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LEST WE FORGET

John Brodie Good
Dave McMann
Mick Farren
Corinna Downes
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 ever more peculiar little magazine. As I have said on a number of occasions over the years, the editorial decisions on what goes in, especially in this section, are basically are a mirror of what I have been watching on television or listening to on Spotify. And, since the death of my darling wife a month ago, this has become ever more the case.

Now, the readership and the editorial staff of this magazine have been so kind to me since Corinna’s death, that I truly don’t want to outstay my emotional welcome with you all. Therefore, I am trying not to bang on about it to the extent that the milk of human kindness, which has flowed so lavishly over the last four weeks, curdles and dries up. I have seen other people of my acquaintance do just this in the wake of their bereavements, and I do not want to fall into this trap. However, it would be disingenuous of me to pretend that, in the wake of my personal tragedy, my viewing or listening habits have not changed drastically, and that, I am certain,
Therefore, I am trying not to bang on about it to the extent that the milk of human kindness, which has flowed so lavishly over the last four weeks, curdles and dries up.

they have probably changed forever. So, forgive me when I allude to Corinna’s death in this column, and probably will continue to do for months to come, because my loss permeates every part of my life, and as this column is usually just me burbling on about the media I consume in my life, then Corinna turning up in it is nigh inevitable.

You have, I think, heard me mention my old friend Richard Dawe in these pages before. He was a constant in my life for many years, often being referred to as ‘Richard the Hippie’ in my writings. And when he died by his own hand, a few years back, I was very sad indeed. Not only for him, but because a part of my life had gone forever. From 1987, for over twenty years, a lot of the music I listened to was down to Richard. And I remember how, about twenty years ago, he turned up on my doorstep in Exeter, brandishing a suspiciously long cigarette, and an album called ‘Yoshimi battles the Pink Robot’.

“You gotta listen to this, man,” he grunted at me, “and have a bang on this one while you do it.”

I acceded to both requests (and if you’re reading this, kiddies, taking drugs is neither big nor clever, and I don’t do it any more).

It was my first experience of a peculiar band from Oklahoma, called The Flaming Lips, and I have listened to them on and off ever since. They are an infuriating band to follow, because they are perfectly capable of making glorious, lush, music, which is as cerebrally psychedelic as anything else produced over the last half century, and following that with something so spikily experimental that it is more annoying than anything else.
Regular readers of this magazine will, I am sure, remember that every time they have put out a record, it ends up in my top ten for the year, but that doesn’t mean that I ever listen to that record again. I am perfectly aware of their artistic merit, and so I mark the release in this manner. But the music I listen to on a day to day basis is something else entirely. Granted, my day to day playlist does often include various bits of experimental music from the likes of Yoko Ono and Throbbing Gristle, but most of the stuff I listen to, either whilst working or whilst attempting relaxation, tends to be both trippier and more melodic.

So, when, back in March, Steven Drozd announced that there was going to be a new album from the band this summer, I was immediately interested. The band announced that the album was called ‘American Head’ and said that it was mark a shift in identity as the band decided to focus on their American roots. I assumed that this meant that they were going to undergo a scene change somewhat akin to
that undergone by the Grateful Dead when they turned their backs on the psychedelia of their earlier years, and produced two albums of acoustic Americana with ‘Workingman’s Dead’ and ‘American Beauty’. But this isn’t what happened at all.

The band have gone back to producing the sort of sublime, intelligent, and beautifully crafted pop/prog that they did in their heyday. It is the first time, since ‘At War with the Mystics’ back in 2006, that they have produced an album that I actually want to listen to, rather than the cerebral excursions of their recent years, which one can admire but which remains on one’s shelf unlistened to. And it’s not just me who thinks so:

Tyler Clark of Consequence of Sound gave the album an A– rating, writing, "American Head stands alongside The Soft Bulletin and Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots as one of the very best records The Flaming Lips have recorded". Tom Pinnock of Uncut gave the album a 9 out of 10 rating, praising the band for "examining the nature of family, love, death and nostalgia
with a sincerity and tenderness that’s been missed.” Jude Rogers of Mojo praised the tracks "Mother I've Taken LSD", "Mother Please Don't Be Sad", and "Brother Eye", writing, “They suggest a place for the band's psychedelic imagination in more present, physical realms, which feels new.”

So, although I haven’t actually started compiling it, I can pretty much guarantee that my end of year Hit Parade will include this remarkably melodic and insanely listenable-to record. Once again, the band have proven that they can not only make arty fatty stuff, but also utterly sublime songs which burrow deep into your psyche and demand to be played over and over again. And the whole concept of the album, in so much that it has a concept, seems to be about family, about loyalties, and about life and death, which certainly strikes a personal chord with me at the moment, although I would not hesitate to recommend this record to all and sundry. And if the only things you have heard by the band are their spiky experimental records of the last decade or so, be assured that this album is something completely different.

And, I have just discovered that the band have collaborated with a garage rock duo called ‘Deap Vally’ to form a new band called ‘Deap Lips’, and their self-titled debut album was released ten days before Drozd announced the advent of the album which we have been talking about for the last thousand words. So, guess what I am going to listen to when I finish dictating this to Olivia?

Enjoy this issue.
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:

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)

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 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.
ROCKIN' THE CITY OF ANGELS

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.

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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 Summarias, Lisa Tanner, Brian Weiner, Neil Zlowzower and more!
Sean Ono Lennon has interviewed Sir Paul McCartney about his relationship with his late father as part of a BBC special to mark what would have been John Lennon's 80th birthday. The chat will air as part of Radio 2's two-part John Lennon at 80 at the beginning of next month, ahead of Lennon's birthday on 9 October. During the interview, McCartney played Sean one of the first ever Lennon-McCartney songs, Just Fun, which the former Beatles stars wrote as teenagers in Liverpool.

Sir Paul admitted his first attempts at writing with John weren't very good.

"Eventually, we started to write slightly better songs and then enjoyed the process of learning together so much that it really took off," he said.

The special will also feature interviews with Sean's half-brother, Julian, and his godfather Sir Elton John.
British songwriter Kate Bush has been made a Fellow of The Ivors Academy, in recognition of her peerless and enduring achievements in music. The announcement was made today, 23 September, and is the highest honour that The Ivors Academy bestows. The Academy exists to represent and champion music creators in the UK and Ireland.

Fellowship of the Academy recognises excellence and impact in the art and craft of music creation. This is only the twentieth Fellowship that the Academy has awarded in its 76-year history. Kate Bush joins a roster of songwriter greats including Annie Lennox OBE, Sir Paul McCartney and Sir Elton John. The most recent music creator to receive Fellowship before Kate Bush was Joan Armatrading MBE.

As well as life-time membership of the Academy, Kate Bush receives a dedicated Ivor Novello Award, depicting Euterpe, the ancient Greek Muse of lyric poetry.
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**

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...

“Maybe there is no Heaven. Or maybe this is all pure gibberish—a product of the demented imagination of a lazy drunken hillbilly with a heart full of hate who has found a way to live out where the real winds blow—to sleep late, have fun, get wild, drink whisky, and drive fast on empty streets with nothing in mind except falling in love and not getting arrested . . . Res ipsa loquitur. Let the good times roll.”

Hunter S. Thompson

It's That Cat Again


Cat Stevens/Yusuf the 72-year-old music legend - who re-recorded 'Tea For The Tillerman' to mark its 50th anniversary this year - has admitted he's enjoyed performing for his fans from the comfort of his home amid the coronavirus pandemic.

However, he's looking forward to next year when he hopes to put on some "scaled-back" gigs to coincide with the release of his upcoming autobiography.

Appearing on the UK's early morning show, 'Lorraine', on Tuesday (22.09.20), Yusuf admitted: "Lockdown changed everything.

"But I'm getting used to Zooming, to be honest. It's very comfortable to sit in your own kitchen or living room and put on a concert.

"No. We will probably go out and do something when everything is clear and perhaps it will be scaled-down a little bit."
"But I've also got a few projects in the pipeline; like my autobiography. "It might be a combination of 'Tillerman' and my autobiography."

ABBA have been filming for their hologram tour in West London.

Bjorn Ulvaeus, Benny Andersson, Agnetha Faltskog and Frida Lyndstad reportedly reunited at Ealing Studios to resume working on their avatar show after facing technical delays and then the coronavirus pandemic halting their plans.

The 'Dancing Queen' hitmakers are now looking to 2022 to launch the tour as part of their 50th anniversary.

An insider told The Sun newspaper's Bizarre column: "ABBA have kept
everything about their reunion shrouded in mystery but this has really been a long time coming.

“They announced the tour in 2016 and although it’s been a slog to get to this point, it is now full steam ahead and the show is taking shape.

“Agnetha, Bjorn, Benny and Frida have all recorded bits and pieces and they have enjoyed taking a trip down memory lane with it all.

“They are all getting a nice cheque out of it, so it will be worthwhile, but they’ve got more than enough money from their music, so it’s not about that.

THE BOSS’ GIFTED GUITAR

Bruce Springsteen wrote his entire album on a guitar a fan gave to him.

The Boss was inspired to pick up the acoustic instrument in April 2019, after one of his fans gave it to him as a gift at one of his 'Springsteen on Broadway' gigs.

He recalled: “I said, ‘Geez, you know, thanks.’

“And I just took a quick glance at it and it looked like a nice guitar, so I jumped in the
The 'Born in the U.S.A.' hitmaker recorded 'Letter to You' live at his New Jersey home studio and penned the rock tunes in different rooms in the house, including his bar and bedroom.

He continued: “All the songs from the album came out of it.

“...In perhaps less than 10 days. I just wandered around the house in different rooms, and I wrote a song each day. I wrote a song in the bedroom. I wrote a song in our bar. I wrote a song in the living room.”

Jarvis Cocker has been growing vegetables during lockdown.

The Pulp frontman has turned to gardening as a way to relax amid the coronavirus pandemic, and he's delighted to be growing his own food.

He told the 'Slacker' podcast: "I've got into gardening. I've got a vegetable patch now.

"What am I growing? Oh, what am I not growing. I've got potatoes, sprouts, broccoli, leeks, carrots, beetroot, courgettes, tomatoes."

"It was the squarcest thing ever" before rediscovering his passion out of necessity.

He added: "It's amazing that you put a seed in the ground and then like three weeks later something is growing out of it, it is mind-blowing.

"I mean, when I was a kid my grandfather grew stuff like that. He had a rhubarb patch and I used to help him when I was a real tiny kid.

VEGETABLE PULP

Noddy Holder has been "playing guitar again" and thinking about a big comeback.

