

GONZA

In this extraordinary issue, Alan goes to Tibet and discusses this much misunderstood country and its spiritual leader the Dalai Lama, Doug goes to see Alice Cooper and Jon waxes lyrical on The Divine Comedy and Mike Love of The Beach Boys.

Fun Fun Fun for
all the family!



207

THE ROOF OF THE WORLD



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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 singular little publication which never ceases to surprise me by doing the job that it set out to do really rather well. My whole *modus operandi* both for doing this magazine, and in my life in general, has changed considerably over the last few months, and - as I believe that I have mentioned in these pages before - I now stagger my writings for this

magazine throughout the week rather than saving them all up to do on Friday. I have also changed the structure of my days. For years I have tumbled out of bed, performed my ablutions, and then staggered into the office to work, and found myself knee deep in emails, brickbats and plaudits before I had even eaten breakfast. I would then eat breakfast on the fly, and rush helter skelter through the day until I staggered back upstairs and into bed some twelve or fourteen hours later. And that was a stupidly self-destructive way to go about things, and no good whatsoever for my mental health.

Now I come downstairs an hour or so before the rest of the household emerges and I slowly acclimatise myself to the rigours of the day (and sometimes go back to sleep in my armchair). Then an hour or so later Graham is up, and feeds me and pours copious amounts of coffee down my throat, and - all things being reasonably equal - I sit in my favourite armchair (with or without Archie the Jack Russell or Lilith the black cat) and write deathless prose on my iPad. Today is one of those days when everything is equal, and so that is exactly what I am doing.



This is not a band who should come onstage looking
horribly like rockstars, playing very loud and
saying “Ullo Bristol are ya ready to ‘ave a good time?”

Julia the psychic, my wife Corinna and her mama usually surface after I have written about a thousand words, and thus my little household is raring to meet the challenges of the day that lies before us.

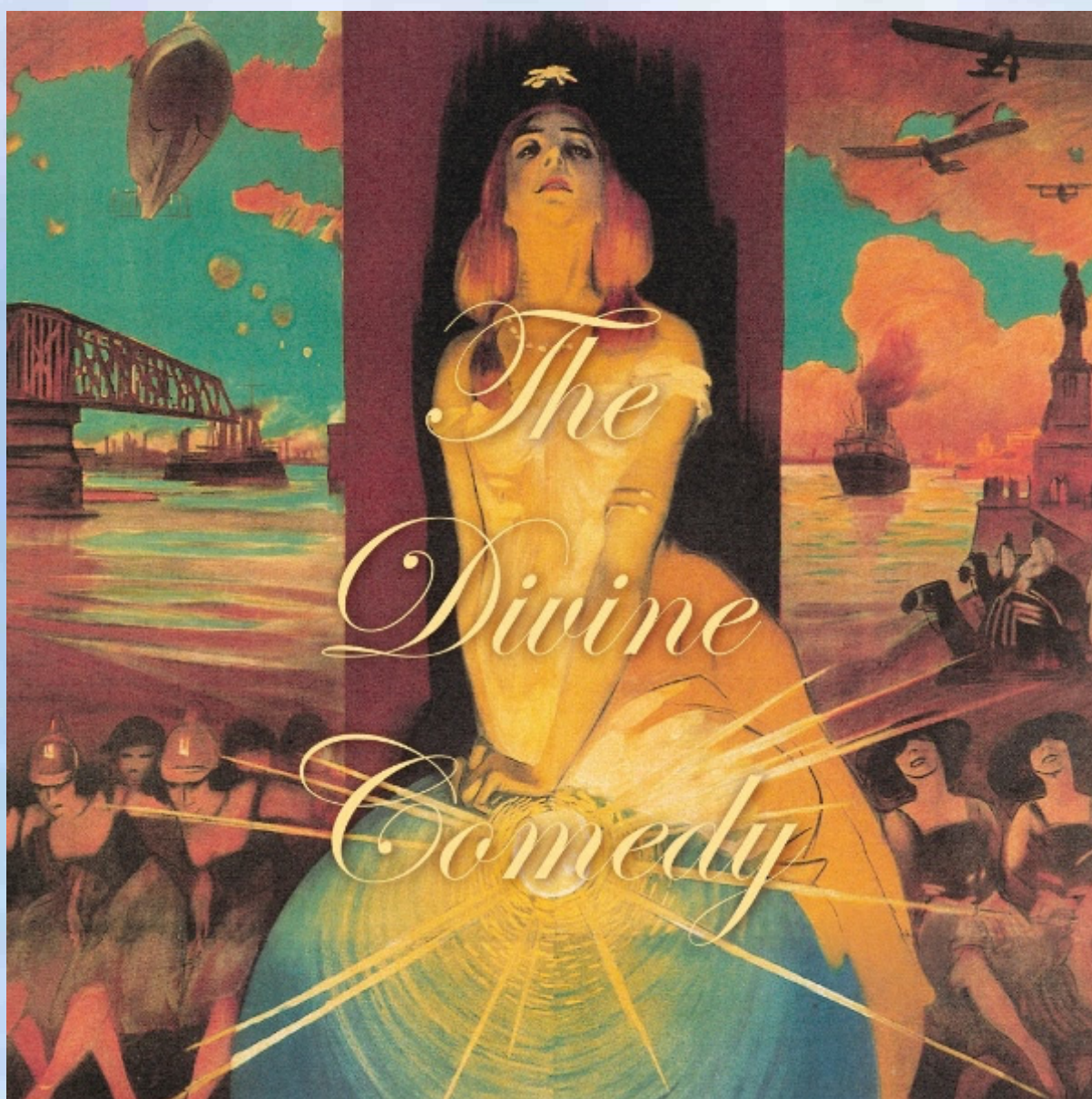
I have been continuing to fulminate upon the subject upon which I have been fulminating over the past few weeks; that is answering the (not exactly a) criticism that has been levelled at me recently, that I (specifically) and this magazine (broadly) is stuck in a rut of covering music released between 1968-74 and that I/we don't care about anything else.

Well, as I have said on a number of occasions

lately, this is nonsense. But I would like to qualify it in the light of my listening habits of the last week. In 1993 those jolly nice fellows at Setanta Records sent me a copy of *Liberation*, the second album by The Divine Comedy, and it soon became a firm favourite with me and my first wife. A year or so later came *Promenade* which was nearly as good, and two years after that came *Casanova* with its attendant hit single ‘Something for the Weekend’, which - sadly - was the soundtrack to my divorce, and the follow up album *A Short Album about Love* soundtracked my subsequent doomed love affairs.

But who *are* The Divine Comedy, I hear you ask.





The Divine Comedy (named after Dante's epic poem) are an orchestral pop band from Northern Ireland formed in 1989 and fronted by Neil Hannon. Hannon has been the only constant member of the group, playing, in some instances, all of the non-orchestral instrumentation besides drums. To date, eleven studio albums have been released under the Divine Comedy name. The group achieved their greatest commercial success in the years 1996–99, during which they had nine singles that made the UK Top 40, including the top ten hit "National Express".

In 1999 I went to see them at a university or college in Bristol. And you know what? They were

awful.

This is a band that should be listened to whilst lolling on the grass watching Hannon et al in an ornate Victorian bandstand in some rococo park. This is not a band who should come onstage looking horribly like rockstars, playing very loud and saying "Ullo Bristol are ya ready to 'ave a good time?" Although I might be suffering from False Memory Syndrome as far as the last complaint goes. I watched about half of the show then went to the bar where I spent half an hour vaguely trying (and failing) to seduce a fat girl from Pontypridd.

I didn't like the next few albums either. I felt that the deftness of touch that Hannon had used to conjure up inventive tunes and witty lyrics had gone out the window with the band's success, and although I always hoped for another song like 'Your daddy's car' or 'Frog Princess' it never seemed to arrive, and I am afraid that I gave up on them.

Then last week, I read that there was a new Divine Comedy album. And so I checked it out on Spotify, and to my great joy I discovered that it is brilliant. Probably their best since 1997. Certainly my favourite for many years. It is witty, clever, and the tunes are to die for. And the collaboration with his partner Cathy Davey is perfect. And I would like to add that Ms Davey has an incredibly 1940s era sultry voice, and that I have put checking out her solo records on my to do list.

Other bands from the late 1990s are still going strong, and one - Kula Shaker - has also just released a remarkable new record which I have every intention of writing about at some point in these pages. So - once again I have refuted charges that I am stuck in the early 1970s. But I don't think that I/we are even stuck in the late 1990s. There are bands like The Polyphonic Spree and Calexico that have only come to prominence in the current century, and I like both bands very much indeed.

But can I just point out that Paul Simon's new album is massively peculiar and namechecks my favourite antipsychotic Quetiapine, and the new Pink Fairies record is awesome. The rock and roll road goes ever on, and for so long as there is room on it for my rattly bariatric wheelchair, I shall be continuing my journey.

Hare bol
jd

The Divine Comedy, Spirits Burning, Clearlight, Gong, Roger Daltrey, Prince, Paul McCartney, Marillion, Strange Fruit, Mack Maloney's Mystery Hour, Claude "Curly" Putman, Jr., Robert Coull "Bobby" Wellins, Molly Rose, Spirits Burning and Clearlight, Vangelis, Al Atkins, Atomic Rooster, Rick Wakeman, Martin Stephenson and The Daintees, Archie Fisher & Barbara Dickson, ARW, The Pink Fairies, Alice Cooper, Alan Dearling, Tibet, The Invisible Opera Company of Tibet, the Dalai Lama, Mr Biffo, Roy Weard, Hawkwind, Martin Springett, The Gardening Club, Mike Love, The Beach Boys, One Direction, Rolling Stones, The Beatles, Sting, Elvis, Frank Sinatra, Marilyn Manson

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

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 kitten on the verge of adulthood) ably assisted by:

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

Richard Freeman,
(Scary stuff)
Dave McMann,
(He ain't nothing but a Newshound-dog)
Orrin Hare,
(Sybarite and literary *bon viveur*)
Mark Raines,
(Cartoonist)
Davey Curtis,
(tales from the north)
Jon Pertwee
(Pop Culture memorabilia)
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:

Jonathan Downes,
Editor: *Gonzo Daily* (Music and More)
Editor: *Gonzo Weekly* magazine
The Centre for Fortean Zoology,
Myrtle Cottage,
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Fax+44 (0)7006-074-925
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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.

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than usual to subscribe
because, not only is it FREE
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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
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THE ^{gonzo} NEWSROOM

**Spirits Burning &
Clearlight Feat.
Members of GONG,
Hawkwind &
Clearlight To Release
New Album**

**"The Roadmap In
Your Head"**

"The Roadmap In Your Head" is the 13th studio album from the Spirits Burning space rock collective, and the second to feature keyboardist Cyrille "Clearlight" Verdeaux. The album has a strong Gong presence, as it includes performances by four musicians from Gong's Radio Gnome Invisible Trilogy (Daevid Allen, Steve Hillage, Mike Howlett, Didier Malherbe), and four members

Spirits Burning & Clearlight



The Roadmap In Your Head

MARTIN STEPHENSON AND THE DAINTEES

BOAT TO BOLIVIA

30TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR 2016

NOVEMBER 2016

- 02 CAMBRIDGE, JUNCTION
- 12 STIRLING, TOLBOOTH
- 14 INVERNESS, EDEN COURT
- 17 DUNDEE, CLARKS
- 18 SALFORD, LOWRY
- 19 NEWPORT, RIVERFRONT
- 22 GLASGOW, KING TUTS
- 23 LEEDS, BRUDENELL
- 24 LIVERPOOL, CAVERN
- 25 BIRMINGHAM, INSTITUTE
- 26 CLITHEROE, GRAND
- 30 SHEFFIELD, ACADEMY 2

DECEMBER 2016

- 02 GATESHEAD, SAGE
- 03 LONDON, 100 CLUB

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"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

of the current Gong (Ian East, Fabio Golfetti, Dave Sturt, Kavus Torabi). Clearlight is a project of French songwriter and composer Cyrille Verdeaux that blends classical romanticism and prog-rock experimentation. The first Clearlight album was released under the name "Clearlight Symphony," in 1974, by British major label Virgin Records. The most recent release was 2015's "Impressionist Symphony."

"Spirits Burning is a musical collective overseen by American composer/producer Don Falcone that has released a pluralistic combination of ambient, jazz and full-on space-rock with input from many of the genre's luminaries. Spirits Burning has become a respected melting pot of the space-rock fraternity." Ian Abrahams, Rock N Reel, July-August, 2008.

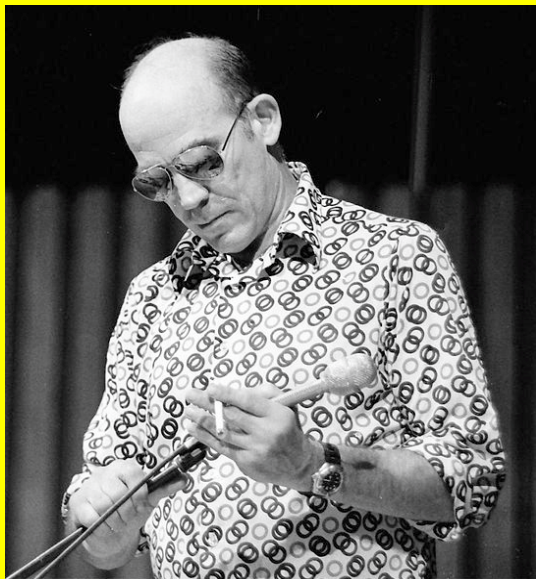


Says founding member and band leader Don Falcone, "Roadmap" is a musical journey from the beginning of one possible day to the next, touching different styles of music along the way. Like the previous Spirits Burning & Clearlight album, the songs are primarily instrumental. The new album is also a salute to Daevid and what he has meant to Spirits Burning, as he has been part of every release, except one." Gong legend Daevid Allen, who sadly passed away in 2015, co-wrote two songs on this release. He sings on the closing track "Roadmaps," and plays guitar on this track and the opening title track.

There are thirty-five musicians on Spirits Burning's "The Roadmap In Your Head." Besides members of the Gong global family, there are some special new crewmembers: Paul Booth (who recorded his part while touring with Steve Winwood), Theo Travis (who has played with David Gilmour, Porcupine Tree, and Gong), Judy Dyble (who provided some autoharp flourishes), and Jonathan Segel from Camper Van Beethoven (who Don invited after discovering he was a Gong fan). Returning crewmembers include: Hawkwind family members Steve Bemand, Nik Turner, and Bridget Wishart, plus Albert Bouchard (BÖC). "The Roadmap In Your Head" was mastered by well known ambient recording artist Robert Rich.

Titles:

1. The Roadmap In Your Head 3:56
2. Sun Sculptor & The Electrobilities 3:50
3. The Birth Of Belief 8:38
4. Coffee For Coltrane 6:58
5. Isolation In 10 80 2:55



WHO GONZO? WHY GONZO? WHAT GONZO?

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

- [A potted history of his life and works](#)
- [Rob Ayling explains why he called his company 'Gonzo'](#)

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

"But our trip was different. It was a classic affirmation of everything right and true and decent in the national character. It was a gross, physical salute to the fantastic possibilities of life in this country-but only for those with true grit. And we were chock full of that."

