble died yesterday. Best known as the original singer with Fairport Convention and the nascent King Crimson, I got to know her in recent years when, after years in retirement, she rejoined the music business with a brace of utterly gorgeous albums. In a business full of phonies, she was one of the sweetest and kindest people I have ever met. We became friends soon after she signed to Gonzo Multimedia, and remained friends after she and the company parted ways. We met in person when, together with my wife and one of my adopted nieces, we filmed one of her rare live shows at the Summer of Love festival come party in Kent. Occasionally we would telephone each other to talk about music, dogs, and the English countryside, and I’m sad to know that we won’t be doing that again.
A Few Facts About Plastic Pollution

Enough plastic is thrown away each year to circle the Earth 4 times!

35 BILLION plastic water bottles are thrown away every year

ONE MILLION sea birds & 100,000 marine mammals are killed annually from plastic in our oceans

Plastic constitutes approximately 90% of all trash floating on the ocean

The average American throws away approximately 185 LBS of plastic per year.

50% of the plastic we use, we use JUST ONCE and throw away.

Facts found on ecowatch.com
SAVE
Stonehenge World Heritage Site
FROM THE
BULLDOZERS!

PLEASE SIGN
THE PETITION

visit stonehengealliance.org.uk for further details
Wakeman began his solo career during his first run with Yes. His perhaps most known records being his first three, *The Six Wives of Henry VIII* (1973), *Journey to the Centre of the Earth* (1974) and *The Myths and Legends of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table* (1975). He has produced over 100 solo albums that have sold more than 50 million copies. In November 2010 Wakeman was awarded the Spirit of Prog award at the annual Marshall Classic Rock Roll of Honour Awards.

Records like this are particularly important, because - as they were originally never meant for release - they give a unique and very precious glimpse into the private compositional processes of this remarkable man. As so much of his life (both professional and personal) has been lived in public, these private glimpses and very precious indeed.

Well done to everyone involved.

Track Listing:

**Disc One:** 1984 | War Games | The Last Battle/Arthur/Sir Lancelot | Catherine of Aragon/Anne of Cleaves/Catherine Howard | The Proles | Sea Horses

**Disc Two:** The Journey/Recollection | The Hymn | Anne Boleyn/Themes From the Burning | Merlin the Magician

Rick Wakeman
Official Bootleg Series Vol 6: Sheffield Hall 21st Nov 1981”

Label: RRAW
Release Date: 3rd April 2020
Catalogue Number: MFGZ039CD
Barcode: 5056083204106
Format: 2CD

Label: RRAW
Catalogue Number: MFGZ039CD
Barcode: 5056083204106
Format: 2CD
The Mitchell Trio inc John Denver
“That’s the Way It’s Gonna Be”

Label: Gonzo
Catalogue Number: HST477CD
Barcode: 5056083201600
Format: CD Album

The Chad Mitchell Trio – later known as The Mitchell Trio – were a North American vocal group who became known during the 1960s. They performed traditional folk songs and some of their own compositions. They were particularly notable for performing satirical songs that criticized current events during the time of the cold war, the civil rights movement, and the Vietnam War, in a less subtle way than the typical folk music and singer-songwriter musicians of their time. Mitchell left the trio in 1965 to embark on a solo singing career. Another audition process replaced him with the young (and unknown) singer/songwriter John Denver. The group retained the well-known "Mitchell Trio" name, with Denver writing some of the group's songs.

Track Listing:

That's The Way It's Gonna Be | Lucy Baines | Song For Canada | I Was Not A Nazi Polka | Ecumenical March | Get Together | Long Tall Texan | Never Coming Home | What Kind Of Life Is That | Phoenix Bird | Mr. Tambourine Man | Three Legged Man

The Fall
Live in Motherwell 1996”

Label: Cog Sinister
Release Date: 3rd April 2020
Catalogue Number: COGGZ132CD
Barcode: 5056083206025
Format: CD Album

When Mark E Smith died in January 2018, an era ended with him. The Fall were an English post-punk band, formed in 1976 in Prestwich, Greater Manchester. They underwent many line up changes, with vocalist and founder Smith as the only constant member. First associated with the late 1970s punk movement, the Fall's music underwent numerous stylistic changes, often concurrently with changes in the group's lineup. Nonetheless, their music has generally been characterised by an abrasive, repetitive guitar-driven sound, tense bass and drum rhythms, and Smith's caustic lyrics, described by critic Simon Reynolds as "a kind of Northern English magic realism that mixed industrial grime with the unearthly and uncanny, voiced through a unique, one-note delivery somewhere between amphetamine-spiked rant and alcohol-added yarn." They were always at their best on stage, and this collection captures them in full flow.

Fantastic!

TRACK LISTING

Intro | Houses of Eve | M5 | He Pep | The Mixer | Cheetham Hill | Oleano | Mr
Rick Wakeman
"Official Bootleg Series Vol 7: Live in Tokyo 21st July 2008"

Label: RRAW
Release Date: 17th April 2020
Catalogue Number: MFGZ040CD
Barcode: 5056083204113
Format: CD

Wakeman began his solo career during his first run with Yes. His perhaps most known records being his first three, The Six Wives of Henry VIII (1973), Journey to the Centre of the Earth (1974) and The Myths and Legends of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table (1975). He has produced over 100 solo albums that have sold more than 50 million copies. In November 2010 Wakeman was awarded the Spirit of Prog award at the annual Marshall Classic Rock Roll of Honour Awards.

Records like this are particularly important, because - as they were originally never meant for release - they give a unique and very precious glimpse into the private compositional processes of this remarkable man. As so much of his life (both professional and personal) has been lived in public, these private glimpses and very precious indeed.

Well done to everyone involved.

Track Listing:
Pachelbel’s Canon in D Major | Catherine Howard | Morning Has Broken | And You And I – Wondrous Stories | The Dance of a Thousand Lights | Jane Seymour | The Meeting | Merlin the Magician | Catherine of Aragon | Help!/Eleanor Rigby | The Jig

Barrie Guard & David Cunningham
“Zina”

Label: Gonzo
Release Date: 24th July 2020
Catalogue Number: HST522CD
Barcode: 5056083206209
Format: CD Album

Zina is a 1985 award-winning film directed by Ken McMullen. It tells a story of a twentieth century Antigone, Zinaida Volkova (Domiziana Giordano), daughter of Leon Trotsky. In 1930s Berlin, Zina is being treated by the Adlerian psychotherapist Professor Arthur Kronfeld (Ian McKellen). During this psychoanalysis, which includes some hypnosis, she recalls incidents both from her own life and that of her father, as a leader of the Russian Revolution, as the holder of state power and later in exile.

David Cunningham is a composer and music producer from Northern Ireland. He is probably
best known to a rock and roll audience for his work with the massively peculiar experimental band 'The Flying Lizards' but from about 1993, Cunningham began to make installations in which sounds within an architectural space were picked up by a microphone and then fed back into the space; the presence of an audience altered both the shape of the space and the sounds within it. A work of this type, The Listening Room, was installed in the Queen's Powder Magazine on Goat Island in Sydney Harbour during the Sydney Biennale of 1998. Barrie Guard however is a British composer known for working in a more conventional medium. What happens when these two composers work together? You will just have to listen to this extraordinarily emotive album to find out.

Track Listing:

Overture: The March of History | Zina's Theme | Trotsky's Exile | The Age of Industrialisation | Zina's Letter | Antigone – End Title Theme | The Laws of History | Newsreel | Time and the Conscieneness | Zina's Cry from the Wilderness | Historical Coincidence | Who Says Instinct Is Blind | The Somnambulist | The Art Gallery | Hypnosis | Trotsky's Speech | If I Listen to the Rain | Life and Death Instincts | The Tram

Dave Bainbridge

“The Remembering”

Label: Gonzo
Release Date: 26th June 2020
Catalogue Number: OPENVP10CD-DVD
Barcode: 5056083205387
Format: CD Album

An evocative and atmospheric first collection of solo piano improvisations: "Bainbridge's style is contemporary, yet imbued with the dynamic spirit of Ravel and Debussy, with a thrilling dash of Bill Evans... an album that's pure class from first note to last" (Prog Magazine).