The former Slade frontman admitted while he has been working on new material "over the years", he wouldn't want to go back to a full time schedule.

He's quoted by the Daily Star's Wired column as saying: "I have a stockpile written over the years.

"I didn't just stop, bang, and that was the end of the story. I still have moments when I get the inspiration. But I couldn't do it night after night, year after year."

The 74-year-old rocker quit the 'Cum On Feel The Noize' hitmakers in 1992, and hasn't made a solo record or hit the road since.

And although the coronavirus pandemic has made things difficult for the live music industry, he's not ruling out a return to the stage.

He added: "Well, never say never - I might do it now. If they ever let me out of the house.

"I'm brushing up on my guitar technique, going back to my roots."

Elton John has postponed the U.S. leg of his Farewell Yellow Brick Road Tour until 2022.

The Rocket Man hitmaker has been forced to put his final world tour on hold due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and recently announced the European leg of the trek, including homecoming gigs in the U.K., would not take place until September next year.

The delay means he has been forced to rejig his touring plans, and the rocker announced on Wednesday that the U.S. leg will not kick off until 19 January 2022.
belonged to me alone in my family, and it was, in many ways, either my salvation or my ruin, depending which way you look at it. Somewhere towards the end of the year, there was a thrilling new song called ‘Rock On’, which was so far different to any of the music that I had been listening to, with its strange booming bass runs and fractured time signature, that it was almost avant guard, to my young ears, at least. To my

I remember, back in the balmy days of 1973, when the fourteen year old me used to watch Top of the Pops every Thursday. However, my grandmother, my little brother, and quite often my parents, used to sit behind me, making disparaging remarks, which — although my stiff upper lip would not allow me to show this — I found somewhere between irritating and upsetting. After all, the fourteen year old me had very little of his own, and pop music was something that
grandmother, however, it was the “worst thing yet” and that she “worried for the sanity” of anybody who bought it. And when David Essex got to the bit where he sang “ooh my soul”, she insisted that she was singing about a “mouse hole” and my little brother took up the chant, and talked rubbish about mouse holes all through the
rest of the song.
Thus, was my first introduction to David Essex, and I have been somewhat of a fan ever since. And so, I am particularly chuffed to be able to bring you the first pictures of the Gonzo Multimedia box set, featuring none other than the man himself...
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.

Scientists have detected an unstable and unexpected gas in Venus’s atmosphere that, on Earth, is commonly produced by some microbes. The find could be a sign of life in the clouds of our nearest planetary neighbor—or, it could merely be evidence of some weird, as-yet-unknown chemical
processes taking place there.

The gas “is present at levels much higher than can be explained via known methods of production,” says Lewis Dartnell, an astrobiologist at the University of Westminster who was not involved in the new study.

Researchers detected a distinctive signature of the gas—phosphine—in the Venusian atmosphere in June 2017 using a ground-based telescope. The observation was later confirmed in March 2019 with another such telescope. The instruments showed a faint reduction in the light at a wavelength only known to be absorbed by the gas, Jane Greaves, an astronomer at Cardiff University, and her colleagues report today in Nature Astronomy. The absorption levels suggest phosphine is present at concentrations of up to 20 parts per billion at altitudes above 53 kilometers, Greaves says.

HEAR TODAY

Kasey Brislane, 13, can hear what others can’t. To the Harwood Heights girl, the world is loud, sometimes too loud, but her hypersensitive hearing is credited with saving the life of her neighbor last winter. She received an award Aug. 30 for her heroism that night.

Brislane’s neighbor, Susi Schubert, 68, was walking outside their apartment building on a dark, freezing January evening when she slipped on black ice and fell, sliding underneath a parked car as she tried to regain balance. She became trapped, her face underneath the tailpipe, her arm broken and legs twisted, all on top of ice. “I’m screaming for anybody, just anybody, help me,” Schubert said. “Kasey heard me and she came running out.”

Brislane said she was watching TV at the
time, and started to notice the faint sound of someone yelling for help. She ran outside when she realized one of her neighbors was in trouble, and found Schubert underneath the car.

Experts at a US zoo are trying to figure out how a 62-year-old ball python laid seven eggs despite not being near a male python for at least two decades. Three of the eggs from the snake in St Louis zoo remain in an incubator, two were used for genetic sampling and snakes in the other two eggs did not survive, the St Louis Post-Dispatch reported. The eggs were laid on 23 July and should hatch in about a month.

Mark Wanner, manager of herpetology at the zoo in Missouri, said it was unusual though not rare for ball pythons to reproduce asexually. The snakes also sometimes store sperm for delayed fertilisation. The genetic sampling will show whether the eggs were reproduced sexually or asexually, called facultative parthenogenesis. The only other ball python in the zoo’s herpetarium is a male aged about 31. The snakes are not on public view.

No one batted an eyelid at the man with a python wrapped around his head. The one in the photo could be 10, 20, maybe even 30. It looks pretty big, but they can get bigger still – depending on the species, of course. I thought this was about face masks. It is, but one particular face covering, spotted in Greater Manchester this week, was a snake.

Snake! Where? On a bus, travelling between Swinton and Manchester city centre.

When a juvenile bald eagle landed on the shores of Lake Superior across from Cascade Lodge and Restaurant in Lutsen Wednesday evening, no one knew the crazy events that would occur the next morning. Cascade Lodge and Restaurant owner Thom McAleer said they noticed the bird Wednesday evening just sitting on the shoreline. He said in the morning, as early as 6 a.m. Thursday, the bird was drawing a lot of attention from people driving by as it was sitting on top of a chiminea-type structure.

“People were stopping their cars and
walking up to it and getting within maybe 50-100 feet of the bird and it was just sitting there,” McAleer said. “It wasn’t moving at all really. It was turning its head but it wasn’t trying to fly away or acting scared so we knew that something was not right with the bird.”

McAleer said he then posted on Facebook asking for recommendations on who to call to get help for the juvenile bald eagle. They were given the contact information to the Raptor Center in St. Paul but while they were waiting for a volunteer to get there, the eagle attacked an unsuspecting woman. “I don’t think she even saw the bird,” McAleer said. “It had kind of moved about 100 feet further down the property and somehow it just latched onto her. It just jumped and grabbed her leg with its talons, and was flapping and flapping.”

IGNobel 2020

The annals of science brim with researchers who pushed the boundaries of sense and good taste in a laudable quest for...
knowledge. With the unveiling of the 30th annual Ig Nobel awards, another case shall be added. To test the validity of a story in a work of ethnographic literature, Metin Eren, an anthropologist at Kent State University in Ohio, made a knife from his frozen faeces. He then set about butchering an animal hide, an endeavour that ended in failure.

“It’s an honour to be recognised,” Eren said, before the ceremony in which he was honoured for his work on Thursday. “I’ve followed the Ig Nobels my entire life. It’s a dream come true. Really.” Not to be mistaken for the more prestigious – and lucrative – Nobel prizes, to be doled out in Scandinavia next month, the Ig Nobels celebrate research that “first makes people laugh, and then makes them think”.

LEGO MY LEG

Sameer Anwar’s parents thought the lost piece of Lego was long gone – until their son took a great big sniff of a plate of cupcakes. A missing piece of Lego has dropped out of a child’s nose two years after he pushed it up. Seven-year-old Sameer Anwar of Dunedin, in the south of New Zealand, inserted a tiny piece of Lego up his nose in 2018. Sameer’s father, Mudassir, and his wife became alarmed when their son told them he had lost a piece of Lego up his nose, and couldn’t find it.

The concerned parents took their son to the GP, who was also unable to find, or remove it. The doctor advised them the piece would move through their son’s digestive tract, if it had even been there in the first place. With Sameer showing no signs of pain or distress, his parents soon forgot about the ordeal. “Since then he’s never complained or anything,” Anwar said, telling the Guardian his son was “quite playful and a mischievous character”.

Anwar believes the piece was part of a Lego character’s arm. Then last night, the “unbelievable” happened, Anwar said. A plate of pink cupcakes prompted his son to lean down and take a great big sniff of them. Immediately, his nose began to hurt. Thinking he’d sniffed up some cake
crumbs, his mother helped him blow his nose, hoping to thoroughly clear his nostrils.

But instead of pink cake crumbs, out dropped a tiny piece of black Lego, covered in fungus.

**STAR WARS**

Taskforce to detect and analyze unidentified aerial phenomena that could ‘potentially pose a threat’ to national security, Pentagon said. The US department of Defense has formed a new body to investigate what it calls “unidentified aerial phenomena” (UAPs) following reported sightings of what most people call UFOs. The move is likely to spark wide interest in alien hunters worldwide looking for signs that humanity is not alone in the universe. Although the dry language of the Pentagon’s announcement of the new group belied its intent as watchers of the sky for potential first contact.

The Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) was created by the deputy defense secretary, David Norquist, on 4 August, strengthening an already existing effort that since 2018 has been under the purview of the Office of Naval Intelligence. “The Department of Defense established the UAPTF to improve its understanding of, and gain insight into, the nature and origins of UAPs. The mission of the task force is to detect, analyze and catalog UAPs that could potentially pose a threat to US national security,” the Pentagon said in a statement.
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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

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Celebrate wildlife on World Wildlife Day don’t shoot it.
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 SIRIUS SATTELITE RADIO (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 founder and 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.

The Phoenix Orchestra
https://gcalvinweston.bandcamp.com/album/the-phoenix-orchestra-dust-and-ash
The Kentish Spires
https://www.facebook.com/TheKentishSpires/
Roz Vitalis
https://www.facebook.com/Roz-Vitalis-
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25 Yard Screamer
https://www.facebook.com/25yardscreamer/
Vetrar Draugurinn
https://www.facebook.com/vetrardraugurinn/
The Bob Lazar Story
https://www.facebook.com/theboblazarstory/
Potter's Daughter
https://www.facebook.com/PottersDaughterBand/
The Far Meadow
https://www.facebook.com/thefarmeadow/
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- Merrell's Music Performed by Various Artists

During this Show Numerous Artists are performing Merrell's Music. Make sure to check out Merrell Fankhauser's You Tube Channel https://www.youtube.com/user/manfrommu

And his Website www.merrellfankhauser.com All Music is Written and Performed by Merrell Fankhauser and aired on You Tube with his Written Permission.... Fankhauser Music Publishing Company - ASCAP

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wiHWtvyd9Ds
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:

- Caravan in session on the John Peel show in August '73, Robert Wyatt and friends live in '74, Steve Miller playing some proto-Hatfield material live in '72, a couple of Lindsay Cooper's Henry Cow compositions played live in Canterbury earlier this year, a slab of cosmicness from Steve Hillage's "Green" album, a Kevin Ayers classic performed by his daughter and a former collaborator, plus another as recorded by the man himself. Also, a gorgeous Max Richter piece, some Can, some Camel and the Grateful Dead getting seriously far out on their 1990 spring tour. From the Canterbury of today, a newish project called Anderida melding their psychedelic jams with the voice of a local poet (with Gilli Smyth resonances).
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.
Regular readers of my inky fingered scribblings, here and elsewhere, will have heard me talk about my old friend, Paul Rose. They will also be aware that, starting in 1993, Paul was the head honcho of the Channel 4 teletext video-games magazine, called Digitiser. Quite a few of Digitiser’s readers, including me and my mate Richard Freeman, had next to no interest in video games, but tuned in daily, just because of Biffo’s ridiculous humour.

