

#579/80

# GONZO

Weeklyish

A black and white photograph of a man with a bowl cut, wearing a light-colored shirt and a dark tie, sitting in a room filled with vintage electronic equipment. He is looking towards the camera. The equipment includes various racks of modules, some with knobs and switches, and a computer monitor on the left. The background shows more racks and a window with curtains.

**THEIR DIGITAL  
MAJESTIES REQUEST**

ISSN 2516-1946





**Gonzo Facebook Group**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/287744711294595/>

**Gonzo Weekly on Twitter**

<https://twitter.com/gonzoweekly>

**Gonzo Multimedia (UK)**

<http://www.gonzomultimedia.co.uk/>

## LEST WE FORGET



John Brodie Good



Dave McMann



Mick Farren



Corinna Downes



Doug Harr



Tim Rundall



Phil Bayliss

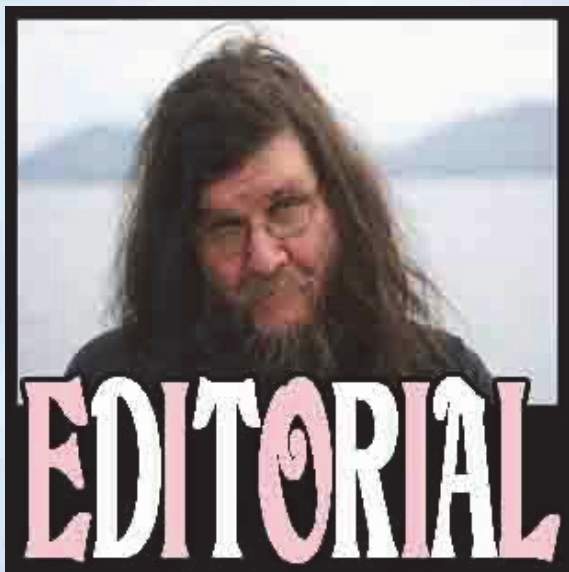


# THE THREE COMMANDMENTS OF GONZO WEEKLY:

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 peripatetically peculiar publication (as you have probably noticed, I always enjoy indulging in alliteration wherever I can, mostly because I am childish about such things).

This week I have been thinking about

the subject of Artificial Intelligence. It is very much a buzzword in these troubling times, and everybody from the lowliest culture warrior up to His Majesty's Chancellor of the Exchequer has been burbling on about the subject for what seems like months. Most recently, the aforementioned Chancellor, Jeremy Hunt, who has a mildly unfortunate piece of faux cockney rhyming slang derived from his name, has announced his intention (in the Government's Autumn Statement) of investing five hundred million pounds to fund more innovation centres to make the UK "an AI power house". What the blinkin' flip that actually means is anyone's guess, and I strongly suspect that- like most things politicians say - it doesn't actually mean anything.

I have a sneaking suspicion that Mr Hunt has just decided to utilise one of the contemporary buzzwords and shove it into an ever more increasingly complicated mish-mash of financial



# GULLIBLE'S TRAVELS



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# I am not quite sure what Artificial Intelligence can and cannot do.

terms that nobody really understands.

Well, it was always thus.

I am not quite sure what Artificial Intelligence can and cannot do. Even I have used it. I used an AI thingy-mebob in order to take out background noise from two pieces of footage which were filmed by the CFZ expedition team in Tajikistan back in the summer, and I have been using AI image generators to produce front covers of

this magazine for the recent issues. But how much more can it do?

The much touted “final single” by the Beatles, which is quite probably nothing of the sort, was touted in advance with claims that it was utilising AI technology. In effect, this was mostly the fact that they utilised a piece of software invented by, or at the behest of, Peter Jackson, which was first used to great effect in cleaning up the





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original 1969 footage of the Beatles in Twickenham Studios and later in the apple basement, for the triumphant Get Back movie. It certainly managed to get rid of the crappy background noise in John Lennon's original demo, but despite the gloomy prognostications of the world's press was not used to change the timbre or phrasing of Lennon's vocal. In effect, it was basically a version of the piece of software I used to get rid of the wind buffet in the Tajikistan footage, but with more bells & whistles.

But I have been listening, once again, to the recent Rolling Stones album, which dropped a fair number of hints that it was going to be the final offering for what Bob Dylan called the "British bad boys". In particular, I was listening to a song called *Live by the Sword* which was the final record upon which their drummer, the late Charlie Watts, played.

Rather poignantly, their long-term bass player, Bill Wyman, who left the band 30 years ago, came back to play bass guitar on this song, making a brief reunion of the classic late 1970s lineup of the band.

However, despite the fact that guitarist Mick Taylor, who was with the band from 1969 to 1974, and who is my favourite rock guitarist of all times, returned to play with the band on their 50th anniversary tour ten years ago or so. The band missed the opportunity to have him play on this brief re-union track.

Although Elton John guested with the band on this and one other track, playing piano in a remarkably similar style to that of Ian Stewart who was the original piano player, and despite being sacked because his face didn't fit, continued to play with them until his death in 1985. There were two people notably absent from this otherwise magnificent album.

We have already explained that Mick Taylor was not part of the proceedings, but neither was his predecessor Brian Jones. This was for the obvious reason that he had died at the bottom of a swimming pool in Sussex in the early summer of 1969. Between the band's inception in 1962 and Mick Taylor's departure 12 years later, one of the most important things about the Rolling Stones was that they'd always had one virtuoso guitarist, who, in the case of Brian Jones, was actually a virtuoso on many different albums.

"He was a cat who could play any instrument," said Keith Richards.

And all the way through the mid 1960s Brian Jones played slide guitar, sitar, recorder, organ, dulcimer, mellotron, saxophone and marimba amongst other things imbuing the otherwise monolithic sound of the Rolling Stones with a rich and varied palate of sounds.

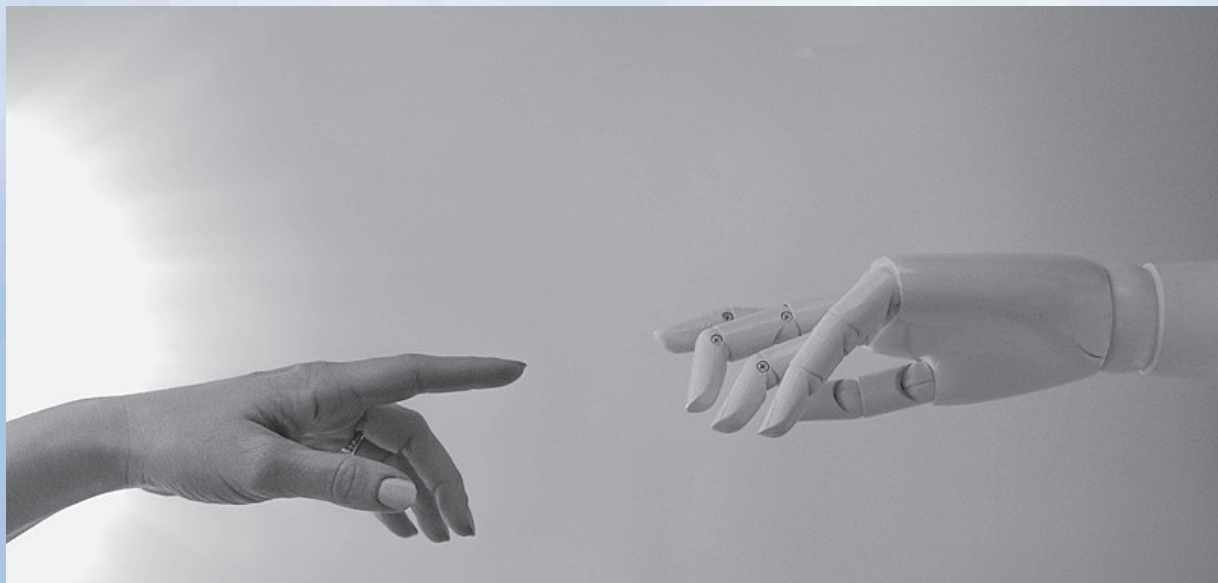
He was replaced by the aforementioned Mick Taylor who was (and is) an amazing virtuoso player. But when he resigned he was replaced

اللجنة لهم إذا كانوا لا تأخذ نكتة











by Ronnie Wood, who was a better player than me, but was no threat to the reputations of his two predecessors. Despite the fact that he joined in 1975, he is still usually thought of as the "new boy". And in my humble opinion it was then that the Rolling Stones stopped being a revolutionary and innovative band, and became a massively popular live attraction rather than being as artistically valid as they had been.

But what about *Some Girls*? I hear you ask. The highspot of that album was *Miss You* which brought a taste of disco to the band, which was great, but most of the rest of the album, was forgettable.

As far as the new album is concerned, I like it a lot, but both Mick Taylor and Brian Jones are significant by their absence.

Mick Taylor could have appeared but didn't for whatever reason we shall probably never know.

But wouldn't it be lovely if somehow one could feed some of the essence of Brian Jones' radical talent into an AI sound generator so that his wild talent could once again add perspective, colour and danger to the output of the "Greatest Rock and Roll band in the world".

And there would be no reason to keep this digital sound generator away from swimming pools that originally belonged to Christopher Robin's dad at the House at Pooh Corner.

See you in a couple of week's time.

Hare Bol



#### IT'S A LEGAL MATTER BABY

A lot of the time the pictures that we include in this publication are unique to Gonzo Weekly, and used with the photographer's permission. However, this magazine is free, and at least at the moment only available online, and so in our opinion we are covered by a recent decision by the European Courts of Justice.

Websites can link to freely available content without the permission of the copyright holder, the European Court of Justice says. The court's decision came after a dispute in Sweden between journalists and a web company that had posted links on its site to online news articles.

A Swedish court had asked the EU court to consider whether this broke copyright law.

Some of the pictures in this magazine are hotlinked to other websites where they are freely available. It is our opinion that we are covered by this ruling. So there!

Of course if someone objects to our using their material we will be good fellows and take it down, unless (and this is a big unless) we feel that it is not in the public interest to comply.

But normally we shall not stand on ceremony. If you want to read more about this decision go to:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-26187730>



# Dramatis Personae



**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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Editor: *Gonzo Weekly* magazine  
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# *So what's it all about, Alfie?*

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

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

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

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

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

So this is what I have been doing for much of my life. I am also naive enough to think that music and art *can* change the world, and as the world is in desperate need of change, I am gonna do my best to help.

Now is an even better time than usual to subscribe because, not only is it FREE (yes, Oxford English Dictionary free, not yer usual publisher free which means that we sell all the mailing list emails that we garner to a company trying to flog Viagra and/or Double Glazing).

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



# THE <sup>gonzo</sup> NEWSROOM

Because we no longer do the daily Gonzo blogs, we are making changes to the news pages here in the magazine. For over a decade, we have been subscribed to Google News alerts for each of the Gonzo artist, and have we posted interesting pieces of news on the blog. Now, there is no blog, so we will be re-posting them



**CAPTAIN BEEFHEART**

Watch wild footage of Captain Beefheart playing in 1969 - Far Out Magazine  
<https://faroutmagazine.co.uk/wild-footage-captain-beefheart-in-1969/>

Captain Beefheart was a genius, and he honed his craft while playing with Frank Zappa when he was young, who collaborated with him throughout his ...

The chaotic artistic creations of Captain Beefheart - Far Out Magazine  
<https://faroutmagazine.co.uk/the-chaotic-artistic-creations-of-captain-beefheart/>

Even for resident musical oddity Frank Zappa, Captain Beefheart's relentless need to create was irritating. On the 1975 Bongo Fury tour, Beefheart ...

Kate Bush discusses the outsider star no punk groups could compare to: "He's the original"  
<https://faroutmagazine.co.uk/kate-bush-discusses-the-outsider-star-no-punk-groups-could-compare-to-hes-the-original/>

Adored by John Lydon and revered by Kate Bush, the impact that Captain Beefheart had on the music that came after him and Trout Mask Replica was ...



# The Gospel According to *BART*

Look what Bart, my favourite roving reporter, sent me this week:

...one of my earliest stories for 'Gospel according to Bart' continues on ... Bart in America □

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2023/11/21/russia-arrests-pussy-riot-co-founder-tolokonnikova-in-absentia-a83171>

Russia Arrests Pussy Riot Co-Founder Tolokonnikova in Absentia

A Moscow court has ordered the arrest of leading Pussy Riot member Nadya Tolokonnikova in absentia, the state-run RIA Novosti news agency reported on Tuesday.

Tolokonnikova, 34, the feminist protest and performance art group's co-founder, was charged with insulting the religious feelings of believers, RIA Novosti said, without providing further details.

The activist, who currently resides outside Russia, faces a two-month arrest upon crossing the Russian border or extradition back to Russia, Interfax said, citing the court.

The criminal probe into Tolokonnikova was reportedly prompted by a social media post in which she allegedly expressed "clear disrespect for society" and showed actions that had been "committed in order to insult the religious feelings of believers," the RBC business daily said last year.



FRANK ZAPPA

Frank Zappa's Over-Nite Sensation 50th Anniversary Edition - Yahoo

<https://www.yahoo.com/entertainment/may-lauded-genius-without-team-164539028.html>

"He may be lauded by some as a genius, but without this team's heavy lifting, these pieces might fail": Frank Zappa's Over-Nite Sensation 50th ...

The band Frank Zappa labelled



"Capitalism is the extraordinary belief that the nastiest of men for the nastiest of motives will somehow work for the benefit of all."

John Maynard Keynes

"distasteful" - Far Out Magazine  
Far Out  
<https://faroutmagazine.co.uk/the-band-frank-zappa-labelled-distasteful/>

Frank Zappa was never far away from a wry comment, but here he labels one of America's best as "distasteful"

When Eric Burdon called Frank Zappa the "Adolf Hitler of rock" - Far Out Magazine  
<https://faroutmagazine.co.uk/when-eric-burdon-called-frank-zappa-the-adolf-hitler-of-rock/>

Eric Victor Burdon, the English songwriter and lead vocalist of the R&B and rock band The Animals, took serious issues with rock god Frank Zappa.

YES  
'Fragile': How Yes Broke The Mould With Their Fourth Album - Dig!

<https://www.thisisdig.com/feature/fragile-yes-album/>

Teaming up with singer Jon Anderson, guitarist Steve Howe, bassist Chris Squire and drummer Bill Bruford, Wakeman brought his aptitude for everything ...

"The Yes Album": Skillful remix proves why the band is prog rock's reigning master  
Salon.com

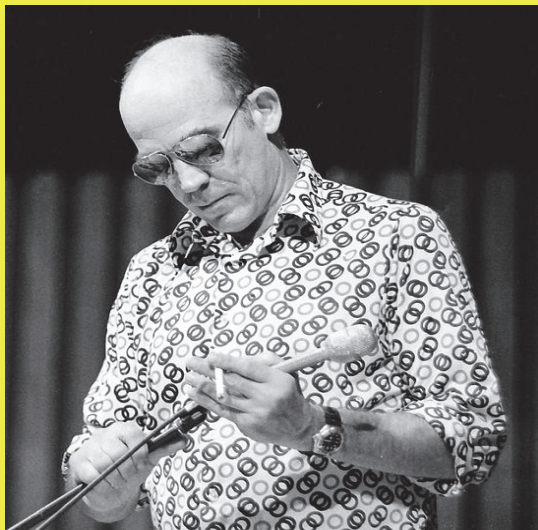
<https://www.salon.com/2023/11/24/the-yes-album-skillful-remix-proves-why-the-band-is-prog-rocks-reigning-master/>

One of the key ingredients in their good fortune was producer Eddy Offord.

Advertisement: Related. Yes co-founder Jon Anderson: "I wouldn't be here ...

Albums Of The Week: Yes | The Yes Album Super Deluxe Edition - Tinnitist  
<https://tinnitist.com/2023/11/24/albums-of-the-week-yes-the-yes-album-super->





## 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:

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

**"In San Francisco - life goes on. Hope rises and dreams flicker and die. Love plans for tomorrow and loneliness thinks of yesterday. Life is beautiful and living is pain. The sound of music floats down a dark street. A young girl looks out a window and wishes she were married. A drunk sleeps under a bridge. It is tomorrow."**

Hunter S. Thompson

deluxe-edition/

Initially released in the U.K. on February 19, 1971, by vocalist Jon Anderson, bassist Chris Squire, Kaye, drummer Bill Bruford and Howe, The Yes ...



GONG

**Review: Gong/Ozric Tentacles, O2 Academy - Bristol 247**  
<https://www.bristol247.com/culture/music/review-gong-ozric-tentacles-o2-academy/>

Of all his many left-field musical projects, fronting Gong is the role Kavus Torabi was clearly born to play, as recognised by the late Daavid Allen.

RICK WAKEMAN

**Rick Wakeman on the Keith Emerson collaboration that never happened - Louder Sound**

<https://www.loudersound.com/features/rick-wakeman-keith-emerson-collaboration>

To mark the release of the late Keith Emerson's Variations box set, Rick Wakeman fondly looks back on his





# ROCKIN' THE CITY OF ANGELS

**I**N THIS LAVISHLY ILLUSTRATED celebration of classic and progressive rock bands of the 1970s, author Doug Harr shares his vivid memories of the mind-altering rock spectacles he witnessed in his hometown of Los Angeles—the City of Angels—at the genesis of a new art form. Get a front-row seat at three-dozen spectacular concerts and the albums that spawned them. Revisit these legendary records and concerts along with reviews of the best video documents of the era, each band illuminated by a hand-picked collection of brilliant images—most never-before seen—by the era's best rock photographers. This 396-page hardcover book features over 600 images. Foreword by Armando Gallo.

AVAILABLE NOW!

Amazon.com and [GonzoMultimedia.co.uk](http://GonzoMultimedia.co.uk)

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KING CRIMSON RUSH  
YES GENTLE GIANT  
JETHRO TULL CAMEL  
PINK FLOYD THE WHO  
QUEEN DAVID BOWIE  
KANSAS  
ZAPPA  
EMERSON  
LAKE & PALMER  
LED ZEPPELIN E.L.O.  
ROLLING STONES  
JOHN DIXIE DREGS  
TYX HEART WINGS P.F.M.  
HAPPY THE MAN KATE BUSH  
& MORE!