"Ever since studying music, art and art history as teenager I've been fascinated by the French Impressionist movement, both in art and music. The idea of capturing a fleeting scene, a brief moment in time, or a feeling evoked by a place or a person, has resonated with me throughout my musical life. Most people can link powerful memories to a certain piece of music, a picture, an aroma. Even when my mam was unable to remember words or people's names as Alzheimer's took hold, she was still able to remember how to play tunes on her accordion. In a sense, all the pieces on this album are impressions, a brief moment in time interpreted through the medium of music."

Dave Bainbridge - December 2015

Track Listing:

Eliza Carthy

"The Eliza Carthy Demos"

Label: HemHem
Distribution: Plastichead
Release Date: 10th July 2020
Catalogue Number: HEM002CD
Barcode: 5056083206643
Format: CD Album

If there is such a thing as British folk music royalty, then Eliza Carthy is undoubtedly the Princess Royal. She is the daughter of English folk musicians singer/guitarist Martin Carthy and singer Norma Waterson, and started making her own mark on the scene at the age of thirteen Carthy formed the Waterdaughters with her mother, aunt (Lal Waterson) and cousin Marry Waterson. She has subsequently worked with Nancy Kerr, with her parents as Waterson–Carthy, and as part of the "supergroup" Blue Murder, in addition to her own solo work. She has twice been nominated for the Mercury Music Prize for UK album of the year: in 1998 for Red Rice, and again in 2003 for Anglicana. Carthy was a guest on the album Mermaid Avenue by Billy Bragg and Wilco. Eliza and Billy also recorded together on the song "My Father's Mansions" which appeared on the Pete Seeger tribute album called Where Have All The Flowers Gone (1998). And in 2014, she was awarded the honour of an MBE for services to folk music in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

This very precious collection of her demos provides an exclusive peek behind the scenes at the creative process of this most extraordinary and important artist and composer.

Track Listing:

Come Drink at My Well | Rumours | If I’d The Time | Speechless | Adieu Sweet Nancy | Train Song | Blow Job | Blow Job (alt version) | Perfect | Fuse | Blood on my Boots | Write a Letter | Rome Rehearsal | Romeo Rehearsal | Thursday Bad News

"F**k Off Bad News"

Label: Comic Strip Presents
Release Date: 26th June 2020
Catalogue Number: TCSGZ103CD
Barcode: 5056083204182
Format: CD Album

Track Listing:

Disc One: Intro | Banter for the Boyz | Drink Till I Die | Vampire spunk Merchants From Hell | Bitch Hell Mother | Masterbike | Warriors of Ghengis Khan
The Fall
"Live in Newcastle 2011"

Label: Cog Sinister
Distribution: Plastichead
Release Date: 10th July 2020
Catalogue Number: COGGZ134CD
Barcode: 5056083206049
Format: CD Album

When Mark E Smith died in January 2018, an era ended with him. The Fall were an English post-punk band, formed in 1976 in Prestwich, Greater Manchester. They underwent many line-up changes, with vocalist and founder Smith as the only constant member. First associated with the late 1970s punk movement, the Fall's music underwent numerous stylistic changes, often concurrently with changes in the group's lineup. Nonetheless, their music has generally been characterised by an abrasive, repetitive guitar-driven sound, tense bass and drum rhythms, and Smith's caustic lyrics, described by critic Simon Reynolds as "a kind of Northern English magic realism that mixed industrial grime with the unearthly and uncanny, voiced through a unique, one-note delivery somewhere between amphetamine-spiked rant and alcohol-addled yarn." They were always at their best on stage, and this collection captures them in full flow.

Fantastic!

TRACK LISTING

Intro | Nate Will Not Return | Taking Off | Psykick | Cosmos | Strychnine | Cowboy George | Psykick Dancehall | I've Been Duped | White Lightning | Greenway | Laptop Dog | Latch Key Kid

Michael Bruce
“Live and Rare”

Label: Gonzo
Release Date: June 2020
Catalogue Number: TCSGZ102CD
Barcode: 5056083204175
Format: CD Album

When Mark E Smith died in January 2018, an era ended with him. The Fall were an English post-punk band, formed in 1976 in Prestwich, Greater Manchester. They underwent many line-up changes, with vocalist and founder Smith as the only constant member. First associated with the late 1970s punk movement, the Fall's music underwent numerous stylistic changes, often concurrently with changes in the group's lineup. Nonetheless, their music has generally been characterised by an abrasive, repetitive guitar-driven sound, tense bass and drum rhythms, and Smith's caustic lyrics, described by critic Simon Reynolds as "a kind of Northern English magic realism that mixed industrial grime with the unearthly and uncanny, voiced through a unique, one-note delivery somewhere between amphetamine-spiked rant and alcohol-addled yarn." They were always at their best on stage, and this collection captures them in full flow.

Fantastic!
Now, I don't know whether this is a good idea, a bad idea, or just an idea, but - as I believe you know - this magazine is put out each week on a budget of £25, and is free. It will remain free, but I would like to be able to generate some income so I can pay our contributing writers. So, 'why not flog Gonzo Weekly T Shirts?' I thought. 'Why not', I answered...

http://www.zazzle.co.uk/gonzoweekly
Forthcoming releases from Rick Wakeman & Friends

Rick Wakeman & Brian May
live from
STARMUS 2015

Starmus is festival of music and astronomy on the beautiful island of Tenerife. It is the brain child Garik Israeli (The astrophysicist who led the team which found the first observational evidence that supernova explosions are responsible for the formation of stellar mass black holes). Rick Wakeman has made several appearances at this festival. The most notable was in 2015 where he was joined on stage by Dr Brian May, the iconic guitarist from Queen, where Rick Wakeman and English Rock Ensemble performed amongst other tracks from throughout Rick’s career a legendary version of Starship Trouper.

This DVD is a must for all fans of Classic Rock!

Available to pre-order from www.rickwakemanmusicemporium.com
Alan Dearling like many others involved in the UK’s psychedelic festivals was shocked and saddened when he heard online of Ken (Ingham’s) demise. He invited some words to celebrate Ken’s life from Paul and Jonny, who knew Ken well. Here are contributions sent in from Paul and Jonny, plus a couple from Facebook tributes by Jay and Jo. Alan says: “He’ll make heaven or t’other place a lot ‘brighter’. Ken is off to spread technicolour dayglow in ‘A Grateful Dead
scene lost a giant on June 26th 2020, when Kozmik Ken died from a pulmonary embolism. He was just 64.

Kozmik Ken was a dj, host and compere at many smaller festivals like SRS (Sonic rock Solstice) and Tannerfest as well as events like Glastonbury Psychfest and Glastonbury New Avalon Ballroom Weekends.

Ken, (Real name Kevin Ingham), lived for music and especially the psychedelic music scene. Many years ago he would have been known to many as the Porcupine Tree driver/merch man. He then started to dj and compere at many festivals and gigs.

World’! RIP.”

Here’s Harry Collison’s lovely photo tribute. Harry says, “The world is a much less colourful place today. R.I.P. Kozmik Ken. Keep on Truckin my friend.” Do take a look, it’s great:

https://www.facebook.com/676946780/videos/10157230177176781/

Paul Woodwright writes:

KK

The Rainbow man has gone…….

The smaller psychedelic music festival
Goodnight Ken. Sleep well my friend.

**Paul Woodwright**

Deviant Amps  
[www.deviantamps.com](http://www.deviantamps.com)

Jonny Greene  
[jonny@planetgong.co.uk](mailto:jonny@planetgong.co.uk)

I probably first met Ken almost 30 years ago when Daevid Allen supported Porcupine Tree while Ken was working with them. Daevid and I trucked across the country to be met by an enthusiastic Ken eager to meet Daevid - he was always eager in a slow Ken way. He and I, who are of a very similar vintage, shared a love of the Grateful Dead, so they naturally were often a topic of conversation between us. He may have been happier to dress like one of their more psychedelic musical excursions made flesh than I ever have been - but

He was known by most for his amazingly colourful jumpers and coats. Always available for a chat, drink or a smoke, people knew him by name even if they had never spoken to him. His presence was and will remain large for many of us.

Around 2010 a picture went around the internet of Ken asleep at a festival. Some dream bands were added to the picture as though he were dreaming up a festival. This picture ticked so many people’s boxes that myself, Snake (Mark Lee) and Jon Slack started up Kozfest for him. Or, as the first festival was called ‘Kozmik Ken’s Psychedelic Dream Festival’. This year I know he was so excited about it being our tenth festival.... As you know Covid-19 intervened and we will have to wait, to not only celebrate ten years, but also remember Kozmik Ken. The Rainbow man. Kozfest will carry on in his memory.
another friend has died. Kozmik Ken was a psychedelic womble (my affectionate term for him) without comparison. His musical knowledge was deep and interesting. And, of course, there would be no KOZFEST without him. Ken was an employer, a friend, a colleague, and a peer; he will never be forgotten.