Biffo and I became friends about thirteen years ago, and have collaborated on a few things since then. The latest project from Biffo and his adorable wife, Sanja, is a podcast about Marillion. For those of whom are not in the know, Marillion are a long-standing British progressive rock band, and – also for those of you not in the know – my late wife Corinna once went on a date with their drummer, many years before meeting and marrying me.

So, with all these personal and professional links, how could I not add Mr and Mrs Biffo’s new project to the Gonzo Web Radio section in this esteemed magazine?

And you know what, readers? I have done just that!

**Market Square Heroes**

**Season 1, Ep. 1**

*It all starts in 1982, with Marillion’s legendary debut single - Market Square Heroes! Paul and Sanja get stuck into this perennial live favourite, and explore the meaning behind Fish's words... Just what IS a Market Square Hero?*

https://shows.acast.com/between-you-and-me/episodes/episode-1-market-square-heroes
AND LOOK WHAT MACK HAS FOR YOU THIS WEEK

Ghost Islands of the South Pacific
Mack, Juan-Juan, Cobra & Switch talk with editor and literary agent Jim Frenkel about how not to write a book on UFOs. Friend of the show Bob Hetsko reports on a half-mile long UFO videotaped over Colorado’s San Luis Valley. Switch on mysterious islands that appear and then suddenly disappear in the Pacific. Special guest: Ella the Psychic.
1959, she made her Broadway debut in Abelard & Heloise in 1971. She performed the title role in Medea, both in London and New York, for which she won the 1994 Tony Award for Best Actress in a Play. She was made a CBE in 1988 and a Dame in 1994 for services to drama.

Rigg died at her London home on 10 September 2020, at the age of 82. Her daughter, Rachael Stirling, said that the cause of death was cancer which had been diagnosed in March.

Dame Enid Diana Elizabeth Rigg DBE
(1938 – 2020)

Diana Rigg was an English born stage and screen actress. Some of her notable roles were as Emma Peel in the TV series The Avengers (1965–1968); Countess Teresa di Vicenzo, wife of James Bond, in On Her Majesty's Secret Service (1969); and Olenna Tyrell in Game of Thrones (2013–2017).

Rigg had a successful career and life in theatre, making her professional stage debut in 1957 in The Caucasian Chalk Circle, and joining the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1959.

Stéphane Caillat
(1928 – 2020)

Caillat was a French composer and conductor of orchestras and choirs. Caillat
studied music in Lyon and Paris, where he studied harmonics, counterpoints, organ, and conducting. In 1954, he founded the choir named after him, Stéphane Caillat. In 1979, he founded the Centre d'études polyphoniques et chorales de Paris Île-de-France, which he directed for ten years. He was also director of the choir Per cantar e sonar and of the Festival d'art sacré de la Ville de Paris. He also produced music programs for France Musique during the 1980s. He helped with the rediscovery of Baroque music and received the Grand prix du disque from the Académie Charles Cros.

Frederick Nathaniel "Toots" Hibbert, OJ
(1942 – 2020)

Hibbert was a Jamaican singer and songwriter who was the lead vocalist for the reggae and ska band Toots and the Maytals. A reggae pioneer, he performed for six decades and helped establish some of the fundamentals of reggae music. Hibbert's 1968 song "Do the Reggay" is widely credited as the genesis of the genre name reggae. His band's album True Love won a Grammy Award in 2005.

Hibbert, a multi-instrumentalist, formed Toots and the Maytals in 1961. He could play every instrument used in his band and would later cite Otis Redding, Ray Charles, Wilson Pickett, and James Brown as key influences. According to Hibbert, Maytals is a reference to the Rastafari term for "do the right thing". There are also statements attributing the source of the name to Hibbert's hometown of May Pen. The band was originally a trio with Gordon and Mathias, and later added Jackie Jackson and Paul Douglas.
In August 2020, it was reported that Hibbert was in hospital "fighting for his life" in a medically induced coma. On 12 September 2020, a statement on the band's Facebook page announced that he had died, at the age of 77. The Gleaner and Rolling Stone later confirmed the announcement, reporting that Hibbert had died at the University Hospital of the West Indies in Kingston, due to complications from COVID-19. (Pics: Alan Dearling)

Reginald Volney Johnson
(1940 – 2020)

Johnson was an American jazz double-bassist born in Owensboro, Kentucky. After playing trombone with school orchestras and army bands, he switched to double bass, and started working with musicians such as Bill Barron and recording with Archie Shepp in the mid-1960s, before joining Art Blakey's band for a month-long residency at the Five Spot Café in December 1965, and then going on to The Lighthouse nightclub in Hermosa Beach, California, where they recorded the live album, Buttercorn Lady, at the beginning of 1966, with a line-up, comprising Blakey, Frank Mitchell, Chuck Mangione, Keith Jarrett, and Johnson.

He also played and/or recorded with Bill Dixon, Sun Ra, and Burton Greene, Lonnie Liston Smith, Stanley Cowell, Bobby Hutcherson, Harold Land, Blue Mitchell, Walter Bishop Jr., Sonny Rollins, Sonny Stitt, Sarah Vaughan, Carmen McRae, Art Pepper, Kenny Burrell, Clark Terry, The Crusaders, Johnny Coles, and Frank Wess.

Joaquín Carbonell Martí
(1947 – 2020)

Carbonell was a Spanish singer-songwriter, journalist and poet born in Alloza, Teruel, the son of a Republican teacher. He studied in a Salesian institute in Barcelona, but at age 15 he dropped out of school and started working in a hotel. For some years he worked as a waiter and sommelier in various resorts on the Catalan coast in summer, and in his family's oil mill in Alloza in winter; in 1967 he resumed his
Alfred Kasha (1937 – 2020)

Kasha was an American songwriter, whose songs include "The Morning After" from The Poseidon Adventure. Kasha started songwriting and producing at a young age and was hired as a producer at Columbia Records aged 22. He worked at the Brill Building in 1959 alongside writers and artists like Carole King, Neil Sedaka, Barry Mann, Cynthia Weil, Jerry Leiber, Mike Stoller, Burt Bacharach, Hal David, and Neil Diamond. He worked with many great artists such as Aretha Franklin ("Operation Heartbreak" and "Rock-a-Bye Your Baby with a Dixie Melody"), Neil Diamond, Donna Summer ("I'm A Fire"), Charles Aznáyer ("Dance In The Old Fashioned Way"), Bobby Darin ("Irresistible You"), and Jackie Wilson ("I'm Coming On Back To You," "My Empty Arms," "Forever And A Day," "Each Night I Dream Of You," "Lonely Life," and "Sing And Tell The Blues So Long"). Kasha is most noted for...
his years of collaboration with songwriter Joel Hirschhorn. The two wrote and collaborated on many nominated and award-winning songs for many music groups, movies, and musicals. The Peppermint Rainbow's "Will You Be Staying After Sunday" is just one example of the many songs they wrote for groups during their time.

Kasha was married to Ceil Kasha and had a daughter, Dana Kasha-Cohen. He suffered with Parkinson's disease in his latter years. Kasha died on September 14, 2020, at the age of 83.

Anne Stevenson was an American-British poet and writer and recipient of a Lannan Literary Award.

She was the first daughter of Louise Destler Stevenson and philosopher Charles Stevenson and was born in Cambridge, England, where Charles was studying philosophy. The family returned to America when she was six months old, moving to New Haven, Connecticut. She was raised in New England and was educated in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where her father was a professor of philosophy. Her father was a devoted pianist and lover of poetry and her mother wrote fiction and was a talented storyteller. Stevenson learnt piano and cello and she assumed until she

Peter George Starkie

(1948 – 2020)

Starkie was an Australian rock musician. He was the founding guitarist of Skyhooks in 1973 and joined Jo Jo Zep & the Falcons in 1975. He died in 13 September 2020, aged 72, of complications arising from a fall. His younger brother Bob "Bongo" Starkie, replaced him on guitar in Skyhooks.

Anne Stevenson

(1933 – 2020)

Anne Stevenson was an American-British poet and writer and recipient of a Lannan Literary Award.

She was the first daughter of Louise Destler Stevenson and philosopher Charles Stevenson and was born in Cambridge, England, where Charles was studying philosophy. The family returned to America when she was six months old, moving to New Haven, Connecticut. She was raised in New England and was educated in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where her father was a professor of philosophy. Her father was a devoted pianist and lover of poetry and her mother wrote fiction and was a talented storyteller. Stevenson learnt piano and cello and she assumed until she
Stanley Lawrence Crouch
(1945 – 2020)

Crouch was an American poet, music and cultural critic, syndicated columnist, novelist, and biographer. He was known for his jazz criticism and his 2000 novel Don't the Moon Look Lonesome?

Stanley Lawrence Crouch was born in Los Angeles, the son of James and Emma Bea (Ford) Crouch. He was raised by his mother. In Ken Burns’ 2005 television documentary Unforgivable Blackness, Crouch said that his father was a "criminal" and that he once met the boxer Jack Johnson. As a child he was a voracious reader, having read the complete works of Ernest Hemingway, Mark Twain, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and many of the other classics of American literature by the time he finished high school. His

was 19 that she would be a professional musician. She studied music and languages, at the University of Michigan, where she began to lose her hearing; she prepared to be a writer instead. Obtaining her bachelor's degree in 1954 and graduating with honours, she returned to the UK where she lived the rest of her life.

Stevenson was the author of over a dozen volumes of poetry, of some books of essays and literary criticism, of a controversial biography of the American poet Sylvia Plath, Bitter Fame: A Life of Sylvia Plath (1989), and two critical studies of Elizabeth Bishop. Stevenson used a hearing aid; several of her poems (including "Hearing with my Fingers" and "On Going Deaf") refer to her experience of deafness.