*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 Summari, Lisa Tanner, Brian Weiner, Neil Zlowzower and more!



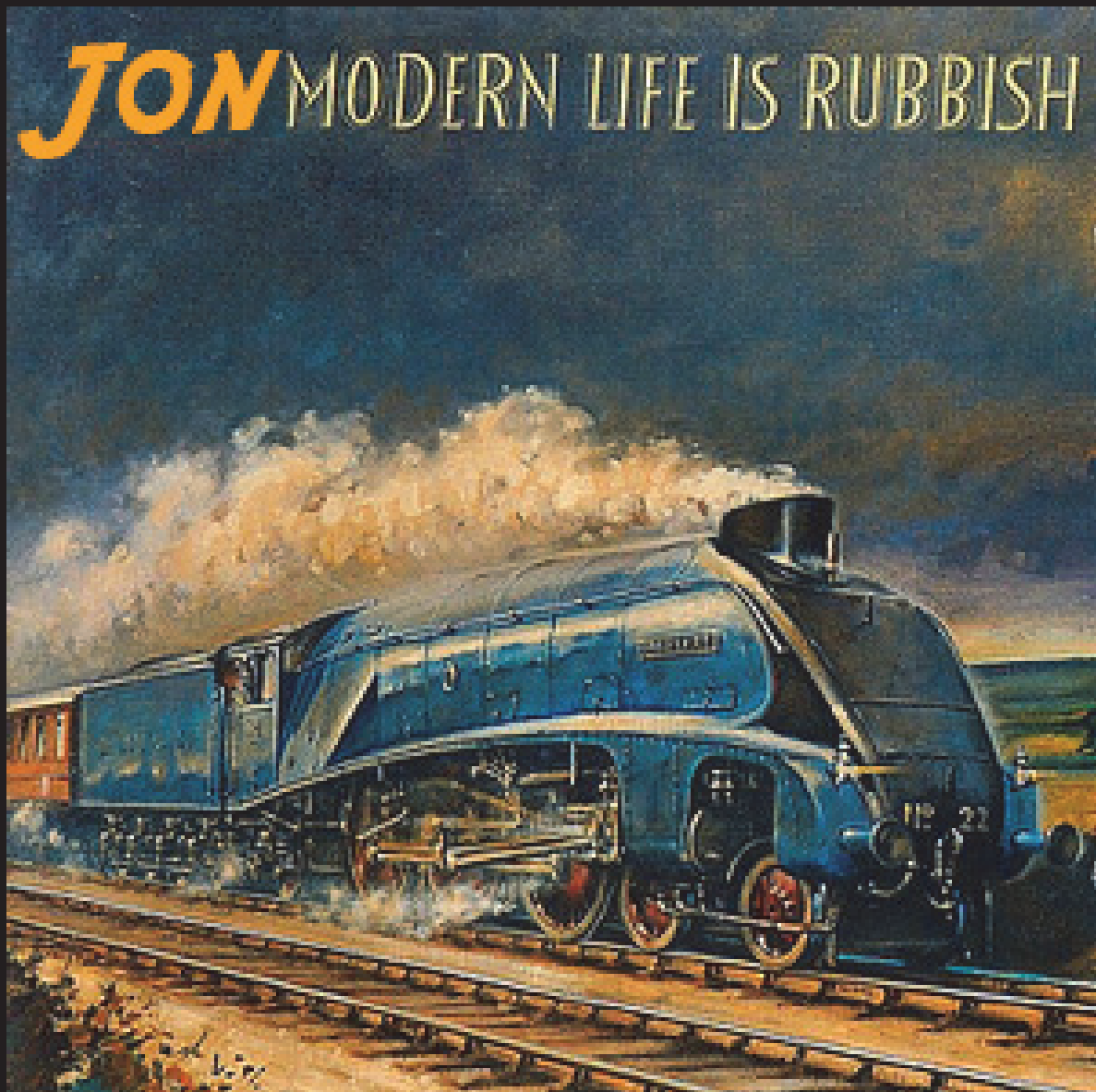
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It is very difficult to be a journalist in these times with the story that is on everybody's lips changing so rapidly. Each day I am receiving stories from all around the world; some from people I know, others from total strangers. This is undoubtedly the worst global crisis to happen in my lifetime, and I am 63 this year, and I wrote a few years ago that I thought that Covid was "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".

But then came a vicious war in Eastern Europe and the threat of Armageddon, and whilst all this shit is going down things all around us are going tits up.

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](mailto:jon@eclipse.co.uk) if you want to contribute.



# MORE MASTERPIECES from RICK WAKEMAN



## TWO SIDES OF YES

Double CD set. The very  
best of Yes, Wakeman style

HFG2013CD



## THE STAGE COLLECTION

Recorded live in August  
1993 in Buenos Aires

HFG2004CD



## TIME MACHINE

Guest vocalists include John  
Parr, Tracey Ackerman,  
Ashley Holt, and Roy Wood

HFG2012CD



## GASTANK

Double DVD set. Rick's  
classic 1982 music  
and chat show

HFG2022DVD



## GOLÉ!

Soundtrack album  
featuring Tony Fernandez  
and Jackie McAuley

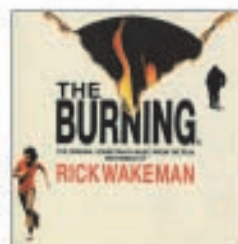
BC241-60



## COUNTRY AIRS

The original recording,  
with two new tracks

HFG2014CD



## THE BURNING

The original Soundtrack  
album, back in print at last!

HFG2024CD



## LURE OF THE WILD

With Adam Wakeman.  
Entirely instrumental

HFG2003CD



## STARMUS

With Brian May and  
The English Rock  
Ensemble. DVD

HFG2010DVD



## MYTHS AND LEGENDS

Double CD set. The  
expanded 2016 version

HFG2016CD



## LIVE AT THE WINTERLAND THEATRE 1975

Live in San Francisco

HFG2015CD



## THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

Double CD + DVD

HFG2005CD



## CAN YOU HEAR ME?

Featuring The English  
Chamber Choir

HFG2005



## CRIMES OF PASSION

A wicked and erotic  
soundtrack!

HFG2018CD



## BEYOND THE PLANETS

With Jeff Wayne and  
Kevin Peek

HFG2009CD



WAKEMAN'S MUSIC EMPORIUM

Available from [rickwakemansmusicemporium.com](http://rickwakemansmusicemporium.com)  
and all other good music retailers











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**

## Two types of people visit rhino in the wild

The strong and courageous  
take a camera

The weak and cowardly  
take a gun

**What sort of  
person are you?**

Celebrate wildlife on  
World Wildlife Day  
don't shoot it.

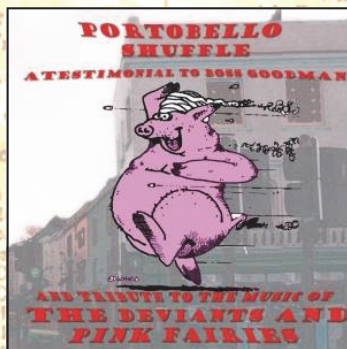






# I'M ON BOARD!

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



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](mailto:arsydeedee@yahoo.co.uk)



**Butterfly Conservation**

Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

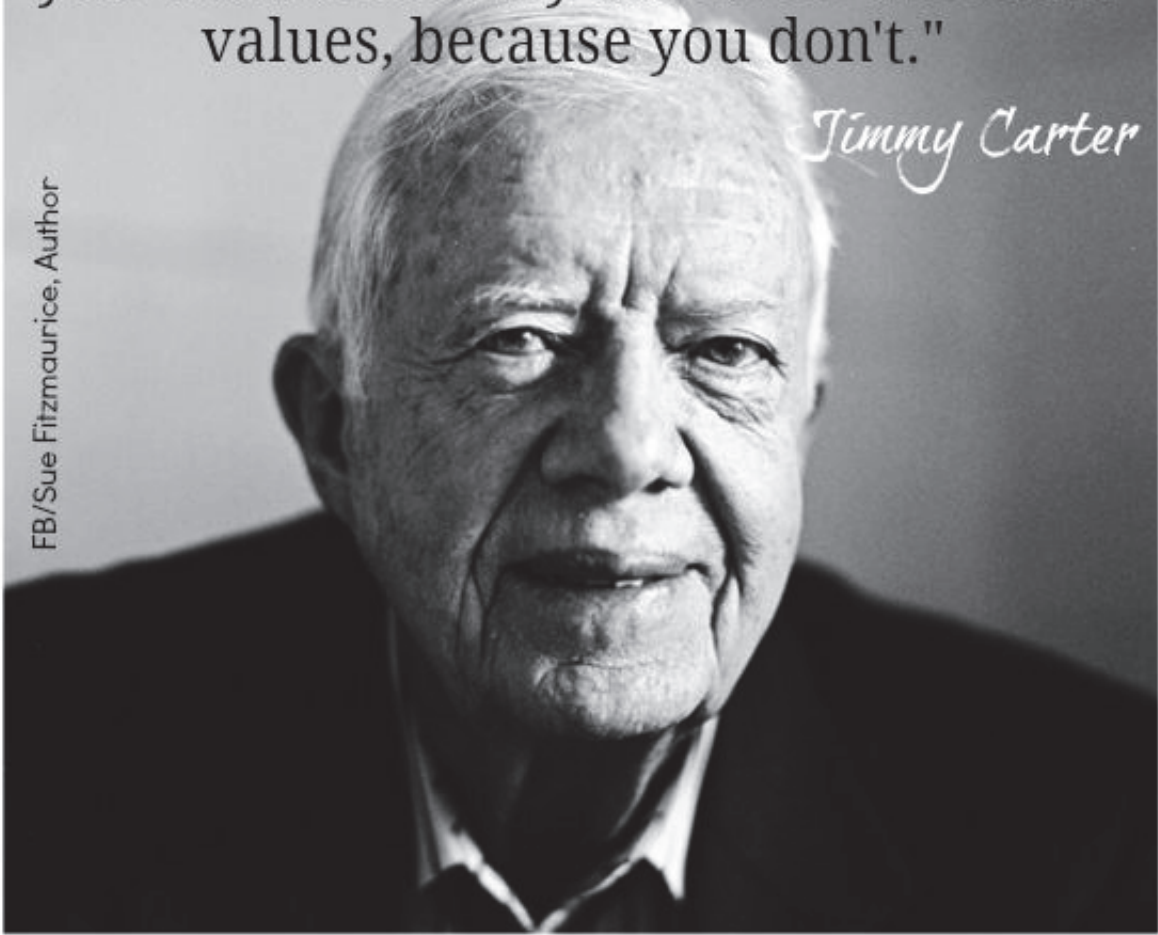




"If you don't want your tax dollars to help the poor, then stop saying you want a country based on Christian values, because you don't."

*Jimmy Carter*

FB/Sue Fitzmaurice, Author



Trying to pick my favorite politician is like trying to decide which STD is just right for me.



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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.

<https://www.mixcloud.com/jonathan-downes3/12-12-2021-show-440-renaissance-scheherazade-x/>

#### 12-12-2021 – SHOW 440 – Renaissance: Scheherazade

Vapors of Morphine:	Drop out Mambo
Bubble Tea and Cigarettes:	Liz
Jonathan Richman:	Whoa, How Different we Are
Renaissance:	Ocean Gypsy
A Fine Place:	It's Your House
Ger Eaton:	Hollow
Jordana and TV Girl	The Party's Not Over
The Melvins:	Sway
Peter Lawson:	The Dead Bird
Stephen Christie feat. Joseph Malik:	Justify Me (north west take 1 rerub)
Black Marble:	Royal Walls
Stealing Sheep and the Radiophonic Workshop:	The Fight
Maya Shenfield:	Body Electric
La Luz:	Watching Cartoons
Bärchen und die Milchbubis:	'Ich will nicht älter werden' ('I do not want to get older')
Robbin Kapsalis and and Vintage #18:	Fever
Martha Tilston:	Come Alive
Jon Hopkins:	Music for Psychedelic Therapy
Renaissance:	Song of Scheherazade
Irreversible Entanglements:	Keys to Creation (Radio Edit)
Sinn Sisamouth and Mao Sareth:	The Night is Soft
David Crosby:	I'd Swear There was Somebody Here

**Listen  
Here**





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 honoured space.

<https://www.mixcloud.com/ronald-marquiss/fnp-523-producer-12-16-2022/>



The Bedlam Furnaces

Tinyhawk and Bizzarro

Twisted Mind

Atlas Empire

GRICE

In The Labyrinth

Custard Flux

Pryzme

Joost Van Der Graaf

ONLY

Listen  
Here

*Friday Night Progressive*





## 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](http://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=wiHWtvvd9Ds>

**Listen  
Here**





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.

**Listen  
Here**



# BETWEEN YOU & ME



## Marillion from Fish to h

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!

### **Happiness Is The Road - Part 2**

**Ep. 103**

<https://shows.acast.com/between-you-and-me/episodes/happiness-is-the-road-part-2>

**In this episode, we finally begin to delve into Volume One of Marillion's *Happiness Is The Road*, discussing the album's conception, its creation, and the first two tracks - *Dreamy Street* and *This Train Is My Life*.**

**Could this be Marillion's most underrated album?**

**Listen  
Here**





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."



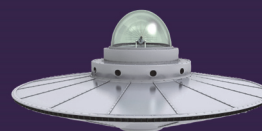
PHOTO BY SMITHMAXFIELD.COM

## AND LOOK WHAT MACK HAS FOR YOU THIS WEEK

### The Non-Christmas Christmas Show 23/12/2022

<https://tunein.com/podcasts/Mack-Maloney's-Military-X-Files-p1250977/?topicId=230247035>

In a fan favourite re-boot, the gang talks to Dr. Bruce Solheim about his relative's involvement with Hitler's despised secret police. Author Matthew Roberts on his new paranormal-themed book, "Initiated." Army war vet & paranormal podcast host Jessie Kwasney on his unusual combat experiences in Iraq. Also, Top Ten Weird Warships, a discussion on why the British Navy would name one of its ships, the HMS Pansy, and what U.S. military service has the worst food. Special guest: Empath Valerie...  
Duration:01:52:58



**Listen  
Here**



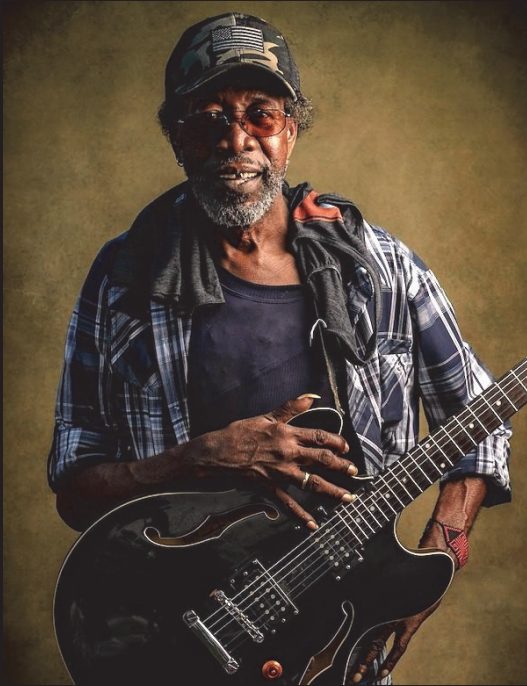


Every effort has been made to ensure that pictures used for the obituaries and every other article in the magazine are copyright free or we own the copyright ourselves. However, following in the footsteps of the jolly nice people at Wikipedia, there are occasions in which illustrations which are presumably copyrighted, are used as identification purposes only and as they are already widely distributed across the internet, usually as album covers, we think that we are justified in using them. If, however, you believe you are the copyright holder of any images in this magazine, please do not hesitate to contact the editor at [cfzjon@gmail.com](mailto:cfzjon@gmail.com).

# THOSE WE HAVE LOST

## COLLATED BY HARRY WADHAM





R.L. Boyce  
1955 - 2023

Robert L. Boyce was an American blues singer, songwriter, and guitarist. Boyce began his career in the early 1960s playing drums for his uncle. His debut album, *Ain't the Man's Alright*, was released in 2013. His second album release, *Roll and Tumble*, was released on September 8, 2017. In February 2023, he was named as one of nine National Heritage Fellowships by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Boyce died in Como, Mississippi, on November 9, 2023, at the age of 68, following a diagnosis of lung cancer.



Junko Ohashi  
大橋 純子  
1950 - 2023

Junko Ohashi was a Japanese singer best known for her songs "Silhouette Romance" (1981) and "Tasogare My Love" (1978). She was mainly successful between the late 1970s and early 1980s. Her discography consisted of more than 20 albums. After a brief hiatus battling esophageal and breast cancer, she returned to music in 2019 before dying from her esophageal cancer, which had returned in 2023.

THOSE WE HAVE LOST

COLLATED BY HARRY WADHAM





Kan Kimura

木村 和

1962 - 2023

Kan Kimura, known by his stage name Kan (commonly stylized as KAN), was a Japanese singer-songwriter. In 1983, he joined his first band, Annette, before going solo in 1984. Kan wrote the background music for a 1986 film, and started his major recording career the following year. He is best known for the chart-topping hit "Ai wa Katsu", released as a single in 1990. Subsequently, he spawned five top-ten singles and four top-ten albums on the Japanese record chart during the first half of the 1990s. Kan died of Meckel's diverticulum cancer on November 12, 2023, at the age of 61.



Mohammed al Amin

محمد الأمين

1943 - 2023

Mohammed al Amin, sometimes spelled Mohamed Elamin or El Amin, was a Sudanese popular musician noted for his personal style of singing, his playing of the oud, and his often outspoken lyrics. Subjected to political repression by Sudanese governments, he took exile in Cairo in 1989 and only returned to Sudan several years later, after which he kept a low profile, despite his great popularity that led him to appear in concerts in the United Arab Emirates, Europe, China or the US.