Hunter S. Thompson

6. Mrs. Noonness 4:12
7. The Old College Sky Is Where We Left It 1:28
8. Fuel For The Gods 13:05
9. Early Evening Rain 3:31
10. Black Squirrel At The Root Of The Staircase 7:34
11. Outsiders Parachute In 5:48
12. Déjà Vu 2:25
13. La Rue Inconnue 4:48
14. Roadmaps (The Other Way) 5:59

Release date November 4, 2016

To purchase: http://www.gonzomultimedia.co.uk/product_details/15992

For more information:

www.spiritsburning.com

<https://www.facebook.com/spiritsburning/>

<https://www.reverbNation.com/spiritsburning>

GONZO CURRENTLY IN STOCK AT GONZO (UK)

GONZO CURRENTLY IN STOCK AT GONZO (USA)

BEFORE I UMMM GROW OLD: Roger Daltrey recently made a fairly big, controversial statement. Rock is dead, long live Hip-Hop. The Who were playing the second weekend of the Desert Trip Festival in Indio, CA when Roger sat down to talk with The Times of London. He stated "The sadness for me is that rock has reached a dead end. The only people saying things that matter are the rappers and most pop is meaningless and forgettable. You watch these





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THE ^{gonzo} NEWSROOM

people and you can't remember a bloody thing." Roger went on to talk about the fact that the Who have been stuck in a rut for forty years, referencing the 1976 Day on the Green Festival which he considers his career high point. **Read on...**

SIGN OF THE TIMES: The mayor of Prince's Minneapolis hometown dubbed Friday (28Oct16) Paisley Park Day as his fabled recording compound



officially reopened as a museum. Earlier this month (Oct16), officials at the Chanhasen City Council postponed the complex's planned 6 October (16) opening amid concerns about traffic and parking issues. A few tours were still permitted, but many fans who had already made plans to attend the opening were left disappointed. On Monday (24Oct16), council bosses approved the rezoning request, and as Paisley Park officially opened its doors for business on Friday, Mayor Denny Laufenburger decided to dedicate the day to the venue. "Prince was known to love all, and today we welcome the world to our city while extending an open invitation for fans to visit Chanhasen and this beautiful music landmark," he announced in the proclamation. **Read on...**

IN MY LIFE: Paul McCartney nearly gave his entire music career up because of crippling stage fright. The 74-year-old singer is one of the biggest stars in the world thanks to his career with The Beatles, Wings and as a solo artist. However, in a Q&A session with fans on his website paulmccartney.com on Sunday (30Oct16), Paul admitted that his time in the spotlight almost came to an early end due to his nerves.

One fan from Russia asked Paul: "What was the biggest - or one of the biggest - fears in your life and how did you overcome it?"



"Performing, it was always the idea that the audience didn't like you and you had to prove yourself," Paul answered. "I think that's why a lot of people get stage fright and get nervous. You think, 'Oh my god, I'm gonna be terrible, they hate me, and it's all terrible.' And so I think that was one of the earliest fears. I remember nearly giving it all up when we were doing a concert in Wembley (in London) - which was a Poll-Winners concert - in the really early days of The Beatles. And I remember feeling physically sick with a knot in my stomach thinking, 'I should give this up, this is just too painful, what am I doing?' I got over it." **Read on...**

gonzo

**CURRENTLY IN STOCK
AT GONZO (UK)**

gonzo

**CURRENTLY IN STOCK
AT GONZO (USA)**

The Gospel According to *BART*

My favourite roving reporter is back this week with a letter from those jolly nice folk in Marillion:

“Hello crazy kids and curious grown-ups,

Mr H here. Greetings from Chicago! We have so far played three shows in the US - in San Francisco, L.A. and Denver. We hit the ground roaring in SF and had a terrific show. Los Angeles and Denver were similarly fabulous - the new songs are sounding and feeling great, and the audiences have been enthusiastic, respectful and supportive.

We'd like to thank everyone who has attended, or is attending the US and Canadian Marillion shows. We're having a great time here. It's even stopped raining in Chicago this morning! While I'm at it, I'd like to announce a few extra-curricular projects currently forthcoming:

First of all, I'll be making an appearance for another collaboration with Swedish chamber-rock band Isildurs Bane at their annual IB Expo on November 26 in Halmstad on the West Coast of Sweden. (Yes, that's Nov 26 THIS year!)

I did this one two years ago with Richard Barbieri and David Torn, and previous live collaborators have included Tony Levin, David Rhodes (long term-members of Peter Gabriel's core band) and Phil Manzanera (Roxy Music, David Gilmour) so there's an illustrious pedigree. IB (and me) will be performing their forthcoming album "Off the Radar" much of which I have co-written and sung lead-vocals on.

It's an exciting and interesting record and so a debut live performance complete with their chamber orchestra, will be quite an event.

More details of "Off the Radar" released early 2017, to follow.

Lastly, (while I'm hawking) I'd like to mention my traditional Christmas h-Natural concerts - this year in Oxford, Liverpool and DUBLIN (Hooray!) on Dec 16, 17 and 18. They're small and intimate affairs and usually sell-out quite quickly, so don't mess about :o)

Further details and tickets below.

IB Expo: <http://www.ticketmaster.se/event/ib-expo-40-ar-biljetter/430883>

h Christmassy Natural :

16th December 2016 - St John The Evangelist Church, Oxford - <https://www.wegottickets.com/event/371308>

17th December 2016 - St Margaret Of Antioch, Liverpool - <http://www.wegottickets.com/event/376679>

18th December 2016 - The Grand Social, Dublin - <http://tickets.ie/events.aspx/search?s=h%20natural>

Off the Radar : Available from Racket Records early 2017.



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Benton; J. H. ENIGHT'S HAT STORE, 185 Main St.
Worcester.
Feb 24, 1877.

"At midnight, all the agents and superhuman crew go out and round up everyone who knows more than they do."

— Desolation Row by Bob Dylan

When those who are in power over us, do something spectacularly stupid, or when something highlights their idiocy and ineffectualness, it turns up in this section. *Que Ipsos Custodes?* Us? We just make stupid jokes about them.

WE DO NOT CLAIM THAT ANY OF THESE STORIES ARE TRUE—ONLY THAT THE PEOPLE WHO POSTED THEM CLAIM THAT THEY ARE TRUE...

Donald Trump's campaign technically started with music. He has long been a subject in music. His surrogates explain away his videotaped boasting about sexual assault by comparing it to music. And despite artists' objections, his rallies continue to use music. But Trump has also been a somewhat strange subject to protest with music. How do you raise consciousness about a subject that's already depressingly overexposed? What noise can be louder than this noisiest of narcissists?

Trump embodies a media environment that complacently merges entertainment and news, where the mere mention of his name has a Midas-meets-Idiocracy-like power to transmoglify celebrity gossip into politics, and back again. So a fair amount of the musical response to his rise has had more to do with wrestling-style angles than, y'know, music. Everyone from R.E.M. to Adele to Neil Young to the Rolling Stones has complained about Trump appropriating

their tunes. Tyler, the Creator and the White Stripes have sold Trump-bashing merch. Countless big names across every genre have dissed him onstage, from Nicki Minaj to Kesha to Roger Waters to the Dixie Chicks. Wavves went so far as to ban Trump supporters from his shows. Anderson. Paak and 2 Chainz each baited him in their music videos. Carly Simon tweaked "You're So Vain" against him for a pro-Hillary ad. The Roots even mocked him moments before Jimmy Fallon tousled whatever it is that Trump calls hair.

<http://pitchfork.com/thepitch/1319-9-actually-good-songs-about-why-donald-trump-sucks/>



Democracywatch

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 Worcester, May 10. 1854 OTIS CONVERSE.

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R. S. LEONARD.
Feb 25, 1857.

THE LAST WEEK AT GONZO DAILY

Sunday
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

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 always promised that this magazine would never endorse a political candidate. I am afraid that, as a person of integrity, that I have no option but to rescind that promise...

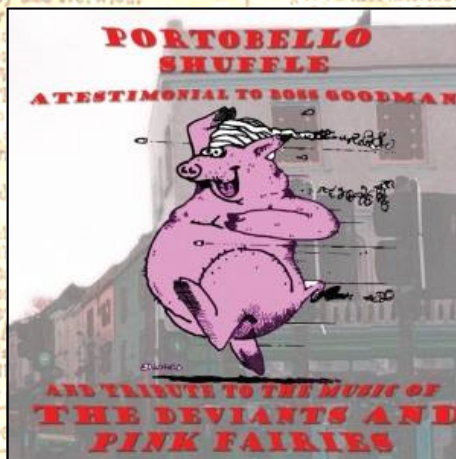


In New Hampshire, a man calling himself Vermin Supreme filed for the presidential primary. He said in his administration, every American will receive a pony. He also plans to defeat ISIS by going back in time.



I'M ON BOARD!

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



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MICHAEL DES BARRÉS ON

LITTLE STEVEN'S
UNDERGROUND GARAGE

MAXIMUM ROCK AND ROLL

MORNINGS 8AM - 11AM ET CH21 SIRIUS | ((XM))
SATELLITE RADIO

(FILLING IN FOR ANDREW LOOG OLDHAM)

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

Jimmy Carter

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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Peculiar News of the Week



Each week Richard Freeman: world famous cryptozoologist, explorer, author, and one of the most peculiar people I know picks a suitably off story from the world's press.

Woman has 'period explosion' in the road as part of social experiment

Read more: <http://metro.co.uk/2016/10/25/woman-has-period-explosion-in-the-road-as-part-of-social-experiment-6214616/#ixzz4OyOnXFev>



Bye Daddy! I'm leaving
for my date tonight!



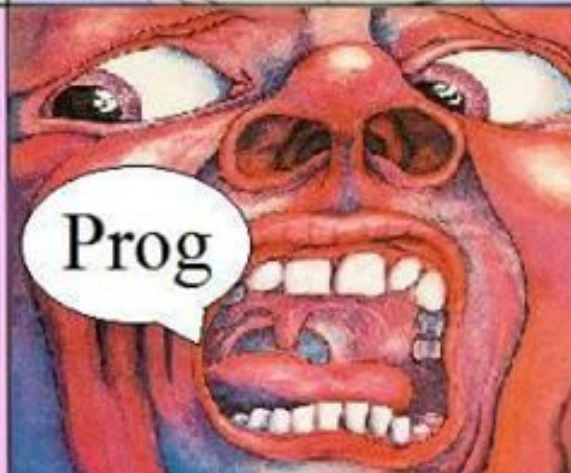
Hmph... You be careful, those
boys only care about one thing.



Sex?



No...



Prog

**ME TRYING TO FIND
GIRLS IN A PROG CONCERT**





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 Tim and Jaki on their submarine, and 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!



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). The show is broadcast on Miskin Radio every Sunday from 10-00-midnight.

Every other week the show is now presented by Jeremy Smith and as the two promotional pictures that he sent consisted as one of him covered in mud and the other of him covered in guinea pigs he is obviously mad as a bagful of cheese, which means he will fit in here just fine!

He writes: I've been a huge music fan ever since my parents bought me a transistor radio and I would listen to the sixties pirate music stations at nights under the covers. This love of live music has stayed with me to this day and I still love standing in a small club like the Borderline in London with some mates and watching a band with a pint in my hand. With the Strange Fruit radio show, I want to continue the trend of doing themed shows and playing the music I love

Strange Fruit 186 – Unsuitied and Unbooted

Stripped back versions of popular classics by the original artists. Unplugged, yeah, something like that!



Featured Albums:

The Rolling Stones: Unplugged

Jack White: Acoustic Recordings 1998 - 2016

Tracks:

- 1 Richard Thompson: I Want to See the Bright Lights Tonight
- 2 Hot Tuna: Embryonic Journey
- 3 The Hillbilly Moon Experience: Down on Your Knees
- 4 Yo La Tengo: Tom Courtenay
- 5 REM: So. Central Rain
- 6 The Rolling Stones: Sister Morphine
- 7 The Rolling Stones: Dead Flowers
- 8 Nils Lofgren: Back it Up
- 9 Gene Clark: Back in my Life Again
- 10 Neil Young: The Needle and the Damage Done
- 11 The Modern Lovers: She Cracked
- 12 The Kinks: I Go to Sleep
- 13 The Rolling Stones: Wild Horses
- 14 The Rolling Stones: Angie
- 15 Steel Panther: The Burden of Being Wonderful
- 16 The Psychedelic Furs: Pretty in Pink
- 17 Nathaniel Street-West: Good Morning Blues
- 18 The Ruts: Staring at the Rude Boys
- 19 The White Stripes: Hotel Yorba
- 20 The White Stripes: City Lights
- 21 The Stranglers: Princess of the Streets
- 22 Mudcrutch: I Forgive It All
- 23 Nils Logren: Keith Don't Go (Ode to the Glimmer Twin)
- 24 Kirsty MacColl: Miss Otis Regrets
- 25 Bob Dylan: Sad Eyed Lady of the Lowlands
- 26 The White Stripes: We're Going to be Friends
- 27 Jack White: Never far Away
- 28 Placebo: Song to Say Goodbye
- 29 Placebo: The Bitter End

Listen
Here

**DUE TO TECHNICAL PROBLEMS BEYOND OUR
CONTROL THERE IS NO FRIDAY NIGHT
PROGRESSIVE THIS WEEK**



**KEEP
CALM**

Normal service

**Will resume
Shortly**



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

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

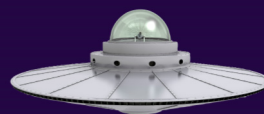
He's a member of SKY CLUB, Gonzo recording artists. He's been a radio host since 2010. He lives with his wife, Doreen, on an island off the coast of Massachusetts."



AND LOOK WHAT MACK HAS FOR YOU THIS WEEK

The Reverse-Time Vortex Show

Time slips highlight this episode as Mack, Juan-Juan and a ghostly Commander Cobra talk about a mysterious UFO-related death in Poland, the rise of clown porn around the world and a "Baywatch" connection to the Wiki-leaks drama. Rob Beckhusen reports on the military's strange aerial searchlights, Switchblade Steve on the famous Kentucky Gremlins UFO case, plus a feuding Cobra and Juan-Juan trade jabs over the air.



Listen
Here

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



**Claude "Curly" Putman, Jr.
(1930 – 2016)**

Putman was an American songwriter, based in Nashville.

Putnam worked several jobs in different places in the late 1950s and early 60s, inspiring his later hit "My Elusive Dreams". He penned his first big hit, "Green, Green Grass of Home," when working in Nashville plugging songs for Tree Records.

This song has been covered by Roger Miller, Elvis Presley, Kenny Rogers, Don Williams, Burl Ives, Johnny Darrell, Gram Parsons, Joan Baez, Jerry Lee Lewis, The Grateful Dead, Johnny Cash, Roberto

Leal, Dean Martin, Merle Haggard, Bobby Bare, Joe Tex, Nana Mouskouri, and Tom Jones.

Putman died of congestive heart failure and kidney failure, aged 85 on 30th October.



**Robert Coull "Bobby" Wellins
(1936 – 2016)**

Wilson was a Scottish tenor saxophonist best known for his collaboration with Stan Tracey on the British jazz album *Jazz Suite Inspired by Dylan Thomas' "Under Milk Wood"* (1965).

Wellins studied alto saxophone and harmony with his father Max, and also played piano and clarinet

THOSE WE HAVE LOST

when young. He joined the RAF as a musician playing tenor saxm and after demobilisation he played with a few Scottish bands before moving to London in the mid-1950s. He was a member of Buddy Featherstonhaugh's quintet between 1956 and 1957, together with Kenny Wheeler. Around that time Wellins also joined drummer Tony Crombie's Jazz Inc., where he first met pianist Stan Tracey, joining Tracey's quartet in the early 1960s. He also worked with Lionel Grigson in 1976. At the end of the 1970s he was a member of the Jim Richardson Quartet.

In the mid-1970s he led his own quartet with pianist Pete Jacobsen, bassist Adrian Kendon (replaced later by Ken Baldock, and then Andy Cleyndert in the 1980s) and drummer Spike Wells. In the 1980s he formed a quintet with fellow sax player Don Weller and then with guitarist Jim Mullen; the former group included Errol Clarke on piano, Cleyndert on bass and Wells on drums, while the latter featured Pete Jacobsen on piano. In 2012, Wellins was the subject of a documentary film, *Dreams are Free*, directed by Brighton-based director Gary Barber. The film traces the rise, fall and redemption of Wellins, showing how he overcame addiction and depression, and rediscovered the desire to play after ten years away from jazz.

Wellins died on 27 October 2016 after being ill for some years.



**Molly Rose OBE, DL, JP
née Marshall
(1920 – 2016)**

Rose was a British aviator who flew for the Air Transport Auxiliary in World War 2, joining on 16 September 1942 and delivering 486 aircraft during the war.