Stevenson also wrote the poem "The Miracle of Camp 60". It is a description of the Italian Chapel on the Orkney Island of Lamb Holm in 1992, from the perspective of a fictive Italian ex-POW. 'The miracle of Camp 60' is also used to refer directly to the Chapel in some cases.

Stevenson died from heart failure on 14 September 2020, at the age of 87.
mother told him of the experiences of her youth in east Texas and the black culture of the southern midwest, including the Kansas City jazz scene. He became an enthusiast for jazz in both the aesthetic and historical senses. He graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in Los Angeles in 1963. After high school, he attended junior colleges and became active in the civil rights movement, working for the Student Nonviolent Co-ordinating Committee. He was also involved in artistic and educational projects centered on the African-Americana community of Los Angeles, soon gaining recognition for his poetry. In 1968, he became poet-in-residence at Pitzer College, then taught theatre and literature at Pomona College until 1975. The Watts riots were a pivotal event in his early development as a thinker on racial issues. A quote from the rioting, "Ain't no ambulances for no niggers tonight", was used as a title for a polemical speech that advocated black nationalist ideas, released as a recording in 1969, then for a 1972 collection of his poems.

Crouch became less of a public figure due to declining health during his last decade. He died on September 16, 2020, at Calvary Hospital in New York City. He was 74.

Alien Huang
(traditional Chinese: 黃鴻升; simplified Chinese: 黄鸿升)

(1983 – 2020), also known as Xiao Gui (Little Ghost),

Huang was a Taiwanese singer, actor, television presenter, illustrator and fashion designer.

He was formerly part of Japanese TV Asahi's disbanded boy band HC3 in 2002 and Taiwanese Rock Records' disbanded boy band Cosmo (丸子) in 2003.

Later, as a solo artist, he released several albums and has acted in numerous movies and television dramas. He is known as presenter of a popular Taiwanese variety entertainment show, 100% Entertainment 《娛樂百分百》，which he left in early 2016. He is the founder and designer of AES (Alien Evolution Studio), a clothing brand which he first established in 2008. He has also published three illustration books in which he expresses ideas and emotions through his writing and drawings in a creative and unique way.
known for his 1965 hit, "Shotgun Wedding". Another song, "Impeach the President", which he recorded and produced with a high school group, the Honey Drippers, has had one of the most sampled drum tracks in hip hop music.

Roy Hammond was born in Newington, Georgia. He began singing tenor with The Genies, a vocal group in Long Beach, Long Island, who were later offered a recording contract by record producer Bob Shad. Their first single, "Who's That Knockin'", reached number 72 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart in 1958, with Claude Johnson—later of the duo Don and Juan—on lead vocal. The group then moved to Atlantic Records, with Hammond taking over as lead singer, but their recordings were not released, and he was drafted into the Air Force.

When he returned to New York City in 1965, Hammond organised a studio session to record his own song, "Shotgun Wedding", and released it under the name Roy Hammond on his own Hammond label, before leasing it to the larger Black Hawk Records under the name Roy C. The record, with its novelty ricochet opening and subject matter that was relatively risqué for the time, reached number 14 on the national Billboard R&B chart. It had even greater success when issued in the United Kingdom, reaching number 6 on the UK Singles Chart in 1966 and number 8 when reissued in 1972. His first album, That Shotgun Wedding Man, was released on Ember Records in 1966.

Roy Charles Hammond  
(1939 – 2020)

Hammond, better known as Roy C or Roy "C", was an American southern soul singer, songwriter and record executive, best
The Emotions are an American Grammy Award–winning soul/R&B vocal group from Chicago, Illinois. The group started out in gospel music but transitioned into R&B and disco music. The Emotions were named by VH1 as one of the 18 most influential girl groups of all time. The group was originally a gospel outfit known as the Hutchinson Sunbeams who toured the gospel circuit with their father Joe Hutchinson. The Sunbeams sang on Jerry Van Dyke’s “Children’s Gospel” television show and also occasionally performed in the concert with Mahalia Jackson. They eventually became an R&B/Soul act with a popular following in their hometown of Chicago, Illinois. Soon being renamed as The Emotions, they signed with the Memphis-based Volt imprint of Stax Records in the late 60s.

During 1979, Earth, Wind & Fire collaborated with The Emotions on the single "Boogie Wonderland". The song reached No. 6 and No. 2 on the Billboard Hot 100 and Hot Soul Songs charts. "Boogie Wonderland" has also been certified Gold in the US by the RIAA. Within October of that year the Emotions issued their follow up studio album again produced by White entitled Come into Our World upon Columbia, which rose to no. 35 upon the Billboard Top R&B Albums chart. Jon Wall of Melody Maker wrote "throughout Come into Our World The Emotions' superb vocal control, range and harmonic sense are displayed to maximum effect".

On September 18, 2020, Pamela Hutchinson died at the age of 61.

Pamela Hutchinson  
(1959-2020)

Kerslake was an English musician, best known as the longtime drummer and backing vocalist for the rock band Uriah Heep and for his work with Ozzy Osbourne in the early 1980s. Kerslake first appeared with Uriah Heep on their 1972 album

Lee Kerslake  
(1947 – 2020)
Demons and Wizards and went on to record nine studio records, as well as a live album, with the band before departing in 1978 after the Fallen Angels tour. He also played on David Byron's and Ken Hensley's solo albums, among other efforts during this period. On the Firefly album he was credited as Lee "The Bear" Kerslake, the nickname being a reference to his beard growth and overall solid physical build.

After achieving extreme commercial success with Ozzy Osbourne in the early 1980s, Kerslake rejoined Uriah Heep in time for their Abominog album, regarded as a comeback album for the band by many critics. He would remain with the band until January 2007, appearing on an additional six studio albums, bringing his total contribution to Uriah Heep's output to 17 studio albums, along with several live albums.

In 1980, Kerslake met ex-Black Sabbath vocalist Ozzy Osbourne by chance in an elevator at the Kings Cross Hotel in Australia. "He was in one corner with his bodyguard and his manager, and I was in the other corner with mine. Rather funny". They would soon form the band Blizzard of Ozz with bassist Bob Daisley and guitarist Randy Rhoads, though the band would soon become an Ozzy Osbourne solo project due to a management decision. Kerslake's work can be heard on Osbourne's first two solo albums, Blizzard of Ozz and Diary of a Madman, as well as the 1980 Live EP and parts of the 1987 Tribute live album.
Head was an American singer, best known for his hit record "Treat Her Right". Head was born in Three Rivers, Texas, and achieved fame as a member of a musical group from San Marcos, known as The Traits. The group's sponsor landed their first recording contract in 1958 with TNT Music in San Antonio while they were still in high school. The Traits performed and recorded in the rockabilly, rock and roll and rhythm and blues musical styles from the late 1950s to the mid-1960s. Though landing several regional hits between 1959 and 1963 on both the TNT and Renner Record labels, Head is best known for the 1965 blue-eyed soul international hit, "Treat Her Right", recorded by Roy Head and the Traits. After going solo, Head landed several hits on the country and western charts between 1975 and 1985. During his career of some 50 years, he has performed in several different musical genres and used a somewhat confusing array of record labels, some too small to provide for national marketing and distribution. Roy Head and the Traits held reunions in 2001 and 2007 and were inducted into the Rockabilly Hall of Fame in 2007.

He was active in recording and performing music for more than 50 years. Head died on September 21, 2020.
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

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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-addled 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.

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 Consciennceness | 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 Mermâid Av-
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**

**Bad News | Bad News Live on The Tube + Interview | Interview on Sky 1987 | Bohemian Rhapsody & Wogan Interview | Disc 2: Intro – The Bad News Pledge | The Rock n Roll Creations | Bad News | Drink Till I Die | Vampire Spunk | Merchants From Hell | We Are Bad News | Hey Mr Bassman | Bitch of Love | Warriors of Ghengis Khan | My Generation | Christmas Song | Christmas Song | Twist and Shout | Hey, Hey Bad News | Mama, We’re All Crazy Now**

**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!
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
Flying Hurricane Laura Affected Animals

By Jonathan Plessset

After a two day mission in the air 14 dogs are safe thanks to a team of volunteers from three organizations; Pittsburgh Aviation Animal Rescue Team, Ouachita Parish Animal Shelter – OPAS, The Humane Society of Somerset County one amazing Pilot, and a one Landpilot. Watch and see how these special dogs made a cross country trip from Danger to Safety.

Imagine having to choose between saving yourself and saving your animals. For people who lost everything during Hurricane Laura, that choice was forced
At the End of the Rainbow...

By Jonathan Plesset

It was a long journey from Kentucky to Pittsburgh, but Landpilots Mark and Sue arrived home to a beautiful sign in the sky: a new forever home for this little pup at the end of the rainbow!

She and her 14 friends came all the way from Kentucky to Pittsburgh. Gabe was found as an emaciated stray, weak, with his ear half torn off. Bryce is missing part of his front leg and his elderly owners couldn’t care for him anymore. Mason was found lying in a ditch scared to death after the fourth of July and all the fireworks. Tank was surrendered because he was “too big”. Carlo has been in the shelter since November and has gone through the dog obedience training at the local prison. He has been in the prison program since March and is a great dog.
Forthcoming releases from Rick Wakeman & Friends

Rick Wakeman & Brian May live from STARMUS 2015

Starmus is a festival of music and astronomy on the beautiful island of Tenerife. It is the brainchild of 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
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.
Covid Conversations Intro

*Alan Dearling*

As the UK lurches from Covid policy to policy, the introduction and changing of a plethora of testing/tracking and tracing systems, and ever-evolving local Covid lockdowns, and confusing (and probably confused) restrictions, it is increasingly fascinating to learn what is going on in different parts of the world and even in the four kingdoms of the
I’m writing this while in Todmorden in the Yorkshire Pennines. The use of face coverings in this area is very, very mixed. Many students in particular, are simply not wearing anything on public transport and many older people are wearing ‘something’ – but in many cases they are not covering noses, and in some cases they are sitting around folk’s necks! Others are simply refusing to wear any sort of face coverings citing infringements of personal liberties and/or denying that the Covid pandemic exists.

Likewise, the organising of ‘social distancing’ in pubs and restaurants is incredibly variable, ranging from table service only to full-on bar service with many standing around at bars. Noise levels are indistinguishable from pre-pandemic days, i.e. LOUD! And, ‘track and trace’ records vary from the rigorous enforcement of the entering of personal details in a record book, through to groups of 15 to 20 football supporters (with only one name being taken), sitting virtually on top of each other, and screaming and dancing like modern-day cannibals around the ceremonial TV-set, handily substituting for a big cauldron blazing on a ceremonial fire! “It ain’t going to affect me”, they yell.
Climate Change, Black Lives Matter, Brexit, refugees and vaccinations.