# THOSE WE HAVE LOST





Ivo Kuusk  
1937 - 2023

Ivo Kuusk was an Estonian opera tenor. He was, for a long time, the leading soloist at Estonian National Opera. In 2005, he was awarded the Order of the White Star, IV class. Kuusk died on 13 November 2023, at the age of 86.



Karl Tremblay  
1976 - 2023

Karl Tremblay was a Canadian singer. He was the lead singer of Les Cowboys Fringants. Previously a full-time student, Tremblay abandoned his studies to devote himself to Les Cowboys Fringants, which became famous in Quebec in 1999. In addition to his career with the band, Tremblay appeared on the TV show M.Net, broadcast on MusiquePlus, in which he reviewed video games. With the band, he took part in many amateur festivals early in his career. He died from prostate cancer on 15 November 2023, at the age of 47.

THOSE WE HAVE LOST





**Sandy Farina**  
1955 - 2023

Sandra Farina was an American singer-songwriter and actress, best known for her role in the film Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band. She also wrote the song "Kiss Me in the Rain" for Barbra Streisand. She was a Star Search contestant in 1985, and the following year was co-lead vocalist on the "Hands Across America" charity single. She was also a session singer for television commercials. Farina died on November 15, 2023, at the age of 68.



**Peter Solley**  
1948 - 2023

Peter Solley was an English musician and record producer. He recorded with Eric Clapton, Al Stewart and Whitesnake, as well as producing records for Oingo Boingo, Motörhead, The Romantics, and many others. At the age of 13, he won a scholarship to Trinity College of Music in London and after graduating became a session musician. He played in different groups over the next few decades, notably Paladin, Procol Harum, and Whitesnake, among others. In the 1980s, Solley began writing TV jingles for clients including British Airways, BMW, and Coca-Cola,

**THOSE WE HAVE LOST**



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and he became a record producer. Solley's best-known production is the 1980 single "What I Like About You" by The Romantics.



Claude Kahn  
1935 - 2023

Claude Kahn was a French classical pianist, internationally known for his interpretations of especially the music of Chopin, but also of French music (Debussy, Fauré, Ravel) as soloist or accompanied by great orchestras in the world. He founded and directed a piano competition in 1970, to become international as the Concours International de Piano Claude Kahn. He played more than 2000 concerts worldwide, as a soloist and with orchestras. Kahn died on 17

November 2023, at age 88.



Charlie Dominici  
1951 - 2023

Charlie Dominici was an American singer, best known as the second vocalist for the progressive metal band Dream Theater. It was felt that, despite being a very talented singer, his decidedly "pop" vocal style did not fit in with the distinctive progressive direction that the band's compositions were taking. A good singer in the wrong band, they amicably parted ways shortly thereafter. Dominici remained in contact with Dream Theater throughout their career, despite lapsing out of the music

# THOSE WE HAVE LOST



business and obtaining a job as a finance manager in the automobile business. Dominici later fronted his own self-named progressive metal band that released three albums.



Christiane Bervoets  
1948 - 2023

Christiane Bervoets, known by the stage name Samantha, was a Belgian singer. Her 1970 recordings of "Helicopter US Navy 66" and "Nachten Van Parijs" were very successful, and her 1971 song "Eviva España" achieved widespread fame and was inducted into the Radio Belgium Hall of Fame. In 2016, Bervoets received the Golden Lifetime Award at the Retro Festival Aarschot. As of 2017, she was living in a residential care center in Belgium. Bervoets died on 17 November 2023, at the age of 75.



David Del Tredici  
1937 - 2023

David Walter Del Tredici was an American composer. He started his musical life as an aspiring pianist at the age of twelve. At Berkeley, he attended the Aspen Music Festival and School, learning composition there. Later in life, Del Tredici taught at Harvard University, where he worked alongside Leon Kirchner, and was a part of the modernism movement. Much of Del Tredici's work was inspired by literature. He won a Pulitzer Prize for Music and was a Guggenheim and Woodrow Wilson fellow. Del Tredici is considered a pioneer of the Neo-Romantic movement. Del Tredici died of Parkinson's disease at his

THOSE WE HAVE LOST



home in Manhattan on November 18, 2023, at the age of 86.



Sara Tavares  
1978 - 2023

Sara Alexandra Lima Tavares was a Portuguese singer, composer, guitarist and percussionist. She was born and raised in Lisbon, Portugal. Second-generation Portuguese of Cape Verdean descent, she composed African, Portuguese, and North American-influenced world music. Her debut album *Mi Ma Bô* was produced and released in 1999. In 2017, eight years after

her album *Xinti*, Tavares released *Fitxadu*. The album was inspired in Lisbon's different African sounds and cultures and features a more electronic and urban sound than Tavares's previous works. In 2021, Tavares publicly revealed that she discovered she was bisexual at the age of 24. Sara Tavares died on 19 November 2023 in Lisbon, at age 45, from a brain tumour, with which she had been diagnosed in 2009.



Colette Maze  
1914 - 2023

Colette Maze was a French classical pianist. She taught piano for decades at

# THOSE WE HAVE LOST



both the Ecole Normale de Musique and the conservatoire of Bagneux, Hauts-de-Seine. She later began recording in her 90s, with a preference for the music by Claude Debussy who was still alive when she was born. She released her seventh album in 2023, as possibly the oldest recording pianist. When she turned a centenarian, she became a favourite of social media. Maze died at her home in Paris on 19 November 2023, at age 109.



C.C. Hennix  
1948 - 2023

Catherine Christer Hennix was a Swedish

musician, poet, philosopher, mathematician and visual artist. As a musician, she has worked with figures such as Pandit Pran Nath, La Monte Young, and Henry Flynt. Several of her archival recordings have been released in the 21st century, most prominently *The Electric Harpsichord* (2010). Hennix was affiliated with MIT's AI Lab in the late 1970s and was later employed as research professor of mathematics at SUNY New Paltz. Hennix died at her home in Istanbul, Turkey, on 19 November 2023. Prior to moving to the city, where she lived her final years, she converted to Islam.



Ninie Doniah  
1966 - 2023

Ninie Doniah was a Malagasy singer and composer of salegy music (originating from the northern coastal area of Madagascar, including her birthplace of Nosy Be).

# THOSE WE HAVE LOST



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Doniah was commonly termed the "Queen of Salegy", and is considered one of the best female salegy performers in a genre dominated by men, and is the most well-recognized and successful female ambassador of the genre outside of Madagascar. Doniah recorded more than six albums since the mid-1990s and continued to tour throughout Madagascar and the Indian Ocean islands.



Mars Williams  
1955 - 2023

Mars Williams was an American jazz and rock saxophonist. He was a member of the American new wave band The Waitresses from 1980 to 1983, and a member of the

British post-punk band The Psychedelic Furs from 1983 to 1989 and again from 2005 until his death in 2023. Williams also was a founding member of the acid jazz group Liquid Soul, and a member of the free jazz-oriented NRG Ensemble. Williams died of periampullary cancer on November 20, 2023, at the age of 68.



Horacio Malvicino  
1929 - 2023

Horacio Malvicino was an Argentine jazz and tango electric guitarist and composer who played for many years with the tango musician Ástor Piazzolla in several of his ensembles. Arriving in Buenos Aires in 1947, he studied medicine for five years until music took over his life and he became part of the bop generation. It was here that the first attempts to develop modern jazz in Argentina took place. During the 1960s he formed his own ensemble, the Horacio Malvicino Jazz Quintet. Over

# THOSE WE HAVE LOST



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the years, he played various genres of music alongside many great names in the music world.



Benjamin-Gunnar  
Cohrs  
1965 - 2023

Benjamin-Gunnar Cohrs was a German conductor, scholar, and publicist on music. Cohrs made his early conducting debut in 1984 with the orchestra of the Youth Music School in Hameln, where he received his early musical education in 1972. In the same year, he founded the Youth String Orchestra of Hameln. Later on, in 1996 he finished a Postgraduate Diploma in Musicology at the University of Adelaide. Since then, he had developed a career as a freelance

concert conductor, editor, scholar and publicist on music. Cohrs finished his PhD in Musicology (University of Hamburg) in 2009. Since 1996, Cohrs had also contributed to international music magazines.



Jukka Haavisto  
1930 - 2023

Juhani "Jukka" Haavisto was a Finnish musician. He also worked as an entrepreneur in advertising business from 1959 to the 1990s, when he retired. However, he is perhaps best known for his work as a songwriter and for having played the vibraphone and the accordion in numerous bands. The most important bands to him were the Happy Swing Band, the Jukka Haavisto Band and the Haavisto Swingers. Haavisto acted as the head of the Finnish Jazz Archive, was one of the founders of the Association for the Promotion of Finnish Popular Music and was also a published author.

THOSE WE HAVE LOST





## P. K. Narayanan Nambiar 1927 - 2023

Paanivadathilakan P. K. Narayanan Nambiar was an Indian musician, known for his virtuosity in Mizhavu, a traditional percussion instrument, and his scholarship in the art of Koodiyattom (a traditional performing art form in the state of Kerala, India). In 2008, he was awarded Padmashri (the fourth-highest civilian award of the Republic of India) by the Government of India for his services to the art. Nambiar also authored several Attaprakarams (Stage Manuals) for Koodiyattom. Nambiar later ran a school of arts, Padmashri Madhava Chakyar Gurukulam.



## B. Sasikumar 1949 - 2023

B. Sasikumar was a Carnatic music violinist, musician, teacher, composer and writer from Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India. He started his basic lessons in music from his father, who was a Nadaswaram (a double reed wind instrument) musician. He later joined the Swati Thirunal College of Music. He started his career as a lecturer at Swati Thirunal College of Music in 1967. He later joined All India Radio, Trivandrum, as staff artiste (Violin) in 1971, going on to win awards for both his playing and his contributions to teaching.

# THOSE WE HAVE LOST





## B. Yngvar Numme 1944 - 2023

Yngvar Numme was a Norwegian singer, actor, revue writer and director. He was particularly known for his central role in the show group Dizzie Tunes for about forty years, one of the most successful ensembles in Norwegian entertainment. He was awarded the Leonard Statuette in 1990, and

Dizzie Tunes received the same award in 1993. Numme and fellow Dizzie Tunes member Tor Erik Gunstrøm also formed a comedy duo, Numme and Gunstrøm, which usually performed as a part of the Dizzie Tunes shows.



## Geordie Walker 1958 - 2023

Kevin "Geordie" Walker was an English rock musician, best known as the guitarist of post-punk group Killing Joke. His unorthodox style of electric guitar playing was widely acclaimed. The first guitar that helped him to find his way was bought in Northampton at Christmas 1973. After Walker played about two chords, his mother's verdict was: "We'll take it." Walker later moved to London to study architecture and became a founding member of Killing Joke in 1979 when he responded to an advertisement placed by the singer Jaz Coleman. Walker had also been a member of industrial music supergroups Murder, Inc. and The Damage Manual. Later, in 2006, he produced UK girl punk rock act Mary-Jane at Faust Studios in Prague. Walker died in Prague on 26 November 2023, two days after suffering a stroke.

# THOSE WE HAVE LOST



## A Few Facts About Plastic Pollution



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

### ONE MILLION

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



**35**  
**BILLION**  
plastic  
water  
bottles are  
thrown  
away every  
year

Plastic constitutes  
approximately

**90%**

of all trash floating on the ocean



The average American  
throws away  
approximately



of plastic per year.

**50%**

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

Facts found on [ecowatch.com](http://ecowatch.com)





# **SAVE** Stonehenge World Heritage Site

# **FROM THE BULLDOZERS!**

**PLEASE SIGN  
THE PETITION**



[change.org](https://change.org)

visit [stonehengealliance.org.uk](https://stonehengealliance.org.uk) for further details



**GONZO**  
**MULTIMEDIA**

**Eclectic & Unique!**  
**THE LABEL FOR CONNOISSEURS**

## **Jethro Tull**

*Spin Me Back Down The Years deluxe edition*





One of the longest-running groups in British rock music, Jethro Tull are more than band, they are an institution. With their latest album, *The Zealot Gene*, breaking an almost two-decade silence, now is the time to celebrate their 50-plus year history in all its tangled glory...

With *Spin Me Back Down The Years*, Jethro Tull archivist Pat Kent has done just that across a two-volume collection that recounts the group's epic history – from pre-Tull outfits such as The Blades and The Dwellers, through to the post-Tull exploits of former band members. In between are the tales of the career-making *Aqualung* and *Thick As A Brick* albums, the group's folk-rock excursions of the late 70s, and the incorporation of Middle Eastern music that characterised 90s outings such as *Roots To Branches*. A companion volume, *The Boy Scout Manual*, adds an array of previously unpublished photos, rare memorabilia and biographies of key band members.

Based on the unparalleled research of Pat Kent, along with Charlie Kenney and Erin Ward, of the renowned fan collective The Jethro Tull Group, *Spin Me Back Down The Years* is the detailed history the group's legacy demands.

Available in hardback and softback, a limited slipcased edition includes an exclusive 7" vinyl of a 1968 acetate recording belonging to founding drummer Clive Bunker, featuring "Clive Bunker & Friends". You'd be thick as a brick to miss it. "The book has been a labour of love for the three of us... dedicated to a band that has provided the soundtrack to our lives" – **Pat Kent**

<https://www.musicglue.com/jethro-tull-spin-me-back-down-the-years-by-pat-kent/>





## *Inside Number 3*

# A Visual History Of Apple Records

Looking from the outside like an unassuming terraced town house in the centre of London, Number 3 Savile Row was the site of an unprecedented outpouring of creativity in the late 60s and early 70s. Home to The Beatles' Apple Records, it was where the group recorded much of the material for their Let It Be album – including the legendary rooftop concert of 30 January





1969 – and also acted as the nerve centre for a string of projects conceived under the Apple banner, among them solo Beatles records and albums by artists as diverse as James Taylor, The Modern Jazz Quartet, Billy Preston and Badfinger.

For Inside Number 3 – A Visual History, collector Nigel Pearce opens the lid on a privately curated collection of records, press releases, internal memos and photographs that stretches back to 1968, granting readers unprecedented access to the inner workings of The Beatles’ fiercely guarded creativity. Both a tribute to one man’s passion and a celebration of one of the most important bodies of work in popular music, Inside Number 3 is an essential purchase for Beatles collectors around the world.

Limited to 100 copies worldwide, the deluxe edition of Inside Number 3 comes signed and numbered, and includes repro memorabilia from Pearce’s personal treasure trove.

“This book has the ability to astound all who care to enter this lost and much sought-after world... It shows what went on behind that famous door” – Nigel Pearce

<https://www.musicglue.com/inside-no-3/>



## **Fuzzbox** *We've Got A... CD... And We're Gonna Play It!*

Cult Birmingham four-piece We've Got A Fuzzbox And We're Gonna Use It!! became darlings of Britain's late-80s alt-rock scene thanks to a string of much-loved releases, among them the album Bostin' Steve Austin and the UK Top 20 singles International Rescue and Pink Sunshine. Subtitled The Best Of Fuzzbox Reimagined, We've Got A... CD... And We're Gonna Play It! finds the remaining duo of Vix and Maggie Dunne giving their catalogue a gleeful overhaul, stripping Pink Sunshine's bubblegum pop back to a rockabilly-tinged guitar rocker, and refashioning their punk-pop assault on Spirit In The Sky into a dubbed-out sound collage that spins off into the stratosphere. Seems they've still got a fuzzbox... and nothing is off-limits.

“This is a great comeback album and a joy to behold” – Louder Than War

<https://www.musicglue.com/gonzo-multimedia/products/fuzzbox-weve-got-a-dot-dot-dot-cd-dot-dot-dot-and-were-gonna-play-it>



# The Fall

## *Take America*

### 10CD box set

Led by the Mancunian revolutionary Mark E Smith, The Fall were a quintessentially British post-punk band, critiquing the fabric of social constructs while tearing up all notions of music-making in the late 20th century. Spanning the years 1981 to 2006, the 10CD *Take America* box set presents a quarter of a century of sonic assaults, following the group across the Atlantic as they strafed audiences from New York City

to Los Angeles, Detroit to Chicago, and way down south in Austin, Texas. Tracing The Fall's development from their legendary 1982 record *Hex Enduction Hour* to their uncompromising 2006 outing, *Fall Heads Roll*, it offers a parallel discography to their notoriously intimidating studio catalogue, with Mark E Smith and co gleefully dismantling and rebuilding their own legacy every time they take the stage.

"The gigs I enjoy are the ones where I'm so angry and paranoid... that I put everything into it to feed off the aggressive side of it" – Mark E Smith

<https://www.musicglue.com/cog-sinister/products/the-fall-take-america-10-cd-box-set>





## **Dave Bainbridge** *To The Far Away* **limited deluxe-edition box set – final copies remaining**

Having been re-pressed due to demand, the final copies of the 2CD deluxe edition of Dave Bainbridge's fourth solo album, *To The Far Away*, are fast running out. Featuring the full album on Disc One, plus over an hour's worth of demo recordings, alternate mixes and five extra songs, the limited edition box set presents the whole picture of a deeply personal work for the IONA co-founder.

Written during lockdown and released at the end of 2021, *To The Far Away* captures Bainbridge in a period of reflection, and was written in response to his forced separation from his soon-to-be wife, Sharon, just says before their wedding. With the Atlantic Ocean literally keeping the couple far away from each other, Bainbridge recorded an emotive work that sought to make a connection during a time of uncertainty. It has since been hailed as one of his greatest achievements.

The deluxe edition box set also includes:

- A signed, numbered certificate
- Hardback photo book with over 100 photos taken by Dave Bainbridge himself





- Six postcards featuring photos by Bainbridge

Grab the final copies before they are forever out of reach...