On leaving school in 1937 Molly joined the family business as an apprentice engineer, working in the hangars and maintaining aircraft engines. Learning to fly in a Tiger Moth in 1937 and gaining her pilots' licence at the age of 17, she was invited to join the Air Transport Auxiliary in 1942. As she became more experienced, she started flying the Hurricane fighter and then the Spitfire ("a thrilling moment"). For much of her service she flew from Hamble airfield, an all-female unit near Southampton.

On some days she flew three or four different types of aircraft. Before flying a new type the pilots read aircraft notes and used a detailed checklist before starting up. They flew without radios, and many airfields were camouflaged and difficult to find.

She also delivered twin-engine aircraft such as the Anson and the Hudson, before she started flying the Wellington bomber, and she mastered the Beaufighter and Mosquito, aircraft which many pilots found a handful. As the war progressed she transferred to the more advanced Spitfire variants, the Typhoon and the powerful Tempest fighter-bomber.

The organisation delivered over 309,000 aircraft from factories to the RAF during the war and piloted 486 aircraft and 38 different types, from Spitfires to Wellington bombers.

She delivered 273 Spitfires – and as a result she was known as one of the Spitfire Women.

In 2008 the service of the "Forgotten Pilots" of the ATA was finally formally recognised and Molly attended a ceremony at 10 Downing Street, where the prime minister, Gordon Brown, presented her and other survivors with the ATA Veteran's Badge.

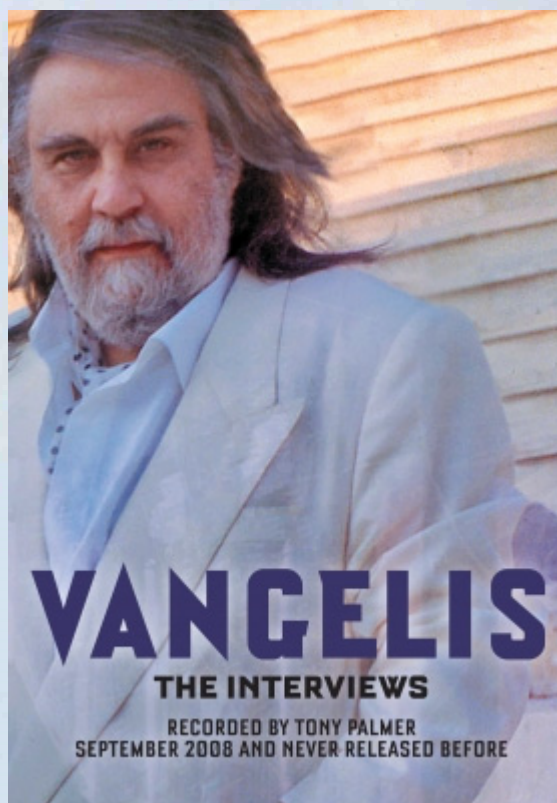
She died on 16th October 2016 at the age of 95.

THOSE WE HAVE LOST



Artist Spirits Burning and Clearlight
Title The Roadmap In Your Head
Cat No. HST423CD
Label Gonzo

Spirits Burning, the brain child of multi instrumentalist producer Don Falcone team up with the legendary Clearlight (aka equally legendary Prog artist Cyrille Verdeaux) for a second album of delightful grooves together. Don Falcone (born November 5th, 1958) is an American musician and producer. Originally a poet-performer in Pennsylvania, he relocated to San Francisco at the beginning of the 1980s. He was a member of Thessalonians and the original Melting Euphoria, had a solo project called Spaceship Eyes, and since 1996 has led the Spirits Burning space rock collective. Various cable and TV network programs have also used Falcone's music. Cyrille, however, has been producing fantastic music since 1975, sometimes with various members of Gong. Put these two musical Giants together and the grooviest of sparks are going to fly! What's not to like?



Artist Vangelis
Title The Tony Palmer Interviews
Cat No. TPDVD192
Label Tony Palmer

Evangelos Odysseas Papathanassiou born 29 March 1943), known professionally as Vangelis is a Greek composer of electronic, progressive, ambient, jazz, and orchestral music. He is best known for his Academy Award-winning score for the film Chariots of Fire, composing scores for the films Blade Runner, Missing, Antarctica, 1492: Conquest of Paradise, and Alexander, and the use of his music in the PBS documentary



Cosmos: A Personal Voyage by Carl Sagan. Here he discusses his stellar career with legendary journalist Tony Palmer - never seen before!

Running Time: 280 minutes



Artist Al Atkins
Title Back To Berlin
Cat No. HST427CD
Label Gonzo

Al Atkins is best known for being the original singer with Midlands heavy rockers Judas Priest with a wife and young daughter to support and no record deal in sight, Atkins was forced "to get a haircut and a 9-to-5 job" in May 1973.

He was replaced by Rob Halford, who found himself singing many songs that were originally written by Atkins. Consequently, the album Rocka Rolla gives a portrait of Atkins' original vision for the band. Atkins eventually formed another band, Lion and went solo after it dissolved, releasing four albums in the 1990s and a final, fifth album in 2007 as a solo artist.

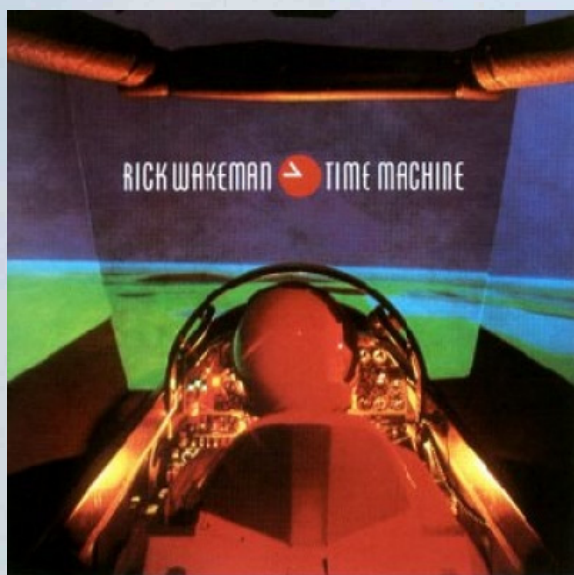
Despite being at the age that most men are thinking of retirement, Al is still one of the hardest rocking frontmen on the planet, as this album bears testament



Artist Atomic Rooster
Title Live in London 1972
Cat No. HST426CD
Label Gonzo

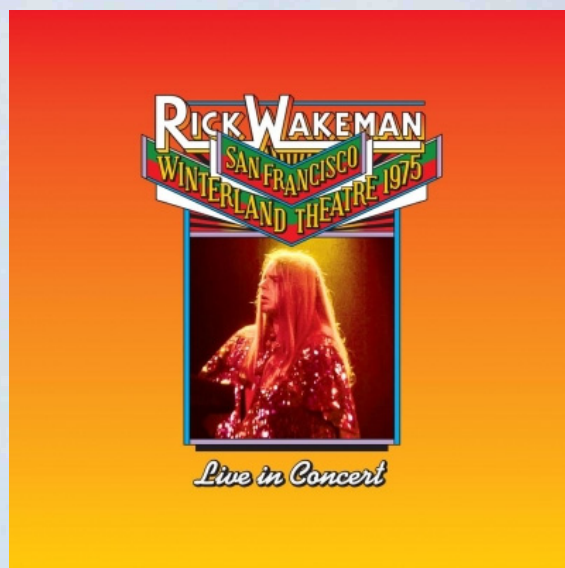
Atomic Rooster are an English rock band, originally formed by members of The Crazy World of Arthur Brown, organist Vincent Crane and drummer Carl Palmer. Throughout their history, keyboardist Vincent Crane was the only constant member, and wrote the majority of their material. Their history is defined by two periods: the early-mid-1970s and the early 1980s. The band went through radical style changes, however they are best known for the hard, progressive rock sound of their hit singles, "Tomorrow Night" (UK No. 11) and "The Devil's Answer" (UK No. 4), both in 1971. This record presents them live at their blistering best.





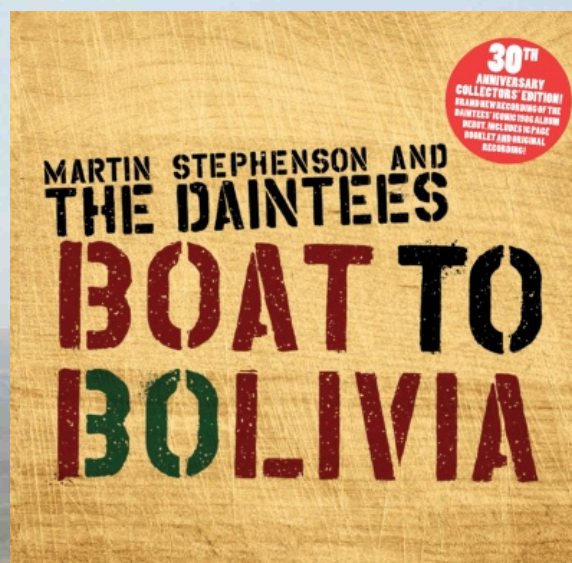
Artist Rick Wakeman
Title Time Machine
Cat No. MFGZ012CD
Label RRAW

Mie DeGagne writes: "Musically depicting certain historical events and places, Time Machine spotlights Rick Wakeman in his most familiar territory, as his whirlwind keyboard attack takes on a rock & roll feel across numerous conceptual pieces. Adding his instrumental fervor to such legendary occurrences as "Custer's Last Stand" and the ice age (in a track simply titled "Ice"), Wakeman's barrage of heavy synthesizer with front-and-center percussion gives this album its hardened, rock-induced edge. Guest vocalists John Parr, Tracey Ackerman, Ashley Holt, and Roy Wood of Wizzard are pleasant additions to the synthesized entanglements, especially Parr's contributions on "Ocean City" and the powerful "Rock Age.""



Artist Rick Wakeman
Title Live at the Winterland Theatre 1975
Cat No. MFGZ015CD
Label RRAW

Majestic Wakeman captured on this timeless radio broadcast. Features a great show with tracks from Six Wives, Journey and Myths. Sound quality is superb as The English Rock Ensemble and Rick are in fine form.



Artist Martin Stephenson and The Daintees
Title Boat to Bolivia 30th Anniversary Edition
Cat No. BARBGZ104CD
Label Barbaraville

Here we have a brand new 30th anniversary recording of Boat to Bolivia, made at The Tolbooth, Stirling 2016.

The idea was to celebrate the albums 30th with a

fresh live sound, the band has never been hotter and truly creates a great take on this classic record, where the songs are just as timeless as the day of it's release, bearing in mind, most of the songs would have been written between 1980 & 1982!

The Daintees showed an incredible range and idiosyncrasy for such young recording artists, and some of the guitar solos John Steel created back then are still etched in the ears of the listener since this truly weird album's release!

It's wonderful hearing his 2nd takes with a 30 year distance, just outrageously good man! Here the artist gives you a 30 year gap between original and new, with the original guitarist on both albums Mr John Steel, who left the band after its recording, never to surface till some 15 years later, Martin wrote the song 'Goodbye John' for him, which featured on following classic album 'Gladsome, Humour and Blue' for his missing friend

It was Anthony's brother Gary who joined the band in early 1986 to tour the album and then play on the next three of The Daintees major and awesome releases.

Also on this new version we have John Steel's wife Kate Stephenson on drums, who has been with the band for over ten years now, worked closely with Sam Brown, Herbie Flowers and Midge Ure before teaming up with Martin and the gang, another weird thing is, Martin's childhood friend and Bassist Christopher Mordey, who only played Bass on Daintees very first single release Roll on Summertime, who also played on Martin's first 1978 demo of 'Neon Skies' recorded at Newcastle's Spectro Art's Centre, so Chris is a hardcore Daintee and is arguably, along with Anthony Dunn, the first Bass player of The Daintees, so has a very authentic and valid connection.

Tour Dates

October 8, 2016: ULLAPOOL, The Argyll Hotel
October 21, 2016: OTLEY, Korks
October 22, 2016: RETFORD, St. Saviour's Community Centre
October 24, 2016: NOTTINGHAM, Theatre Royal
November 02, 2016: CAMBRIDGE, The Junction - Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
November 12, 2016: STIRLING, The Tollbooth - Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
November 14, 2016: INVERNESS, Eden Court Theatre - Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
November 16, 2016: LOSSIEMOUTH
November 17, 2016, DUNDEE, Clarks on Lyndsay Street
November 18, 2016: MANCHESTER, The Lowry - Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
November 19, 2016: NEWPORT, The Riverfront - Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
November 22, 2016: GLASGOW, King Tuts - Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
November 23, 2016: LEEDS, Brudenell - Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
November 24, 2016: LIVERPOOL, The Cavern -

Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
November 25, 2016: BIRMINGHAM, O2 Institute - Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
November 26, 2016: CLITHEROE, The Grand - Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
November 30, 2016: SHEFFIELD, Academy - Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
December 2, 2016: GATESHEAD, The Sage - Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
December 3, 2016: LONDON, 100 Club - Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
December 4, 2016: SKEGNESS, The Great British Folk Festival - Martin Stephenson & The Daintees



Artist Archie Fisher & Barbara Dickson

Title Through The Recent Years

Cat No. CTVPCD016

Label Chariot

In 1970, Barbara Dickson and Archie Fisher were invited by Decca Records to record a new album of traditional music. The resulting set, 'Thro' The Recent Years - The Folk Experiences of Archie Fisher and Barbara Dickson,' has since gone on to become an acclaimed collector's item for fans of traditional music but despite its popularity this release marks its first ever release on CD outside of Japan.

Digitally remastered from the original master recordings, 'Thro The Recent Years' features fourteen superb tracks including Bob Dylan's 'Tears of Rage' as well as a selection of new songs by Archie and Scottish folk stalwart Rab Noakes (who also provides guitar and backing vocals on the album.) 'Thro' The Recent Years' is produced by the legendary Ray Horricks whose long career as a producer included albums with Rod Stewart, Sammy Davis, Jr and Anthony Newley. The CD booklet features a new interview with Barbara in which she looks back over her career in Folk music from her earliest days performing at the Howff in

Dunfermline, through to her early recordings and influences and the eventual big break which took her on to become one of the most successful and well-loved singers of her generation.



Artist Archie Fisher & Barbara Dickson
Title Orfeo
Cat No. CTVPCD015
Label Chariot

Following on from his 1970 album, 'Thro' The Recent Years', recorded with Barbara Dickson, Decca Records invited Archie Fisher to record a follow-up solo set. 'Orfeo' features a mix of traditional songs and self-penned tracks which was ultimately released as Decca SKL 5057 later that year. Barbara was once again on board, this time providing backing vocals with Rab Noakes, another friend of theirs from the Fife folk scene, playing guitar with Daryl Runswick featuring on bass and Bill Kemp on drums.

The album was produced by Ray Horricks who had been working with Decca Records and a handful of smaller labels throughout the 60's on a wide range of genres including folk albums by artists including Shirley Collins, Moira Anderson and Davey Graham, musical soundtracks and early singles by Rod Stewart, as well as several releases by Kenneth McKellar. Of the eleven tracks on 'Orfeo', four are traditional with the others being new songs written by Archie. Looking back on the album, Archie comments that the songs were intended to be "very stylised and very chord-orientated and very much built around guitar tunes which were breaking away from the traditional songs and more towards jazz guitar and torch music."

Barbara Dickson also feels that with 'Orfeo' Archie was keen to break new ground. "He was definitely moving forward musically which was the most important thing I think." 'Orfeo' has been digitally remastered from the original studio master tapes and features detailed CD liner notes on Archie's long career as a traditional music pioneer.



Artist Barbara Dickson
Title Live in Concert 1976/77
Cat No. CTVPCD014
Label Chariot

Released for the first time ever on any format, this exclusive DVD features two rare television concerts recorded by Barbara Dickson in 1976 and 1977. All fifteen live tracks from both studio sessions are also included as a bonus CD. Not seen since the original broadcasts and remastered from the original studio master tapes, 'Barbara Dickson in Concert' sees Barbara and her band performing material from her first two best-selling pop albums, 'Answer Me' and 'Morning Comes Quickly.' In addition to 'Answer Me, a top ten hit for Barbara in late 1976, the release includes 'Another Suitcase in Another Hall,' Barbara's second chart hit taken from the soundtrack to the Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice musical, 'Evita'.