Meanwhile, I have continued to invite friends, acquaintances and work colleagues to share their ‘personal’ Covid stories for publication. In this issue, my old social-work colleague and good mate, Howie Armstrong, shares his recent experiences of travelling from Scotland to Bulgaria, via London.
Travel from the Scottish Borders to Bulgaria in the Covid-19 era

Howie Armstrong

My wife is Bulgarian and hasn’t seen her family there for a couple of years. Because of the pandemic we thought long and hard about whether to travel there or not this year. As flying began to restart it seemed to be a practical possibility so we went ahead and booked flights. Pricing was somewhat weird as it cost my wife about 175 GBP for a month with BA via London. However, I had to pay around 350 just for 10 days!

We drove into the multi-storey car park at Edinburgh Airport to find that it was fairly busy. In the airport itself most folk seemed to be respecting the rules as face masks were worn, however sometimes not properly, e.g. wearing them under the nose or chin, or not wearing them at all when making phone calls. At Heathrow I noticed at least one person not bothering to wear a mask at all (although of course, there could have been a legitimate reason for this).

The flight to London was absolutely rammed – every seat taken. I had naively thought that the airline might have created some social distancing on the aircraft, but
no! Presumably the wearing of face masks is meant to be sufficient to keep everyone safe. Of course masks could not be worn when eating the proffered snack and bottle of water, so some risk must still exist.

The flight from London to Sofia was only half full so that was a bit of a relief. Cabin staff were pretty good on the whole at enforcing the wearing of masks. However, they did have a bit of a problem with a couple of young women who had managed to bring some alcohol on board and kept drinking it even after being told not to. So of course they weren’t wearing masks but were also breaking the alcohol rules as they must have been drinking supplies they had bought at Duty Free. And of course in these Covid-19 days the airline does not sell or supply alcohol on board. So I was somewhat jealous to say the least!!

Car rental at Sofia airport was uneventful, as was the 90-minute drive to Plovdiv, Bulgaria’s second city – and the European city of culture last year – so it has been smartened up quite a bit! We stayed overnight at my daughter-in-law’s, then headed to Kranevo on the Black Sea Coast. This drive took around 5 hours. Kranevo is a seaside town and fairly close to Varna, Bulgaria’s third city, and a University one at that. By the way, the speed limit on much of the motorway system in Bulgaria is 140 kph – around 87 mph.

Many Bulgarians if they can afford it have a summer property. For example in Plovdiv, many will have a second home in the mountains where it is a whole lot cooler than in Plovdiv. In Kranevo we found a hotel for a
couple of nights and visited my step daughter-in-law for lunch on the second day at their summer villa. They have renovated and extended their property, creating a substantial ‘outdoor kitchen’, which is essentially where you spend most of your time in the summer. I remember one outdoor kitchen I visited in the mountains above Plovdiv – here the family had diverted water from a local stream down to the kitchen, where it flowed into a basin to chill wine and Rakia (Bulgarian brandy).

Most Bulgarians who have a plot of land anywhere will grow grapes to make Rakia. This is a national parsitme that the EU tried to outlaw when Bulgaria acceded. However, there was a countrywide revolt at the idea and it was quickly dropped.

So, it is perfectly legal to distil the stuff for domestic consumption. I have tried many samples and I have to say that often it is the home made versions that are far better than the commercial ones. Everyone has their own recipe, often enhanced with herbs for added flavour.

You can see some photos of my step daughter-in-law and husband’s vegetable garden and ‘vineyard’ here:

And the outside kitchen. You can just about see their well and the barbecue area!

In addition to fruit and vegetables they grow a range of grapes for wine and of course Rakia. Rakia is very interesting, not least as it is traditionally drunk ice cold with ‘Shopska’ salad. This is a salad of tomatoes, cucumber, spring onion and feta cheese, sometimes with some red onion and/or green pepper. It is often topped with a single olive on top of a
tables – absolutely no social distancing at all!

Kranevo’s best feature is its brilliant beach:

We then headed back south to the lovely coastal town of Sozopol. Recently they have renovated the old fortress wall and created a walkway along the cliff top. Impressive. This has nice beaches and a very traditional old town.

Kranevo has a very long single main street. As a seaside town it has plenty of restaurants and tourist shops – many essentially just open fronted booths. We didn’t see any mask wearing on the streets or in the small shops, although some folk used them in the supermarket. Similarly, there didn’t seem to be much social distancing in evidence, although there were country wide rules about this apparently. Walking along the main street we saw one crowded restaurant with entertainment where the singer was leading a crowd of people doing the ‘Horo’ – a linked arm dance you do in a circle. They were doing it enthusiastically around a group of

‘volcano’ of shredded feta cheese. The brandy pairs fantastically well with the salad, believe it or not!
We were told by some locals that they wouldn’t go on it if they were paid, as it was built from old scrap components!

On the next page there is a photo of Sozopol’s central beach. This is run by the municipality so the costs of hiring beach loungers and parasols is reasonable at 5 GBP a day for two:

There are always bars and restaurants on most of Bulgaria’s beaches so you don’t need to go far to get a drink and some respite from the sun. September is a good time to visit the Black Sea Coast resorts as it isn’t brutally hot and you often get a nice breeze from the sea.

After five relaxing days in Sozopol we headed back to the city of Plovdiv. We helped my daughter-in-law by driving her to a DIY superstore. You can see from the photos opposite that masks were not always worn properly, and I spotted a couple of folk not wearing them at all. Social distancing in this store seemed to be set at 1.5 metres.

Here’s a photo of a typical small restaurant/bar in a street market in Plovdiv. That evening we went into a newly created trendy part of the city.

This has ancient wooden houses and narrow cobbled streets – very atmospheric.

A new innovation this year was a pirate ship which made regular trips around the bay. Here are a couple of photos of it during the day:

And lit up at night......
called the Kapana (the Trap).

You can see from the photos that the bars and restaurants were clearly trying to maximise revenues by packing tables close together – so again no social distancing and no mask wearing. This area has some impressive and colourful wall graffiti!
Plovdiv has some fascinating ancient Roman remains. Quite a lot was done in the run up to being last year’s European City of Culture to showcase these impressive ruins. Here’s an example. Incidentally, Plovdiv also has a Roman amphitheatre that they still use for opera and pop concerts!

I should give some context here I suppose about travelling in Covid times. Although I had to quarantine for 14 days on my return from Bulgaria, there seems to be little sense in this as the cases per thousand in Bulgaria are half that of the UK. So it seems that our government is embarked on some kind of political campaign trying
to suggest that other countries are worse than us in relation to their Covid-19 rates, hence the need to quarantine.

On arrival at Sofia airport for the return flight we came into the airport via the underground car park, where we had to go to drop off the hire car. My temperature was taken before I was allowed in but my wife (who was staying longer in Bulgaria) was refused entry to the airport – ridiculous, especially as once I went in I could see that there was easy entry and exit via the main entrance. It looks like we just were unlucky to meet an officious security guard.

You have to complete an online government quarantine form before travelling back to the UK, and divulge a whole lot of personal details together with where you are going to be for the 14-day quarantine period. The airline sent this link to me well in advance, and as a law abiding citizen I completed it. Only to find out when I tried to submit it that you can’t do that until 48 hours before your flight! Infuriatingly, although the system said it had saved my details I had to enter them twice more before being able to submit. And – when you get to immigration in the UK they then ask you to find the damn details again on your phone and show it to them.

A final ignominy of air travel in the Covid-19 era is the paucity of flights – I had a 5-hour layover in London waiting for a flight to Edinburgh!
Here are some photos of Peebles in the Scottish Borders from before my travels. I suppose they indicate how relatively law abiding we are here, with masks worn in
all the shops and often in the street as well. Indeed, I have often spotted cars with only the driver who for some bizarre reason was wearing a mask!

On my return to Peebles I was fortunate. As I am able to work at home, quarantine was not as much of a disaster as it could be for others, particularly if it was imposed while you were actually abroad. However, it is a real pain as you are not meant to leave your place of residence at all and need to arrange to get groceries delivered etc.

Overall, I am glad I did make the effort to go abroad. It was great to get some decent weather and participate in the outdoor café and restaurant culture for a while. So I think that travel is still eminently possible these days if a bit more hassle than previously.

oooOOOOOooo
PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR A FACE COVERING WHEN ENTERING THE SHOP
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
As the Cut Beetlez are a DJ/Production duo it was clear these guys would need some vocal talent to grace the album and looking back over their previous releases it was clear that those guest would be in the form of some heavy hitters in the game. So, it will come as no surprise that What Beetlez? Features the kind of guest appearances that will have most of you dribbling into your corn flakes, check this line up: The Good People, El Da Sensei (Artifacts), Guilty Simpson, Rah Digga, J-Live, Oxygen, Reks and Soundsci. Also featured and UK emcees Truck and Retna. If you are not hooked by now, do you really know your hip hop?

So, let’s not delay this any longer as the album is 15 tracks deep and after several years in production, can you really wait…

There is no messing about as the kicks off, following a short scratch-intro, with Sucka Duck featuring The Good People. Banging head nod straight out the gate with those dope beatz, dope rhymes and dope cutz, and there is no denying this is how you do it, get the people moving from the get go and turntable wizardry here is a treat to the ears. There is no letting up here as the pounding beat funky horn drops you into Rolling with Guilty featuring Guilty Simpson who schools you to exactly what it is to be and roll with the man himself, mix in this some classic Beetlez cutz and you are well and truly now in the Beetlez-verse. Time to make it funky, yep more funk than a dead skunk, with React as Rah Digga steps up the mic and delivers line after line of realness that leaves those in the crosshairs with their feelings hurt. Time for a little bit of Cut Beetlez turntable magic on the

It was back in 2014 that Finnish DJ/Production Duo Cut Beetlez dropped their debut privately pressed 7” EP High Jump. A few years later and thanks to the legendary figure of Oxygen, the duo would land a deal with Bristol based AE Productions and they drop the instant classic 12” single Droppin’ Needles in August of 2017.

Since that time the guys have worked behind the scenes to craft this album, while releasing other projects alongside artists such as The Good People (Cut People EP 2019), A.F.R.O (Overflow singles 2020) and Nice Guys (CBNG LP 2020).
human beatbox tip with Fat Beetlez and it’s all about cuttin’ up some of that Fat Boys beatbox dopeness.