“Powerful, heartfelt and exhilarating progressive rock of the highest order” – Prog Archives

<https://www.musicglue.com/iona/products/dave-bainbridge-deluxe-box-set-with-signed-and-numbered-certificate-includes-cd1-high-quality-wav-for-immediate-download-in-stock-now-2>

## **Pre-order:** **Maggie Reilly** *Echoes (Deluxe Edition)*

Originally released in 1992, Maggie Reilly's debut album, *Echoes*, continued to build on the early fame she found as a guest singer with Mike Oldfield in the 80s. Now celebrating its 30th anniversary, the Norwegian chart-topping album is a one-stop shop of everything that makes the



**DELUXE VERSION EXPANDED & REMASTERED  
INCL. UNRELEASED TRACK**



Glasgow-born singer such a unique voice: from the pop-rock album opener, Everytime We Touch, to the heartfelt charity recording What About Tomorrows Children and the electronica-fuelled Wait, Echoes continues to resonate as a landmark recording from one of the UK's most gifted singers. The deluxe edition bonus tracks Break The Ice and a Rhythm Mix of Everytime We Touch offer further evidence of Reilly's beguiling voice.

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<https://www.gonzomultimedia.co.uk/products/maggie-reilly-echoes-deluxe-version>





## **Dave Bainbridge** *Celestial Fire – Live In The UK*

If you thought Dave Bainbridge's 2014 studio album, *Celestial Fire*, was a mind-boggling trawl through his formidable bag of tricks, then brace yourself for the *Celestial Fire* live experience. Taking their name from that record, Bainbridge's group do true justice to their leader's legacy on *Celestial Fire – Live In London*. Recorded during the band's first live tour, the 2CD+DVD set includes a full concert

performance during which the band run through solo Bainbridge material, stand-outs and rarities from his former group, IONA (including the seldom travelled Brendan's *Voyage/Return*), plus a head-spinning cover of Yes' *Roundabout*. From beginning to end, it is an incendiary experience.

"A masterful package that deserves a huge audience" – Prog Archives

<https://www.musicglue.com/iona/products/dave-bainbridge-celestial-fire-live-in-the-uk-2cd-slash-dvd>

## Celestial Fire

Live in the UK



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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...

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## From danger to safety...

When we started flying missions, we had no idea where this adventure would take us. We just knew that pups were in danger, so we had to help them. Over ten years later, thanks to YOU, we've run hundreds of missions and rescued more than 13,000 animals across the country! Just as importantly, we're stronger than ever and ready to keep flying.

That's why we're very excited to make a big announcement. Starting today, we are changing our name to No Dog Left Behind. It reflects the national network of shelter partners we've built in our first decade of work.

Pittsburgh will always be the heart of our operation, and everything we do is thanks to the love and support of our Steel City volunteers and supporters. Thanks to YOU, our mission is growing. We are excited to see where the next ten plus years takes us!

One more thing....

While the large majority of the animals we have helped over the years have been dogs, we do equally love our little kitties. We are super excited to show you our new Cat logo, No Cat Left Behind! She doesn't have a nickname yet and we are definitely open to suggestions!

Jonathan & Brad

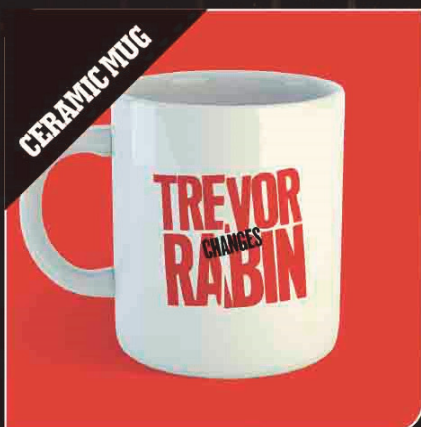
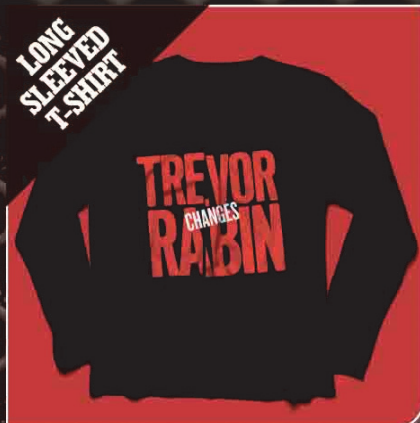


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# Official Merchandise





**Concerned Citizen**  
by  
TJ Chill

Concerned Citizen is the new album by TJ Chill (KAOS Crew), it is his third studio album and the follow up to 2021's Changing The Narrative. This album is also the second of the 'Changing The

Narrative' trilogy and was originally released back at the end of October.

As a former member of the KAOS Crew (1985-1999), TJ Chill is no stranger to the scene. Standing true to who he is, TJ Chill weaves inspirations of faith, London heritage, West Indian culture, storytelling, fun and games into the project alongside some great Hip Hop production by K9,

# STEVE RIDER



Self-Taught Beats, 6th Floor, Mr Synback, Smooflow from FERRO Media, DJ Murzi and Rich Mitch. There is also an appearance or two from one Jabbathakut, doing his thing too.

So, this promises to be a banger of an album and if you have not heard this one already then join me for the ride as I give you my impressions on this Ten track album that is released through Black Pyramid Records.

We kick off with Funky Church Time, produced by TJ Chill himself, this is live funky drum solo sound that is the backdrop to an intro that is like a proper gospel preacher dropping some knowledge before the album kicks off for real with Rooster-Man; Produced my Rich Mitch this track has keys, bass and drums which combine to big a reggae flavour to the sound, that has a real infectious vibe. Listening intently to this one there really seemed to be a nod to the roots of culture here and just the Jamaican roots but, Also the roots of the UK Hip Hop scene too as TJ shouts out some of the big names from the UK scene. Next is Lifting, produced by K9, the keys and drums combine once more, with some strings and horns, on what is a more head nod sound. Elements of his faith come through here as TJ uses intricate wordplay to bring us, not only, what is lifting him up but, also in bringing that forward in the track, it also serves to uplift the listener. There is no preaching here, just a desire to bring a focus to what can take you to a higher level of understanding and living.

Street School is produced by 6th Floor and brings a slightly darker edge to the sound. Once more the main elements are drums, keys, and bass, which produce a more serious air to the sound. TJ looks at the harsh reality of a life where the streets are the school corridors and there is no playground. His cleaver wordplay creates stark visions of a hard life, where calling on a higher power is the only way to find the peace of sleep. Next up is Let It Be, produced by Self-Taught Beats, brings an upbeat sound with drums, keys, bells, and



horns, which seems to reflect the sun breaking through the clouds on dull day. This is a big tune that brings encouragement to keep pushing forward in all you do and keeping a positive focus; there is also a knowing within this one that it is peace, love and unity that will win the day and when that day comes, we just need to let it be. As we see-saw into the second half of the album Smooflow brings the production on Screaming At The TV, the drums and bass with sampled vocals sounds brings an almost juxtaposed sound that one hand seems more chilled but, also has element that feels like it is brewing in the background ready to explode. Here we find TJ looking at something that so many people do, far too often, getting lost and enraged by the constant bombardment of negative media coverage. Every night people watch the TV screens with the news and its negative coverage of world events, reality TV that seems to breed so much negativity and confrontation and even sporting events seem to have a more negative impact; so, people sit and soak up this stuff screaming at what they see as wrong and



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never even considering they might be being controlled.

Don't Forget What The Good Book Said sees TJ Chill back on the production with a funk fuelled vibe full of drums, keys and bass, alongside some vocal samples bringing a soulful element. The uplifting air of this track is immediately apparent, and it fuels the positive energy throughout your body as you listen. There is a real feel that this track sees TJ speaking on living with integrity and always being truthful in all you do. Shine a light on truth behind everything you see because this is how we need to live and not spinning or hiding things for our own ends. Let your light shine because when you do, no one can extinguish that flame. Graft is produced by Mr Synback and has a big boom bap feel with pounding beats, cuts, and an eerie synth sound, all mixed together it brings an adrenaline fuelling sound with a slightly dark edge. This one is all about working hard and playing hard to get where you want to be in life. If you don't put the work in, don't expect the results to be what you want. This goes for all aspects of your life, work at it and see it come to fruition. The penultimate track of the album is Come What May, produced by Rich Mitch and TJ Chill, there is heavy beat and cuts, that mixes with a reggae sound that gives this one a slightly light-hearted flow and makes you wanna move. TJ Chill is in full story-telling mode here as he spins tales of people creating good, fun times; the kind of memories that you can look back on and that bring back those experiences as life goes on, bringing a warm heart and warm smile.

The album ends with an extended track that clocks in at just over eight and a half minutes. Roxanne Roxanne Vs Sparky Lovebug is produced by DJ Murzi and see's TJ Chill drop in battle mode but, just for fun. The heavy beat and cuts, allows your mind to drift back to the early days of Hip Hop and those emcee battles like Roxanne Roxanne and The Real Roxanne. This is some classic

emcee rhyming that minds you what Hip Hop is all about in its 50th years. Once TJ is finished having some fun, the beats keep you rocking so he can drop more shoutout's than you can shake a stick at, what a classic way end the album on...

First up, lets give credit where credit is due, TJ Chill shows that regardless of flow, style, or subject matter, he has the ability to apply an intricate wordplay with knowledge, skill and authenticity that brings all his life's experiences to bear. He is one of those rap artists that has the ability to speak on current events, in story mode or simply for fun and have everything he says seemingly seep into you consciousness without even realising it, and Concerned Citizen brings a rollercoaster of different subjects into your awareness; subjects that are everyday things, some of which you might not give a second thought to but, they are there none the less and TJ Chill brings them into the open giving you a chance to actually think and question the world around you.

Concerned Citizen also uses a wealth of production talent to bring a wealth of Hip Hop and Reggae infused sounds that are the perfect stage for TJ's vocals, they also complement each other as well. As diverse as the producers are in their styles, with the roots of the music in Hip Hop, there is nothing out of place here, nothing that upsets the flow of the album; and more of that classic Hip Hop vibe comes in the form of Jabbathakut who brings that incredible turntable trickery that makes him one of the UKs finest.

Overall, sometimes less is more and I don't need to over do the words here because the music speaks for itself. Concerned Citizen is a solid Hip Hop album with little twists and turns that keeps it fresh and engaging throughout its forty plus minute runtime. It is an enjoyable album with a good balance of real-life subject matter, story based and just for fun styles.



If you enjoy this one, then you will be waiting in anticipation for the third in the trilogy and playing catch up if you've not heard the first.

My thanks to 4Dee for putting my name out there and to TJ Chill for giving me the chance to put his album under my microscope.

I'm out,

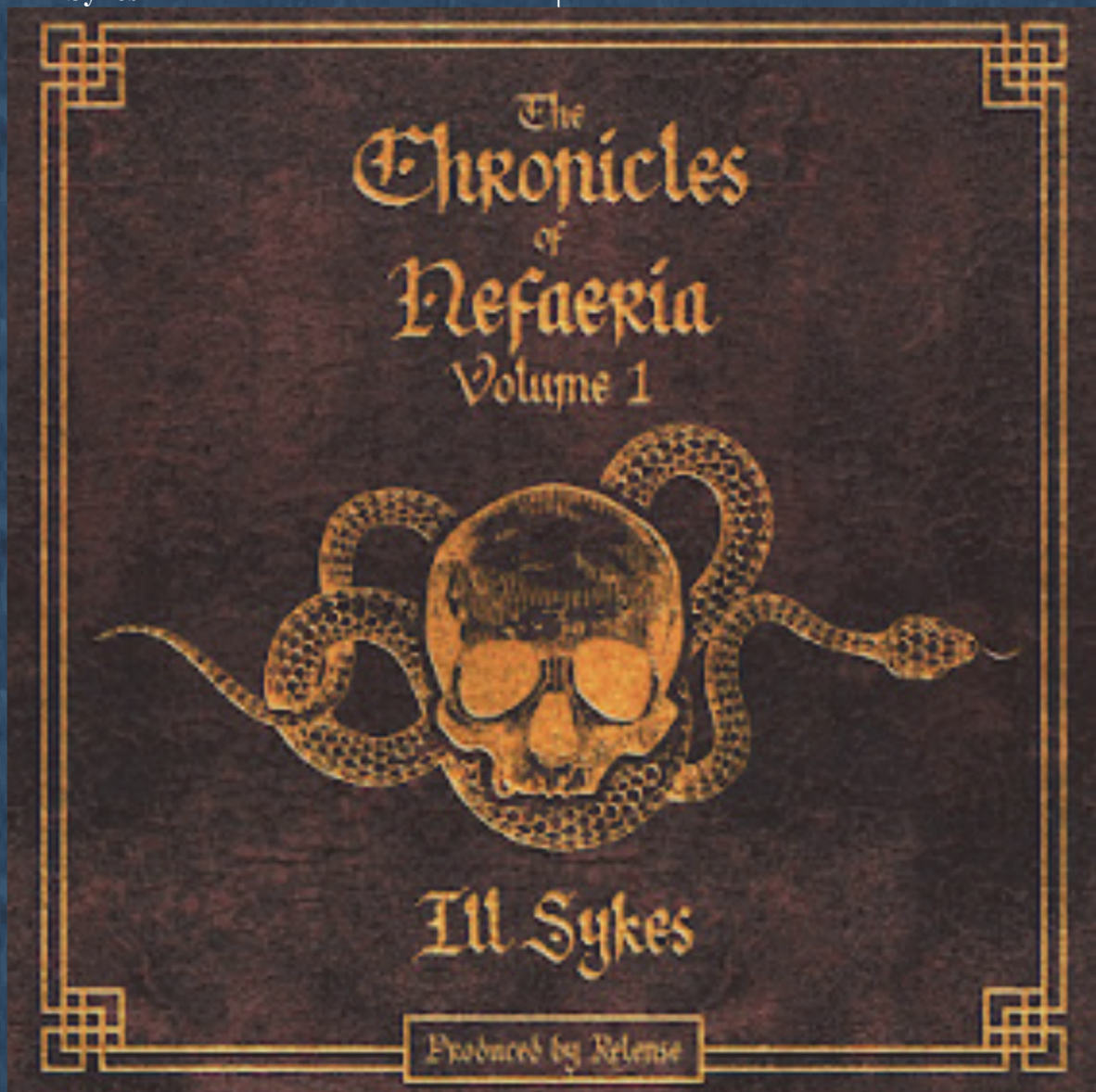
See Ya.

Steve.

**The Chronicles of Nefaeria Volume 1**  
**By**  
**Ill Sykes**

Released at the end of October this year The Chronicles of Nefaeria Vol 1 is latest EP release from UK emcee Ill Sykes. The EP is produced by Release and is released through Weaponize Records.

Described as a dark journey through the Land of Nefaeria - a fantastical urban sprawl juxtaposed with modern-day London, it features a host of features from fellow underground UK rappers Bxrbarian, Con-Vers, Jibbarish, King Kakarot, Lomax, Charles Sagan and Tesla's Ghost. This pretty much tells us all we need to know before going into the EP, so I'm not going to keep you hanging around and do just that...







The EP kicks off with The Dark Sentencer where the beat hits heavy alongside some piano notes and an almost eerie sounding electronic vibe, giving this a dark sound that hits hard. The first two thirds of this track serve as an introduction to this nefarious personality that Sykes displays as he gives us a brief glimpse into Nefaria. A dark evil place where everything is the dark opposite of current city life but, is it really the opposite or could it be what our current society really is when seen through the right filter? Just as you are contemplating these ideas the beat and Sykes flow switches, the beat becomes more head nod and loses the electronic vibe, sykes sound changes to a rawer edge, almost as if the narrative changes from the external to an internal monologue of his own thoughts speaking out loud. Strings, keys and what is almost a music box melody guide us into Spare A Penny, which features Bxrbarian, before the heavy beat drops in, pounding every aspect of your awareness and bringing a more boom bap sound but, with that dark edge. Here we begin to see more and more that Nefaria is just a reflection of our current society. Sykes and Bxrbarian show us a dark place where the people exist and give themselves to the service of the ruling elite, working and suffering in

service to the same, giving up everything just to be of service. With little brightness shining through the dark times, too tired and beaten down to awaken to the true nature of the world they live in. The final third of the track shows the nature, the dark side of our current prime minister showing his nefarious nature as he takes office, undoing the help of those who need it most.

Ghosts of Nefaria hits with sound of bass and electric guitar at the forefront of the beat. This gives a vibe that stirs the adrenaline at the very core, just as if there is an expectation of something coming, immanently. Here we note that Sykes is not necessarily speaking of etheric ghosts haunting the streets of Nefaria but, the ghostly nature of those whose home is the shadows, living just outside the reach of the people who walk the streets every day, preying on those who stray too far into the darkness. Then the beat switches, giving it a more eerie nature making you question the nature of those who live in Nefaria's shadows and here they seem to speak from the beyond, giving a small look into their world, the world of Nefaria's ghosts. A far east vibe accompanies the heavy beat of Orwellian Nemesis, featuring Tesla's Ghost, this is a look at



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the nature of the streets of Nefaeria after the sun goes down. A place where it's not safe to walk and where confrontation and violence rule. Those streets are not the place to be even if you are going somewhere for pleasure, this is a place where pain is the order of business and even the simplest of tasks is taking your own life into your hands. This is something that seems to be echoed more and more on the streets of our cities, here in the now, they are not places where you want to be after dark.

Predators / The G Process has a pounding beat with a sound that has strings and tambourine which brings this ominous soundtrack vibe. As you can guess this track is split into two parts; the first explores the dread on the streets of Nefaeria where we explore just who are the predators that prowl the streets of the city, a city under siege from pain, suffering and death but, here there are no monsters or dangerous beasts, here it is those who control the city that cause all the pain and suffering of those who live, walk and work within its boundaries. The second part seems the sound become more sparse but, equally more sinister as The G Process is revealed by a voice from beyond the streets and beyond the darkness. This is a voice of those who create that darkness and control everything within Nefaeria. A jazzy sound draws us into The Shadow Realm and that jazzy sound serves as a brief moment of relief from the heavy drums and keys that create a cautious vibe as we walk the shadows of Nefaeria. The shadow realm of Nefaeria is a place inhabited by the ghosts but, beyond that it is a place where those who chose to step become one in the same with those ghosts. This is a place where the sun never shines and only dirt and grime cover the floors; it is a place where pain and suffering are the only way to live, a place love has abandoned, and despair is second nature. This is a bleak outlook but, is it any different from the way of our society is headed...