Also included are the singles 'Lover's Serenade' and Gerry Rafferty's 'City to City', as well as Steve Goodman's 'City of New Orleans,' a popular track from Barbara's live repertoire which has never previously been released on any of her studio or live albums. The DVD booklet features a new interview with Barbara in which she looks back over her pop career and the many television appearances she has made over the years. Commenting on the concerts included on this release, Barbara says, "I haven't seen these since they were first broadcast but I have to say I'm impressed. They've been beautifully remastered and are a nice snapshot of what I was doing during that stage of my career. For those who enjoy my pop stuff, I don't think you'll be disappointed!"

COMPETITION CORNER



Ladies and Gentlemen, Mesdames et Monsieurs. Welcome back my friends to the show that never ends. Whoops wrong band! Yes, one of the most eagerly awaited cultural events of next year is coming to the UK! In the first of three competitions, to win a pair of tickets to the show nearest you, just answer these mind bending questions, carefully chosen by a team of Gonzo Mystics in the cupboard below the stairs:

Q: Fill in the missing word from the below YES hit song title
Owner of a _____ Heart

Q: How many shows will Jon Anderson, Trevor Rabin and Rick Wakeman (ARW) be doing on their UK tour in March 2017?

Send your answer in an email to info@gonzomultimedia.co.uk
OR

Put the answers on a postcard (or on a piece of paper in an envelope addressed to: FREEPOST GONZO and don't forget to include YOUR contact details!

Good luck prog pickers!

**JON ANDERSON
TREVOR RABIN
RICK WAKEMAN**



AN EVENING OF **YES** MUSIC & MORE

MARCH 2017 UK TOUR

SUN 12 CARDIFF MOTORPOINT ARENA
MON 13 BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY HALL
WED 15 BRIGHTON DOME
THU 16 BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

EXTRA DATE ADDED DUE TO DEMAND	
SAT 18	LONDON HAMMERSMITH EVENTIM APOLLO
SUN 19	LONDON HAMMERSMITH EVENTIM APOLLO
TUE 21	NOTTINGHAM ROYAL CONCERT HALL
WED 22	EDINBURGH USHER HALL
FRI 24	GLASGOW ROYAL CONCERT HALL
SAT 25	MANCHESTER O ₂ APOLLO

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A KILIMANJARO PRESENTATION IN ASSOCIATION WITH LARRY MAGID ENTERTAINMENT GROUP



YOU'VE READ THE MAGAZINE YOU'VE MARVELLED AT THE EDITOR'S IMPUDENCE NOW WEAR THE SHIRTS



Gonzo #32 The Dutch Festie c...

actions



Gonzo #30 The Mick Abrahams...

actions



Gonzo #27 The Prog shirt

actions



Gonzo #24 The Daavid Allen shirt

actions



Gonzo #23 The Michael Des B...

actions



Yer original Gonzo Weekly shirt

actions



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

<http://www.zazzle.co.uk/gonzowebkly>



“Naked Radio”

**The Pink Fairies To
Release First New
Album in 3
Decades!**

The Pink Fairies official website:
www.pinkfairies.net

“Naked Radio” will be available to pre-order only on PledgeMusic together with other exclusive merchandise and experiences, go to this link <http://www.pledgemusic.com/projects/pink-fairies> to find out more.



Watch a video about the campaign

<http://tinyurl.com/jflkhfg>

Cop a sneak preview here:

<http://tinyurl.com/z9825mr>

Douglas Harr *Ear Candy for the Hungry Audiophile* **ALICE COOPER'S NIGHTMARE**

Alice Cooper started as a band that featured Vincent Furnier (vocals), Glen Buxton & Michael Bruce (guitars), Dennis Dunaway (bass) and Neal Smith (drums). The band's performances are some of the first examples of overtly theatrical rock, designed to shock and excite young audiences of the 70s. Because of their antics and stage sets that included guillotine, live snakes, baby dolls, fake blood, spiders and an electric chair, the group gained prominence and was banned more than once in multiple countries. In 1974 after 7 albums and countless concert dates, the group took a hiatus. Furnier legally adopted the name Alice Cooper, and embarked on a long and fruitful solo career. We just caught his latest band in concert in San Francisco at the Warfield Theater, fittingly near Halloween, on October 28, 2016.

Of the many rock groups in the 70s that strove to stage a theatrical performance, Alice Cooper stands among those that invested significant time and energy in the pursuit. "We were trying to create something that hadn't been done. And what hadn't been done is nobody took the lyrics and brought them to life.... you use the stage as a canvas. It's all vaudeville and burlesque" according to Cooper. Of their place in history, Cooper sums it up best in a documentary interview: "From the very inception of Alice Cooper [the idea] was, there are so many rock heroes, we need a rock villain. I want to be the rock villain. I want to be the personified Captain Hook of rock. I don't want to be Peter Pan. But I wanted Alice to also ... have a sense of humor. I enjoyed playing the heavy... a bizarre vaudevillian character."



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<http://diegospadeproductions.com/>



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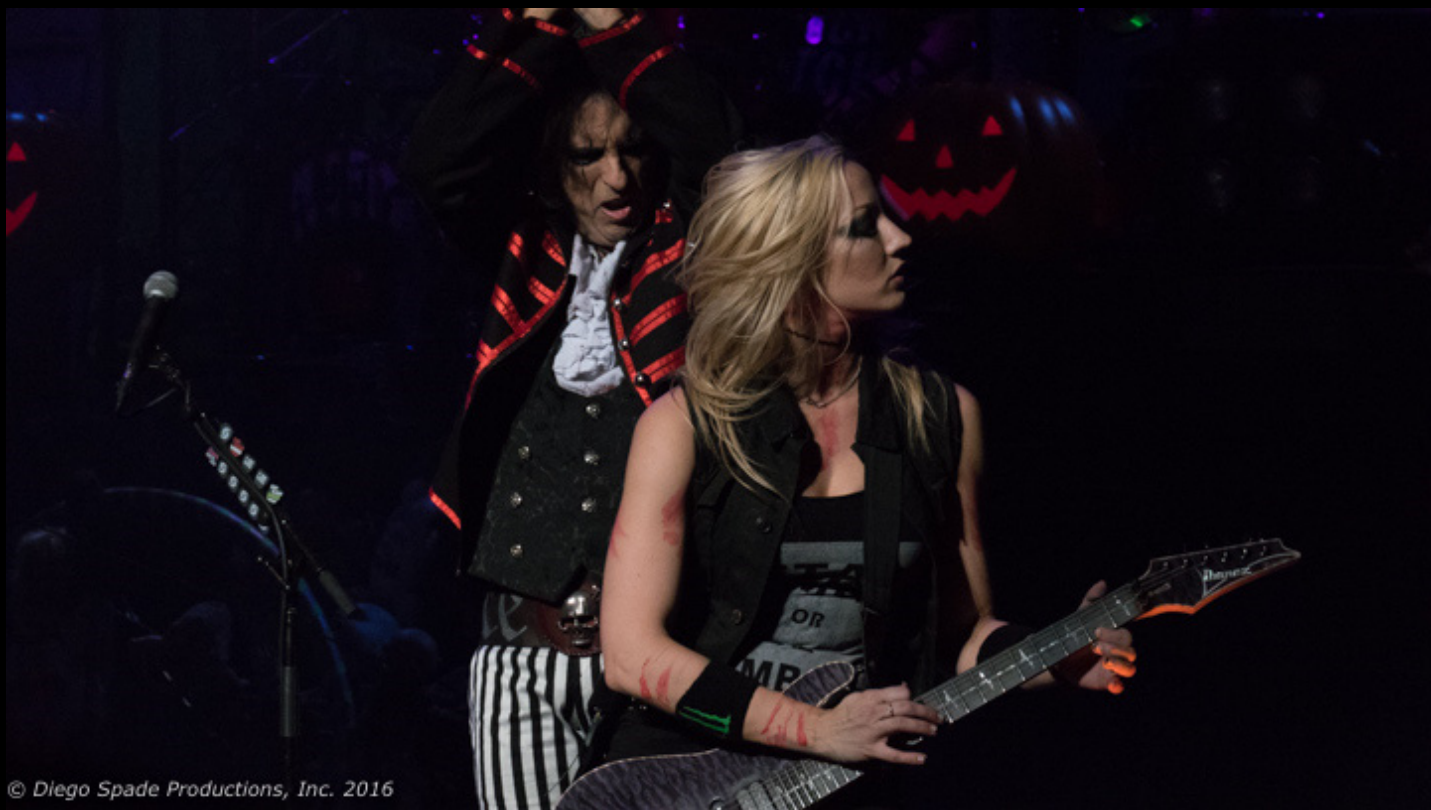
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ALICE COOPER

★★★★★ **2016** ★★★★★

FOR PRESIDENT

A TROUBLED MAN FOR TROUBLED TIMES

This all remains true today, as Cooper completes a long 2016 tour with his crack band, stage props, dancers and costumes. While much of the stagecraft has been presented consistently throughout the years, the show is amazingly well rehearsed yet still fresh -- a sonic and visual success. The best visuals included costumes like the Harley Quinn-styled ballerina and the huge "FrankenAlice" monster, which rages about the stage after being shocked to life during "Feed My Frankenstein." Other bits included the long running gag where Alice is decapitated via guillotine, and the scene featuring the limp doll he caresses during "Cold Ethyl." This, along with excellent stage lighting, pyrotechnics, and even bubbles created a visual feast for the enthusiastic crowd.

Musically, this was a straight-on hard-rocking show, highlighting the chops of the band's three guitarists, most notably L.A. resident Nita Strauss, whose searing solos and flowing blonde hair punctuated many of the most metal-laden tracks. Cooper sustained his own still-intact gravelly vocals from start to finish, entrancing the crowd as the well-fashioned master of macabre ceremonies. Near the end of the main set, Cooper paid unexpected and fitting homage to three fallen rock stars, Keith Moon, David Bowie, and Lemmy of Motörhead. Other than that the set list was peppered with some deep cuts and many hits like "I'm Eighteen," "School's Out" and "No More Mr. Nice Guy," along with encore "Elected" during

which Cooper made a fairly good case for his election to U.S. President, as a third-party candidate fronting the "Wild Party."

With many number one hits, multiple awards and a place in the Rock 'N' Roll Hall of Fame, Alice Cooper hit his marks once again, continuing a long and successful career as rock's oft lighthearted prince of darkness.

Be sure to vote!

=====

The band included:

Tommy Henriksen, Ryan Roxie and Nita Strauss (guitars)
Chuck Garric (bass)
Glen Sobel (drums)

=====

For those interested in more on Alice Cooper, the band, and the man, consider picking up the brilliant documentary *Super Duper Alice Cooper* (2014) which is every bit as artfully presented as his unique stage shows. It provides deep insight into the madness that created the Alice Cooper character, a persona that almost killed the man.

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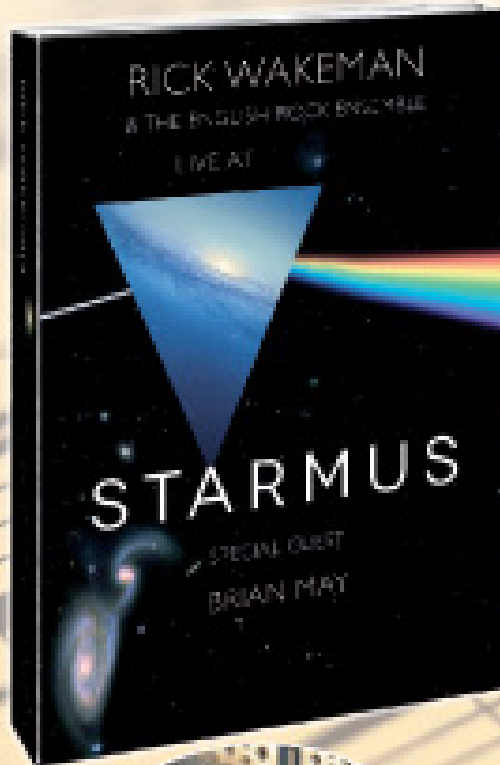
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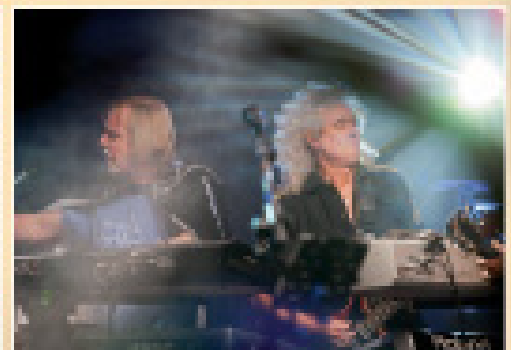
STARMUS 2015



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



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



Available to pre-order from www.rickwakemansmusicemporium.com



Tibet, music, activism and the Dalai Lama

A cross-cultural continental mind trip with Alan Dearling

Tibet. Lhasa. The Dalai Lama. The Panchen Lama. Magical names of mythical proportions. And ones that have held millions around the world in thrall. And fascinated many in the UK and beyond, over the decades since China seized control of Tibet, and the 14th Dalai Lama fled his home country of Tibet for the second time in 1959 to set up his government in exile in India. I thought it would be interesting, fun, and perhaps even a bit informative to weave together some of the 'tales' surrounding the support for a Free (or at least fully autonomous) Tibet. Especially those with 'musical' connections. Our late friend, David Allen of Gong-fame, was a life-long supporter of various Free Tibet campaigns and initiatives.

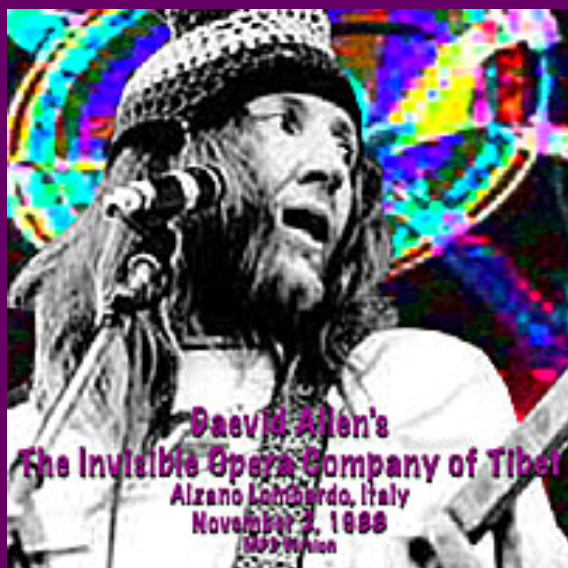
At Glasto Festival 2015, the rather wet crowd sang 'Happy Birthday' to greet His Holiness (HH) the Dalai Lama, who told them; *"Happiness and Hope are the basis of our life... in the future, starting tomorrow."* And, *"Everyone has a right to a key – Happy Life!"*

In the USA, the annual Tibet House concerts are star-studded affairs. 'Rolling Stone' magazine commented on the 25th event in 2015 at New York's Carnegie Hall:

"The annual Tibet House benefit concert is a New York muso institution, a celebration of both the embattled Tibetan culture and the melting-pot aesthetic that still makes the city a dirt-crusted mecca for refugees of all stripes. It's also a family gathering for the Seventies avant-pop downtown scene, presided over by composer, co-founder, curator and cool uncle Philip Glass. This year Debbie Harry – who Glass aptly introduced as 'an icon of American soul' – flanked Tibet House stalwarts Laurie Anderson and Patti Smith alongside other fellow travellers. It's a measure of the community's enlightened cool that when an off-duty Miley Cyrus, in a modest black pantsuit,

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slipped onstage between pal Wayne Coyne and some saffron-robed monks for the group finale of Patti's 'People Have the Power,' barely an eyebrow was raised."