Time to rock out with El Da Sensei on El Number 1 and no time like the present to jazz things up a little whilst keeping it head nod hip hop. El Da Sensei expertly displays why he is number 1 in this rap game. Good To You see’s The Good People return for their second appearance on an upbeat track that retains a jazzy vibe. This one has the potential to get you tapping your feet in time to that feel good vibe from the Cut Beetlez and The Good People’s lyrical painting of everything that makes you feel positive, just what you need in these crazy times. If you thought rock n roll and hip hop don’t go, think again as the Beetlez drop a funky rock style vibe for Now Rockin’ which has J-Live lying down some slick vocal lines that do one thing, keep ya rockin’ till the Cut Beetlez drop their scratch section at which point you’ll be diggin’ out the invisible Sp1200’s…

This is the point, if you have a vinyl or cassette version, you’ll be fillin’ it to side two. If you have the digital version, you can ignore what I just said and let it roll on into MF Beetlez for some more turntable fun n games that tellz you exactly what Cut Beetlez are all about.

Next we have the return of The Good People on Never Negative, with the Cut Beetlez bringing a pounding beat and some jazzy vibe running throughout, The Good People bring a deep message about not being drawn into the negativity you see all around you. It’s all about flippin’ the perspective and looking on the bad times with more optimism and not to let it bring ya down. Keeping that positive vibe flowing is The Piano Song a jazzy, funked up vibe of a track to keep ya head on tha nod and with a little appearance from your host Oxygen, this is one for the jazz club, nice. Jump Outta Speakers see’s the second appearance from El Da Sensei on a jazz heavy track that is everything you want. El Da Sensei drops the kinda lyrical bombs that put you in mind of street parties and Graffiti covered subway trains while the Cut Beetlez keep energy so high it literally does jump outta the speakers.

Bars was originally released as a digital only single back on 1st January and features Reks on the mic. A piano heavy banging track full of frantic cutz, this might be a short but, the impact is no less heavy as Reks drops the bars hard and heavy, after all it is all about the bars. Time to take it funky on that upbeat tip as we have the final appearance of The Good People on Good Matafakas, a proper jazz funk vibe on the track that is all about
those good matafakas all over the world, and yep thats you included. This album would not be complete if Droppin’ Needles wasn’t included and here is the original cut of the track. A thumping beat with various guitars looped all through creating a unique sound that shows exactly what the Cut Beetlez are all about, featuring super group Soundsci crafting a verbal vision of the one thing hip hop has at its heart, the Vinyl Record. The final track on the album is the title track What Beetlez and features Truck and Retna on this horn heavy banger with some slick cuts and turntable trickery. Truck and Retna bring two slick verses with two different mind-bending themes which leaves you with one thought as the track ends, damn What Beetlez? Man, it’s the Cut Beetlez…

You can see why this album took time to create. Everything about it screams Hip Hop in its purest form. At it’s birth Hip Hop was a DJ and Emcee and here the Cut Beetlez are the DJ element and they have brought in a legendary line up of some of emcees at the top of their game. What this does is to bring alive that core, that root of what is Hip Hop. For those of us that grew up with the Hip Hop sound, this is everything we love about it in one place and for those younger generations who were not there, this is about as good a foundation sounding album as you can get in the current climate.

Years ago we marvelled at Hip Hop records that had big beats that got you moving, featuring the freshest emcees who had the skills to spit def lines or create the most amazing visions from their story telling and it was all polished off by the DJ’s skills on the One’s and Two’s mixing or cutting up bringing new life from old records. But, in the digital age where sampling is easy and kids can make a track and even have a set of digital turntables on their phone, the Cut Beetlez have captured the true essence of what we call Hip Hop music and crafted it for a new generation while staying true to its roots. Their production and DJ skills are second to none and, what is also a huge credit here, is the choice of emcees. Bringing instantly recognisable names from both sides of the pond shows a mutual respect between the artists and a
Huge thanks to the Cut Beetlez and Mr Fantastic @ AE Productions.

On that note, I’ll leave you to the Beetlez, What Beetlez? The Cut Beetlez of course...

Peace Out,

Steve

LINKS (all links open in a new window)


Buy from the AE Webstore here: https://www.ae-productions.co.uk/shop

Cut Beetlez on Bandcamp here: https://cutbeetlez.bandcamp.com/

Cut Beetlez on Spotify: https://open.spotify.com/artist/75uudNEPFGwcY2Q2Xe9ffH

Cut Beetlez Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/cutbeetlez/

Cut Beetlez on Soundcloud: https://soundcloud.com/the-cut-beetle

As always with a release like this, it is a complete package and I just want to shout all those behind the scenes as well as giving you the complete lowdown on who did What?:

Production is by the Cut Beetlez with beats by HP Lovescratch and cuts by DJ J-Man & HP Lovescratch. The Album mixing and mastering is by the legendary Rola. The cover photo is courtesy of Cut Beetlez with the back cover photo by Jyri Keronen. The Cut Beetlez Haircuts by Voxyhair Joensuu


desire to put together good music that spans the ages and borders from cities to cities, coast to coast and country to country.

Something else this album says to me is this, Hip Hop is alive and well and lives in the hearts and souls of DJs, emcees, producers, engineers, artists, and listeners all across the world. It truly is one culture to unite a one like-minded people who do not see borders that separate us but, one thing that unites us all...

As always with a release like this, it is a complete package and I just want to shout all those behind the scenes as well as giving you the complete lowdown on who did What?:

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Indie Ladies: Fiona Apple and Auburn’s Liz Lenton

Two recent albums from strong female voices, in review by Alan Dearling

alan dearling
Fiona Apple: Fetch the Bolt Cutters (FTBC)

Angry, Strong, Powerful and Confrontational. She’s perhaps ‘flavour of the year or decade’ in some relatively avant-garde quarters, but actually she’s been around the musical fringes for years. Much lauded in her home country, the United States of America. But, mostly far too ‘edgy’ for the music of family entertainment, or, the polite dining room:

“Kick me under the table, all you want I won’t shut up!”

There’s much word-play in this album as well as venom and certain triumphal grandeur. Depression and down-time can be a source of lightness and love. Perhaps.

From ‘Cosmonauts’:

“Make light of all the heavier ‘Cause you and I will be like a couple of cosmonauts Except with way more gravity than when we started off Oh, you and I will be like a couple of cosmonauts Except with way more gravity than when we started off”

Her words are accompanied by much resonance, the sounds of syncopated ‘found-
sounds’, metal clanging, drum beats and bells. Many of the songs could almost be chanted by a chain-gang or a squad on an Army parade ground. It’s sonically an oddball cacophony. Mesmeric, adventurous and frequently unsettling.

She hasn’t softened her approach much on ‘FTBC’, her fifth album in 24 years of music-making. We learn from Wikipedia:

“The Idler Wheel Is Wiser Than the Driver of the Screw and Whipping Cords Will Serve You More Than Ropes Will Ever Do’, Apple’s fourth studio album, was released on June 19, 2012, in the United States. According to an article in ‘American Songwriter’, ‘The Idler Wheel isn’t always pretty, but it pulses with life, brutal and true’.” I really cannot better that as a description of ‘FTBC’ which snarls and spits often, mostly representing life at a staccato pace, but it has a somewhat mellower side too…and some self-deprecating humour too. It’s musical syncopation. Sometimes a cacophony, sometimes ethereal.

Here’s a link to the title track: ‘Fetch the Bolt Cutters’, dog-howls, Tibetan singing bowls and all:

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

Fiona Apple’s worlds and words are challenging and unapologetic. She has a unique sound. Looking through her back catalogue, I remember that I first heard her in duets with Johnny Cash, near the end of his life. Their voices were incongruous, an unlikely pairing, but the pairing works on both Cat Stevens’ early song, ‘Father and Son’ and Paul Simon’s ‘Bridge over Troubled Water’. When Fiona joins Johnny on verse two it’s hard not to shed a tear for the Old Outlaw at the twilight of his life.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcaOLPi6CWk

And here is Fiona Apple’s much-watched, world-weary and slightly scary version of ‘Across the Universe’. Surreal images, and well worth a view. This song featured in the film, ‘Pleasantville’:
I think this is probably the sixth album from Auburn. It’s full of the rich textures, fine playing and the genuine sounds of Nashville. It’s Americana, yet something of an anachronism, since singer Liz Lenten actually lives and works from ‘down home’ Lincolnshire, describing herself as, “A mongrel – descending from several places in Eastern Europe”. In the UK, Auburn have toured with the likes of Live Dead 69, Jefferson Starship and in early 2020, the Flying Burritos’ Allstars.

The publicity blurb tells us, “As with Auburn’s previous releases, the band’s new album was recorded once again in Nashville. Says Liz, ‘Nashville is one of the most wonderful cities on earth to me – buzzing with music and creativity’.”

From the first guitar sounds, courtesy of producer Thomm Jutz on the opener, ‘Game of Faith’, this is a class act. Warm, rich, slightly kitsch and fashioned from
older country musical timbres. Liz’s voice is a bit of an acquired taste, quirky, sultry, slightly husky in a cigarette-imbued way. It can sometimes sound a bit like she’s been using a strong bourbon mouthwash for breakfast in her trailer park home!

It’s an album whose tracks are populated by many ‘characters’ who spill over from the songs into the strategy-based card game that accompanies the album through a download. I was privileged to receive the box complete with the deck of cards, dice, playing pieces and a fold-out playing board. These include the ‘one night-stand’, ‘the believer’ and ‘the broken-hearted drunk’. All characters we meet in Liz Lenton’s songs, featuring many well-worn and well-known archetypes from the bars, bedrooms, brawls and halls of American Country Music.

If you know the songs of Mary Gauthier, there are some echoes that you’ll find familiar, especially in the croaky, slightly squeaky, often spoken vocals. These are tales of life’s hard knocks and how we cope, or, don’t. For instance in “I Drank”, Liz tells us:

“I guess I drank too much last night, just like I did the night before, BUT, it’s better than being sober...I keep on waking up in stranger’s arms, again...better than being sober...”

Overall, this a pretty laid-back affair, mostly a smooth cocktail, a cool mix of lounge jazz, country and blues. ‘Prosecco-fuelled Profiles’ is pretty fair example:


The musicians featured on ‘Game of Faith’ are:

Liz Lenton – vocals; Thomm Jutz – producer/guitars (Nanci Griffiths, Mary Gauthier, Mac Wise); Mark Fain – bass (Ry Cooder, Ricky Skaggs); Lynn Williams – drums (Delbert McClinton, Lee Roy Parnell, The Wallflowers) and Britt Savage – harmony vocals (Garth Brooks, Crystal Gayle).
Expect the Unexpected!