It was a pleasure to know you sir. Womble on and I'll meet you on the psychedelic rainbow bridge one day my friend.

From: Jo Thilwind  
4 July at 15:04

Kozmik Ken…

Literally a legend in his own lifetime, and the man who's musical taste inspired a whole festival, an absolutely brilliant one at that.

What a legacy.

We will never forget and every year we'll celebrate you my friend. You'll be with us in every moment at every Kozfest.

It seems fitting to me that the first year it's not on, is the year we lost you. Dancing with rainbows now mate.

Beaming love out x

then that thankfully, was Ken. I will miss him.
Jx

From: Jay Cantebrigge

2 July at 08:09

I'm gutted to wake to the news that yet
Some reactions from Alan Dearling

With no live gigs or festies yet a while, I thought that I’d share some thoughts and responses to some of the new albums that have come my way in the long days of
Dion: Blues with friends

Good time fare. One of those sessions that sound like a boogie-the-night-away in a dingy downtown basement bar. A mixed bag, but some addictively good tracks and some ‘fillers’. Dion was ‘The Wanderer’ when I was enjoying my teen years, growing up in the 1960s. I don’t associate him with the ‘blues’ – but obviously others do. Bob Dylan in his intro sleeve notes for this album says:

“You have to be careful with the blues. They’re strong with lust and you can overpay them, but they quote the law. It’s a shame that more people don’t follow that law…” (Dion’s) got some friends here to help him out…But in the end it’s Dion by himself alone and that masterful voice of his that will keep you returning to share these blues songs with him.”

The co-performers on Dion’s album are a star-studded roster of talent. It ain’t all blues, and it’s mostly upbeat. And at this time, we need some positivity, some cheerfulness, some fun. This album made me jig about. It’s good, but not great. Stand-outs for me include the bombast big guitar sound of Joe Bonamassa on opener, ‘Blues Comin’ On’, the wonderful swampy, vocal duet with Van Morrison on ‘I Got Nothin’’, which Dion says is “like riding the greatest wave in the world”.

Then thinking about it, Van at his best would sound good singing the words of a telephone directory! See what you think:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bK9FWlz6GMQ
I enjoyed Jeff Beck’s lyrical guitar solo on ‘Can’t Start Over Again’ and the duet with Paul Simon on ‘Song for Sam Cooke (Here in America)’ is rather beautiful and an odd juxtaposition of violin, spaghetti-Western and the Big classic Ballad. A track that really does capture the essence of the Cajun blues is ‘Told You Once in August’ with some lovely dramatic, staccato slide-guitar playing from the legendary John Hammond and Rory Block. But perhaps the strongest song-writing from Dion (with Bill Tuohy) is displayed on ‘Hymn to Him’ – accompanied by backing vocals from Patti Scialfa and an amazing (and brief) guitar solo from the Boss, Bruce Springsteen, sounding surprisingly like Hank Marvin.

Dean James Unplugged

“Basically it’s to be released in the next couple of weeks, (15th July). I recorded it solo in my home studio then sent it off to the label in America for production and mixing etc. The label is a new label called autumn records they have changed from GEM records UK. Reason it’s a solo project is because of the lock down. Thanks for the help mate I really appreciate it as always.” Dean.

Dean is an epic blues-style singer. A big voice, a big man. And he has something to say. His lyrics are from the heart. He’s often angry at the injustices in the world. “The pleasure and the pain, it all feels the same. I feel alive.” (from ‘Blunge’).

Here’s the video for really strong single,
‘Mother’. You’ll fall in love with it.

Trust me!:
https://www.facebook.com/Autumnrecords.rocks/videos/279918476461398/

“And they want to you to vote for some asshole in the government, that’s all money and greed. I don’t want no part of it.”

I’ve seen Dean live with his band, The Black Dogs, twice. Magic. He growls, he moans. He has a commanding presence. But they are a great band. You can feel his passion in this unplugged 7-track ep. However, I’m looking forward to seeing and hearing these new songs from Dean reinterpreted by the band. The material’s strong, powerful, perhaps geared to the Springsteen American audience. I think it will sound even better with a greater patina of sounds.

**Bob Dylan: Rough and Rowdy Ways**

A double CD from His Bobness. For me – an unexpected Treasure Trove. I’d almost given him up as elderly statesman gone to seed. Mumbling incoherently through his own back pages. But hey, what a redemption. In fact, it’s one of his career bests. What a revelation. Full of sly wit, irony, anger, bile and much humour. My definite favourite Dylan album since ‘Time Out of Mind’, released over 20 years ago in 1997. You’ll have read so many reviews of this album already, I’m not even going to try. Listen to it. It’s a thing of Wonderment.

So, instead of a review, I’ll share a selection of his words from ‘Rough and Rowdy Ways’. Remember, Bob Dylan is now one of the ‘Few’ – having been awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2016, "...for having created new poetic expressions within the great American song tradition."

From ‘False Prophet’:
“I’m the enemy of the unlived meaningless life.”
“I ain’t no false prophet – I’m nobody’s bride Can’t remember when I was born and I forgot when I died.”

From ‘Murder Most Foul’ – Bob’s take on the murder of President Kennedy:
“The day that they blew out the brains of the king Thousands were watching, no one saw a thing It happened so quickly – so quick by surprise Right there in front of everyone’s eyes.”
From ‘I Contain Multitudes’:

“I’m just like Anne Frank, like Indiana Jones
And them British bad boys, The Rolling Stones
I go right to the edge, I go right to the end
I go right where all things lost are made good again
I sing the songs of experience like William Blake
I have no apologies to make
Everything’s flowing all at the same time
I live on the boulevard of crime
I drive fast cars, and I eat fast foods
I contain multitudes.”

Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pgEP8teNXwY

From ‘Key West (Philosopher Pirate)’:

“I was born on the wrong side of the railroad track
Like Ginsberg, Corso and Kerouac.”

Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G-oOCo1YIbw

Necessary Animals Dark Jazz

My mate Keith Rodway keeps me informed and up to date on all-things ‘Necessary Animals’. This release, in part, sounds like its
title. It’s jazzy, often very dark, filmic, expressive and not always an easy listen. But then, I don’t suppose it was meant to be! To be honest, I found it hard to listen to all the way through, as some tracks just grate on my personal ears; whilst others like the openers, are things of Gothick beauty. Keith told me:

“‘Dark Jazz’ is an interim release, collecting all the anomalous recordings that didn’t fit with the band’s debut LP, and which tell different stories to the ones being written for the second NA’s release. It’s a diary of the band’s adventures away from the day job, taking the opportunity to work with some prodigiously talented people, in the spirit of spontaneity and release from formal structures.”

Personally, I love the trumpet playing, some fine guitar and keyboard work, and the weird harmonies from cello and viola. Indeed, the whole potpourri of tracks frequently sound like music in search their rightful homes in films. Here’s a taster. Eerie and unsettling. Melancholia.

A video of Improvisation 1, with visuals by comic book artist Daniel Hartlaub, is on youtube -

https://youtu.be/TZu5gliDI_w

Here’s the Bandcamp link to the album:

https://necessaryanimals.bandcamp.com/album/dark-jazz

I’d particularly recommend the powerful instrumental, ‘Darkness Comes Over the Hills’. I was minded of some of Eric Clapton’s searing guitar. It features Steve Finnerty (Alabama 3, Junk Delux). I also like the pounding opener, ‘Driving Down’ and ‘You Took the South I’ll Take the Twilight Skies’.

I’ve attended a lot of eclectic gigs in my life (so far). Some have been labelled ‘free jazz’. Some of the ‘Dark Jazz’ album is reminiscent of those live excursions. At many of those gigs, I find they have provided me with a mixture of joy and discomfort. As live experiences, I’m perhaps more tolerant than on listening to the same melange on an album. The quality of the ‘Dark Jazz’ recordings is sometimes astounding. Wonderful attention to audio detail.