The EP ends with Giant's / The Faces of Nefaeria, a posse cut style track which

sees Ill Sykes joined by C.O.N-vers, Jibbarish, King Kakarot, Lomax, Charles Sagan and Bxrbarian. The drum beat takes the forefront here backed by keys, strings and more, creating a solid head nod sound. Here we find the Giants are the faces of Nefaeria, those who choose to stand up and put everything on the line in order to try and free the city from grasp of those who control it but, the Dark Sentencer will not give up and Volume 1 of the Chronicles of Nefaeria ends with, what appears to be, a prelude to an epic battle between the forces of light and darkness. This is another parallel to what we see happening around us now as we see more and more people standing up in support of the injustice they see around them, more and more voices standing together as one...For a seven track EP, The Chronicles of Nefaeria Volume 1, elicits the kind of response and thought processes as an entire album of focused conscious Hip Hop. But then this is not a seven track EP of too minute tracks that are there for the enjoyment of the listener, no this EP is a deep twisting and turning look at a dark society that seems to have no hope save for a few brave souls prepared to stand up for what is right.

Nefaeria might be just an imaginary place that is juxtaposed to the vision of modern day London, here in the UK but, the nature of what Ill Sykes has created with some incredibly intricate storytelling, littered with intelligent similes and metaphoric views of such a dark dystopian place, where life is not that much different from the experiences we are all facing in light the on-going challenges constantly placed on our shoulders, where footing the bill for governing mismanagement of services and costs rise disproportionately against wages and benefits, is bringing the everyday person to their knees and seeing rises in the numbers of suicides and so on...

Some top-notch guest artists really bring some depth to the EP too, adding that extra dimension to those tracks. Exactly



what you need on a release like this, and the choice of guest artists is inspired here.

Ill Sykes and Relense have put together a very competent release that brings together dark and imposing soundscapes with intricate and equally dark storytelling that does not just entertain but also gives much food for thought. There is also this desire to see what might come with Volume 2. Will see the story play out from where this EP leaves off or could there be even more twists and turns before we see a culmination to The Chronicles of Nefaria.

If you have not heard this one yet, then it is well worth your time to check out as it is

taking the art of Hip Hop storytelling to new heights. There is also a limited-edition vinyl version too for those of you who love the classic sound.

The Chronicles of Nefaria Volume 1 is out now on Weaponize Records.

On that note,

Time for me to be out.

See Ya,

**Belterz**  
**By**  
**Conscious Route**





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It's good to finally be able to bring you another release from one of Scotland's premier Hip Hop artists, Conscious Route, with his new album Belterz.

I want the man himself to give you the lowdown on this new project before I delve any further into it:

Belterz, the new album project by Conscious Route is a social exploration of his personal experience of a changing society and culture, highlighting the insights of an ageing person living life and being an artist in the music Industry.

Conscious Route draws upon years of experience in the music industry as he casts an eye over the state of hip-hop culture and the trials of getting noticed as an underground artist. His vocals mesh perfectly with those of his guests, bringing an array of vocal styles and accents as the music flips from hip-hop head-nodders to a UK Garage throwback, some soul-tinted melodies, dub, and beyond.

The feature-heavy project boasts guest appearances from some of Scotland's finest, with tunes featuring Empress, YBxgtown, Kryptik, Lynzie Dray, Milles Better, Gluco, Jennifer Anne Todd, One Oz, Mistah Bohze, MacKenzie, JabbaThaKut, Wends, Becci Wallace, Solareye, Queen of Harps and Pro Focus.

The album musically and lyrically navigates a range of sounds and social topics, uniting the introspective with social observation, as we have come to expect from Conscious Route. Most of the production is handled battle rapper/producer MacKenzie, with just two tracks ('2 Guys' produced by Tzusan and 'Essence' produced by Vagrant Real Estate) produced by others. Guest musicians, Chris Greive & Scott Bathgate also appear across 5 songs. With Scott Bathgate adding subtlety to 'Ducks in a Row' and an eerie edge to 'Underground', while Chris Greive brings extra trombone to the subtle style of 'Late', nuance to 'Heart on Sleeves' and a mix of Jazz

influenced keys and trombone with the track '2 Guys'.

With all that said, it is also worth noting that the album also features the talents of John Dyer for the artwork. Now, there is probably enough info there to get your pulse racing with anticipation, so join me know on a journey through the album and what it brings to mind...

The thirteen-track album kicks off with Amorphous Shape, which features Empress, the melodic beat is backed by keys and guitar vibes, this gives the sound a deep reflective air. There is a distinct difference between the vocals of Conscious Route and Empress, where Route brings a more relaxed flow while Empress has far more pace to her flow. This track really seems to speak on reflecting on their careers to date and how there is this amorphous nature to being an artist, allowing you to mould yourself to whatever sound comes your way and still being able to be 100% you and 100% authentic in the delivery. Next is Pretentious, featuring YBxGtown, this one has a head nod quality from the heavy beat, while it is backed by some guitar and keys that also bring a slightly chilled edge to things which allows the sound to guide you along to the words. This one focuses on the desire to bring more of the roots and the authentic nature of Hip Hop back to sound. A lot of the rappers and 'so-called' Hip Hop acts that are promoted in the industry are so far from the roots of the culture. There is that pretentious air to these acts, trying to be more than they are, whereas the true nature of the Hip Hop sound is to be yourself, be authentic and reflect what you see around you in your lyrics. Kryptik now joins Conscious Route on Carry On, this one has a more modern feel to it with some nerve tingling electronic notes helping to mix things up. This track deals with how artists perform live and the fact that there are a lot of those artists who perform their music over the original track and not to an instrumental version. Hip Hop was always about performing live music to the fans and delivering that music with energy and



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a pure love of what you do, without that does it really show a love for the music or simply a desire to make money?

Ducks In A Row, features Lynzie Dray and Milles better alongside Scott Bathgate on guitar, The deep drum beat with bass and live guitar gives this a heavy, emotive vibe, and your only kept from sliding in too deep by that trap style ticking. The soulful chorus adds more to the emotive nature of the track which brings focus to the diverse nature of the world around us, the challenges and nature of the stigma and discrimination this brings. In a society where there is such a diverse range of people on so many levels, it is important to remember to move with the times and always be aware of the changes around you and how you approach situations, even in your music. Sugar Coated, features Gluco and has a soulful air about it with the guitar and strings that provide a background to the drum beat and bass. Here we find that a sugar coating is one thing that you can't do with the authentic underground scene. When you do something for the love of the culture and the music, it is difficult to get you name known, especially because this is where the artist speak on what matters, there is no sugar coating the words they say in delivering the stark realities of live through music. Essence is the first track that is not produced by Mackenzie, being produced by Vagrant Real Estate, and featuring Jennifer Anne Todd. This one has a definite Garage feel to it with the up-tempo drum beat, keys and bass. The message in this one is all about staying true to the roots of any genre, as the essence of what you do. There are so many differing sounds these days that it is often hard to know what you are hearing (as a reviewer that is definitely something I can struggle with). There are so many modern sounds that use rap but, are not Hip Hop in there essence, and sometimes those modern sounds can be very alike that it is hard define them.

Day Ones has features from One OZ, Mistah Bohze and Mackenzie alongside Jabbathakut on the cuts. With a lineup

like this you just know it's gonna be pure head nod Hip Hop, and you won't be disappointed as the beat hits with bass and guitar vibes. This one has that posse cut vibe about it as each emcee goes in big time, dropping the kind of verses that show exactly why each one of them stands out as some of the best to pick up the mic. Late finds conscious Route joined by Wends on vocals and Chris Greive on trombone, for a reggae dub vibe and soulful chorus. Now, I might be wrong here but, this one seems to speak on the pressures of being an artist, writing, recording, and getting your music out into the public domain where it can be heard by as many people as possible. It's not an easy task but, the rewards of hearing it on the radio and knowing how many people are listening are priceless. Underground features Becci Wallace on vocals and Scott Bathgate on Guitar and Keyboards, the beat is heavy with an eerie, melodic edge. This one speaks to me of the nature of relationships; they are part of everything we do in life and extend from personal relationships and into professional ones. How we see and manage those relationships is often key to some of the most important decisions in our life but, they are also key to who we are and how we are able to develop as a person. Positive relationships can life us up and help us move in the right direction, while negative ones can bring us down and set back our life's journey.

Original features Solareye and brings up-tempo sound that mixes electronic 8-bit style sounds with a heavy beat and rapid trap music style ticking sounds, this creates a weird balance between the old and new, the fast and slow, finishing with a change of style as a heavy bass vibe carries us out of the track. The title of the track speaks volumes here, this sound might not be for everyone but, the message here is that there are times when you have to bring a style that is 'original', just to keep the listener buzzing. This one does just that drawing on many influences to bring an original sound to might no be expecting. Hearts On Sleeves sees Queen Of Harps and Lynzie Dray feature on





vocals with Chris Greive on Trombone. The sound mixes melodic guitar, a heavy drum beat and bass, with an almost reggae trombone and that more modern Trap style ticking sound, it all comes together to create this deep multi-layered vibe. There is a deeper aspect to this track as you get the idea that this one speaks on emotions, especially those brought up as you move through life and look back on the choices you made in the past and the regrets often attached to them But, at the same time there is an air of learning from those mistakes and moving forward regardless. It is ok to have regrets as long as we learn from them and not wallow in them. The penultimate track is Two Guys and features Pro Focus on vocals, Chris Greive on trombone and keyboards, and is produced by Tzusan. Here xylophone notes mix with piano, over which is a drum beat and this multi-layered sound of horns and electronic elements. This creates this sound that seems to combine grime, hip hop, and soundtrack vibes, it's hard to pin this one down really. Conscious Route and Pro Focus bounce off each other spinning stories of two guys living in the rap dimension. It's all about clever wordplay and weaving stories that may have their basis in fact

and may not, does that really matter when it's that enjoyable. The album ends with a bonus Day Ones (Remix), the remix turns the head nod vibe of the original into an out and out boom bap banger, with an infectious beat and some recognizable guitar samples thrown in for good measure. This one should have the clubs and airwaves bouncing for sure, so turn it up...

Belterz is some ride, that's for sure. It is a genre breaking album that doesn't pin itself down to one genre, except that the one thing linking all the tracks is rap. From top to bottom this album demonstrates the versatility and quality of Conscious Route as an artist. He shows that his amorphous rap nature gives him the ability to stretch himself to a variety of rap flows and styles, showing just how much of an accomplished artist he is, no matter which genre he applies his skills to.

Mackenzie's production reflects the versatility of Conscious Routes rap styles, as he mixes up the genres within the soundscapes to provide the perfect platform for Conscious Route to bounce off. The addition of additional production





from Tzusan and Vagrant Real Estate, just adds to depth and diverse nature of the project.

With the project having such a guest heavy element, it was spot on adding this wealth of talent that each adds their own depth, style, and accent to the project, helping to add that element of icing to the cake, as it were.

It has to be said that there will be those who will not gel with all the sounds and genres featured here and that is just one of those things as you can't please all of the people all of the time. But this album does appeal to a wide range of listeners, many of whom do enjoy a wealth of cross genre vibes.

Overall, this is an underground rap album that draws on elements from many genres to create a highly enjoyable listen. Production and vocals are all top notch, not just helping to cement Conscious Route as one of Scotland's finest and most accomplished artists but, at the same time the album showcases some of Scotland's finest underground artists. There is also that element of the live

instrumentation that gives extra depth to the sound too.

Belterz shows that Scotland has a lot to offer in underground rap music and Conscious Route is one of those accomplished artists that are singing the countries praises from the highest rooftops.

Belterz is out now on True Hold Records.

Time for me to be out.

See Ya,

Steve.





# MARK AT THE MOVIES

*Mark Raines*



Directed by Gore Verbinski  
Release dates  
February 14, 2011 (Westwood)  
March 4, 2011 (United States)

## Plot

A theatrically-minded pet chameleon becomes stranded in the Mojave Desert of Nevada after his terrarium accidentally falls out of his owners' car. Seeking shelter, he learns from a nine-banded

armadillo named Roadkill, who is seeking the mystical "Spirit of the West", and tells the chameleon of an Old West desert town called Dirt, where water comes in through a mysterious rite on Wednesdays.

Seeing no other options, the chameleon heads out into the desert. There, he narrowly avoids being eaten by a vicious red-tailed hawk before meeting Beans, a desert iguana rancher, who takes him to Dirt.

Asked about his identity, the chameleon presents himself to the townsfolk as a tough drifter named "Rango" and quickly runs afoul of Gila monster Bad Bill, who challenges him to a duel. The hawk interrupts the duel and chases Rango, who accidentally knocks over an empty water tower and

Here we have a new series for Gonzo Weekly. It comes from none other than our regular cartoonist Mark Raines who has contributed other articles (most notably his critique of the recent Disney Plus series about the Sex Pistols.

He described the series that he wanted to write to me and it sounded smashing, so I told him to go full



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crushes the hawk to death. Believing he did so intentionally, the townsfolk praise Rango, who is appointed as the new sheriff by Dirt's desert tortoise Mayor John. Meanwhile, the townsfolk worry that with the hawk dead, the infamous gunslinger Rattlesnake Jake will return.

With the town desperate for water during a drought, Beans demands that Rango investigates where the water has gone and in doing so, he inadvertently helps a gang of bank robbers, led by a mole named Balthazar, to steal the water supply. Rango organizes a posse that later finds the banker, Mr. Merrimack, dead in the middle of the desert. The posse tracks the robbers to their hideout, where they fight Balthazar's bat-riding clan over the stolen water bottle before discovering it to be empty. The robbers profess that they found it like that, but Rango still takes them into custody.

After being questioned by Rango about his buying of the land around Dirt, John brings in Rattlesnake Jake, who runs him out of town after forcing him to admit his lies to the townsfolk. Dejected, Rango returns to the highway, where he passes out after he crosses to the other side. He eventually meets the Spirit of the West, an elderly Man with No Name, who advises him to go back to Dirt and set things right, telling him that "No man can walk out on his own story".

With the aid of Roadkill and mystical moving yuccas, Rango discovers an emergency shut-off valve in a water pipeline to Las Vegas. John has been

manipulating it to cause the water shortage so he could buy the land for himself.

With a single bullet, Rango returns to Dirt and challenges Jake to a duel, a diversion to allow the yuccas to restore the town's water and Rango to make his resolve clear to Jake. However, John and his men force Rango to surrender by threatening Beans' life before attempting to drown the duo inside the bank's vault.

John then tries to shoot Jake with Rango's gun – believing that both he and Rango represent too much of the old traditions – but finds Rango has taken the sole bullet, which he uses to shatter the vault's glass door, freeing himself and Beans. Impressed, Jake salutes Rango for proving his heroism before carrying John off into the desert to kill him. The citizens of Dirt celebrate the return of their water supply, and Rango, now a true hero.

Rango is a smart, giddily creative burst of beautifully animated entertainment.

Running Time 1 H 43 M  
Rated PG

4 out of 4 stars





### Plot

In Montana, 1961, retired sheriff George Blackledge lives on a ranch with his wife Margaret, their son James, James's wife Lorna and infant son Jimmy. One afternoon, Margaret sees James's horse out on its own and senses something is wrong. When George goes out to the woods, he finds James's body by the creek; he had fallen off his horse and broken his neck.

In 1963, Lorna marries her new boyfriend, Donnie Weboy; it is obvious Lorna is not in love with Donnie but needs his support with Jimmy. One afternoon while out shopping, Margaret sees Lorna, Donnie and Jimmy getting ice cream. When Jimmy drops his, Donnie forcefully grabs Jimmy's arm and, when Lorna steps in, Donnie strikes her. Margaret later goes to their house

to check in on Lorna, but a tenant tells her the three of them have left town. Margaret goes home and packs her bags with the intent of going to rescue Jimmy, and although George is reluctant, he joins her.

George and Margaret speak to a local sheriff who gives them a lead in Forsyth, Montana, a shop owner who is related to the Weboys who tells them to look in Gladstone, North Dakota. George is startled to discover that Margaret brought his revolver with her, but she strongly feels she will need it. Outside of Gladstone, they come across a young Native American man named Peter Dragswolf. He provides them with some food and warmth for the evening, and tells them to look for Bill Weboy, who turns out to be Donnie's uncle.

The following morning, George and Margaret travel and meet Bill. Bill speaks to Donnie's mother, Blanche, who says she wants to meet the Blackledges. At her house, Blanche initially appears pleasant but later, when Lorna and Jimmy arrive, she starts to show her true colors, making rude comments toward the Blackledges and speaking sternly toward Lorna. The next day, George and Margaret visit Lorna at her job and take her to lunch. They plead with her to return home to Montana with Jimmy, but Lorna is worried what Donnie will do if she tries to leave. However, she is convinced to sneak out later while the Weboys are asleep.

Later that night, Blanche, Donnie and Bill, along with Blanche's two other sons Marvin and Elton, break into the Blackledges' motel room. Margaret tells Blanche that Donnie



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struck Lorna and Jimmy. Blanche asks Donnie if it is true, slapping him and then Margaret to ask how hard he hit Lorna. When she orders him to hit Margaret, George grabs his gun and points it at them. The men overpower him, and Blanche orders Donnie to chop off his fingers with a hatchet, which he does. When they leave, Margaret takes George to the hospital. A local officer visits them to tell them that he spoke to the Weboys, who made it seem like George attacked first since he and Margaret planned to abduct Jimmy. He tells the Blackledges that Jimmy is a Weboy now and suggests they leave town.

Defeated, George and Margaret make their way back to Montana, but when George is too weak to keep going, they stop by Peter's again to rest. Peter talks to Margaret and tells her about how men once stormed his village and took children away from their families and then tried to "wash the Indian" out of them. When he returned to his grandmother, they couldn't understand each other anymore. Knowing she must stay close to family, Margaret asks George if they can move out there to be near Jimmy. George says he is done and wants to give up. Margaret breaks down, devastated that they have lost both James and Jimmy.