‘An excursion to a strangely familiar place that you have never previously dreamed 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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Horrible Alzheimer’s Ó Tony Klinger 2020

Horrible Alzheimer’s disease could there be anything more cruel or arbitrary than this illness that robs us of our loved ones and leaves us with their shadows? This is an intensely personal article and a plea from the heart on behalf of us all.

I am not a medical expert, so I won’t write an article
with any pretense to knowledge I don’t possess, but I have seen the results of Alzheimer’s on two occasions. The first time I witnessed this especially insidious illness the victim was my lovely Nana Bertha. This big, jolly lady who dispensed her love via her sweet smile and her big balls of East European food, in the form of knadels or meat or lockshen was slowly diminished to a husk as her brain became a useless empty shell.

Then her daughter, my very special Aunty Renee, suffered the same fate. I watched from a concerned distance as my Aunty was stolen from us inch by terrible inch. I didn’t see her as much as I should because I was unsure of how to deal with her; I was also diminished by her illness. I still loved her dearly, but my Aunty Renee was not “there” any longer. When I looked into her eyes and she returned the stare, still with love, but unsure who I am, and usually wrong when she ventured a guess. For my more last visits she thought I was my nephew, Daryl. I didn’t try and argue with or question her; my instinct was just to go along with our small deceit if it made her happy. I wondered who she thought Daryl is when he saw her, but there was no point in correcting her as she now had a memory like a goldfish trapped in a bowl. Our family just wanted her to be happy as her world steadily contracted to her small room.

Compared to the fate of my aunt and grandmother the sudden death of my father from a heart attack was a blessed relief. Of course, at the time we were hugely shocked, and grief stricken when a loved one was yanked from us by their sudden demise. The lingering nature of Alzheimer’s is intensely draining and lengthy. It makes the people in the families who care for the victims of Alzheimer’s wonder if they can continue to be strong and determined enough for the entire length of this terrible and unrewarding journey ending in the death of their loved ones.

I watched my mother and her family try to cope with my grandmother’s illness and love it was crushingly hard for them. Then I see the same thing happen to my cousin Sharon as she fought every inch of the way to deal with her mother’s slow drift to the end. This was made more poignant by the fact that my cousin is a health professional who understands exactly what was happening and is savvy about the system and dealt with it expertly. It was still hard for her almost beyond bearing; so how much worse is it for those less eloquent or able? Another route for some is to spend the money necessary to provide the necessary care but there are very few people with the financial muscle to furnish the essential 24-hour a day caring resource.

My reason for choosing to write this article was the revelation by the British TV news anchor, John Suchet, that his wife, Bonnie, was another victim of Alzheimer’s. She has been a victim for more than three years and as he bravely faced the questions on TV he made the point that in the entire UK there are only 60 nurses trained to help deal specifically with this awful disease. That equates to 60 trained people battling an illness that 700,000 people in this country are presently suffering from!

I was appalled when I heard these statistics, which by any measure remains a national disgrace that shames us all. There is still an urgent and pressing need for help to be given to the families of all those suffering from this dreaded and silent killer and robber of personalities.

All of you who form our government, you must listen because one day this will affect someone in your family, or a friend or a loved one, and none of can ignore this desperate need. This is not just a job for families or charity; this is a function of a caring society. We are told that the new Government can and will find such resources and it is long past time that our country delivers this care as a first step toward giving Social Care the same priority as the National Health Service...
MORE MASTERPIECES from RICK WAKEMAN

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- **LIVE AT THE WINTERLAND THEATRE 1975**: Live in San Francisco
- **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA**: Double CD + DVD
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- **BEYOND THE PLANETS**: With Jeff Wayne and Kevin Peck

Available from rickwakemansmusicemporium.com and all other good music retailers.
‘Sisyphus’ was completed, we should record a David Bowie tribute record before preparing for live shows or recording the next Ten Jinn record, ‘Worlds (the Four Worlds of the Hopi)’. While I was very excited about the prospect of playing live again and getting on to ‘Worlds’ (I even completed the first draft of the score) I felt very strongly about taking this detour in order to pay my respects to an artist, who was probably the single most important influence in my development as a musician in general and vocalist in particular.”

I can’t be the only person who never expected an album like this from Ten Jinn. Since their second album, 1999’s ‘As On A Darkling Plain’, they have cemented a reputation as one of the most interesting progressive rock bands around, so a Bowie tribute album isn’t exactly what one would expect. There haven’t been many progressive bands who have recorded whole albums of covers (Dream Theater of course taking it to the extreme by re-recording complete albums, often very well indeed), let alone of music that is so far away from what one would expect.

What I also found interesting was the track selection, as while of course there are many hits, there are also many missing which one
Lucid Dream festival - and then officially released in September. It was put together from albums already released by the label, and features everything from 'Head Music', most of 'Shrunken Head Music', plus tracks from 'Roqueting Through Space' and more (including the 22 minute version of 'China' by The Bevis Frond, from the Sideways LP). As one expects from FDM, what we have here is a wonderful selection of covers, produced by bands who have a real affinity with the music. So there are songs by Can, Neu!, Ash Ra Tempel, Kraftwerk, Faust, Tangerine Dream and many more. They are all treated with care and respect, and it is just wonderful hearing these songs being brought into the present day.

One of the real stand outs has to be “Dead Man Walking”, which originally featured on the 1997 album ‘Earthling’. While much focus will be on the wonderful acoustic guitars, funky percussion or superb vocals, what really makes this such an essential song is the wonderful fretless bass which adds so much class, warmth and emotion to it. Strauss’s vocals throughout are exemplary, and the whole band sound as if they have been performing Bowie songs their whole lives, such is the skill and joy they bring to this collection. This is a must for any lover of Bowie, as rarely is his material treated with such care.

The highlight for me, without doubt, is “Mantra II” by Zenith: Unto The Stars. The original was by Popol Vuh, and I have it on their 1978 album ‘Nosferatu’. The lead melody is delicate, and quite a contrast to the swirling backdrop, which combine with some Gregorian style vocals. At least it is like that on the original. But this has now been brought up to date with strong electronic background and drone, which provides warmth, then wonderfully plucked guitar to give the melody. To my ears there is far more depth and presence to this new version than the original, and I can only hope that these guys produce a full album of their own material in the near future. Other bands of particular note are Johnny Vimes, who come across as if Atomic Rooster never went away as they blast through Jane’s “Waterfall” and The Bevis Frond, whose 20-minute “China” is superb. Now, according to the FDM website this album is already sold out, but any lovers of krautrock need to keep their eyes open as it is an invaluable collection of great songs performed by real fans.

Disc One
1. Introduction (Joachim Ehrig) Eroc
2. Waterfall (Jane - Nadonly, Hess, Krantz, Panka) Johnny Vines
3. Lila Engel (Neu! - Anteile, Dinger, Rother) Palace of Swords
4. Rückstoß Gondoliere (Kraftwerk - Schneider, Esleben) Dead Sea Apes
5. Dino (Harmonia - Rother)
Disc Three

1. Brainticket (Brainticket - Muir, Kolbe, Vandroogenbroeck, Bryer) Astralasia
2. Starship Memory (Ax Genrich) Ax Genrich and Sunhair
3. China (Electric Sandwich - Ohlert, Lormann, Fabian) The Bevis Frond -track 1 taken from ‘Postcards From The Deep’, track 2 taken from ‘The 14th Dream of Dr. Sardonicus’ festival promo CD 10, track 3 taken from the ‘Sideways’ LP

Disc Two

1. Surrounded By The Stars (new mix) (Amon Duul II - Karrer, Rogner) Jay Tausig
2. Madrigal Meridian (Tangerine Dream - Froese, Jolliffe, Franke) Electric Moon
3. Silver Cloud (La Dusseldorf - Dinger) Frobisher Neck Heads South By Weaving
4. Lied An Zons (Arno Clauss - Clauss) Electric Orange
5. Rubycon Part 1 (Tangerine Dream - Froese/Franke/Baumann) Black Tempest
6. J`Ai Mal aux Dents (Faust - Irmler) Vespero
7. To Another Universe (Brainticket - Vandroogenbroek/Muriel/Palm) Frobisher Neck
8. Mother Sky (new mix) (Can - The Can) Vibavoid
9. Black Sand (new mix) (Brainticket - Vandroogenbroeck, Bryer) - Cranium Pre's Research Baking Station
10. Hallogallo (Neu! - Dinger, Rother) Helicon
11. Isi (Neu! - Dinger, Rother) Frobisher Neck

DORO
STRONG AND PROUD
NUCLEAR BLAST RECORDS

2016 saw Doro release a triple DVD set celebrating three decades in the industry
I am pretty sure that this is the correct title, and that it is a double disc set, but it was sent to me to download as two separate albums, with different but related covers, with one called 'Forever Warriors' and other 'Forever United'. It is now 35 years since her live debut, which is one reason why this has been released as a special set, and while I have 19 songs apparently there are another 6 available as a bonus. As it is, this is already pretty special, in no small part because she has brought in former Warlock guitarist Tommy Bolan, who also contributed to the highly acclaimed album 'Triumph And Agony' in 1987. On “If I Can’t Have You, No One Will” she duets with Amon Amarth bellower Johan Hegg, and I think it is quite safe to say that at points he was well outside his comfort zone! Songs such as “All For Metal” are going to be new anthems, while “Bastardos” shows that she has lost none of her venom. It is apparent quite quickly that this is quite possibly the strongest set she has released since the very early Warlock days, as the passion and hunger is back while the vitality and presence of her live performances has been captured in the studio. There is a cover, on here, and one that does need calling out as it is quite superb. That cover is a slightly speeded-up “Don’t Break My Heart Again”,

What is interesting in some ways is that she also included some cover versions, and then also brought in singers to assist. So we have Blaze Bayley duetting on “Fear of the Dark”, and Udo snarling his way through the classic “Balls To The Wall”. Say what you like about Doro, she has been the queen of German metal for a long time now, and she had the crowds in the palm of her hand. They are singing with her, chanting, and when she kicks off “Raise Your Fist” the place explodes. She still has all the power, her band are allowed to turn up to 11, and although they are a mighty force she is always in control. This is her band, her music, and here she is definitely very much in her environment. I still have the boxed set she released in 2003, and although her studio albums may not always capture the fire and passion, when she is on stage she royalty, and knows it. Superb.