The Invisible Opera Company of Tibet was a concept created by poet and musician Daevid Allen. Many times Daevid joined the band of that name, particularly on the single of 'Tried so hard', but if you search hard, you might even find copies of the original album, simply entitled, 'The Invisible Opera Company of Tibet'. It features Daevid on vocals along with side-kicks, Russel Hibbs, Harry Williamson, Gilli Smyth, Neil Cairney, Robert Calvert, Michael Brosnan, Chandrabhanu, Bruce McNichol, Arun Munoz, Minute Sastrowasdojo, Steve Rocket, Suza Clarke. The idea behind the band was that anyone could be a part of it. Daevid saw it as, *"an international ideological / spiritual / aesthetic communications network for artists of all kinds who share the common vision of warm-hearted, pan-stylistic, inclusive art forms which serve the drive towards conscious evolution"*. All this was conceived as a way of pointing an accusatory finger at the oppressors in China, and supporting the karmic opposite: the calmness, kindness and hope of the Dalai Lama.



The band itself appears to have been originally formed in 1986 in an Australian banana-shed! Now, (according to the site:

www.ukfestivalguides.com/artists/invisible-opera-company-of-tibet/)

the Invisible Opera Company of Tibet in 2016, spans several continents and has more than 50 members and ex-members around the globe. There are several bands existing under similar names, which are all related: one in Australia, one in Brazil, one in the UK and one in the States. The flowering of Invisible Opera bands all over the planet has created the possibility of a new kind of musical collective - an international umbrella group consisting of several bands, with shared or compatible songs and music, developing and promoting themselves simultaneously in different world centres. Predictably, there are lot of overlaps with Gong! Another mate of mine, Thom the World Poet, told me that he has performed on a number of occasions with Brian and Jackie Juno from the Invisibles, as well as with the aforementioned, Gong family. Possibly Daevid's last recording as one of the Invisibles was in 2013, dedicated to the memory of former musical accomplice, Kevin Ayers.

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At the spacey-jazz end of things, Nik Turner's recorded the flute parts of 'Xitintoday' back in 1978, supposedly inside the Great Pyramid. It features Steve Hillage, Mike Howlett, Tim Blake and Miquette Giraudy. In rather an adolescent mode, Turner recites the words from the 'Egyptian Book of the Dead' translated into English by E.A.Wallis Budge and published in the late nineteenth century. It's all about the battle between good and evil, including a journey through 'The Hall of Double Truth'. Myth, fairy story or part of religious beliefs, Tibetan Buddhists hold a similar belief in there being an 'intermediate state' through which each being has to pass following death. It has been re-recorded as 'Sphynx' in 1993.

Here's one you may not know! The Dalai Lama joined Patti Smith on stage at Glastonbury 2015 and they obviously enjoyed seeing each other. Fewer folk perhaps know that Patti Smith provided a poem in Richard Gere's rather splendid photo book, 'Pilgrim', published in 1997 with a foreword by the Dalai

Lama, whom Richard has studied with. Patti Smith herself has had an avid interest in Tibetan Buddhism since around the age of eleven or twelve, and has said, *"I fell in love with Tibet because their essential mission was to keep a continual stream of prayer."* And Richard Gere has remained passionate about his Buddhism, humble about his 'lack of knowledge' and committed and passionate about his fighting for a free Tibet.

He said in a 1999 interview: *"When I talk to Tibetans who were in solitary confinement for twenty or twenty-five years, they say to me, totally from their heart, that the issue is larger than what they suffered at the hands of their torturer, and that they feel pity and compassion for this person who was acting out animal nature. To be in the presence of that kind of wisdom of heart and mind—you can never go back after that."*

One senses that the Dalai Lama is a deeply affecting human person, with a wicked sense

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of humour, not just a figurehead. This photo taken of him with Richard Gere by Olivier Adam from the 'Power and Care' conference, organised by the Mind and Life Institute in Brussels recently in September 2016 proves that a picture tells a 'story' better than reams of words. Here's a link to the BBC Everyman film of Richard Gere talking about his personal Buddhism.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=OASbnKFXUE

The media has at times become questioning of the number of 'celebrity' Buddhists, from Tina Turner to Tiger Woods, but perhaps the most enigmatic remains, Leonard Cohen, who has just released his latest album, 'You want it Darker'. But back in 1996, here's a rather nice piece of film when Leonard was a Zen Monk (he'd been ordained a Renzai Buddhist Monk in 1995). But also a poet and muso. Fascinating stuff with Leonard at the top of his inestimable game.

www.openculture.com/2015/07/a-day-in-the-life-of-zen-monk-leonard-cohen.html

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www.openculture.com/2015/07/a-day-in-the-life-of-zen-monk-leonard-cohen.html

I'm not sure it really fits in here, but I rather liked the very recent quote from Leonard, when he was speaking in Los Angeles at a playback and Q&A for 'You Want It Darker'. Giving his thoughts on Dylan's award of a Nobel Prize for Literature, he said, *"To me [the award] is like pinning a medal on Mount Everest for being the highest mountain."* Read more:

<http://www.nme.com/news/leonard-cohen/97155#v9Vws1A9wBXeCuVH.99>

So, what is all the fuss about over Tibet?

Hundreds of books have been written about Tibet. There are many sides to any story or

history as it unfolds. But some of the key issues that have united many commentators and activists include the following. The first full book (as opposed to films) that gave me some insights into the plight of Tibet was 'Tibet is my country', the autobiography of the Dalai Lama's oldest brother, Thubten Norbu, as told to Heinrich Harrer, who also authored 'Seven years in Tibet'. Published way back in 1960, it remains an amazingly atmospheric account of the loss of the Tibetan 'way of life' in that country, with Lhasa, its capital known as the 'roof of the world' at over 16,000 feet above sea level. We should be minded of what Harrer wrote back in 1960:

"...a wretchedly irresponsible pseudo-literature about Tibet has spread, once more causing a

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Tibet divided by China



great deal of confusion.” And as Norbu, as he is known, said:

“Trashī deleg! May much good fortune be yours!

Lha gyal lo! May the gods be victorious!”

So, I cannot be unbiased. Here are some key points, which I freely admit are based to a large extent on information from the Free Tibet website augmented by material from Wikipedia and other sources.

China's argument:

Tibet was never a ‘country’. It has been part of China for about 800 years ago, since the Yuan Dynasty. No other country in the world has ever recognised Tibet as an independent state.

The alternative view:

It’s true that whilst Tibet maintained a unique culture, written and spoken language, religion and political system for centuries, it has never been a nation-state in the modern sense of the word.

At different times in its history, Tibet has influenced and been influenced by various foreign powers, including Britain and the Mongols, as well as China.

Tibet was not ruled by the Chinese government prior to the 1950 invasion. In 1912, the 13th Dalai Lama - Tibet's political and spiritual leader - issued a proclamation reaffirming Tibet’s independence and the country maintained its own national flag, currency, stamps, passports and army.

Arguably, from a legal standpoint, Tibet remains an independent state under illegal occupation.

2. In 1950, was Tibet in need of liberation from being a feudal, backward state?

China’s argument:

From 1950 to 1959 China peacefully liberated and democratically reformed Tibet, ending the old feudal serfdom where brutality was rife; a hell on earth with the backwards masses enslaved by landlords and priests. This culminated in Serf Emancipation Day in March 1959 when the Tibetan government was declared illegal.

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The alternative view:

In 1950, the newly established Communist China People's Revolutionary Army invaded Tibet, which was rich in natural resources and had a strategically important border with India. 40,000 Chinese troops arrived in Tibet and in 1951 the Tibetan government was forced to sign the 'Seventeen Point Agreement', which recognised China's rule in return for promises to protect Tibet's political system and Tibetan Buddhism. The Tibetan government repudiated this agreement soon after.

Far from welcoming the Chinese as liberators, Tibetans across the country continued to resist China's armed forces and China responded with widespread brutality.

Resistance culminated on the 10th March 1959, when 300,000 Tibetans surrounded the Potala Palace to offer the Dalai Lama protection. This date is commemorated as 'National Uprising Day' by many Tibetans and supporters.

China claims that Tibet's brutal past justifies its occupation. But Tibet under Chinese rule has experienced brutality on a massive scale – from the destruction of thousands of monasteries and the deaths of perhaps more than one million Tibetans in Mao's era, to torture, arbitrary arrests and the denial of fundamental freedoms which continue today.

3. Tibet is already an autonomous country.

China's argument:

Tibet already has autonomy as the Tibet Autonomous Region of the People's Republic

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From Free Tibet website: <https://freetibet.org/urgent-action-larung-gar-buddhist-academy>

of China. Tibetans are free to follow their traditions and Tibetan Buddhism is protected.

The alternative view:

This map included earlier shows historic Tibet – the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) is only part of this and millions of Tibetans live outside it.

Tibet has autonomy in name only. In reality, the government is run from Beijing – it's a puppet government. Free Tibet point to the fact that the most senior political position has never been occupied by a Tibetan. The official language is Chinese, with many Tibetan children losing their ability to speak and write Tibetan. Buddhism is carefully controlled and currently the largest Buddhist institution in the world at **Larung Gar** is exposed to a series of forced removals and extensive demolition work. This is being carried out to cut the

number of residents from more than 10,000 down to 5,000 by October 2017. The first round of demolition and removals, carried out in July 2016, reduced large areas of the site to rubble and caused widespread distress among Tibetans. By now it is believed that 1,200 people have been forcibly removed.

And still, any Tibetan possessing an image of the Dalai Lama risks imprisonment.

4. Tibet is currently a happy and prosperous country

China's argument:

China claims that since the 'peaceful liberation', that Tibet has experienced increasing prosperity. That now there's almost zero poverty, disease and hunger; life expectancy has doubled; literacy has risen from 5% to 85% and former slaves have been

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given land. There has also been huge investment in infrastructure, jobs, housing, schools and hospitals.

The alternative view:

Many outside commentators around the world believe that Tibet under China is a propaganda campaign to ensure that Chinese businesses and people gain from economic progress. For example:



- Infrastructure projects enable the movement of China's military, mass immigration of Chinese workers, Chinese tourism and the exploitation of rich natural resources – all of which legitimise the Chinese government's occupation.
- Millions of Tibetans are nomadic and have been forced from their lands, ending their centuries-old way of life and leaving them dependent on the state as second class citizens in their own country.
- Education is primarily taught in Chinese, disadvantaging Tibetans.
- The United Nations has repeatedly challenged China on human rights abuses in Tibet.

- From shouting 'Tibet needs freedom' in the street to attending a mass protest, to self-inflicted death by self-immolation, Tibetans continue to resist China's controls.
- Tibet has seen economic progress, as have most countries in the last sixty years, but Tibetans have benefited less than Chinese immigrants. Economic progress has not deterred them from rejecting Chinese rule and the evidence shows that Tibetans are far from 'happy' under China's rule.

5. China refuses to accept that the Dalai Lama seeks 'a middle way' without independence for Tibet

China's argument:

China contends that the Dalai Lama purely seeks power and is the latest in a line of God King Dictators. This has some support within Tibet, who distrust global intrusion.

The alternative view:

The Dalai Lama in exile, with his government in Dharamsala in India, has actually divested much of his power. And he consistently advocates friendship with the Chinese people and a dialogue with the Chinese government. Much of the global support Tibet has today is thanks to the Dalai Lama's popularity. Despite persecution, many Tibetan people inside Tibet remain dedicated to him.

From the BBC website:

"There have been intermittent and indirect contacts between China and the Dalai Lama. The exiled spiritual leader advocates a non-violent, negotiated solution to the Tibet problem and accepts the notion of real autonomy for Tibet under Chinese sovereignty. China has questioned his claims that he does

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not seek independence.

China has also accused the Dalai Lama of inciting the dozens of self-immolations that since 2009 have taken place among Tibetans opposed to Chinese rule. He rejects this and has questioned the effectiveness of such protests.



Tibet's economy depends largely on agriculture. Forests and grasslands occupy large parts of the country. The territory is rich in minerals, but poor transport links have limited their exploitation. Tourism is an important revenue earner."

6. The continued 'house arrest' of the Panchen Lama

On 15th May 1995, the Dalai Lama announced that Gedhun Choekyi Nyima was his choice as the 11th reincarnation of the Panchen Lama, the second highest-ranking spiritual leader in Tibet.

However, the Chinese government rejected the Dalai Lama's candidate as 'illegal and invalid' and on 17th May 1995, the authorities



abducted the child and his family and put them into what amounts to house arrest. Instead, they made their own choice for Panchen Lama.

From Reuters, July 21st 2016.

"A youth named by China as the second-highest figure in Tibetan Buddhism, but reviled as a fake by many Tibetans, began an important Buddhist rite on Thursday, the first



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time in 50 years it has happened in Tibet, state media said.

Although officially atheist, China selected Gyaltsen Norbu as the 11th Panchen Lama in 1995 in a drive to win the hearts and minds of Tibetans.

Tibet's current spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, whom Beijing brands a dangerous separatist, had announced his own choice of a six-year-old boy, but he was taken away by authorities and has since vanished from public view."

Reality check!!!

Here's a very recent news release about what can happen to you if you are a musician who attempts to criticise the Chinese regime.

10th October 2016

"Pema Trinlay and Chakdor were cases in Free Tibet's Jailed Musicians campaign.

Two Tibetan musicians who were imprisoned in 2012 have been released from prison after serving four-year sentences. Chakdor and Pema Trinlay, both from Meruma Village in Ngaba, eastern Tibet, were released from Mianyang Prison on 3 October. They have since returned home.

Pema Trinlay and Chakdor were arrested in 2012 after producing an album called 'The Pain of an Unhealed Wound' celebrating Tibetan culture and protesting against the Chinese occupation. Songs on the album praised the Dalai Lama as well as Tibetans who have died through self-immolation. Chakdor is a close relative of self-immolation protester Choepa, who burned himself to death in August 2012 in protest at China's repressive policies. Pema Trinlay and Chakdor were charged with separatism, tried in secret and sentenced to four years in prison."

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Think global – Act local

I live in the Scottish Borders and on the east side of the Borders is the UK's main Tibetan Monastery, Samye Ling, (of the Karma Kagyu school of Buddhism) which I have much enjoyed visiting. It was the first Tibetan centre of learning and a monastery to be established in the 'West'. This is the base for ROKPA (more

about them in a minute!). Then there is the 'Tat for Tibet' campaign run by Janet Henbane and her husband, and frequently supported by Daavid Allen when he was alive. It raises money and engages in consciousness-raising at music festivals – in 2016 at Eden and Kozfest. Daavid even painted one of his famous pot-





head pixies on the rear of the Tat for Tibet Super Vega bus.

The funds they raise go to ROKPA . I think it may be in the region of £40,000. Amazing stuff!

Tat for Tibet is on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Tat-for-Tibet-raising-funds-for-Tibet-since-1992-1093729303988315/>





My old friend, guitarist/muso, John Russell, told me about Christine Jeffries who went to live in Samye Ling a number of years ago. She's a remarkable vocalist with The Music Improvisation Company. The group has also included Hugh Davies, Evan Parker, Derek Bailey and Jamie Muir, who after a spell in Samye Ling himself, went on to play with King Crimson. The picture is of myself leaving a prayer flag at Samye Ling.

ROKPA is a Tibetan word, meaning 'to help' or 'to serve'.

ROKPA UK is a non-political, non-religious world-wide charity, which has been working since 1980 to relieve suffering in some of the poorest parts of the world, often in areas where other charities have failed to get projects off the ground and where they are the only source of help.

Based in Scotland, ROKPA UK is run by a team of dedicated, unpaid volunteers. This enables them to keep running costs to a minimum, so that donations reach those in need in: Tibetan areas of China, Nepal and Zimbabwe.

Last year alone, ROKPA homed, fed and educated over 10,000 orphaned children; provided free medical care to tens of thousands of people; and helped many young

people to stay off the streets and turn their lives around. They also run annual soup kitchens, providing up to 800 hot meals a day during the coldest winter months.

www.rokpauk.org/

Isabel Losada's 2004 book, 'For Tibet with Love: a beginner's guide to changing the world' is a good read. A personal and rather pleasingly naïve tale of her travels to Nepal, Tibet and to India to meet the Dalai Lama. Plus her own activism which led to establishment of the Act for Tibet site. Pragmatic – aimed at autonomy, not independence.

www.actfortibet.org/

And it has indeed led to readers changing their own life course. For example, Nicola Jeffry, tells us: *"This book is one of the most influential and inspirational books I have ever read. After reading A Beginner's Guide to Changing the World I went to Northern India to teach English in a monastery with Tibetan monks. I also volunteered with Volunteer Tibet in Dharamsala. This was as a direct result of reading Isabel's book and realising that one person can make a difference. This book can seriously change the direction of your life....are you prepared?"*



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Having listened to many of the Dalai Lama's talks from the past it becomes obvious that he is much greater than just an emissary for Tibet or even for Buddhism. He even praises people who are not religious at all, saying that *"the religion of kindness"* is the greatest of all.