I’ll let Keith Rodway describe some of the other tracks:

“‘On You Took the South’... Holly Finch snatches phrases from the Times Literary Supplement, while two members of the Camo String Quartet, Laurens Price-Nowak and Bill John Harpum, improvise on cello and viola... ‘Fox and Clock’ and ‘Bronze by
Gold’ both feature readings from James Joyce’s Ulysses by Lucy Brennan-Shiel. Of the three remaining tracks, ‘Dark Jazz’ is a solo composition by myself, backed by Fritz Catlin (founder member, 23 Skidoo) on drums and percussion. ‘Familiar Heat’ features Peter O’Donnell (former member of 70s British pop-rock band Casino, on piano and guitar; and with drummer, and percussionist and singer-songwriter Simon Chartersen (Alex Harvey Band, the Higsons, Near Jazz Experience) on drums.

‘Snow Fell Tonight’ features an improvised vocal by Norwegian singer and actor Ingvild Syntropia, based on a poem written by her father, Tor Bertel Lovgren.”

**Hattie Hatstar: Emergency album for a crisis situation**

I first met Hattie at the Landjuweel festival at Ruigoord on the outskirts of Amsterdam. Hattie is beloved of the edgy, outsider festivals. She’s impish, fun, naughty, and a born performer. A raconteur. Irreverent, and to my mind very much a modern music-hall troubadour. Songs about getting laid, drunk, sex, (yup, drugs too), humour and, well, general mayhem and the insanity of life in all of its gaudy, ridiculous incarnations.
This album is infectious (bit like Covid). A pandemic of clever, bawdy lyrics and sing-a-longs with ace playing on the accordion and ukulele. She’s an independent, free-thinking, barn-storming, tour-de-force. And entirely loveable. If George Formby, Billy Connolly and Frank Zappa were reincarnated in female form and playing and singing solo – that’s an approximation of Hattie Hatstar.

The album is a wonderful tonic for our times. Laugh, smile, giggle, rush off to the loo for a pee… yup, it’s a great pick-you-up. LOL – Laugh Out Loud! The track titles give you fair warning of what to expect, including: ‘Sex’; ‘Dance Like a Twit’, ‘Start a Fight’ and Viking Raid’ with its lyrics:

“My body is a Temple that’s been ransacked… I know I should know better, Having reached the age I’m at, than to, Get completely bolloxed, and Behave like a Total Twat!”

You’ve been warned – go have some fun. Here’s a clip from Hattie’s Covid live stream:

https://www.facebook.com/hattie.biz/videos/296063538469972/

https://hattiehatstar.bandcamp.com/album/emergency-album-for-a-crisis-situation?fbclid=IwAR3kobSN3qEsL804I5DBzoMqNW-WZJoSCabila Xw339GvqPb3Bq0KkSUce
Lady Gaga: Chromatica

To my mind, Lady Gaga is THE Diva of Pop Disco. She is the Fame Monster. ‘Chromatica’ is her Sixth Album. My love affairs with the dance floor and its musical dance genres are more kinked towards EDM – electronic dance music, Psy-Trance and Techno, and Reggae. Chromatica is a straight-ahead, pumping product primed for the mirror-ball world of Club Disco. And Lady Gaga promises to show us, “A Real Good Time.” The innovations on the album are partly to do with some mixes utilising classical instruments and arrangements. It’s also a sparkly disco-dance item on the surface, but there’s an underbelly, with themes which include mental health, depression and sexual tensions. But, I suppose it’s mostly, business as usual. As she sings on ‘Free Woman’:

“This is my dancefloor, I fought for. I’m a Free Woman. We own the Downtown Hear our sound.”

The music demonstrates the iconography of Lady Gaga. It’s glamour, kitsch pomp, on an outrageous scale. The Alien. The changes of clothes. Immersive dance. Be anyone you want to be. The tracks are an unrelenting dance beat, almost a single groove, but there’s a clever manipulator at
work, pulling your strings.

If you do happen to listen the words, they are screwy and oddball. I like the instrumental intro to ‘911’, and then it’s down to the dance beat: “My Biggest Enemy is Me, Pop a 911,” which segways straight into the firmly tongue-in-cheek, ‘Plastic Doll’:

“Open me up and cut me loose... I am top shelf, I am strong...I am not a plastic doll...Who’s that girl? Malibu Gaga, Looks so sad, What is this Saga?”

And:

“I’m hard on the outside
But if you see inside inside inside
Come Come Unwrap me
Take a Bite Take a Bite.
Sour Candy.”

Clever and ironic.

Here’s one of the videos for this song.

Unwrap it:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wgwMzdNneyI

I reckon she’s one of the cleverest pop brains on the Planet. Stellar - an Alien Chameleon. She lives on the Planet of ‘Chromatica’ and sometimes drops down to Planet Earth. If you don’t believe me, go watch her blast everyone off the stage set of ‘A Star is Born’. Not just with her amazing singing, and range of musical styles, but also her acting ability.

From ‘Poker Face’ to ‘Shallow’ to ‘Sour Candy’….Respect to: Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta, the versatile Chameleon, Lady Gaga! I’m happy to own the vinyl and signed print from Lady Germanotta for ‘Chromatica’. It’s an artefact – ART in Fact!
‘An excursion to a strangely familiar place that you have never previously dreamt of.’ (Alan Moore, writer Jerusalem, From Hell)

‘Utterly beguiling and often unsettling... a tour de force of storytelling.’ (David Caddy, editor ‘Tears in the Fence’)

‘Within five minutes of picking the book up I was immediately entranced.’ (Jonathan Downes, editor ‘Gonzo Weekly’ magazine)

Readers’ comments:

‘Stories like dreams half remembered, tapping into a seam (or seeming) of the unconscious mind.’

‘A sanctuary, a haven, a totally immersive other world...’

‘A book to tickle and amaze, to ruffle and amuse and sometimes to raise the hairs on the back of your neck.’

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One of my passions is writing the press releases for a local label here in New Zealand, AAA Records. Through my work with chief honcho, record producer, engineer and general dogsbody TeMatera Smith I have been introduced to some wonderful music and amazing artists. One who I had not come across prior to working on some PR for her, is the lovely Lee Martin. I was blown away by her EP, and have managed to see her play a few times, most recently at an At Home gig, which can be watched by looking at the videos on her FB page. During shutdown she has streamed a new video every day, and even set her PA up on her roof and has performed a
couple of gigs for her neighbours from there! The time felt right to have a proper catch up, and this is the result.

**Who, what, when is Lee Martin?**

Lee Martin is a free spirit, a searcher; forever searching for adventure, novelty, and beauty. I am a dreamer, daytime and nighttime, I love dreaming! I hate the feeling of being trapped or being isolated. Freedom to me is everything! (this is not boding well in the current circumstances)

I am a lover… I fall in love easily with people, art, nature, things you name it. I love seeking the beauty in everything. I don’t believe in black and white; I think there are innumerable shades of grey for every situation. My life philosophy is pretty much everything is good until proven otherwise and even when they do prove to be “bad” I always feel like there must be a reason and a backstory. Life shapes us all and I love seeing the beauty in everyone, especially in the imperfections. I think that is why I love music so much. It tells stories, sometimes about things unthinkable or things condemned by society, but it is almost like there is a freedom or safety in turning it into a song. You can say things you would not otherwise be able to get away with.

I think music is so ingrained in me and such a big part of who I am. Music helped to raise me. I think in terms of lyrics, in every life scenario there is always a song that comes to mind, someone who has experienced something similar, who put it down in
words and then turned it into something magical to listen to. Songs are story books condensed to 3-minute clips.

I would say I am high energy and I feel a bit deeper than I guess the average person, when I love, I love hard, when I get mad, I get furious and so on ha-ha, you get the idea. Maybe passionate would be a good one-word description. Yes, actually disregard everything I’ve said so far and just use the word “Passionate”!

**Who first influenced you to start performing music?**

My dad has always been an incredible music lover with an extensive library of records, and later CD’s. I remember just absorbing album after album when we visited him fortnightly and studying the lyrics. If lyrics weren’t included, I would write them out by hand (not always getting it right ha ha). I used to buy a pack of blank tapes before every visit and I would fill them with all my favourite songs by the end of the weekend, and then continue to listen to it for the next couple of weeks leading up to my next visit. Favourites were Van Morrison, Dire Straits, Leonard Cohen, the list goes on.