DORO
FOREVER WARRIORS, FOREVER UNITED
NUCLEAR BLAST RECORDS

I am pretty sure that this is the correct title, and that it is a double disc set, but it was sent to me to download as two separate albums, with different but related covers, with one called ‘Forever Warriors’ and other ‘Forever United’. It is now 35 years since her live debut, which is one reason why this has been released as a special set, and while I have 19 songs apparently there are another 6 available as a bonus. As it is, this is already pretty special, in no small part because she has brought in former Warlock guitarist Tommy Bolan, who also contributed to the highly acclaimed album ‘Triumph And Agony’ in 1987. On “If I Can’t Have You, No One Will” she duets with Amon Amarth bellower Johan Hegg, and I think it is quite safe to say that at points he was well outside his comfort zone!
and she has taken the mantle from Coverdale as Doro has brought her voice to bear and this song is now very much hers. Fans of Doro are going to flock to this (I note it hit #4 on the German charts), while this will also bring in those who have no inkling of what she has been doing for so many years. Here is yet another metalhead who is refusing to rest on her laurels and instead is releasing some of the finest music of her career. Superb.

AARON BROOKS
HOMUNCULUS
GENTLE ART OF MUSIC

Aaron Brooks really made his name as songwriter of the acclaimed American psychedelic rock band Simeon Soul Charger, but he actually started as a singer-songwriter and here he returns to those roots following the demise of the band. He has been off the scene for two years, but has returned with an album that is both beautiful and, in many ways, simplistic. It is the style of singer-songwriter that one heard in the late Sixties when it didn’t matter what was being thrown into the mix, and in an ideal world “Everybody Knows” would be being hailed as a long-lost psychedelic rock classic and sat firmly at the top of the charts.

He has a great voice, and interestingly he mixes the psychedelic feel with nuances of Muse here and there, but in a far less bombastic fashion. Sometimes it is just him and piano, others a rock group, all with plenty of hooks and pop stylings. When I first saw the album I wasn’t really sure what to expect, but it certainly wasn’t an album as engaging and so damn interesting from the very first listen. I soon found myself singing some of the songs around the house, much to everyone’s dismay, as once they get into the brain they stay there. According to Wikipedia, a Homunculus is a representation of a small human being, and was popularized in sixteenth-century alchemy and nineteenth-century fiction: it has historically referred to the creation of a miniature, fully formed human. Is this how Aaron sees himself? If the music is anything to go by then the rest of us will be viewing him as a giant, as this is one of the finest psychedelic art rock progressive singer-songwriter albums I have ever had the pleasure to hear, what a delight from start to end.

THE FIVE HUNDRED
BLEED RED
LONG BRANCH RECORDS

The debut full-length album from British metalcore outfit The Five Hundred is certainly gaining a great deal of positive attention. There is something about their downtuned eight-string guitars that is causing intelligent critics to lose all rhyme and reason and have been giving this rave reviews. Okay, so metalcore isn’t my favourite sub-genre of the scene, but even I
can appreciate it when the band is doing a good job, but for me this lacks ideas and substance, with a singer who seems to feel that jumping between singing and shouting has great dynamic effect and impact. There are times when they slow it down and become somewhat emotional, strings being picked as opposed to being slammed, while at others they are much more like a demented Meshuggah. But, and it is a massive “but”, it all rather feels that it is more about style than actual musical ideas, and that when all else fails then simple aggression will get you through.

Really bass heavy, there isn’t enough light within this darkness to provide the relief and contrast which is required, and I was actually pleased when the album came to an end as I enjoyed listening to the silence more than I had to the actual album itself. Not one to which I will soon be returning.

Kev is a self confessed music addict who has been toiling in the rock and roll vineyard for many years, and Gonzo are chuffed to bits to be publishing his
THE COMPLETE GOSPELS

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.
Double CD 1, The Original Gospels - with Robert Powell as the Narrator.
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DVD / CD of The Gospels performed live in California – never seen before.
Reproduction A4 x 12 page concert program.

The Rainbow Suite

This is a brand new orchestral piece written and performed by Rick Wakeman and the Onion Orchestra. This is a specially written piece of therapeutic music designed for people with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder to enjoy as well aficionados of good quality instrumental music.
This is Rick and Orchestra at their finest !!!

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EVERYONE KNOWS SOMETHING ABOUT EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE IS FLINGING INSULTS ABOUT

Piers Corbyn, the conspiracy-minded older brother of ex-Labour leader Jeremy, was arrested last weekend for organising an illegal gathering, breaching regulation 5b of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020. The gathering in question was a rally held in Trafalgar Square on Saturday August 29. The event was to protest against the continuing restrictions due to Covid-19. A similar event was taking place in Berlin at about the same time.

There is a £10,000 on-the-spot fine for breaching the regulations. Corbyn says he will refuse to pay. He is raising funds on the Crowd Justice site in order to challenge the penalty.

You may wonder why, of all the organisers, it was Piers Corbyn who was singled out for arrest. Is it too conspiratorial to suggest that it might be because of his kinship with his accidentally high-profile younger brother, himself the target of a sustained media assault over recent years? Piers says that he was told the orders had come down from “on high” and that he was interviewed by an officer from the Met’s counterterrorism command.

Up to 10,000 people turned up to hear a variety of speakers as they made the case for resisting the restrictions. The crowd was a disparate bunch: from out-and-out conspiracy theorists who believe that Covid-19 is a hoax, to anti-vaxxers and anti-maskers, to QAnon supporters, to civil-rights protesters, to 5G conspiracists. Some were on the left, many were on the right. There were supporters of Julian Assange among them, as well as Brexiteers. A British Union of Fascists flag was unfurled, though for how long and by whom is not clear. It was the first time that the flag has been seen in public since the organisation was proscribed in the late 1930s.

The star of the show was conspiracy savant David Icke, who made a spirited speech lampooning official pronouncements on the virus. He was, as ever, gloriously entertaining… or bat-shit crazy, depending on your point of view.

He ended his speech with a prolonged roar. “Freedom!” he cried — like that, with his fist pumping the air — until his voice was...
on. No-one is laughing at him any more. It’s as if he has finally buried the ghost of public humiliation that has haunted him ever since his disastrous appearance on Wogan all those years ago.

I won’t go into all his theories. They range from the just plain ridiculous to the reasonably insane, although a number of them do make a certain amount of sense. His central theory, as it applies to Covid-19, is that there is a millennia-old conspiracy by a secret cabal of Satan-worshipping bloodlines to bring about a one-world government — referred to as “the new world order” — and that the disease, and the political reaction to it, have been engineered to set the ball rolling towards this final end.

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"Stone writes with intelligence, wit and sensitivity."

Times Literary Supplement

"Wry, acute, and sometimes hellishly entertaining essays in squalor and rebellion."

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"The best guide to the Underground since Charon ferried dead souls across the Styx."

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The Last of the Hippies:
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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.

Help Us Save
Elephants
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.
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
The wind is hot, from the east, as night descends.
       Her leaves shiver, restless.
All over her she feels the little sparks of life moving-
many small voices echoing in the twilight.
       Her roots twitch, deep beneath the earth.

Soon.

Grains of sand, carried by the wind, trickle down her branches.
       She sways, reaching toward the east.
The voices are quieter now, the little creatures falling asleep.
       But the Tree can still hear a few-
different voices, dissonant, full of change.
She reaches out to them as clouds roll in,
       obscuring the stars.

Soon.
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 Daedal 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!!"

!DO NOT TRUST SILENCE!
Silence is a language ,too
Speaks with a forked tongue

MEDITATORS KNOW
not to focus on objects
Just the Emptiness.

MORE DIE ON THE WAY
than ever reach Everest
Journey is The Path.

FLASH FROZEN CREATURES
Awakened!Global Warming!
UNFREEZE THE MAMMOTHS!

RATS HELP SPREAD THE PLAGUE
Cockroaches survive all wars
Small is Beautiful!

VILLAGE LEVEL FOLK
like fleas underneath your boots
Bring Down Empires!
”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
COUNTRY AIRS
“Music from both the mind and heart...”
There are nine Henrys, purported to be the world’s first cloned cartoon character. They live in a strange lo-fi domestic surrealist world peopled by talking rock buns and elephants on wobbly stilts. They mooch around in their minimalist universe suffering from an existential crisis with some genetically modified humour thrown in. I think Peter McAdam is one of the funniest people around, and I cannot recommend his book The Nine Henrys highly enough. Check it out at Amazon. Each issue we shall be running a series of Henrybits that are not found in his book about the nine cloned cartoon characters who inhabit a surreal world nearly as insane as mine...
Gregg Kofi Brown has transcended many genres of music...

Rock 'n' Roll and UFOs is an anthology of music from Gregg Kofi Brown's career and contains previous unreleased songs, remixes and demos, with many guest musicians and artists such as Sting guitarist Dominic Miller, Bomb da Bass, Osibisa, the cast of the Who's Tommy, The Chimes' Pauline Henry, the Who's former keyboard guru John Rabbit Bundrick and Seal guitarist Gus Isidore.

The CD is a companion to Gregg Kofi Brown's autobiography of the same name which covers his early career in Los Angeles and London. From his first pro tour with Joe Cocker and Eric Burdon to close encounters of a third kind in a California desert and his adventures touring the world with African rock pioneers Osibisa. His journey includes starring in hit west end productions in London, recording and touring with infamous rock bands like Hanoi Rocks and the Members.

His first tour in Gambia and Senegal West Africa supporting African superstar Youssou N'Dour is well documented, as is his work in the African and West Indian music scene in the UK.

The last few years has seen Kofi perform with Damon Alban's African Express and collaborate live with Amadou & Mariam featuring Beth Orton.

CD and book available soon from Gonzo Multimedia
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/
I was doing the daily trawl through the Google news alerts for big cats the other morning, went totally by accident (showing how unfit for purpose some algorithms can be) I discovered that Cat Stevens/Yusuf Islam today released a radical reimagining of his 1970 album Tea for the Tillerman. Now, I don’t usually like it when artists do this, it may be unfair but it always comes over to me as if they have run out of ideas.

But I listened to it, and boy how wrong I was.

Some of the songs are so massively reimagined that they are practically different songs, and even the ones that are relatively unchanged still have a new poignancy after being sung by an old man rather than a young one. It is too early to tell whether I actually like it, but I think I do, and I would recommend anybody who has Spotify to check it out. If you do, let me know what you think.

Luv on ya

jon
Gonzo are offering limited edition twin CD sets from our vaults. Each includes two full CDs at a bargain price, so why not treat yourself to a musical treat (or two) today?

Legendary Gigs Vol 1+2
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

Arthur Brown
Captain Beefheart
Gregg Kofi Brown
Man
Michael Bruce
Sun Ra
Albert Lee
The Selecter
Art Pepper
Atomic Rooster
Billy Cobham
Hookfoot
Al Atkins
The Beach Boys
Pete Seeger

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

All titles are available at: www.burningshed.com
Weekly magazine: www.gonzoweekly.com