During the night, George sneaks out and goes back to the Weboy house. George finds a shotgun on the Weboy's back porch. He checks and replaces the shells in the gun. He sets a fire outside as a distraction and then makes his way into Donnie and Lorna's

room, where he forces Donnie down at gunpoint while Lorna leaves. Meanwhile, Margaret notices George has gone and rushes with Peter to find him. George knocks Donnie unconscious when he tries to alert the others. Blanche wakes up as George fights Bill, and Lorna tumbles down the stairs. Blanche aims her pistol at George as he gets Jimmy back but she accidentally shoots Bill in the face, killing him. George then throws Jimmy over the balcony to Lorna, who catches him as Blanche shoots George in the chest.

George musters enough strength to fight her for the gun as Marvin and Elton run upstairs, only for George to cause Blanche to shoot both of them. Margaret and Peter find Lorna and Jimmy outside. Margaret rushes in to try and get George out. Blanche corners them and shoots George again, this time killing him. Margaret then grabs the shotgun and shoots Blanche dead. Peter gets her out as the Weboy house goes up in flames.

As the morning comes, Margaret parts ways with Peter and drives home with Lorna and Jimmy. She weeps for the loss of George, but looks over at Jimmy, knowing that he is finally safe

#### Film Trailer

<https://youtu.be/tibarzGOUSk?si=3dP0uHd0Xltn5jb5>

Uneven blend of adult drama and revenge thriller

Running Time 1 H 53 M  
Rated 15





Directed by Alfonso Cuarón  
 Distributed by  
 Warner Bros. Pictures  
 Release dates  
 23 May 2004 (Radio City Music Hall)  
 31 May 2004 (United Kingdom)  
 4 June 2004 (United States)

#### Plot

Learning that Black has been captured and sentenced to the Dementor's Kiss, Harry and Hermione act on Dumbledore's advice and use Hermione's Time-Turner, which she was given to attend several classes at once, to go three hours back in time. They see themselves reliving the night's events, and set Buckbeak free from execution. Spotting the past Harry and Black being attacked by Dementors, Harry rescues them using a Patronus charm and realizes he was the unseen figure who saved them

earlier. He and Hermione free Black, who flies away on Buckbeak, still a fugitive without proof of his innocence. Harry and Hermione return to the infirmary, rejoining their own timeline.

Exposed as a werewolf, Lupin resigns from teaching and returns the Marauder's Map to Harry. Black sends Harry a Firebolt broomstick, which he happily takes on a ride.

#### Film Trailer

<https://youtu.be/1ZdlAg3j8nl?si=DGVCSUEamStFxCc>

Triumphantly strikes a delicate balance between technical wizardry and complex storytelling.

Running Time 2 H 22 M

Rated PG

4 out of 4 stars





Directed by Adam Robitel

Release dates

July 1, 2021 (Australia)

July 16, 2021 (United States)

### Plot

After escaping the "sole survivor" escape rooms orchestrated by the Minos Corporation, Zoey Davis and Ben Miller decide to confront the shadowy organization after finding coordinates to its New York City-based headquarters. Zoey is encouraged by her therapist to move on from her trauma and to get over her aerophobia, but she opts to drive with Ben instead of flying.

The pair find the headquarters derelict and are accosted by a vagrant who steals Zoey's necklace. She and Ben give chase straight into the Q subway train. Their train car separates from the rest of the train and is redirected to a remote station, sealing Zoey, Ben, and other passengers Rachel,

Brianna, Nathan, and Theo inside. As the passengers realize in horror that they are once again in Minos' deadly game, the train becomes electrified. Zoey and Ben learn that the others are the "winners" of previous escape rooms, having survived them. To escape, the group must collect subway tokens as the electrification increases. Theo is killed while the rest escape. Nathan reveals his escape room group were all priests, Brianna's were all influencers, and Rachel's consisted of people who cannot feel physical pain.

The next room is a bank with a slowly closing vault and a deadly laser security system. The group manages to decipher the complex route to get around the lasers and escape with just seconds to spare. While in the room, Zoey is perplexed by frequent references to someone called Sonya and that the escape rooms have no apparent connection to the group unlike before.

The next room is a postcard-like beach with more references to Sonya. They discover that the beach is covered in quicksand. While Rachel is sinking, Nathan sacrifices himself to save Rachel and is swallowed up by the sand. Zoey finds an alternate route out just as Brianna unlocks the intended exit. An argument on which route to take breaks out; Rachel and Ben side with Zoey. Brianna escapes through the main exit while Rachel and Zoey traverse to the alternate route, but Ben falls into the quicksand.

Zoey and Rachel make their way out through a manhole back into the city. Overjoyed at first that they are outside, they quickly realize they are still in the game when they



encounter a panicked Brianna. If they do not make it out of this room, acid rain is periodically sprayed on them. The group opens a taxi to escape into but once Zoey enters, the taxi locks Rachel and Brianna out. Zoey falls into the next room while Rachel and Brianna succumb to the rain and die.

The next room is a child's bedroom containing a diary from Sonya, revealing the rooms are based on a fun day out she had with her mother. Zoey discovers Sonya's mother is Amanda Harper, who survived her fall in her original escape room and was forced into designing escape rooms for Minos after they abducted her daughter. Amanda appears and begs Zoey to become the next puzzle-maker for Minos, warning that she has no choice. Ben is revealed to be trapped in a cage. When Zoey refuses Minos' demand, Ben's cage starts filling with water, but Zoey and Amanda work together to free him. They manage to break out, fleeing the facility. They report their findings to the police, who retrieve the bodies of Rachel, Brianna, Nathan, and Theo; the news about Minos goes public. An FBI agent assures Zoey that Minos will be tracked down.

Filled with confidence, Zoey decides to take a plane home with Ben. Onboard, she sees a woman who resembles her therapist, and then realizes she is in another escape room. The distorted voice of Minos' leader mocks Zoey and Ben for falling into their latest trap as the plane begins to fall and gas fills the cabin.

May appeal to fans of the original who've been hoping for a sequel, but its increasingly convoluted rules add up to a very unpleasant game night.

Running Time 1 H 28 M

Rated 15  
3 out of 4 stars



Directed by Christopher Landon  
Release dates  
October 8, 2020 (Beyond Fest)  
November 13, 2020 (United States)

#### Plot

After four teenagers discuss urban legends of a serial killer known as the Blissfield Butcher, the Butcher breaks into the mansion they are in and promptly murders the group of teenagers before leaving with an ancient dagger known as La Dola.

The next day, bullied high school student Millie Kessler attends the Blissfield Valley High School homecoming football game, where she performs as the school mascot. As Millie waits for a ride home near the now-empty school, the Butcher attacks her. He stabs Millie in the shoulder with La Dola, causing an



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identical wound to instantly appear on his shoulder. Millie's older sister Char, a police officer, arrives and scares off the Butcher. The police collect La Dola as evidence and initiate a manhunt for the Butcher. The following morning, the Butcher and Millie discover that they have switched bodies, and they both make their way to Blissfield Valley High School. At school, the Butcher, now posing as Millie, kills Millie's chief tormentor Ryler by locking her in a cryotherapy tank in the girl's locker room. He realizes his innocent appearance grants him immunity from suspicion and fatally slices woodshop teacher Mr. Bernardi, another one of Millie's tormentors, in half with a table saw. Millie, now in the Butcher's body, finds her best friends Nyla and Josh and proves her identity to them by performing the school mascot's dance routine and answering a series of personal questions. Nyla and Josh research La Dola and discover that Millie must stab the Butcher with the dagger by midnight or else the body switch will be permanent.

Later that afternoon, with the school's official homecoming cancelled, the Butcher suggests a new dance be held at an old mill that is actually his hiding place. The Butcher subsequently lures Millie's crush Booker into a monster mini golf course to kill him, but Millie, Nyla, and Josh arrive just in time to save him. Millie knocks both the Butcher and Booker unconscious, and she and her friends bring the two to Josh's house. After tying the Butcher to a chair, Millie and Nyla try to explain the situation to Booker, who remains unconvinced until Millie recites a love poem she anonymously wrote to him weeks

earlier. Josh watches over the Butcher while Millie, Nyla, and Booker drive to the police station to obtain La Dola. Nyla tricks Char, the last officer in the station, into leaving so she can steal the dagger. Waiting outside in the car, Booker reveals that he has always liked Millie, and Millie divulges how she enjoys the newfound strength and confidence she feels while in the Butcher's body, and they kiss. The Butcher eventually escapes Josh's house, and Char catches Nyla stealing La Dola. Still in the car, Millie sees the Butcher enter the police station and runs in after him, but Char tries to detain her, unaware of the situation. Millie overpowers Char and locks her in a jail cell while the Butcher escapes in a police car. At the Blissfield Valley High Homecoming dance out at the Butcher's mill, the Butcher kills three jocks who attempt to rape him, thinking he is Millie, as well as a fourth who attempted to assault Josh. As midnight approaches, Millie finds the Butcher and both Nyla and Josh hold him down while Booker staves off the police. Millie stabs the Butcher with La Dola and they switch back to their own bodies just in time, before the police shoot down the Butcher. Later, Millie and Booker reunite and they kiss again. After faking his death in an ambulance, the Butcher follows Millie home and attacks her, mocking her physical weakness and anxiety. Millie, Char, and their mother struggle to overpower the Butcher, but Millie finally kills him by impaling him with a broken table leg. An entertaining slasher with a gender-bending, body-swapping twist, this horror-comedy juggles genres with Freaky fun results.

Running Time 1 H 42 M  
Rated 15





# John on ‘The Way’

Alan Dearling talks to his friend, John Wilson, about his motivation for, and experiences of, the Camino de Santiago

But first a bit of background...it's interesting stuff, but also a tad confusing...

The routes were originally created mostly by Catholic pilgrims, and the entire network is serviced by its own mix of municipal, voluntary and commercial hostels, campsites, hotels, businesses, tour companies and guides, eateries, plus support from many cathedrals and churches at the start of the routes and along the routes themselves. In 2022, nearly half a million walkers and cyclists finished the Camino to Santiago. ‘The Way’ has also become even more famous internationally through the film of the same name starring Martin Sheen

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alan dearling



“The Camino de Santiago (the Way of St. James) is an extensive network of ancient pilgrim routes stretching across Europe and coming together at the tomb of St. James (Santiago in Spanish) in Santiago de Compostela in northwest Spain.

The most popular route (which gets very crowded in mid-summer) is the Camino Francés which stretches 780 km (nearly 500 miles) from St. Jean-Pied-du-Port near Biarritz in France to Santiago. This route is fed by three major French routes: the Voie de Tours, the Voie de Vezelay, and the Voie du Puy. It is also joined along its route by the Camino Aragones (which is fed by the Voie d’Arles, which crosses the Pyrenees at the Somport Pass), by the Camí de Sant Jaume from Montserrat near Barcelona, the Ruta de Tunel from Irun, the Camino Primitivo from Bilbao and Oviedo, and by the Camino de Levante from Valencia and Toledo.

Other Spanish routes are the Camino Inglés from Ferrol & A Coruña, the Via de la Plata from Seville and Salamanca, and the Camino Portugues from Oporto.

The network is similar to a river system – small brooks join together to make streams, and the streams join together to make rivers, most of which join together to make the Camino Francés. During the middle ages, people walked out of their front doors and started off to Santiago, which was how the network grew up. Nowadays, cheap air travel has allowed many to fly to their starting point and often to do different sections in successive years. Some people set out on the Camino for spiritual reasons; others find spiritual reasons along the Way as they meet other pilgrims, attend pilgrim masses in churches, monasteries, and cathedrals, and see the extensive infrastructure

of buildings provided for pilgrims over many centuries.” Source: <https://santiago-compostela.net/>

Alan: “Tell me a bit about the background to your decision to take some time out.”

John: “I’m not always very good at expressing myself, but by talking with you perhaps you could in a sense, be my ghost writer.

Any road-up, I was sat in 'The Pub' thinking to myself I'm finding life boring , not life in general but my life: I had a job, money in the bank, no debts, a car, a motorbike...so on the outside you would think I was doing OK. But there was something missing - don't know what.”

Alan: “Why did you want to go on The Way?”

John: “I'd heard of the Camino several years before, a pilgrimage for religious people... I'm not religious in the slightest, but it always sparked an interest in me, so I thought that's what I'm gonna do. The first day of the Camino I met many people who became good friends, some religious, some not, but all on the same journey for their own reasons. We walked many miles together, staying in hostels together, eating together, visiting churches (I couldn't help but notice most of the art depicted people wearing military clothing and carrying weapons of war)... It got me wondering, if your man Jesus did come back, would he disown what's become of his religion....?

It’s been a great experience. Has it changed my life? I'm not sure, but I don't regret leaving my old life behind at all.”

Alan: “I gather that you became very much part of the ‘group’ that you met along The Way and that you made your decision to leave the trail because that’s what your



companions were doing... Here's what you told me at the time of that decision..."

John: "We arrived in St Jean Pied De Port at 13: 00 today ...751km from my starting point of Le Puy En Velay... Well, we walked over the border to Spain today (Roncesvalles), then we got a taxi back to St Jean de Port 'cos we are all going home tomorrow, might see you soon, missing English beer."

Alan: "And a day later you contacted me saying that you were..."

John: "...At train station in St Jean de Port, 31 degrees centigrade, (very warm) ... on the way to Paris, see you soon back in West Yorkshire."

Alan adds as a kind of postscript:

I'd hoped to delve more into more of the nitty-gritty of John's 'adventure'. But, here's a bit of what I found out during his fairly brief return to his old base in Yorkshire.

I know that John gave up his rented accommodation, his job, and sold his car and motor-bike before the trip.

Quite a radical set of decisions. He had bought maps for the route on the Camino de Santiago starting in France, fairly close to Paris. He'd tried out a walking pole and decided against using it, and he had found out a fair bit of advance information about the route and system of using the hostels for the pilgrims' routes. Most of the walkers carry backpacks holding between 30 and 40 litres. More weight is likely to prove very painful and bad for the knees and feet and a further source of blisters! A way of choosing your most suitable backpack is to consider your own body-weight, fitness level and level of pre-training. Some of the

'posh', rich pilgrims use pre-booked accommodations and have their luggage transferred for them. John wasn't one of them and told me that he hadn't wanted to use any pre-booking of trains or hostels.

At the start, John needed to purchase a 'credential' to get accreditation/status as a Camino pilgrim which he had to get stamped at hostels, churches, eating places etc. I believe that this gets pilgrims into hostels at a cheap rate (about 10 euros a night, I believe)...

He obtained that at the beginning of his route in France at Le Puy En Velay.

Many folk on the Camino have made fairly negative comments about the noise, especially snoring in hostel dormitories...and even bed bugs. John also commented that it was often pretty difficult to get enough sleep. But most 'pilgrims' have commented upon, and enjoyed, a lot of the camaraderie, the chatting en route, new friendships and the social sessions in the hostels. The average daily target for walkers is between 20 and 25 km per day, though some only walk 10 km, some a lot more, and some actually run the route!

There is an enormous range of people by age and nationality who undertake the walk. The majority are from broadly Catholic countries. Pilgrims from the UK are relatively rare. In 2022, 438,683 people completed one of the many routes. Post-Covid more were expected on the Camino in 2023 and 2024. Nearly 95 per cent walk, but some use bicycles, travel on horseback, in wheelchairs and even have used sailboats.

John has definitely had a real 'adventure', an 'experience'. He's made some new close friendships. And it has provided lots







of food for thought and consideration in planning for his options and future.

Alan: “Will you be going back to finish the Camino?”

John: “I definitely want to finish the final section of the Camino de Santiago...some of my friends are planning to go back in May 2024. I’m not sure yet, but I’d like to join them. I need to save up some money









again.” Here’s one useful on-line site offering more information and maps from the Camino trails:

<https://www.santiagodecompostela.me/collections/guide-books>









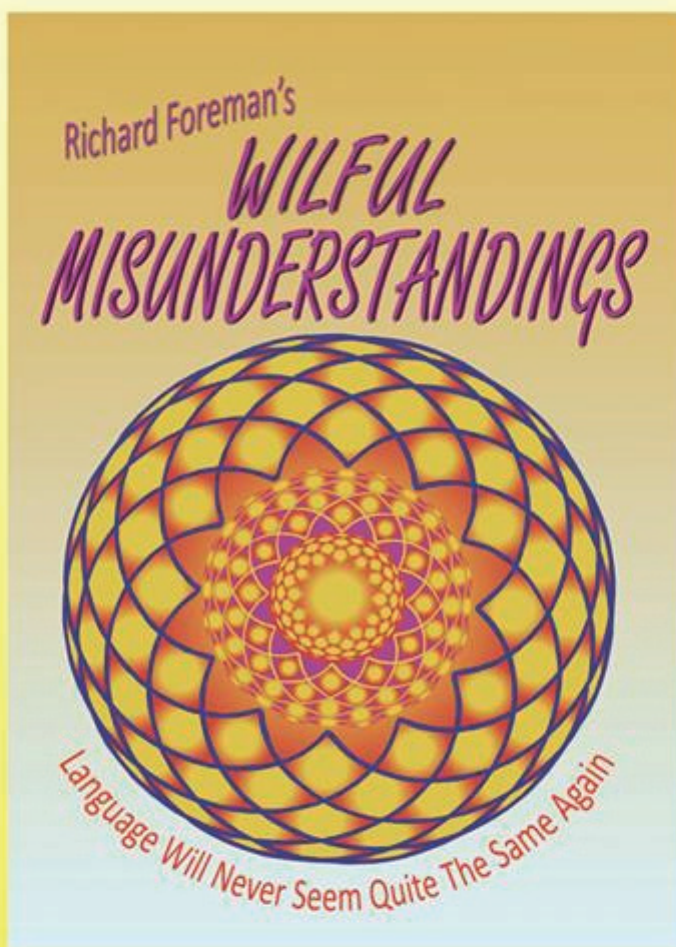


# Expect the Unexpected!

'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.'