When I was five years old, I decided I wanted to learn to play guitar and
desperately wanted to be a singer/songwriter. I told my mother of this plan and she was told nine is a good age to learn how to play guitar. This is where the longest wait of my life started!! Finally, when I turned nine my single mother (on a teaching salary supporting two kids) took me to a pawn shop and we managed to get a $10 guitar that to our incredibly untrained ears sounded semi decent. It had the highest action and just about killed me to play. To my dismay at the time, the guitar lessons she enrolled me in was for classical guitar but after my mother took on an extra job after hours to be able to support this dream, I just sucked it up and gave it my all. My guitar teacher soon realized that I had to endure a lot of pain on the guitar I was playing, and he was quite confident about my ability and passion, so he convinced my mother to upgrade my guitar to a Yamaha after which I just took off.

Because of the classical training I found it easy to play chords and pretty much immediately started writing songs about love and other things I had no idea about. My mother was my biggest fan and loved listening to my new compositions (no matter how bad I am sure they must have been, she loved it). In primary school I forced family, friends and neighbours to pay an entrance fee to attend my house concert and in high school I had the
odd music concert.

**What happened next?**

After school I went to The University of Pretoria in South Africa where I stayed in a hall of residence. Here I met and befriended my soon to be band mate Zanda Traut. We were both closet singer songwriters and immediately found a soul mate in each other. I feel like every spare minute we had we would jam together, listen and help shape each other’s new songs etc. This was an amazing time, the freedom we had to create and work on music with no expectation other than just pure joy was just incredible. We had nothing to prove and no one to play to or impress! But of course life had other plans and one of Zanda’s school friends was a local musician.
who played some pub gigs and he had a listen to us one day just jamming outside on the grass and insisted we do 3 songs before one of his gigs. Of course, this was cause for great excitement and our friends were there in their hundreds to support (probably in reality about 30). We were so nervous, but it was a great success, so we kept going back week after week adding to our repertoire with each passing week. Finally, our harmonizing duo was at a point where we could go off and find our own gigs. I still remember cutting out letters and images out of magazines to make our posters (like ransom notes) which we put up everywhere we could. People must have liked us as we kept getting booked for gigs and people kept showing up, whether for the music or the booze I'll never know. We realized we needed some percussion and put out an add (probably in ransom note format) for a djembe player. Now this was a fun process having all these people come to audition. We immediately cliqued with Jonny (Jonathan Brueton) and the three of us were magic together. Eventually we found a bassist (this never a constant person it has to be said) and Johnny played the drum kit. We called ourselves Southern Soul, profoundly decided upon while working our way through a cocktail menu and this was the name of one of the cocktails. We eventually got booked at major festivals and as opening acts to big South African artists and we loved touring around the country. Miraculously we managed to find an investor, Nicholas De Klerk who helped fund our album, merch, travel, you name it! Our album 'Package' was a mix of Afrikaans and English songs and was released in 2006. This was a massive push in the right direction and eventually led to us being signed with Bowline records. It's always interesting thinking back on these events and when you summarize it, it seems so simple, but it has to be said that this was spread over about five years. My entire Uni career and then some. It was a hard grind filled with passion, joy and heartbreak.

Life unfortunately took us on some different paths and the band ended up breaking up. A lot of personal trauma happened to me during this time and I also had a backlog of songs that were begging to be recorded. I visited my Grandmother one day (as I often did, an incredible and wise woman) and she informed me that she wanted to give all of the Grandchildren a chunk of money now rather than as an inheritance later. She also wanted me to record my solo album with that money as she wanted to be able to hear the finished product before she passed away. Well what can I say, I hope one day I could make someone’s dreams come true the way she did mine. I jumped straight into studio and started recording. I performed under Lee Martin but had my backing band which Johnny was often a part of. That album titled “I Know You’re Sleeping' was released in 2008, another mix of English and Afrikaans songs. One of
them specially written about my Grandma. She passed away on my birthday in 2009.

*I Know You’re Sleeping* came out in 2008, so what was next on the musical journey and how did you end up in New Zealand?

2008 was a massive year for me and a few months before my album was released, I had a bit of a traumatic event in my life. My boyfriend at the time and I had just broken up and in the weeks after that I noticed some suspicious behaviour around me. I had the undeniable feeling that I was being watched and that they were probably planning a home invasion or attack of some sorts (something not uncommon in South Africa). I value my intuition immensely and even more so after this event. I started locking the internal door to my bedroom and on one night I forgot but had this nagging feeling to just get up and lock the bedroom door which I thankfully did. On this particular night I got woken by a slam on the bedroom door. The handle kept being jiggled and someone was trying to get in. Of course, I realized instantly what was going on (having half anticipated it) so I called my ex who must have thought it was a 3am post break up call. He didn’t answer so I called another good friend of mine who lived a few blocks away and asked him to call the police too. The person kept trying to break the door open and after what felt like eternity it went silent. I knew I had to get to the living room to be able to buzz
my friend in (ironically I lived in a gated security complex) so I decided to open the door; I know, this is the girl running upstairs in a horror movie.

As you can imagine the intruder was just waiting silently on the other side of the door with a big machete hoping that I would do exactly that. My weapon was pepper spray which I borrowed from a friend of mine when I started getting the feeling of being watched. It felt like we were sizing each other up for hours so I decided to make the first move and spray him but to my horror nothing came out of the pepper spray canister and his face went from neutral to a spine chilling grin. He then lifted the machete and presumably aimed for a decapitation, but I managed to slip back into the bedroom, but his arm slipped in before I could shut the door. I then proceeded with all my might to try shut the door fighting his body weight on the other side and trying to dodge the dangling arm with the machete coming at me, all the while trying to get the pepper spray to work again, which it thankfully did, but on my face. The feeling of relief was more than the feeling of pain and I started spraying through the opening in his direction. He retracted eventually and there has never been a feeling of such utter relief than the feeling of hearing that door shut again and being able to lock it. He must have run away, and my friend and police finally arrived.

I was severely traumatised by this event and suffered from insomnia for about a year. I had the album to keep me busy and I released “I know you’re sleeping” later that same year. One of my good friends, Charl, was an amazing support to me during this time and the subsequent months we grew closer and eventually started dating. In 2010 we got engaged and married. That same year he was headhunted by a company in New Zealand and although my music career was going great and I was a bit apprehensive, we decided to move to New Zealand and travel around for two years before returning to South Africa. So, in November 2010 we found ourselves on the other side of the world in NZ. This was a scary time and we knew
absolutely no one. In 2011 I fell pregnant with our first son, and in 2014 the second, then life just took a completely different turn. We ended up deciding to stay in NZ and eventually became citizens. I used to wake up crying having had nightmares that I will never gig again but as a few years passed and my two boys grew out of the baby phases I slowly got back into gigging and started over in NZ where I was a complete unknown but managed to become active on the scene. I re-released some of my solo music together with some live recordings in 2016 on an album called ‘Late Night Sessions’.

Through my gigs I met so many amazing people and even got an investor, Russell Martin, to back my next recording and I only needed a producer. This is where Chris Ward appeared on the scene. I had a gig out in Pegasus, and we were double booked, and when he was about to set up he saw me getting ready to sing so decided to sit back and watch without telling me about the confusion. After my gig he came over to talk to me and introduced himself as a producer and he told me he would be very keen to record my EP. He contacted me soon after and we met up a few times to discuss the project. After the third encounter with him I just had a feeling that he was the right guy for the job and boy am I glad I decided to work with him. Time in studio with Chris and Tom O’Connor (Sound engineer) was just incredible, my favourite recording experience to date. Chris was involved with AAA records and TeMatera and he connected us, and I guess the rest is history. I then got signed by the amazing AAA record with my EP “Lost Girl”

Talk us through the songs on the ‘Lost Girl EP’
Track 1: Thinking About You
This is probably my most upbeat song, such a fun singalong. It was the quickest song I have ever written. I had a line in my head and quickly grabbed my guitar and within 30 minutes it was done. I always describe this as something else taking over because I have no idea where it comes from. Other times I will be trying and trying to write a song, and nothing comes!
Track 2: Lost Girl
This is title track to the EP and one of my favourites. Lost Girl is one those songs with a strong lyrical focus. I wrote this about the human tendency to self-sabotage. It is about how we are continuously searching for meaning in and around ourselves and test the boundaries. The second verse is my favourite as it paints a real picture it goes “Lost boy, broke off the arm of your favourite toy, it was all that you had brought you so much joy…lost boy”. He has no one to blame but himself but you still feel sorry for him as I think everyone can relate on some level.