For lots of simple wisdom and more, including Q&As and books from the Dalai Lama himself, visit the official website: <http://dalailama.com/>

If you are even vaguely contemplating a trip to visit Tibet, take a look at this simple guide on the Why? or Why Not? of making a visit. It includes advice from the Dalai Lama himself. www.freetibet.org/about/travel-guide

Other music influenced or inspired by Tibet:

Various artists (including Bjork, David Bowie, Radiohead and Paul Weller) provided benefit tracks for: Long Live Tibet (1997) – a nice collection, if now a bit stuck in time. Nothing to do with Tibetan 'sounds', but includes Bowie's specially recorded song, 'Planet of Dreams' track with Gail Ann Dorsey. Here's a Tibet-themed video of the song:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=p62D-Rvxag8

Bowie was always interested in Tibet and Buddhism and visited Samye Ling way back in 1967 when it first began operations. Over his recording career he also released a number of songs with Tibetan themes, including 'Seven years in Tibet' (one of the best tracks on 'Earthling'), 'Silly Boy Blue', and 'Karma Man'. *"So much of what first appealed to me about Buddhism has stayed with me. The idea of transience, and that there is nothing to hold onto pragmatically, that we do at some point or another have to let go of that which we consider most dear to us, because it's a very short life."* Bowie, interview, *Daily Telegraph*, December 1996.

There's a really great piece about Bowie's songs, Buddhism and Tibet at:

<https://bowiesongs.wordpress.com/2013/06/18/seven-years-in-tibet/>

Mark Isham: Tibet (1989) - Jazzy, Miles-inflected film soundtrack.

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Waterbone: Tibet (1997) – ambient, trip-hop samples from Katmandhu.

John Williams with Yo-Yo Ma: Seven years in Tibet (1997) - OST recording. A bit commercial as is the film.

Tangerine Dream: Seven letters for Tibet (originally 2000) – Edger Froese memorial to his wife and Tibet.

Bruno Coulais: Himalaya (1999) – one of my favourites and full of evocative, haunting sounds. And a memorable film on the big screen – Eric Valli directed this stunning French and Nepalese film – filmed amongst Tibetan nomads. Stunning.

Philip Glass: Kundun (1998) - another evocative OST recording, capturing the flavour of the 14th Dalai Lama's upbringing in Tibet before his exile. Great film from Martin Scorsese.

Pure Tibet (4 x CD collection from Sony) – lots and lots of traditional chants, instruments and musicians.

Techung: Tibet – on the road (2013) – actual music from a Tibetan exile, mostly on traditional instruments.

And recently in 2016, a new film has been released in striking monochrome. It's rich in the 'sounds' and music of Tibet. Tharlo – A Tibetan fable: www.youtube.com/watch?v=5X6rkjwWQFg

And if you want to visit Samye Ling in the Scottish borderlands, here is the treat that awaits you.

Plus finally, a few words I've written while thinking about HH the Dalai Lama.



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Our Dalai Lama

I've never met Our Dalai Lama

He is

He is

He is reincarnated

Our 14th Dalai Lama

His smile, radiant, glowing, compassionate

His laugh, girlish, deeply beguiling

He prays, meditates for all people, yet

He is playful

His eyes sparkle with delight and wisdom

He offers kindness, love and hope

But he tells us, that soon his time will come

He may not come back all, or

He may come back as a girl!



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Gonzo Multimedia are pleased to have a number of DVDs featuring His Holiness the Dalai Lama on behalf of The Meridien Trust <http://meridian-trust.org/>

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AT GONZO (UK)**

GONZO

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THE COMPLETE GOSPELS

The Gospels evolved because Rick Wakeman was asked to perform at an organ recital to raise money for the Camberley United Reform Church, which was in desperate need of a new organ. Rick pondered what to play and the more he thought about it and what the evening should mean, the more he felt that something very special was about to take place.

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

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

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

Special Limited Edition Boxset containing

Signed by Rick Wakeman and numbered certificate.

DVD containing over 2 hours of footage including an in depth interview with Rick about the project.

Double CD 1, The Original Gospels - with Robert Powell as the Narrator.

Double CD2, The New Gospels

DVD / CD of The Gospels performed live in California – never seen before.

Reproduction A4 x 12 page concert program.



The Rainbow Suite

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

This is Rick and Orchestra at their finest !!!



Available to pre-order from www.rickwakemansmusicemporium.com

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

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FREE!

As regular readers of these pages will probably know I have a strange, disparate, and diverse collection of friends, relatives, and associates, many of whom who are extraordinarily creative in one way or another. And as my plan was always to make this magazine the sort of magazine that I would want to read, many of them turn up in these pages with monotonous regularity. Meet Mr Biffo.

From 1993 for a decade he was the editor of an anarchic video games magazine on Channel Four Teletext. It was called Digitiser and contained some of the most gloriously funny bits of off the wall dicking about that I have ever read. Biffo happens to be a friend of mine and as the re-launched Digitiser2000 is just as stupid and just as funny as ever, we shall be featuring a slice of Biffo every week from now on.

I'VE NEVER FELT LESS PROUD TO BE BRITISH - BY MR BIFFO

This piece is going to have nothing to do with video games. Sorry. I just need to write it. It's off the back of the above tweet from *The Sun* Apologies, quoting this column from Rod "The Sod" Liddle. It feels for a while like I've been reaching a tipping point, where a growing sense of unease about the direction of our country - and our world - becomes all-out despair... and now, thanks to *The Sun*, I might just have reached it.

It's Liddle's use of the term "whites", and how he equates immigration almost exclusively with Muslims. Or, it seems, anyone who doesn't have white skin. And I'm kind of confused about this. I mean, what about white Eastern European immigrants? Are they acceptable because of their skin colour, Liddle? How about Italians, like my step-daughters? Or someone, like my partner, whose father was Croatian, but who grew up in Australia? I mean, her mother's English - and she's white - so that's probably alright, yeah? We can let her into our whites-only compound can't we? Oh. But what about black British people? Unacceptable? Should they be among their "own kind", who are "a little bit like them"? Does it matter that, culturally, most of the black people I know have more in common with me than I probably do with you, Rod? I mean, we're more alike because of our skin colour, yeah? We're skin brothers. That's what matters.



The Sun Apologies
@SunApology



Following

Rod Liddle in today's Sun. The line between The Sun and Britain First being blurred more and more



Sun



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OPINION

ROD LIDDLE Why should whites live in 'ethnic' area? Can't they be among their own kind too?

The fact of the matter is people like living among others like themselves

BY ROD LIDDLE, SUN COLUMNIST

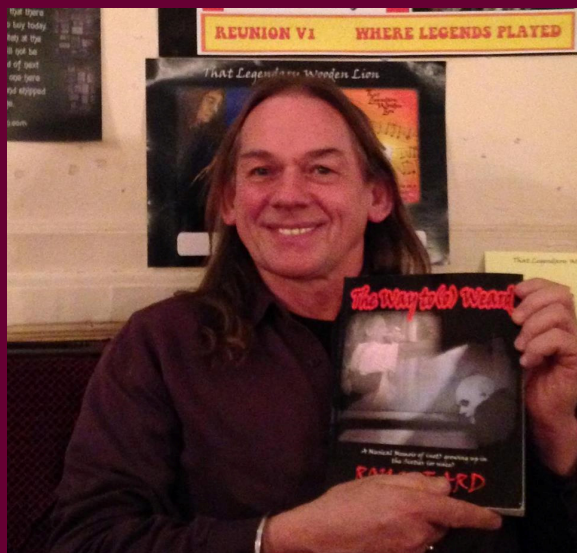
And now experts are saying that the white people must be **ENCOURAGED** to stay in areas with high ethnic minority populations.

Really? How are you going to do that? Bung them a few thousand quid for the pleasure of living in Tower Hamlets?

Lecture them about how nice ethnic minority people really are? Cook them a biryani and tell them what a peaceable religion Islam really is?



WORDS FROM THE WEARD



After a life spent in and around music Roy Weard has finally written it all down. From his beginnings in the folk clubs of the early sixties, to playing the free festivals of the seventies with his own band 'Wooden Lion', to touring as a merchandiser with acts like Santana, The Pink Floyd and Genesis, to fronting cult London bands 'Dogwatch' and 'Roy Weard and Last Post', then touring again as a sound engineer and tour manager for many different bands and solo acts. A wide and varied life - this book spans all of that and more and is freely sprinkled with backstage stories and tales of a life spent on many different roads. It also contains many photographs, mostly taken by Roy, the crews he toured with, or by the fans of his various bands.

Even now he is unable to give up being involved in music. He still fronts the revived band 'That Legendary Wooden Lion', is part of the team that puts on monthly gigs in Brighton and Hove under the name of 'The Real Music Club' and does a weekly one hour radio show on Tuesdays at 4pm on Brighton and Hove Community Radio. As of now, he also writes a regular column in this august publication..

In 1989, after the first few gigs with Steve Harley I called Manfred. With typical caution his opening gambit was, 'What would you like me to do for you? I should say that I don't back people's projects, lend money or give out free studio time.'

I replied that I wanted to do something for him and arranged to meet him at the *Workhouse Studio*. He had not been on tour for a couple of years and I asked him if I could be considered to do the sound for him should he go out. I felt that a couple of tours with Harley, and generally good reviews for those, would stand me in enough stead to get a chance at the job. As it was he was not going on tour, but since Harley was doing the *Dominion Theatre* at the end of the next tour I invited him along anyway. He seemed favourably impressed with the sound and said he would definitely talk to me should he go on tour.

This did not happen for another year, and when the call came I was away on tour with Don. This meant that I could not do the production rehearsals or the meetings that preceded the tour. Manfred did, however, offer me the job of monitor engineer so I went off and did that.

Among the gigs we did were a series of festivals with the *Beach Boys* and *Allman Brothers*. At the bar in the hotel, after one of these festivals, Manfred was standing talking to Gregg Allman when a strange expression came over his face and he excused himself and left. He came over and joined us.

'I was just talking Gregg Allman,' he said, 'and he was saying he was much healthier now he had stopped snorting coke, freebasing and injecting heroin. I said that was good and he looked better than the last time I had seen him. He then said that he got all his drugs made up as a suppository now - and offered to make one for me!'

Manfred's singer, Chris Thompson, had left the band before this series of festivals and, on the previous tour, he had been sharing vocal duties with Noel McKalla, my old friend from the *Mezzoforte* tour. Noel had taken over all the vocals for these gigs and was sounding pretty good. I recalled that the first time I had heard Noel was when Manfred lent me of copy of an album Noel had made with his old band *Moon*.

Manfred was very keen on swimming at the time and tried to get into the hotel swimming pool in the mornings if there was one. Noel liked this too. We flew to Sweden for a festival there and were met by a female tour representative. On the drive from the airport she was running over the itinerary and said that the band were staying in one hotel, and the crew in another. Noel asked if their hotel had a swimming pool and she said that it didn't. Noel said that they had to have a pool and could she change the hotel to one that did have one. After a few calls she did that and the crew were moved to the hotel the band would have stayed in, and given the band's rooms.

The drummer on that tour was Clive Bunker, former drummer of *Jethro Tull*, and the bass player was Steve Kinch. Steve was in the hotel lobby when Noel came down and asked the receptionist about the pool. The conversation went something like this:

'Hi, what time does the pool open in the morning?'

'We don't usually open the pool until 2pm, sir.'

'Oh, that is no good. I am with *Manfred Mann's Earthband* and Manfred likes to have a swim in the mornings.'

'I am afraid we don't have anyone to open it earlier, can't he have a swim in the afternoon?'

'We have to be at the soundcheck at 2pm, can't you see if it can be opened earlier just for us?'

'I will check it out for you.'

She took his name and room number and went off. After a while she came back again and said they would try to get the attendant in to open the pool at 11am. So far quite ordinary, but Steve had overheard all of this and went up to Clive's room. They decided to call Noel, and Steve put on a fake Swedish accent.

'Mr McKalla?' He started.

'Yes.'

'We have arranged for the pool to be open for you. Where shall we send the bill?'

'Bill?' said Noel, no one had mentioned a bill. 'What for?'

'Well we had to pay the attendant to come in and there are the extra heating costs. Who shall we make it out to?'

'It won't be much will it?'

'It is about 10,000 kronor' he said.

'That is about £10 isn't it?'

'No you will find it is much more than that. There are roughly 10 kronor to the pound.'

'Oh. That is far too much. You had better cancel it.'

'It is too late to cancel it,' he said. Noel was beginning to worry now.

'We will have to charge you. Who shall we make the bill out to?'

By this time Steve was almost bursting with laughter and was having a hard time keeping up the fake accent. Clive said he should pass the phone to him. Steve did this saying 'One moment Mr McKalla, I will pass you to the hotel manager.'

Clive launched straight into the conversation in a broad cockney voice.

'Oi tosh, what's the problem 'ere. You asked for the pool to be opened and we have booked it. Are we gonna 'ave any bovver with you? Just tell me who to make the bill out to. Shall I make it out to the band?'

Noel agreed and then he hung up. Steve and Clive fell about laughing at this and then decided to call Manfred and tell him. Manfred then called up Noel and started asking him what this bill was all about. They kept him on the hook until later that evening when Steve and Clive confessed. The funny thing was that when they were leaving the hotel, there was a bill for early opening of the pool, but it was nowhere near 10,000 kronor.

The next day we all flew down to Cologne for a show there, and in the band's dressing room there was a hand basin. We got squares of black gaffa tape and stuck them to the bottom of the sink to look like tiles, made a miniature ladder and a diving board and then a small sign that said 'Pool Closed'. A few gigs later the crew were all issued with T-shirts that had been made up by the production manager. The front bore a picture of a person diving into a pool, and on the back it said 'Earthband Pool Attendants'.



CURRENTLY IN STOCK
AT GONZO (UK)



CURRENTLY IN STOCK
AT GONZO (USA)



c.j.stone

SPARKBROOK

Just the barest of memories. There's a bridge under which we pass. The other side of that bridge signifies something familiar, like home. And then there's a turning onto a small road with a school at the end. Out on the main road, seemingly miles away, traffic rumbles by in a haze of fumes and danger. But this little side street is my realm. I'm safe here, left to my own devices.

The house is dark, the electric light is permanently switched on, which only tends to emphasise the gloom. The kitchen is under the stairs. I remember my Mom, out there in the kitchen, while I sit at the table. There's a bowl of cornflakes in front of me, which I'm stirring round with my spoon. I used to like them to go soggy. Or maybe it was that I preferred them crispy, and wouldn't eat them once they were soggy.

The road is called Main Street, and it's in Sparkbrook, Birmingham. It's where I spent the first years of my life. I looked it up in the A-Z. It's still there. I decided I should go and pay a visit.

I dropped the car in Sparkhill and took a walk down the Stratford Road. It was an overcast day, grey but mild. I felt like an explorer. I had a copy of Eric Newby's *A Short Walk In The Hindu Kush* in my pocket. Well it was natural wasn't it? My journey became *A Long Walk Down The Stratford Road*. It seemed just as exotic, in a banal, Brummie sort of way. The area is predominantly Asian, but despite the Balti houses and the shops selling rolls of brightly coloured cloth sparkling with sequins, the scene is still essentially Birmingham. Indeed, what can be more Brummie than a Balti? But there's an air of decay about the area. Many shops are boarded up, and the flats above are universally in a state of

disrepair. Broken windows, grimy with the traffic fumes, glare down at you from the gloomy heights.