## Richard Foreman's Wilful Misunderstandings

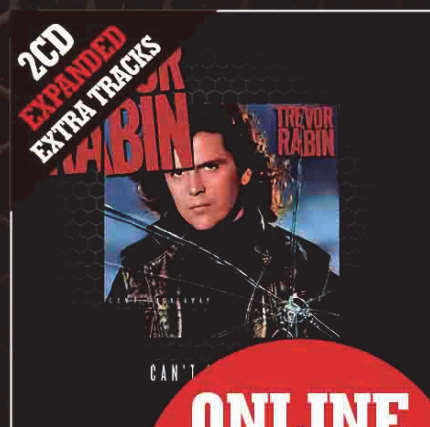
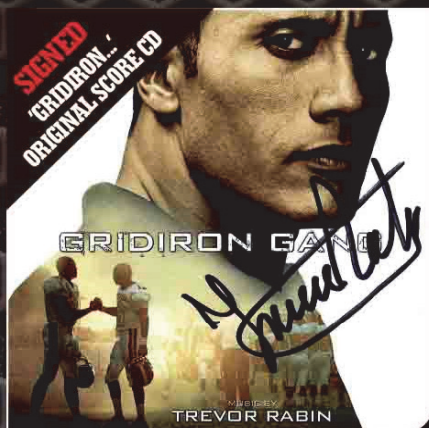
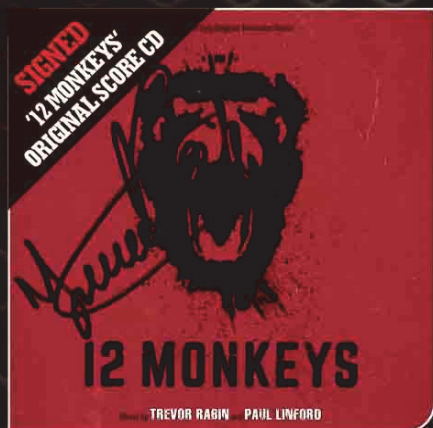
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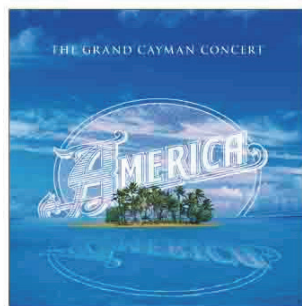
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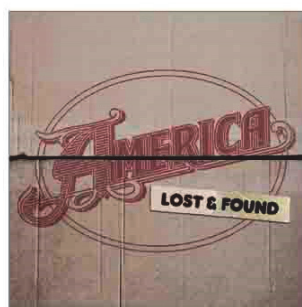
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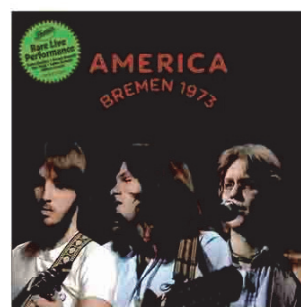
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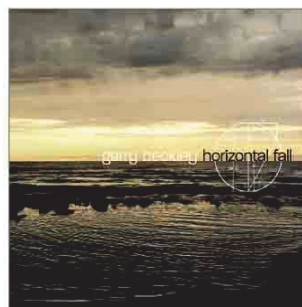
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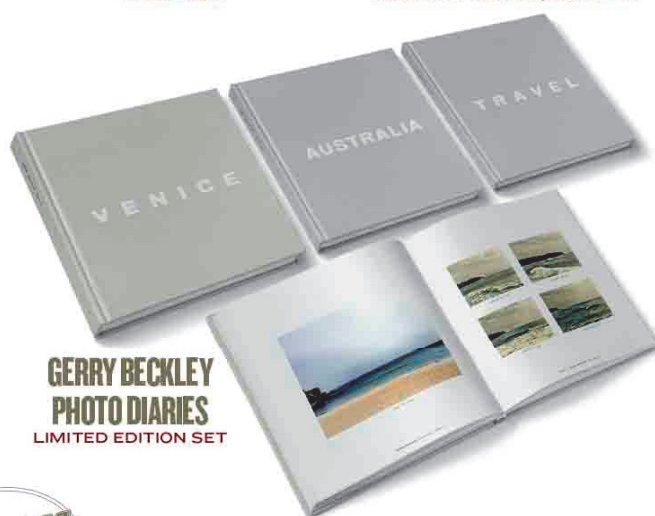
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This is the most important moment in history to do something for African elephants. Because it's the worst time in history to be an elephant.

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](https://www.nature.org/elephants) and follow us on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter to get action alerts.







# Hawkwind Earth Visitors Passport - The "Hawkwind Passport"

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

The application form is available via [Hawkwind.com](http://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.



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RUDIMENT  
INDEPENDENT**

Last year I reviewed the six-track EP 'Influence' by Kirsty Dewar, and now she has returned with her debut album and a slight change in name. Two of the songs from that EP, "Influence" and "Dance With Your Shadows", have been revisited and are here along with another nine. My wife's favourite singer is Kelly Clarkson with P!nk not too far behind, so I played this in the car for her the other day and after a while I was told to go back to the beginning, turn it up and stop talking as she was really enjoying it. At the time of the EP Kirsty told me she felt her music was a cross between Imagine Dragons, P!nk and Evanescence, but there is no doubt Clarkson and probably also T'pau have had an influence.

This is modern pop rock with some funk

influences here and there which is bright and refreshing, perfect for the summer or the radio. There are some strong Eighties keyboard styles at times which made me smile, but I guess in the pop context these will feel fun and new now. I deliberately played this to my wife as her tastes are way more mainstream than mine, and very oriented to this style of music, and she really enjoyed not only the music but the lyrics which have some interesting depth to them. On one level this is a perfect pop album with a singer not moving to far away from the norm, but there is far more than just a surface layer with this as there is much to discover, and the more I played it the more I enjoyed it. I can see this becoming one of those albums which is often listened to when we are both in the car as our tastes overlap in this area, and this high polished and well-constructed release will surely find Dewar getting the attention and acclaim she so richly deserves.



**KURT MICHAELS  
STONES FROM THE GARDEN MELODIC**

# KEV ROWLAND



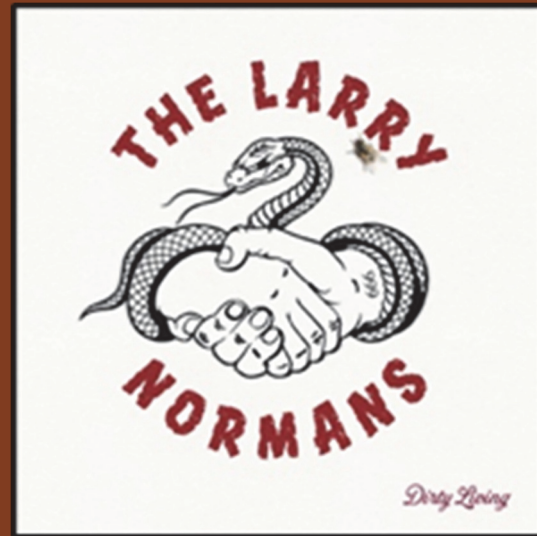
## REVOLUTION RECORDS

Kurt has been involved in the music scene for quite some years, even opening up for The Syn for some dates back in 2006 and recorded an album with the assistance of Billy Sherwood (Yes), his brother Michael Sherwood (Sammy Davis Jr, Monkees & Toto) and Tom Brislin (Yes, Meatloaf & Kansas). His band served as Denny Laine's (Moody Blues/Paul McCartney & Wings) back-up band for several Chicago area shows in 2015-2017 and opened concerts for Carl Palmer, The Babys, Ike Willis (Frank Zappa) and Carl Verheyen (Supertramp). The recording sessions for 'Stones From The Garden' began in 2018 and once again include special guests Billy & Michael Sherwood, along with Amanda Lehmann (Steve Hackett), John Abbey (John Cale) and Dennis Johnson (Chase, Survivor & Dennis DeYoung). It comprises seven songs which range between 4:23 and 7:30 in length, and then he allows himself to stretch his wings with the closer "The Road Beyond" which is 17 minutes long.

There must have been some internal debate for label boss Nick Katona as to whether to release this on MRR, which is what he did, or sister label Peacock Sunrise Records as this is very much a crossover album in that it takes influences from multiple areas, including melodic rock, prog, Americana and others, so much so that it doesn't really fit in any of them. When it kicked off with "Trouble" I was immediately taken by Kurt's vocals and the impression that he had been massively influenced by Nick Cave, but there are other times where it sounds as if psychedelia is what drives him. For a guitarist he is more than happy to keep himself in the background, providing gentle backing for his wonderful voice and then providing some nicely delicate leads when the time is right. It is an album full of depth, there really is plenty here to discover and enjoy. But just when one feels they understand what is going on we get to the final track, "The Road Beyond". Here we find Kurt going in a very different direction as no longer do we have a song as such, but an instrumental workout which provides a solid symphonic backdrop, allowing us to journey along with him. If the whole album was like this then we would be talking about a solid prog release as that is what we have here, but the rest of the material only hints at his major interests in this area and having this at the end is perfect placement. It allows us to listen to this as a singular entity and then revisit the rest of the album again to understand better what we can hear between the words. Reflective while never falling into easy listening or New Age, this shows a very different side to Michaels.

It has taken 10 years for Kurt to release a new album, and this in itself took five years to

record, so let us hope next one comes along somewhat more quickly.



## THE LARRY NORMANS DIRTY LIVING INDEPENDENT

The Larry Normans formed at the turn of the century and went through the usual revolving door of musicians before releasing their debut album back in 2005. They gigged hard and played festivals such as Big Day Out until 2010 when they went on hiatus and members Andrew Ashton & Matt Hyde joined Head Like A Hole and Beastwars respectively. Fast forward to 2023 and we find a new album as the band have been resurrected by original members Andrew Ashton (guitar) and Paul 'Bubs' Stephenson (drums) who recruited singer Nathan Rea and bassist Jonathan Bowen. I asked where the name came from and was somewhat surprised to hear they named themselves after someone at school, as I immediately thought of the Christian rock singer who is credited with releasing the first ever Christian rock album and for writing the classic, "Why Should The Devil Have All The Good Music?". Mind you, having now heard this, one can see they may not actually have been inspired by him.

Produced by Barry Blackler, here we have good old-fashioned stoner garage rock as The Larry Normans go back in time to channel the likes of The Stooges, MC5 and others. There are times when they bring forth the spirit of Lemmy, while "Long Ride Home" is nothing but solid Sabbath – Nathan Rea has Ozzy off to a tee, and if they decided they wanted to move more into a doom area (although with a bouncy groove), then one can hear it is not going to take much at all. This is early Seventies, a time machine taking us back fifty years in less than 3 minutes. There is an underlying blues feel to much of this, and while one can argue there is also some grunge in what



they are doing, their fuzzed-out distortion shows a much stronger appreciation of the likes of Kyuss than Nirvana. This is rock which has been allowed to breathe and become something nasty and dirty, yet somehow always with a commercial edge which will make it attractive to lovers of all types and subtypes of metal. Punchy and in your face, this takes us back to a time when music was made by musicians and not machines, when playing gigs was what got you noticed and not how you looked and whether you could dance and sound like everyone else. This is from a time when music was free spirited, and that vibe pervades this release which is a blast from beginning to end. Welcome back guys.



**LIFESIGNS  
LIVE IN THE NETHERLANDS  
INDEPENDENT**

As one may ascertain from the title, this is a live album which was recorded at De Boerderij, Zoetermeer on the tour for their third album, 'Altitude', in August 2022. By this time the line-up was definitely feeling much more like a band than a session set-up, with keyboard player and singer John Young (The Strawbs, John Wetton, Bonnie Tyler, The Scorpions, Fish, Uli Jon Roth) still working with his next door neighbour Steve Rispin (sound) along with guitarist Dave Bainbridge (Iona, The Strawbs) and bassist Jon Poole (Cardiacs, The Wildhearts) plus newest recruit, drummer Zoltán Csörsz (The Flower Kings, Karamkanic, The Jan Lundgren Trio, Tomas Bodin etc.). Yes, this is a bona fide supergroup, with all the players bringing something special to proceedings. I have followed Bainbridge for some 30 years now, loving his touch and finesse, and in Young he has very much found a kindred spirit (although John used to be in The Strawbs, and David is a current member, they were not members at the same time) and he moves between acoustic/classical and electric to

ensure he is always providing the support required. Jon Poole is one of the finest bassists in the scene and has been for many years (and as I keep saying, if you ever find his solo Zappa tribute album 'What's The Ugliest Part Of Your Body?' then grab it) and he and Zoltan fully understand there are times in this music when they need to sit back and wait for their time.

This is prog music which is reflective, full of lightness and deftness of touch along with loads of emotion and atmosphere. John has a wonderful vocal style, writing songs which suit his style, allowing him to hold the notes and it is strange to realise he is not more widely known for this as well as his keyboard playing. "Ivory Tower" is a wonderful example of the delights of Lifesigns where the first half is all about classical guitar and vocals with just little touches here and there from other instruments until it awakens in the second half with nice electric guitar, a dominant rhythm section and the vocals being far more forceful as the band remember the rock part of prog.

The total playing time is just 100 minutes, yet it goes past incredibly quickly as the music brings the listener into John's world. I highly recommend playing this on headphones so one allows nothing else to intrude into the world being created. They can be more dynamic, such as on "Shoreline", and one of the joys is the intricate interplay between the three melodic players with Zoltán driving from the rear, while another is the way John switches between keyboards and piano as the need arises. There has been a gap between each of the three studio albums and let us hope we do not have to wait so long for the next one but if you have yet to come across Lifesigns then this is the perfect introduction.



**MALOMBRA  
T.R.E.S.  
BLACK WIDOW RECORDS**



Italian dark gothic progressive band Malombra were formed in the Nineties, but there was a five-year gap between their second and third albums, by which time only singer Mercy was still there with the rest of the band being a new line-up. I enjoyed that album, 'The Dissolution Age' (I reviewed it when it was released back in 2001), but after that there was no more. Imagine my surprise when I heard that Black Widow Records were releasing a new album by Malombra, which is actually an old album. The initial recordings used here took place between 1997 and 1998 (which was after the second album), but due to various reasons they were not used for the third, and the recording and mixing has now been completed by the current line-up. I actually cannot find details of the current line-up, so do not know who is involved these days, but they have been gigging so hopefully this means that there is a chance of more music on the horizon.

Technically I guess this could be viewed as a third album as opposed to a fourth, given the bones of this was recorded in the Nineties, but it has been completed with 20+ years of more experience. I thoroughly enjoyed 'The Dissolution Age', and as soon as I knew this was being released, I knew I had to hear it as there is something quite distinct and different about their sound, and this does not disappoint whatsoever in that regard. Their form of prog is incredibly dark and gothic, so much so that they even appear on Encyclopaedia Metallum, who are incredibly discerning as to who they allow in, yet also appear on ProgArchives. They have a keyboard sound which sounds as if it has been ripped out of the Seventies, while Mercy has been inspired by Peter Steele, and they combine this with Bauhaus, Nick Cave, and overbearing layers to create something which is dark and timeless, yet never sounding modern.

Malombra have created their own sound, and it is great to hear a "new" album from them after so many years. I am looking forward to hearing what the current line-up is going to deliver, soon I hope.

## **MARDUK MEMENTO MORI CENTURY MEDIA RECORDS**

In some ways Marduk have been incredibly stable in that founder guitarist Evil (Morgan Steinmeyer Håkansson) has been at the helm for more than 20 years while singer Mortuus (Daniel Rostén) joined all the way back in 2004 but in other areas not so much. Drummer Bloodhammer (Simon Schilling) only joined in 2019, after the last album, while long-term bassist Devo (Magnus Andersson) left in 2019 to concentrate on session work (although he has guested on this album, while Mortuus and ex-



bassist Joel Lindholm also contribute). One always knows what to expect with Marduk, and with their fifteenth studio album they have not disappointed.

When asked about 'Memento Mori' Daniel Rostén said, "Memento Mori is, all at once, a bold leap forward, a calculated sidestep, and a wistful backward glance. Meaning, we have broken new ground without forgetting our legacy or the journey that brought us to this point." This actually makes sense as while there are obvious links back to the last album, 'Viktoria', and others going all the way back to the Nineties, the band are still attempting to progress within the black metal scene while never moving out of it. There are times, such as on "Charlatan", where the drums, vocals and guitar are all moving in one direction while the bass is very much in another, which creates some space within the music and then when the bass aligns itself again it feels quite dramatic and more forceful. The use of micro breaks of space allows the music to reset and come back hard again while drummer Simon Schilling is a real find and it is no surprise that he is in so much demand (At the Grave, Eucharist, Hate Manifesto, Nervecell (live), ex-Belphegor, ex-Panzerchrist, ex-Paragon Belial, ex-Streams of Blood, ex-As Stormclouds Gather (live), ex-Der Weg einer Freiheit (live), ex-Fleshcrawl (live), ex-Infestus (live), ex-Kaoteon (live), ex-Monument of Misanthropy (live), ex-Nargarth (live)) as he is a force to be reckoned with, providing an over the top dynamic attack yet he also knows when to pull back and provide more space.

More than 30 years since their inception, Marduk show no sign at all of slowing down yet.





**MATT GOODLUCK  
INNER COSMOS  
INDEPENDENT**

I was sent this album a few months ago to review, at which time it was easily available through Bandcamp, but sometimes things move quickly in the music world and Matt has since been signed to a brand new independent label in the US called OtherSide. The album has been remastered by Robert Rich and will be re-released in January, so Matt's original has now been removed from Bandcamp. I first came across Matt some years ago due to his connection with Clive Nolan, but most people will know him as singer with one of Australia's premier cover bands, Echoes of Pink Floyd. Given he is a professional voiceover artist as well, one would expect this to be an album full of harmonies, but instead what we have is an instrumental electronic release which has been heavily influenced by both the Berlin School and Vangelis, while there are also a few Floydian touches in there as well.