Track 3: Whiskey and Red Wine
Ah whiskey and red wine, my two favourite drinks haha. This, however, is not a drinking song. It is written about that very time in my life that I told you about before. The opening line “There was a slam on the door, and it came out of nowhere, there where sirens and screaming but it all came to pass” is written about that time in my life when I had the intruder but also just about being young and carefree in general, no ties, obligations and no real worries (aside from of course that fateful night). It is how everyone shapes their own path in their own time having their own unique experiences. A big theme is also how time heals.

Track 4: Falling Down
This is my favourite song! It is about people these days preferring an online ‘ideal’ presence as opposed to making real physical connections. So much of our self-worth is based on something that is not real. I worry that we do not notice the hurt in others as everyone is so self-consumed and occupied with their own image and phones. My favourite lyric in the song sums it up “I stared at a woman on a subway train, she was crying black tears and her make-up stained. Kids getting off at the next bus stop, they’re all looking down, no they never look up”. It kind of describes how someone could be crying in front of you in plain sight but if it is not happening on your device you
won’t notice. “Falling Down” has been turned into a one of a kind 360-degree music video which allows the viewer to choose which part of the video they wish to view at any given moment. What makes it even more interesting is that there are multiple different “Lee Martin’s” in the video at the same time doing different things. This is one of the most technologically advanced music videos in New Zealand and the first of its kind. Tematara Smith and Jamie Crerar at AAA records are the masterminds behind the video. I can’t wait for it to be released!

Track 5: Dream On Little One
When my little boy went to school for the first time, I wrote this song about how kids grow up and eventually follow their own path. It’s a letter to him really, telling him to follow his dreams and explaining that life will bring heartache and tears but also laughter and joy but through it all, as he spreads his wings to fly without me, I will always be right there if he needs me.
Track 6: A Way Out of Here

I was sitting in a coffee shop one day watching people and I just started writing down what I saw. I adore observing people. This song is about people, different characters, all with one basic thing in common, we all want to be seen. We all have a story.

What’s next?

I had so many plans this year and I’ve had to accept that now in this current climate I just have to roll with things. Heaven knows I’m used to unexpected life turns. First of all, my new music video for “Falling Down” was going to be released but has been pushed back so as soon as this lockdown is over, they’ll be able to finish it and I’ll put out a release date. I cannot wait to see the end result of this 360-degree video myself! Another thing I was looking forward to was my tour to the States in August this year, I was going to start off with a week in New York and then move down to Chicago, Detroit and Flint. This will have to be postponed now and dates are a little uncertain, but it is definitely going ahead. I am very ready to record my next full length album, I believe I have all the material ready and Chris Ward is already busting with ideas for my new songs, hopefully we can see a release for this in 2021.

Where can we find out more?

I just revamped my website and I’ve done a lockdown song a day video series on my Facebook page with about 35 songs requested by people. I would love people to subscribe to my newsletter on my website and I’ll e-mail a downloadable link to all these lockdown songs.

Website: www.leemartinmusician.com
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/leemartinmusician
Instagram: @leemartinmusician

So that was the end of the interview, and we were just chatting and then Lee happened to mention that during lockdown (New Zealand has been on severe movement restrictions since 26th March, we are hoping they may be lifted after May 11th) she has been entertaining the neighbourhood every Friday afternoon. She has also been having weekly live stream shows, putting a video out every day of her performing a different song at home, and later that day she was going to be doing a live stream gig to the elderly at Nurse Maude Hospital that afternoon. She really is a lovely lady.
Tony Klinger is a British film-maker, author and media executive. He began his career as Assistant Director on The Avengers in the 1960s, directed several rockumentaries and headed media companies both in the UK and the USA.

He is the son of film producer Michael Klinger, with whom he worked on the film Get Carter (1971) starring Michael Caine. He was awarded The Lifetime Achievement Award at the Romford Film Festival on May 28, 2018. Tony Klinger is now also a public speaker giving talks, speeches or lectures on a variety of themes. And yes you’ve guessed it, he is now a regular columnist for this peculiar little magazine.

CHECK OUT TONY KLINGER AT GONZO:

Roy Budd famously composed his best ever film score for my father’s production Get Carter. I liked him at this stage of his career when he was young and uncomplicated. He didn’t even practice his piano playing but was a huge talent. You should try and get hold of his magnificent orchestral score for another of my father’s films “Something to Hide” which was known as “Shattered” in the USA. Later on Roy married the marvellous singer Caterina Valente and became more interested in financial schemes and less about his music. A great pity in my opinion since he was a gifted music man.
Henry Mancini and James Galway is a two for one. I was hired to direct Galway Plays Mancini at the Barbican in London. The day started badly when the OB truck turned out to be too high to get to the backstage which was down a fairly steep ramp. This was overcome by a bright techie who let the air out of the tyres and we could get in. I think I was hired because of my history of working with music greats on film and maybe because I could read a music score and orchestral arrangements and make the camera calls in real time. I’m probably not that sharp anymore but believe it or not I was. As a dress rehearsal we nailed down all our camera positions and moves until they were smoother than a cashmere codpiece. All was well until about ten minutes before curtain up when the pixie like James Galway and the more sardonic Henry Mancini charmingly informed me that they had decided to change the entire running order, almost every cue and one or two of the tunes. They clearly thought it was pretty funny but I was horrified. Somehow or other we got it done and the show and the film turned out fine and of course their music and it’s performance was outstanding.

This is what I wrote when Mickey Rooney died. Mickey Rooney died aged 93. I worked with him on two films, Rachel's Man as Line Producer and in a junior role on Pulp. He was funny, quirky, sometimes surprisingly severe and full of great anecdotes. I interviewed him a couple of years back for the film about my dad, The Man Who Got Carter. Although now old and crotchety he still told great stories and was hugely entertaining, but as my camera man said, "pretty damned scary!" He was one of the last Hollywood greats. From an era that no longer exists people forget that he was the most successful box office star for several years in the late 1930's when he was star of the Andy Hardy series and latterly in that period in co-starring roles with Judy Garland. He was, above all, a very talented and great fun for anyone who knew him and those that watched him. RIP Mister Rooney.

I interviewed Peter Ustinov in my film "The Festival Game." He was magnificent, funny and was answering questions fired at him in four or five languages with complete fluency in each of those languages. I don't know how many he spoke but he was clearly funny and charming in each and every one. He was a special man, a terrific actor and so multi talented. I loved his ability as a raconteur and his obvious relish in sharing his wealth of great stories. Lovely man.
MORE MASTERPIECES
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seemed familiar, and it was only when watching the conversation between the two of them at the end of the disc, where they interview each other, that I realised that she is the daughter of Kenny Minnear of Gentle Giant fame. Her and Dave met initially as Dave is friends with her parents, and she grew up listening to Iona albums. Kenny is of course a multi-instrumentalist, which means that there were always a great many different instruments in the house, and Sally also can turn her hands to most things.

The main part of the DVD features Dave and Sally performing in his studio, with Dave providing keyboard, guitars and bouzouki while Sally is on vocals, acoustic guitar, percussion, recorded, whistle, violin and keyboards. The two of them perform surrounded by instruments, so much so that it can be quite hard to have enough space to stand. But, using these and combining them with some triggers (there are only two of them after all), they create music which is based in the Celtic tradition, and is hauntingly beautiful. My wife, Sara, walked into the

DAVE BAINBRIDGE & SALLY MINNE
LIVE IN THE STUDIO
OPEN SKY

I don’t receive nearly as many DVDs as I used to, but I am so glad that this one made it all the way to New Zealand as it is a real gem. I have followed Dave’s career for some years, firstly with the amazing, wonderful, brilliant Iona and then with his other projects. Prior to this I hadn’t previously come across Sally, although for some reason her surname
Prior to forming A Dying Planet, the Tipton brothers (Jasun (guitar) and Troy (vocals)) were the driving force of prog metal act Zero Hour, who released five albums. They alongside acts like Opeth, Cynic, Symphony X, All That Remains, The Human Abstract, and Liquid Tension Experiment, as well as undertaking multiple successful European tours and three appearances at America’s premier progressive metal with the technical instrumental band Abnormal Thought Patterns and progressive metal act Cynthesis. Jasun came up with the song “Missing”, which he played for his brother, and although Troy has unable to play bass for some years due to serious injury he said that he wanted to sing on it, so all they needed now was a rhythm section and in came drummer Marco Bicca and bassist Brian Hart to complete the line-up.