"Sparkbrook". The name gives an image of a jolly little stream sparkling in the sunlight. Instead of which you have a view of grubby motorcycle workshops and shops selling car parts. The bridge is still there though, an arch of red brick tip-toeing across the road like some prissy giantess raising her skirts to step over a puddle. And there, on the left, is Main Street.

All the old houses are gone, replaced with 60s council housing with gardens. But the view from the top end of the street is the same. I was walking up and down trying to position myself from my memories. The further away from the Stratford Road I got, the more "right" it seemed. And then there was the school, still there, but a school no longer. These days it's a health centre. This is where I'd lived, right opposite the school.

Main Street

Afterwards I rang my Mom up. "Tell me about Main Street," I said.

"Oooo, I don't remember. It was a long time ago."

"Was the house back-to-back?" I was remembering that dark view into the kitchen.

"That's right," she said. "There were shared toilets out the back. It was very old fashioned."

"And was the kitchen under the stairs?"

It was, she told me, surprised that I was remembering so much.

"So how old was I when we lived there?"

"From about 9 months till you were three. Then we went to Malta. When we got back you'd've been about four, I think. We stayed with our Mom for a while, and then we went back to live there for about six months before we moved to Yardley."

"We were right opposite the school weren't we?"

"That's right," she said. "You used to get dressed up in your work clothes and go and help the workmen while they were building it. It was your job. I don't know what you were doing. Helping them out in your own little way. I don't suppose they'd allow that now. It would be too dangerous. I can't have been a very good Mother. I just used to let you get on with it. And there was a shop about half way down the road. I would send you down there to get a few bits of things, you know. Fags, probably. That was what it was like in those days."

"I can remember going across the road to someone's house."

"That's right. May. I was working, you see. May used to look after you. She had a little girl you used to play with. And there was another little boy you used play with too, across the road."

I was remembering jam sandwiches for tea. That's

what they ate in the house across the road: jam sandwiches for tea.

"I can remember going across to the school. I remember you in bed, saying 'five more minutes.'"

"That was what I always used to say, 'five more minutes'. I said it to your sisters too, and your brother."

Cornflakes

"Tell me about cornflakes," I said. "How did I like my cornflakes?"

"I can't remember. Your brother used to like cornflakes. He was mad about them. Used to eat them instead of sweets."

"But did I like my cornflakes crispy or soggy?"

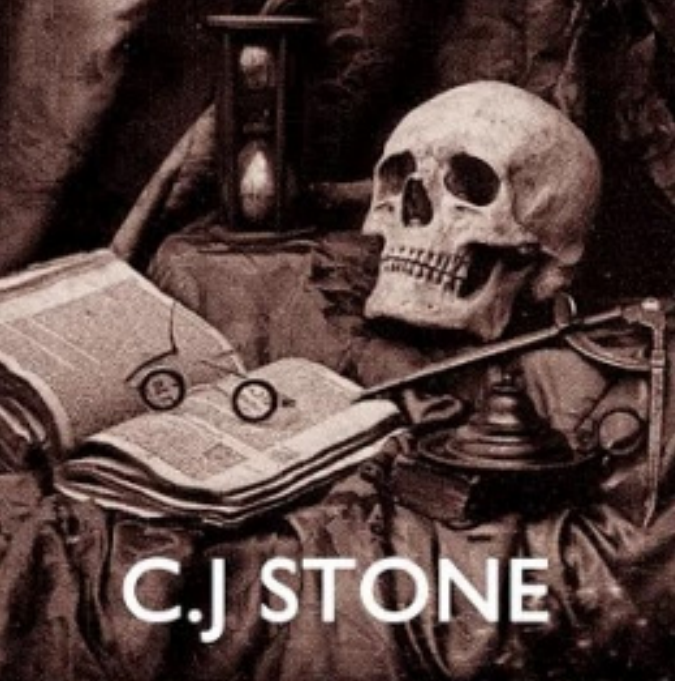
"I honestly have no idea."

"I have to know," I said. "It's important."

Read on

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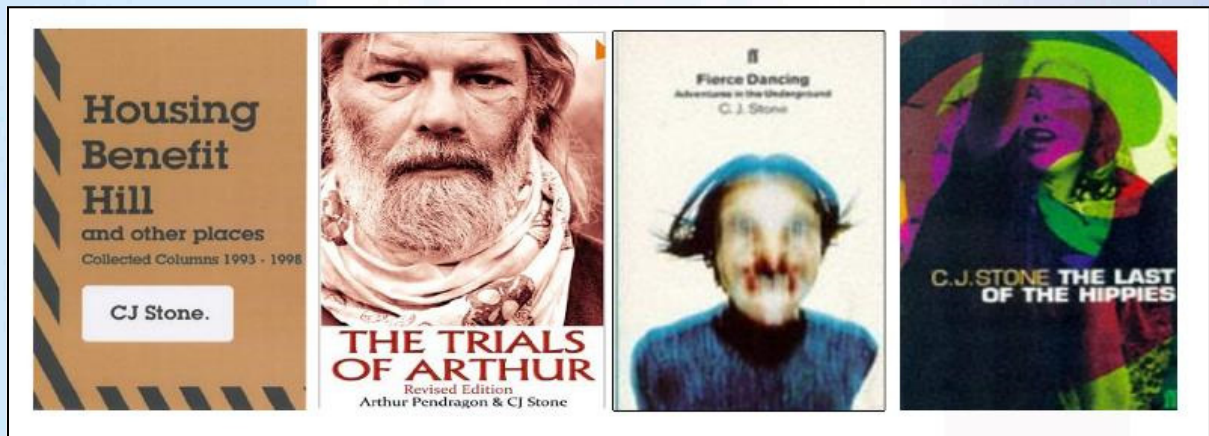
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The Last of the Hippies:
<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Last-Hippies-C-J-Stone/dp/0571193137/>

A wide-angle photograph of the Stonehenge monument in a grassy field under a cloudy sky. The stones are arranged in their characteristic circular formation.

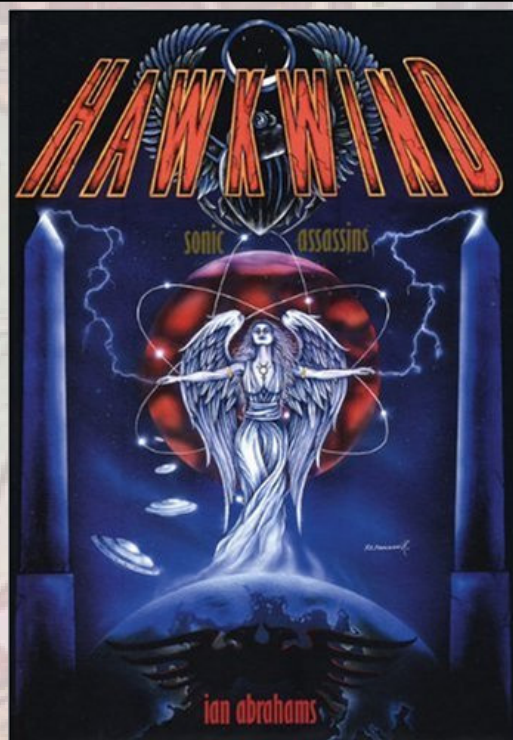
**OTHER BOOKS BY
C.J.STONE**



The Masters of the Universe do seem to have a steady stream of interesting stories featuring them, their various friends and relations, and alumni. Each week Graham Inglis keeps us up to date with the latest news from the Hawkverse..

It's recently been announced that a new print edition of Ian Abrahams' book "Hawkwind: Sonic Assassins" is to be published – this edition being described as 358 pages long, and "rewritten, expanded and updated". Meanwhile, the Kindle version is already on sale.

The book chronicles the band's varying events, such as the resumption of working with Calvert at the end of 1975, thus restoring the Brock-Calvert writing partnership, and the creation of new character-driven lyrics 'setting up an image that could be expounded upon in a live context. Which of course they were, on the two 1976 UK tours. Calvert was intent on moving Hawkwind away from the 'Eternal Champions' fantasy material and onto his SF agenda. The result was the "Astounding Sounds" album, and the band coming under new management by Tony Howard; and Abrahams' book recounts how a meeting between band members and the new manager resulted in a decision to fire Dave Brock



from Hawkwind.

Brock, musically, was going through a bad patch, but Calvert nonetheless supported him and said he "wasn't having it" and that particular sacking didn't occur after all. However, three other band members *were* sacked instead. One ditched musician, Paul Rudolph, describes how he was fed up with Calvert, and the feeling was mutual.

So, just another year in the convoluted and sometimes febrile history of a remarkable band.

Spirits Burning

The music adaptation of Mack Maloney's sci-fi novel "Starhawk"

Over 70 minutes of music, over forty crew members
Includes bonus 8-page comic with artwork by Steve Lines

A sci-fi adventure ... resurrected by Don Falcone & Mack Maloney, with Hawkwind family members Dave Anderson, Alan Davey, Paul Hayles, Jerry Richards, Nik Turner, Twink, & Bridget Wishart, plus Daavid Allen (Gong), Robert Berry (3), Keith Christmas, John Ellis (The Vibrators), Kev Ellis (Space Cadets), Matt Malley (Counting Crows), Nigel Mazlyn Jones, Pete Pavli (High Tide), Ken Pustelnik (The Groundhogs), Billy Sherwood (Yes), Judge Smith (Van der Graaf), Steffe Sharpstrings, Cyrille Verdeaux (Clearlight), Steve York, & 24 more musicians ...



1. Our Crash
2. I Have Two Names
3. JigSawMan Flies A JigSawShip
4. Live Forever
5. My Life of Voices
6. Let's All Go Cloud Puffing
7. Stellar Kingdom
8. Spaceships At The Starting Line
9. We Move You
10. Tripping With The Royal Family
11. Xara's Poem
12. For Those Who Are Searching
13. Rolling Out
14. Angel Full Of Pity
15. Right On The Mark
16. This Time, This Space
17. So Strong Is Desire

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HAWKWIND PASSPORT APPLICATION



Greetings space travellers!

This is your Hawkwind Earth Visitors Passport application form.

Please fill it in and return to Mission Control, at PO Box 617, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE15 7WA, together with two passport sized photographs, signed on the back and a 16cm x 11.5cm stamped addressed envelope.

The idea is for Hawkwind fans to have access to special Hawkwind events such as Hawkfest, obtain limited edition DVDs and CDs of exclusive material and to attend private Hawkwind parties.

Pass. No.....(Leave blank)

Volunteer Crew Register

Name

Please give details of your occupation/profession for inclusion in crew register and possible duty roster (optional)

.....
.....
.....

Full Earth Address:
.....
.....

Post Code

E-Mail Address: (Please print clearly).....

Telephone Number:

Additional info:

www.hawkwind.com

Any enquiries hawkwindpassports@hawkwind.com



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 Daavid 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!!!"

WE ARE LATE ARRIVALS

We have yet to learn the languages
There is only ever more
than our senses edit.

We dig fossils, become fossil records.

We recreate history, joining it.

One day we will make a tree.

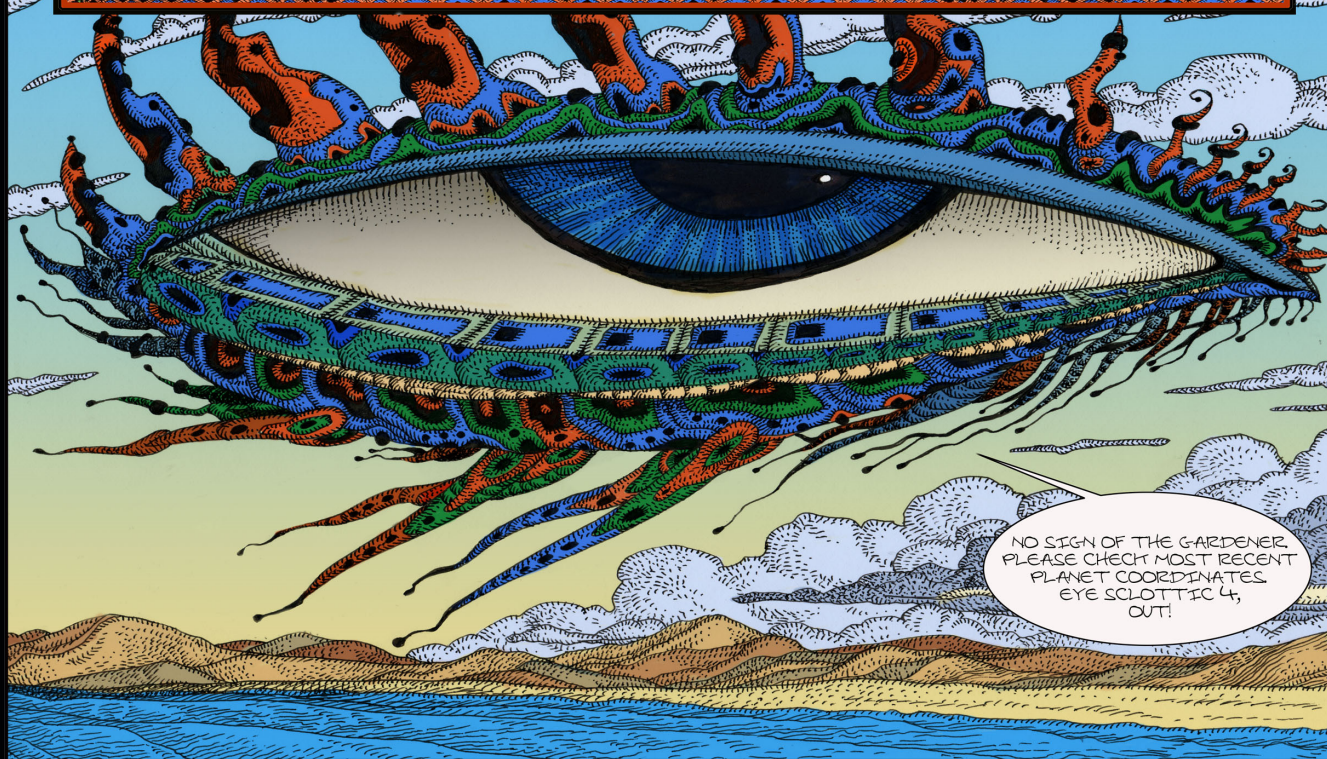
Next day learn "forests"