However, there is a lot going on here with plenty of flavours to tickle the palate, and there is no doubt that "Rated R" takes its influences not only from the majesty of film composers like John Gardener but also the dynamics and prog of the wonderful Goblin (seeing them perform the soundtrack live at a showing of 'Suspiria' was a very special event). He brings in clips from here and there to add to the story he is weaving, the end result being something which never sounds as if it is a debut self-released album but something which has come from someone far more established and well-known. What we have here is an album which has been well constructed with real depth and warmth, something which is difficult to undertake within electronic music, with multiple styles to hand. It is something which must be played on headphones to be fully appreciated, with the result being more than

worth the time taken to sit and really listen to it. When this is reissued it will hopefully gain more attention, and is one to keep an eye out for.



**NOISEPOETNOBODY  
THIS CITY  
SCRY RECORDINGS**

According to such notable magazines as Rolling Stone and GQ, the worst song of all time is Starship's "We Built This City", so one can only wonder what they would think of the title track which opens this album, played in the background in a twisted manner with plenty of menace in the foreground. Noisepoetnobody is led by Casey Jones, who has spent a lot of time performing in underground venues, bars, art galleries, abandoned buildings, and illegal DIY spaces forever seeking to promote mental deprogramming through anti-commercial sonic immersion. Every set is a one-of-a-kind exchange of energy employing analogue electronics and improvised inspirations via speaker cones. In many ways Jones is a kindred spirit to David Brenner of Gridfailure, looking to broaden what people even consider to be music, yet approaching it in a very different way. Jones says, "This new collection is inspired by the pressures of modern urban survival and absurdist philosophy. In "This City", arguably the worst hit song of the '80s melts like a popsicle on the summer sidewalk into a pool of psychedelic bubbling liquid...remnants of previous live performances are mashed into a churning machine that holds no regret. Stark hardware beats give context for interruptions of past experience. The search for order brings the individual into conflict with the universe."

There is certainly conflict, and the album cover of a burned-out car relates closely to the sounds being produced on "Parking Garage". Jones brings in more melody than Brenner, which in some ways makes it even more difficult to listen to as at times the results feel quite familiar while at others the



experimentation takes them into areas which are more related to dance raves of the future where the beat is important but the sounds around it are harsh and fragmented. For my own tastes Jones does not push the boundaries enough, and the repeated loops take away somewhat from the rest of the layers, so the menace is not so extreme. However, I can see this being appreciated by those who wish to pursue music outside the mainstream without going too far into the dark side. Interesting while not being essential.



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 remarkable series of books which disprove any suggestion that prog died with the advent of punk...





JONATHAN DOWNES



# WILD COLONIAL BOY

a childhood with animals and ghosts in hong kong

[tinyurl.com/13jgqcbg](https://tinyurl.com/13jgqcbg)



# NEWS FROM THE POTTING SHED

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/](http://www.martinspringett.com/)

<https://spacewreckrecords.bandcamp.com>



Martin Springett's musical worlds are once again revealed to be of an absolute melodic, harmonic and rhythmic richness.

The music evolves rather in half-tone atmospheres, evoking a kind of melancholy.

Whether through his graphics or his music,

Martin Springett's artistic mastery is impressive and original.

All this, plus a quartet of excellent musicians, makes "The Blue Door" an essential album, in my humble opinion!

Pierre Prog.

[progcritique.com/a-gardening-club-project-the-blue-door/](http://progcritique.com/a-gardening-club-project-the-blue-door/)





*Music is a gateway*



*to another dimension*





# Thom the World Poet

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 Daevid 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!!"

## SIX SURREALISTS DIGEST

ONE FOUND A GOLDEN EGG  
Two found a Rainbow Serpent  
Three a dark Black Mirror  
Four a colorfilled mural  
Five a reflection ,eyes light gleaming  
Six found herself,quietly dreaming...



# COG-SINISTER

## Official Merchandise

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Cog Sinister:  
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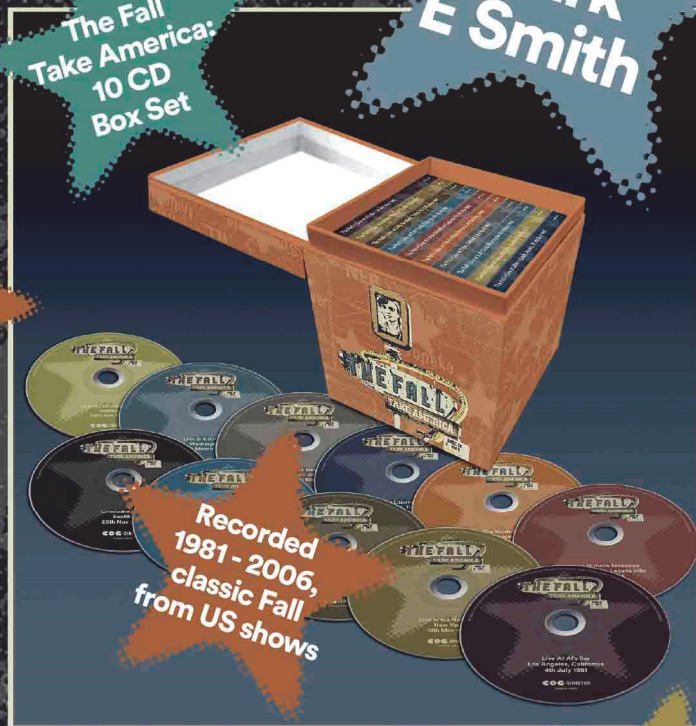
The Fall:  
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T Shirt  
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[www.musicglue.com/cog-sinister](http://www.musicglue.com/cog-sinister)

The shop for Mark E Smith and The Fall merchandise, CDs and vinyl



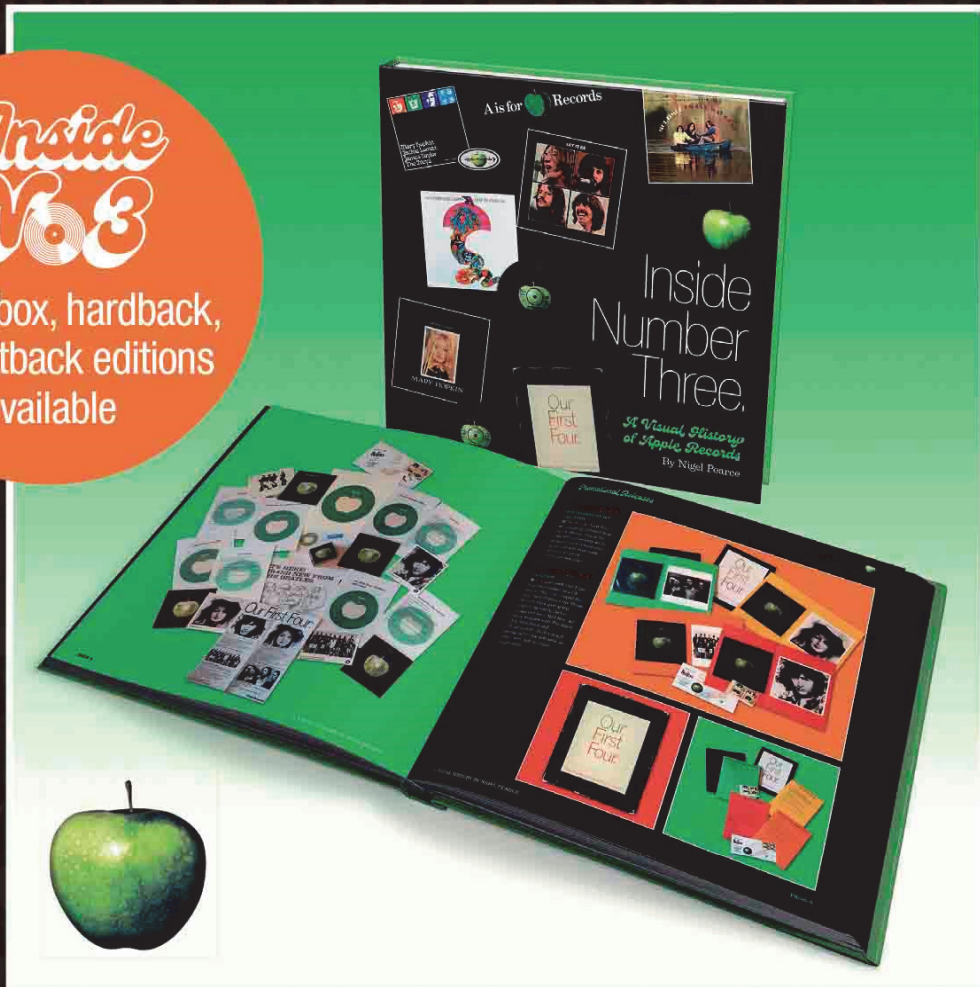
# Inside Number Three.

## *A Visual History of Apple Records*

By Nigel Pearce

*Inside  
No 3*

Deluxe box, hardback,  
and softback editions  
available



When you open this beautiful book, you will enter a world that millions of people never knew existed. It's a world of colour, innovation, revolution, coupled with a completely fresh and different mode of marketing from Apple Records, the label owned by The Beatles.

Savile Row was the epicentre of this world, nestling in a sumptuous Georgian Terrace in London's West End commercial belt. No 3 Savile Row is where it all happened in a way beyond belief operation that still inspires artists from all walks and ages of music and life. This book shows a very personal collection, carefully obtained and collated since 1968 that defies description, and has the ability to astound all who care to enter this lost and much sought-after world.

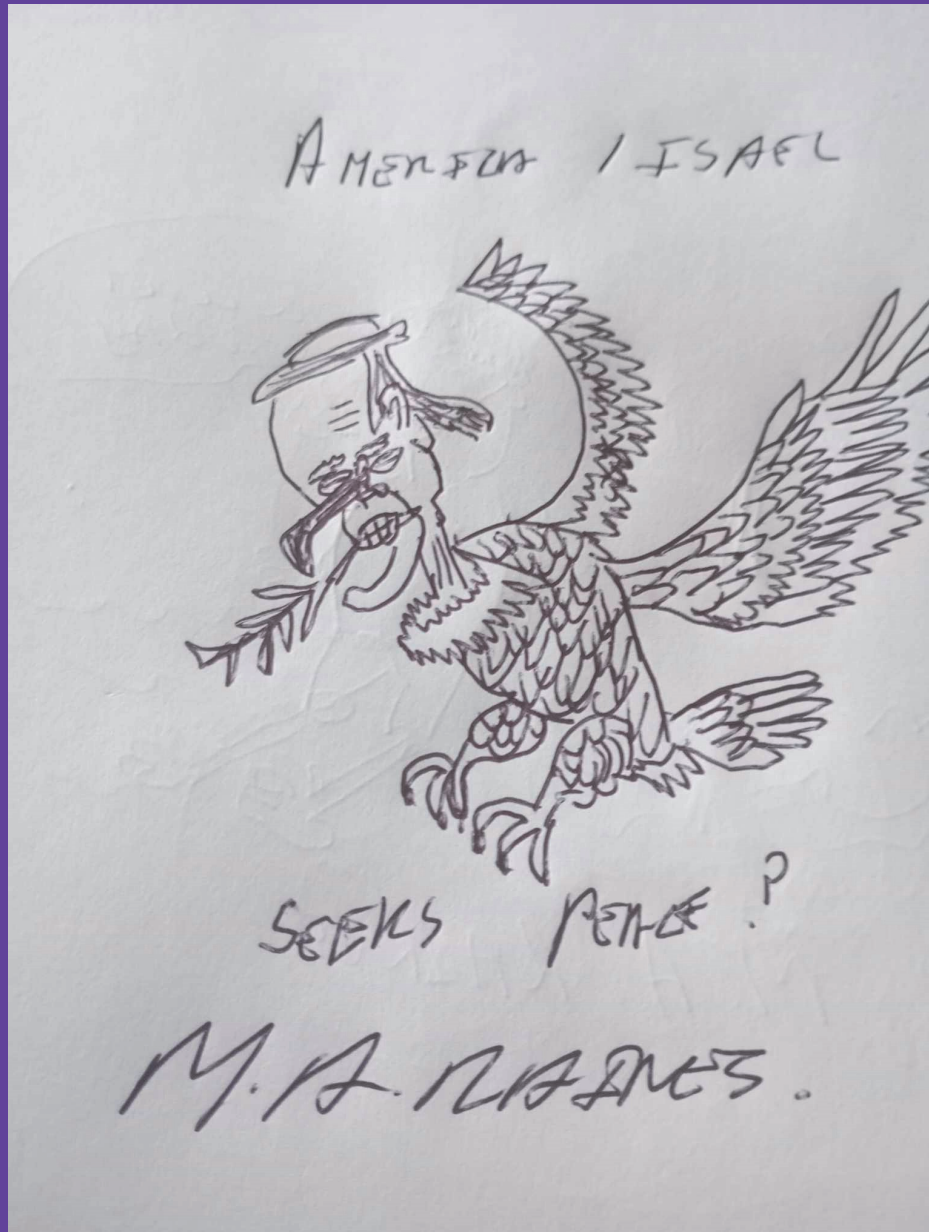
Memos, records, press statements, photographs, albums and so much more. This private collection so carefully assembled, cared for since 1968 has been expertly photographed in full detail to bring this beautiful and innovating world to you, as a tribute and recognition of The Beatles, the world's greatest ever group, and the ever-growing legacy that still astounds fans and historians the world over. It's a record of love, devotion and a longing for all fans, that need wait no more to see this remarkable and stunning world. It shows what went on behind that famous door Inside No 3.

Available to pre-order from [www.insideandoutsidenono3.com](http://www.insideandoutsidenono3.com)



THE WORLD OF GONZO ACCORDING TO

# Mark Raines



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 set it up as I found video a bit hard. I just hope people like and support it. If anyone wants to be part of it or just to come along for the ride they are welcome".

PS shows can be downloaded

<http://maraines88.podbean.com/>



And so, my friends, here we are at the end of another issue. I hope you enjoyed it and found it at least partially interesting. I make no apologies for the fact that each week we venture more uncharted waters. We are living in very uncertain times at the moment, and I have always been a believer that it is impossible to tell whether life imitates art or whether it is actually the other way round. Perhaps it is both - don't ask me - I am only the ringmaster of this stupid bloody circus.

I vaguely understand the mathematical theory behind the fact that life seems to go past ever faster the older you get, but I really don't care enough to bother to reiterate it here. However, it is certainly a truism because here I am planning this year's Christmas issue when I emotionally feel that it was only incredibly recently that I was doing the same for last year. Anyway, the aforementioned Christmas issue is going to be with you in a fortnight and the New Year's issue will be with you two weeks after that. Then we have the brave New World of 2024 and God alone knows what that will have in store for any of us. In fact, I think that I speak for many of us when I say I would rather not know. 2023 has been enough of a shit storm and I strongly suspect that we are going to have more of the same or even worse.

However, whichever way it works out, it is certain that our science and whatever passes for reality do influence each other in various way whether or not we understand them and so, as a conscientious editor, a Fortean and artist of sorts myself, I find the



whole process with what the world is going through at the moment, absolutely fascinating.

Politics has always been my favourite spectator sport and what we are seeing now is politics writ large and on a massic global scale. The rise of populism across the world and events like the election of a self confessed Anarcho-Capitalist, as Head of State in Argentina for example, especially one who uses a live chainsaw as a visual aid at the hustings can only add to what makes these interesting times so damned interesting.

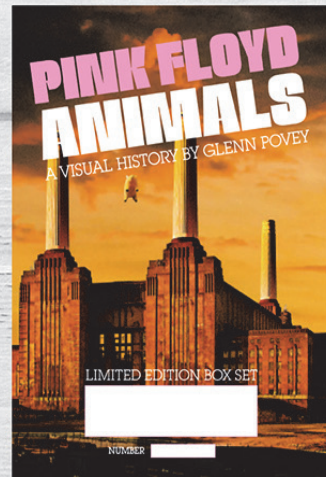
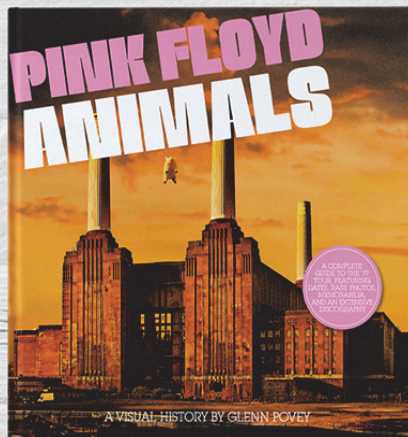
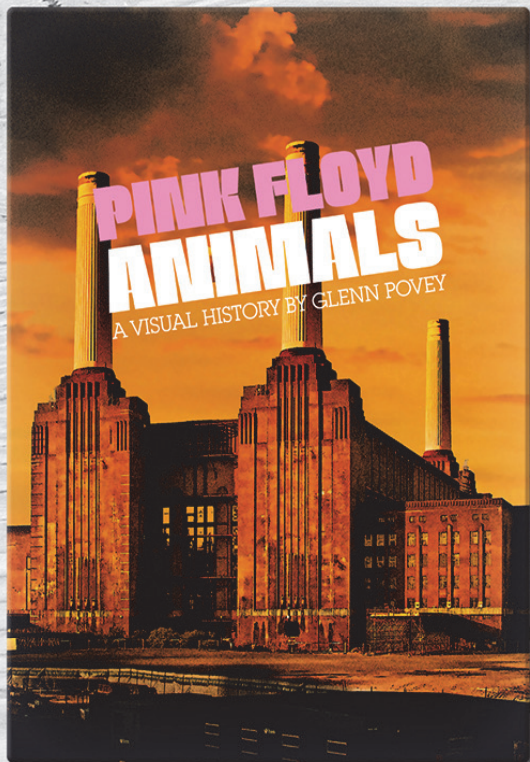
See you next issue.

Hare Bol  
Jon



# THE BEST LAID PLANS





**"Oink, Oink,  
Woof, Woof,  
Baaaaa."**



**En chair et en os**

**PINK FLOYD**  
**In the flesh**

**LE STADE OLYMPIQUE**

**PINK FLOYD**



**TOUR BROCHURE**