They have also brought in a few guests to assist here and there, and the result in an incredibly polished album which at times sits squarely within prog metal, and at others is far heavier and sitting on the edges of the genre as they bring in djent
while others are far more relaxed. It is almost as if Jadis, Threshold and Meshuggah have got together and have agreed that they will play different sections of songs, collaborating sometimes along the join. Opening song “Resist” is a little more than 14 minutes long, and is highly melodic and at times incredibly restrained, whereas at others the brute force is just being kept in line by polished production, harmony vocals, and gentle keyboards.

It feels a very modern album in many ways, and the use of high melodic vocals over djent guitars is truly inspired, as it sounds incredibly unusual yet right, all at the same time. Certainly worthy of investigation if you enjoy polished material of this style.

Johnny Gioeli and Deen Castronovo first played together on the debut Hardline album, ‘Double Eclipse’, which was released in 1992. Since then they have followed different musical paths, as while Gioeli has continued to lead Hardline, Castronovo spent time with Ozzy Osbourne and had an extended tour of duty with the Journey and is currently also active with The Dead Daisies and Revolution Saints. While Johnny is of course lead singer, Deen also assist with vocals as well as providing drums, and the line-up is completed by Alessandro Del Vecchio (keyboards, backing vocals), Mario Percudani (guitars) and Nik Mazzucconi (bass).

The result of the guys getting back together for the first time in quarter of a century is an incredibly polished melodic rock album, exactly as one would expect. Gioeli has long been regarded as one of the finest singers in the genre, and every melodic rock fan will have at least a couple of Hardline albums in their collection, I know I have. Here he shows the styles that one expects, with emotion allowing the voice to take on breadth while also having plenty of range and the ability to hit whatever notes he aims at. Castronovo is a stalwart at the back, but to me one of the real stars has to be Percudani, who lays down solid riffs or lets off little bursts of shred when he has the opportunity.

This doesn’t feel like a new band or a project, but rather a band that has been honing its chops on stage for many years, which these guys have been. Someone said to me the other day that Frontiers Music has quite distinct ups and downs when it comes to releases, and I do know what they mean. But there is nothing to worry about here, this is a very high point indeed, and one can only hope that the guys come back together for more albums as this is a delight that any melodic rock lover will enjoy immensely.
Canadian act Into Eternity released their debut album through DVS back in 1999, with another four coming in quick succession on Century Media, the last two of which two featured Stu Block (Iced Earth) on vocals. The band then decided to put recording on hold, so that they could concentrate on touring internationally. Amanda Keirnan joined on vocals to replace Block, giving the band more depth and breadth with her ability to growl with the best of them as well as providing strong soprano when the need arises. The band decided that after ten years away from the recording scene it was time to return with their sixth album, and they are back with ‘The Sirens’.

Spending many years on the road has obviously paid dividends as the guys are incredibly tight, with melodic guitar runs as sharp as one could wish for, while the rhythm section move between providing a foundation and moving more into the secondary melody. Amanda is a real find, the perfect conduit for the style of music they are performing, which is a mix

This Milwaukee-based quartet have been around for ten years, and this is their debut album. They state they have been influenced by the likes of Helmet and Megadeth, but they certainly don’t sound like it, as this is sort of like a heavier version of Lenny Kravitz. But, and it is a massive but, this is just way too basic. Chords are repeated as riffs through the verse, the bridge doesn’t really inspire, and neither does the chorus. It soon becomes an exercise in attrition, as this isn’t something that one would really listen to for pleasure. The vocals are melodic, and feel quite 90’s rock in style, but the music just doesn’t work. I like the artwork and the band logo, but that is pretty much the most positive thing I can say about this album.
between Arch Enemy, Death, Opeth and King’s X. It is deep, it is pummelling, it has hints of Judas Priest yet somehow stays more melodic while losing none of the brutality. Some of the guitar solos, such as on the killer song “Sandstorm”, are breathtakingly quick and somehow the band manages to groove and move while at the same time rocking like absolute and total bastards.

They have discovered that fine line between melodic metal and out and out brutality and speed, and have then trampled all over it. This is incredibly clever and solid metal that has much in homage to the death and thrash scene as it does to the prog, and then somehow mixes it all together to create something that fans of all three genres will do well to discover. Let’s just hope that we don’t have to wait another ten years for the next one, surely not.

There is a real drive and groove behind what they do, an energy and enthusiasm that really takes the listener back to the late Sixties and bands like Vanilla Fudge. Guitarist (plus keyboards and vocals) John Colgate knows his way around a wah wah pedal, and uses different sounds through his guitar to create different atmospheres. Drummer Mark Blackburn hits the kit incredibly hard, and also isn’t content to provide simple backing but rather likes to switch what he is doing while bassist (plus keyboards, vocals) Carey Rich has a warm sound which he punches in to provide support.

The production is strong, and I can see why they have been getting so much work supporting major artists such as Beck and Suicidal Tendencies, although what Eminem fans thought of them would be quite interesting.

Although it is a solid album as opposed to anything truly essential, this is well worth investigating for fans of trio-based hard rock with a definite late Sixties/early Seventies feel.
‘Following Shadows’ is the latest album from Coventry alt-rock band Luna Kiss, and it was produced by the mighty John Mitchell (Arena, It Bites and many others). Needless to say the production and sound on the album are great, but it is a shame that I can’t say much else incredibly positive about it. I know that much of this is down to personal taste, and I am sure that many critics will be raving about how wonderful this is, and how they are the next big thing, but their take on Muse crossed with My Chemical Romance, with smidgens of Radiohead and Simple Minds just leaves me cold.

It just feels too clinical, too contrived and when I went over to their site to try and discover more information about them and couldn’t find a bio, but could get a link to their own clothing range, I must confess to not being surprised as in many ways this truly does feel more about style over substance. Not for me.
The Gospels evolved because Rick Wakeman was asked to perform at an organ recital to raise money for the Camberley United Reform Church, which was in desperate need of a new organ. Rick pondered what to play and the more he thought about it and what the evening should mean, the more he felt that something very special was about to take place.

Thoughts of the New Testament kept creeping into his mind and he decided to write an instrumental piece to the settings of the four Gospels. He began working but after a couple of hours realised that there was no way he was going to get across the feelings he wished to portray without singing. The music seemed to cry out for an operatic tenor.

Amazingly enough, just a few weeks earlier, Rick had met the famous tenor Ramon Remedies at a charity concert in which they both performed and he plucked up courage to ask him if he would kindly agree to perform the New Gospels with him. The concert was a tremendous success and Ramon’s feeling and understanding of the music moved many people to tears.

The complete Gospels is a limited edition box set containing all the known recordings of the project both audio and visual. Along with a reproduction A4 x 12 page concert program.

Special Limited Edition Boxset containing
Signed by Rick Wakeman and numbered certificates.
DVD containing over 2 hours of footage including an in depth interview with Rick about the project.
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This is the most important moment in history to do something for African elephants. Because it's the worst time in history to be an elephant.

In 1980 there were 1.2 million elephants in Africa. Now there are just 430,000 and 20,000 were killed last year alone to fuel soaring demand for ivory. About one every 20 minutes.

That's why The Nature Conservancy has teamed up with music industry icon Martin Guitar on #SaveElephants -- a movement to provide people with simple actions to help elephants that will add up to make a difference.

Martin Guitar has been a leader in elephant protection since the 1970s when the company made the decision to stop using ivory on its guitars and started to phase the material from its supply chain. As the founding sponsor of #SaveElephants, Martin has donated five custom elephant-themed guitars for raising funds.

#SaveElephants is part of a partnership between the Conservancy's programs in Africa and China to increase wildlife security, expand habitat, reduce demand, and reduce poverty and instability in places where elephants range -- the root cause of poaching.

Ultimately, this is bigger than elephants. Poaching spreads crime and instability, threatening lives and tourism-based income that's desperately needed by the people who live among elephants.

We have to do more. That's why we're thrilled to be working with Martin Guitar -- and with you. Together, we're powerful.

Asante sana (thank you very much),

David Banks
Director, Africa Region
The Nature Conservancy

p.s. Start helping elephants today at nature.org/elephants and follow us on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter to get action alerts.
Hawkwind Earth Visitors Passport - The "Hawkwind Passport"

The stated aim is that Hawkwind fans can have access to special Hawkwind events such as Hawkfest, to obtain limited DVDs and CDs of unreleased material and to attend private Hawkwind parties. So far, six Hawkfests (outdoor festivals), five Hawkeasters, and some other events such as Rock for Rescue have been on the gigs list.

The application form is available via Hawkwind.com and needs to be filled out and physically posted off to Mission Control with two passport sized photographs and a stamped addressed envelope.
Cherry Red, the record company releasing the album, had this to say about it, on their website:

“Cherry Red are delighted to announce a brand-new studio album by Hawkwind Light Orchestra. Carnivorous (an anagram of Coronavirus), which follows Hawkwind’s critically acclaimed 2019 album All Aboard The Skylark and effortlessly resumes the space rock voyage embarked upon by the full band.

The album was recorded entirely in lockdown during the coronavirus pandemic, having started life as a solo project by Dave Brock during the winter of 2019, with contributions added by the band in January and February, before the lockdown began. Musically the stalwart trio of Dave Brock (vocals, lead guitar, keyboards and synths), Richard Chadwick (drums) and Magnus Martin (guitar, vocal and...
keyboards) have created a tight, futuristic but classic sounding record that emphasises Dave’s exemplary song writing.

Carnivorous is an album that by design had to be recorded without a full complement of Hawkwind members in their usual style. However, it is a testament to the contributing members’ proficiency to end up with an album that bears all the hallmarks of classic Hawkwind while recorded under such testing circumstances.

The fifteen tracks can also be enjoyed on limited edition doubly vinyl and digital formats.”

A separate Facebook post made by Hawkwind appears to continue this description:

“Dyna-mite is a cruising and catchy opener, complete with memorable guitar solos, electronic flourishes and laced with Dave’s trademark
commentary on human behaviour. There is plenty of timeless rock for fans to enjoy; from the pulsating rhythms of Void Of Wasteland to the free-spirited groove of Repel Attract. On side 2, Model Farm Blues fuses the band’s psychedelic blueprint with classic blues and there is even a tongue in cheek nod to the recent pandemic in Lockdown (Keep Calm) and a more serious note on The Virus, while the heartfelt Forgotten Memories, about the devastating effects of Alzheimer’s, is one of the album’s most powerful songs. At every stage of Carnivorous you can hear the fifty years of experience at Hawkwind’s fingertips, boundaries they’re still pushing today.

Hawkwind’s 50th anniversary celebrations were due to continue throughout 2020 with headline slots at festivals throughout the summer, Dave Brock solo shows at HRH Prog
The track "The Virus" is the song that was loaded into the audio editing software a couple of months ago, when Dave Brock showed the end result of the mixing stage of the track.
Deep in the forest something stirs. Two novels, one horrific secret...
Martin Springett was born in Crayford, Kent, England, in 1947. He studied art (that is he learned to play the Guitar) for two semesters at the Brassey School of Art in Hastings, Sussex. He emigrated to the West Coast of Canada in 1965, but returned to the UK in 1973 to pursue music in various bands. He spent time in Germany, and toured through Europe.

While in London Martin started to illustrate and design record covers for Columbia records. Upon his return to Vancouver, Martin carried on with music and illustrated various books and magazines. In 1978 he moved to Toronto, maintaining activity in every area where illustration is required. He released his own album, "The Gardening Club", in 1983.

In 1984 Martin was commissioned to illustrate the cover of "The Summer Tree" by Guy Gavriel Kay. This and the subsequent volumes of The Fionavar Tapestry Trilogy were published around the world along with Martin's covers. Martin continued his work in fantasy illustration, illustrating many covers for fantasy novels, including "The Traveller In Black" by John Brunner. In 1990 he illustrated his first children's book, "Mei Ming and the Dragon's Daughter" written by Lydia Bailey. Martin has just finished illustrating his sixth children's book, called "The Follower" by Richard Thompson. He has been nominated for various awards, including the Governor Generals Award For Illustration. He has won the Aurora Award For Excellence in Fantasy Art, and two Silver Awards from the Art Directors Club of Toronto and Best Classical Record Cover of The Year Award (UK).

Martin still pursues the Musical Muse, recently producing a new CD, "Blue Evening" with his band "FREEFALL", an independent, instrumental album called "Rough Magic"; a collection of explorations on the guitar, and a collection of tunes inspired by the writings of Guy Gavriel Kay called "Bright Weaving".

www.martinspringett.com/

https://spacewreckrecords.bandcamp.com
Rob Ayling writes:

"Thom the World poet is an old mate of mine from way back in my history. Even pre-dating Voiceprint, when I was running "Otter Songs" and Tom's poetry tapes and guest appearances with Daedid Allen, Gilli Smyth Mother Gong are well known and highly regarded. It just felt right to include a daily poem from Thom on our Gonzo blog and when I approached him to do so, he replied with in seconds!!! Thom is a great talent and just wants to spread poetry, light and positive energy across the globe. If we at Gonzo can help him do that - why not? why not indeed!!"

!IT IS ONLY LIFE.IT IS ONLY DEATH

Elders locked away for being vulnerable
even the young cannot be with them
Age discriminates,as does nursing homes,
where original outbreaks decimate inmates.
Once,poetry was a visitor.Welcomed and warmed.
Cookies and coffee.Books and Bards.Now ,none-
only occasional distance over balconies..
Socialization?Confined to rooms when the virus visits
Separated via walls and fears of ends.Silence moves in
And will not leave until every body -is silent,too!
“Ev’rywhere I hear the sound of marching charging feet, boy”

http://www.zazzle.co.uk/streetfightingshirts

Auld Man's Baccie

Resonating with the Blues
RICK WAKEMAN

COUNTRY AIRS
“Music from both the mind and heart...”

The original version – Now expanded with bonus material

www.rwcc.com
Mark has a podcast: The Holsworthy Mark Show podbean. He says that it is a show “in which I talk about news myself, and do interviews. I sent it up as I found video a bit hard. I just hope people like and support and if anyone wants to be part of it or if come along for the ride they are welcome”.

PS shows can be downloaded

http://maraines88.podbean.com/
Well, ladies and gentlemen, here we are at the end of another week. A rich vista of things ranging from the good, the bad and the ‘oh bloody hell’ have and are happening, and although they are disparate as heck, the only thing that they do have in common is that they are things with which I have had to, or am going to be forced to deal.

All sorts of stuff is going on behind-the-scenes, and I am not in a position to share most of it with you, nor would I want to. The weather is being typically capricious. The weather forecast said it was going to be nice all week, and so Carl came down in order to get the roof fixed once and for all. And guess what? Although he and Graham did a great deal of arcane stuff on the roof on Sunday, it has been raining intermittently ever since. And we need a couple more days of fine weather to finish this portion.

Then on Wednesday the highlights were spending four hours trying to sort out a Limited Online Broadcast License for Gonzo Web Radio, and being prescribed a small bottle of liquid morphine to deal with my foot pain. I feel like Keith Richards.

Bizarrely I had forgotten how nice it tasted!

I cannot take either morphine or tramadol during the day because they propel me into a Thomas De Quincey like state, which—though pleasant enough—is not conducive to getting any work done. So I only use them at the end of the day so that my foot stops hurting enough to let me sleep. De Quincey wrote:

"The sense of space, and in the end, the sense of time, were both powerfully affected. Buildings, landscapes, &c. were exhibited in proportions so vast as the bodily eye is not fitted to conceive. Space swelled, and was amplified to an extent of unutterable infinity. This, however, did not disturb me so much as the vast expansion of time; I sometimes seemed to have lived for 70 or 100 years in one night; nay, sometimes had feelings representative of a millennium passed in that time, or, however, of a duration far beyond the limits of any human experience."

...but I bet he never had to wrestle with a small and determined terrier for control of the duvet whilst off his tits.

I will let you know what transpires next time.

Hare bol

JonD
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- From the Vaults Vol 1+2
- The Classic Albums
- Heroes of Psychedelic Rock Vol 1+2
- The Classic Albums
- Jazz Master’s Vol 1-4
- The Classic Albums Vol 1
- Legendary gigs Vol 1
- Jazz Master’s Vol 1
- Live and Studio
- Legendary gigs Vol 1
- The Classic Albums
- The Classic Albums Vol 1
- The Early Years Vol 1
- American Folk Revival Legends Vol 1

We’ll be adding more twin titles over the coming months, check the sites below for details.

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- Captain Beefheart
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- Man
- Michael Bruce
- Sun Ra
- Albert Lee
- The Selecter
- Art Pepper
- Atomic Rooster
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- Hookfoot
- Al Atkins
- The Beach Boys
- Pete Seeger

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Weekly magazine: www.gonzoweekly.com