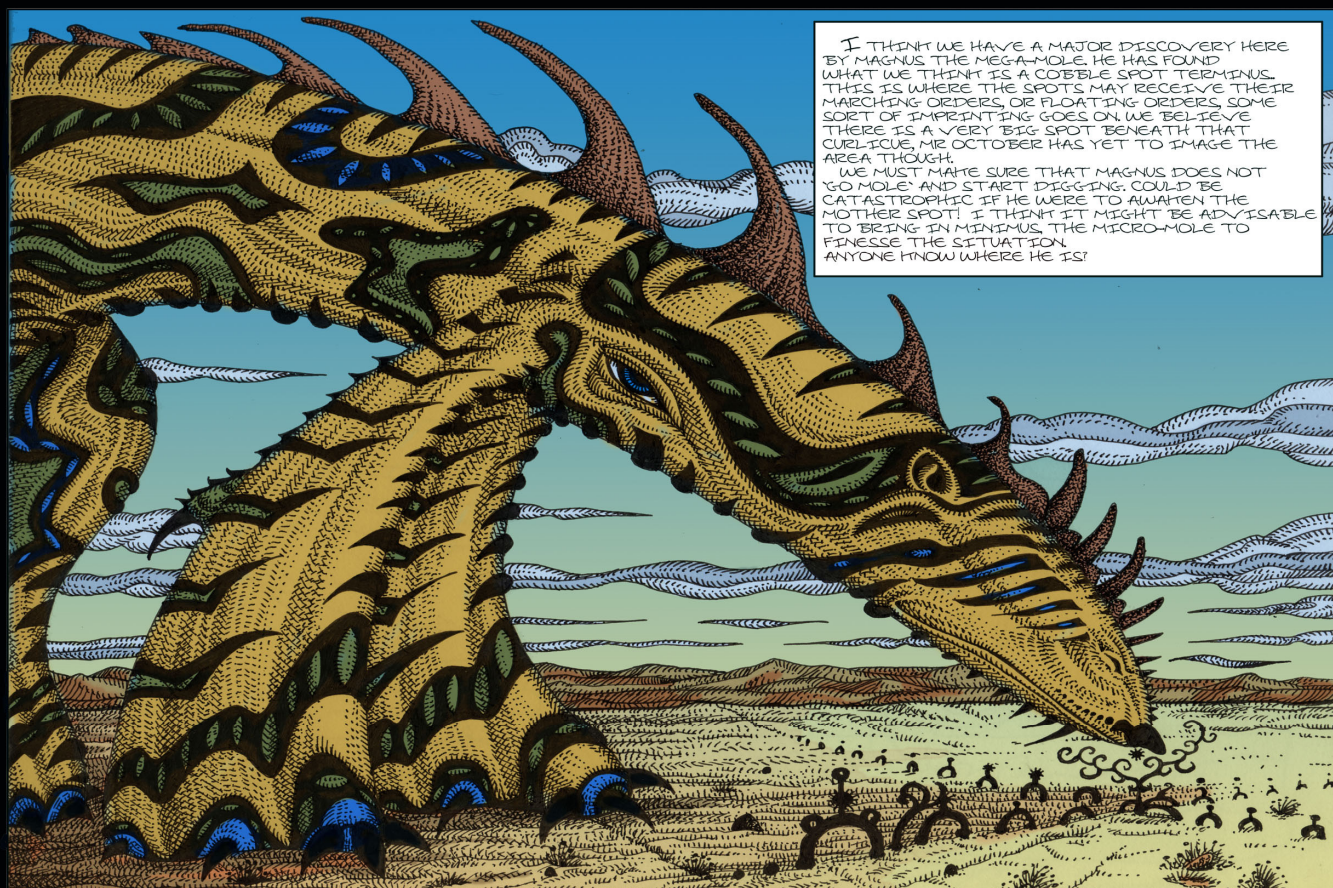
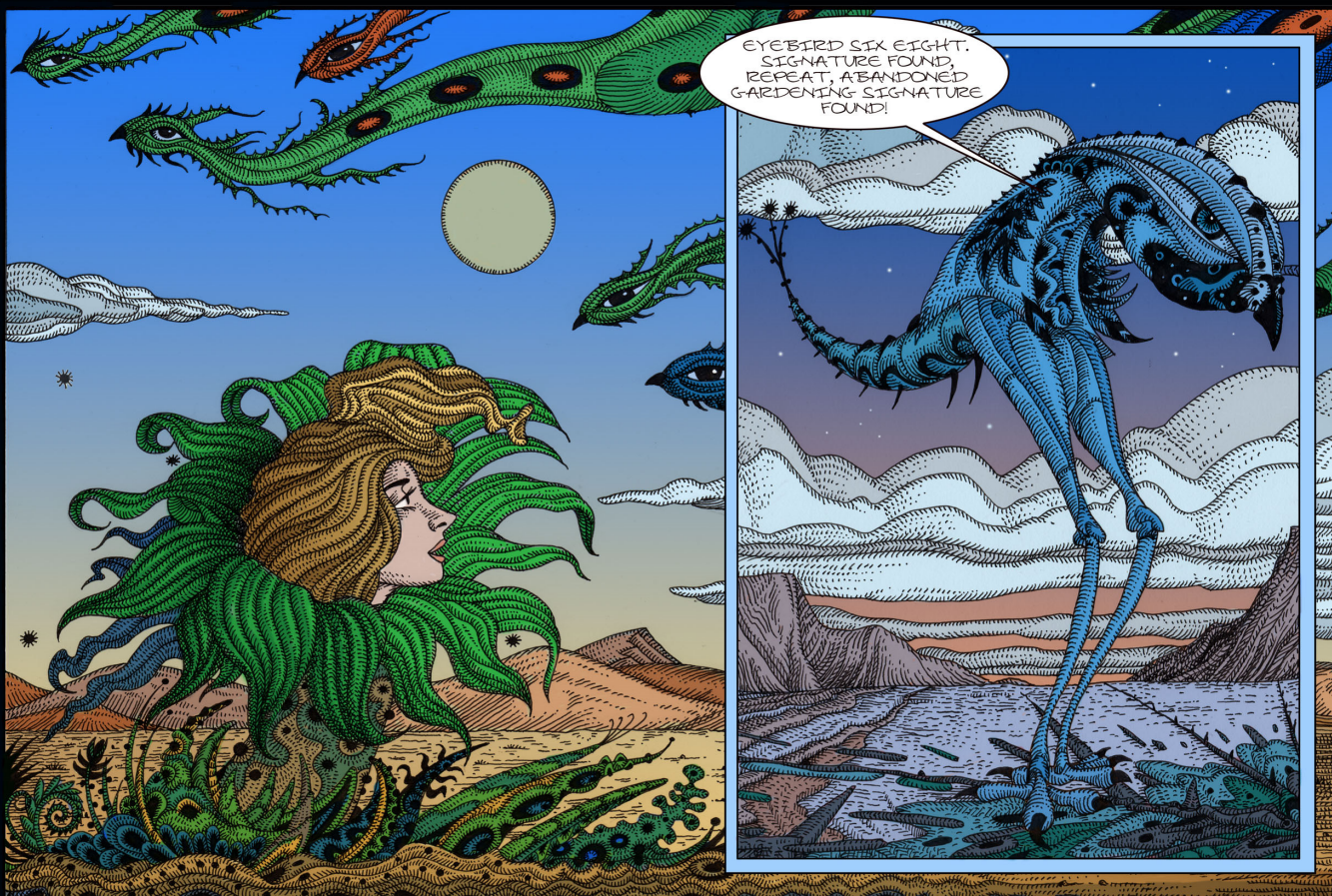
By the time we truly come alive

We will have learned that thin word
"sky"

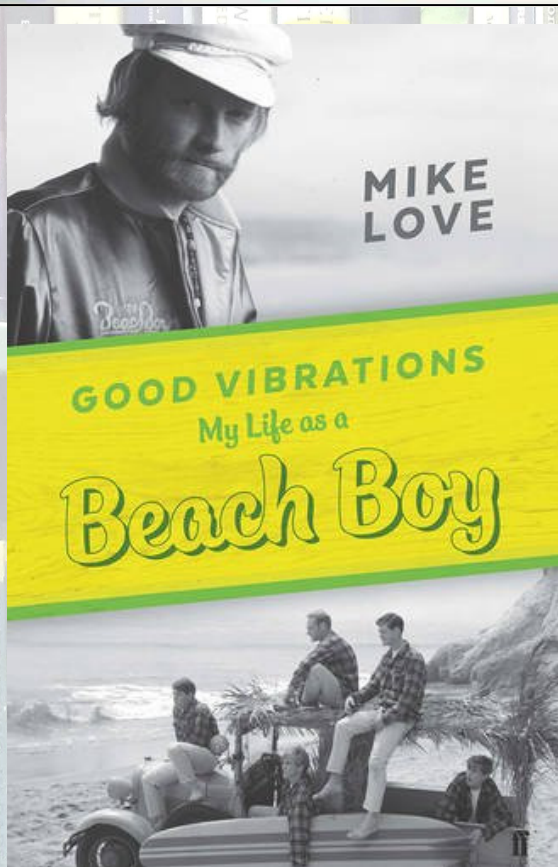
THE GARDENING CLUB

BY MARTIN SPRINGETT





Yer Gonzo Bookshelf



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The Beach Boys are quite probably the most important rock and roll band ever to come out of the United States of America. And the whole convoluted saga, as laid out in books such as *Heroes and Villains* by Stephen Gaines, is basically the story of two families, the Wilsons and the Loves, although all sorts of bit players from presidents to serial killers have been dragged into the plot by the irresistible gravity of the two main families.

And I am sure that if one were to ask a random selection of Beach Boy fans who the greatest villain - the monster whose villainy

and horror very nearly managed to destroy the conceptual grooviness of the band was, I am certain that only one name would come to the surface. Charles Manson? Don't be daft. I am talking about Mike Love.

Now, everyone I know who identifies as a Beach Boys fan will attest that Brian Wilson is a solid gold, *bona fide* genius, and this is an attestation which I shall not even attempt to challenge. Brian Wilson is an undoubted genius, and is responsible for some of the most inspiring music of the past sixty years. However, he must have been a complete pain in the arse to be in a band with. And his nutjob, druggie brother Dennis - who hobnobbed with Charlie Manson and had tastes for heroin and very dysfunctional women, could well be described as an equal or even worse pain in the arse. And their psychopathic father Murry. Don't even start on him?

All the accounts of the history of The Beach Boys *do* agree that much of it has been a complete train wreck. It is a tale of drugs, death, corporate jiggery pokery, and madness, and it is against this tangled background that we must examine this book.

The accepted wisdom is that Mike Love is the biggest villain in the story, and - having heard from various people who had read this book already - I was quite prepared to find that reading this was going to be an unpleasant experience, and that I would come away from reading it, disliking Mike Love immensely. Last Christmas I asked for and was given a copy of David Crosby's autobiography, and - having known next to nothing about the man in advance - I was surprised to find quite how much I disliked the author at the end of the day. Over the past few years I have read several books about the breakup of *The Beatles* which described Eric Clapton in particularly egregious terms. And so I was expecting the same thing once I had read the story of Mike Love in his own words.

And guess what? I was completely wrong.

After reading this I feel considerably different. Although Love is quite open about his wrongdoings - mostly in terms of infidelities to his various spouses - he actually comes over far more sympathetically than I had thought. His arguments explaining some of the more problematical episodes in *Beach Boys* are surprisingly cogent, and - at the very least - shed a considerably amount of doubt on the generally accepted version.

There are many of these such episodes in the book, and I shall mention only two here, because I truly want to encourage those of you who are interested in such things to read this book.

Firstly, the debacle when the *Beach Boys* publishing company 'Sea of Tunes' was sold over Brian and the band's heads by the psychotic Murry Wilson is well known. Mike Love attests that he was co-author of a number of the *Beach Boys* more well known songs, that Brian was - and is - quite prepared to accept that matter, but that - mainly because of reasons of family jealousy - Murry Wilson refused to accept this, and insisted on crediting Brian entirely. There has always been, apparently, a deep schism between the Wilson and the Love families, mostly to do with long standing disagreements between Murry and Mike Love's father.

He then claims that when the matter of the sale of 'Sea of Tunes' was opened up decades later and renegotiated Brian or his advisors decided that if Mike Love was given his just deserts Brian could not afford the financial fallout, and so stuck with the story that Murry Wilson had started off decades before.

To reduce such a complex affair to the few paragraphs I have written above is akin to describing *Romeo and Juliet* to "ummm, two kids fall in love and then they both die". It is far too complex to adequately describe here, but I hope that you get the idea.

The second episode that I want to reference is what happened when the surviving members of the band reunited for a reunion album and tour, and then very soon afterwards Mike Love apparently unilaterally announced that Brian and the others were no longer part of the band.

Back in September 2012 I wrote:

"Last night I watched *Later with Jools Holland* on the BBC iPlayer. It featured an appearance by The Beach Boys and following the news that I posted yesterday about the band splitting, I was interested to see what was probably the final TV appearance by all the members of the classic lineup who are still alive.

It was like watching a car crash.

Just look at the two segments I have posted below. Brian seems somewhere else entirely, and heavier than he has appeared in years. The only time in the whole show that he appeared animated was during PiL's set (they were magnificent, by the way), when he was bopping along happily to *Deeper Water*. But the body language between the members during the interview was so angry and defensive that the whole thing made very uncomfortable viewing.

Brian's lead vocals on *Heroes and Villains* were excruciating. Something is very badly wrong with that particular group of elderly performers, and I have a sneaking suspicion that yesterday's announcement did not tell anything like the full story. And now I have absolutely no idea who are the heroes and who are the villains."

And if Mike Love is telling the truth then my suspicions of four years ago were truly justified.

After the death of Carl Wilson in 1998, Mike Love continued to tour with the Beach Boys, along with Bruce Johnston and a supporting band of new musicians, occasionally including actor John Stamos. He legally leased exclusive rights to tour under the Beach Boys name, in a boardroom settlement with Brother Records, the Beach Boys' company. In September 2012, Love and Bruce Johnston announced via a press release that following the end of the reunion tour The Beach Boys would revert to the Love/Johnston lineup, without Wilson, Jardine or Marks, all of whom expressed surprise despite such dates having been noted in a late June issue of *Rolling Stone*. In the ensuing media fallout, it was widely reported that the three had been 'fired' by Love. But, of course that was never the case. Love and



Johnstone claim that the arrangement with Brian et al was never meant to be a permanent state of affairs, and in this book Mike Love recounts a number of cogent looking anecdotes about difficulties working with Brian and his management (Mrs Brian).

As we all know, the music business has been contracting wildly for the past few decades, and the monetisation even of classic rock bands is not what it was. Love claims that he could no longer afford to keep a more expensive lineup of the band on the road. And knowing what we all know about the current parlous state of the music business, Mike's assertions make a significant amount of sense. And even in 2012 I got the impression that - at that time, at least - the band was no longer a functioning unit. The idea that Love preferred touring with a cut down version of the band that cost less, was more functional, and more fun to work with would truly make a heck of a lot of sense.

None of this is meant to infer that Brian Wilson is not one of the greatest composers of modern times. Of course he is. And - although I found

his last album, and indeed the one of Disney songs, and his Christmas album - to be somewhat sub par by his admittedly stellar standards. But his 'Lucky old Sun' album of a few years ago was completely magnificent, and I would not be at all surprised if Wilson has one or more masterworks ready to come in what remains of his career.

When Love will be touring with a band in which he is comfortable, playing songs which he may or may not have co-written over half a century before to an audience which gets smaller every year. Like I said, the story of The Beach Boys is a train wreck. But after reading this book I don't think that most of us have quite worked out who are the heroes and who are the villains. And who are neither...because in The Beach Boys as in life itself, most people are neither heroes nor villains, just ordinary or extraordinary people doing their best to play the hand of cards that providence has dealt them.

Read this book. It might make you think.



A row of five custom-made bobblehead figures of the Jonas Brothers, each with a unique hairstyle and outfit, standing on black circular bases. The figures are arranged in a line on a pink surface, with a dark, patterned background behind them. From left to right: the first figure has long, wavy brown hair and is wearing a dark jacket; the second has a textured, greyish-brown cap and is wearing a white shirt and blue jeans; the third has short, dark hair and is wearing a red and white striped shirt; the fourth has short, dark hair and is wearing a grey shirt; the fifth has short, dark hair and is wearing a purple and white shirt.

PRATT, DOWNES & SCOTT,
(Successors to T. W. & O. P. Bancroft.)

THE BITCH IS BACK

"FIVE ONE DIRECTION FIGURES IN FAB CONDITION"

I am not too sure what one would do with these, but I suppose one suggestion would be to use them in a game of mini ten (five) pin bowling. Ha! One could send them in all four directions!

Rolling Stones 1st Off The Press Goats Head Jumper - £4,000



"Only 10 made this 1st off the press"

Not only lacking correct punctuation in the above sentence, this also lacks any attraction for me. In fact, it is tacky and poorly made by the look of said item, in the photos at least. The horns definitely look a bit dodgy to me.



The Beatles' Apple Corps 'Old England' Watch - ULTRA RARE CONDITION - £800.00

"This is now seriously rare and in a 1967 condition!"

Beatles VERY Rare Original Apple Watch by Old England, 1967. A fashionable 1.5" square, 21-jewel watch with a black faux suede band



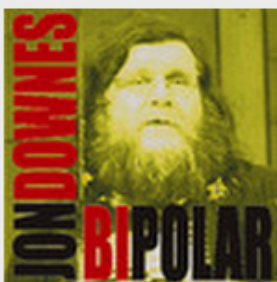
bearing the gold imprint on back: "Made in England/ Old England/ Copyright Old England/ Watches LTD 1967". These were only available for sale at the Apple Boutique in Chelsea during its short time in business, December 1967 to July 1968. Before it closed and everything left was given away, a group of these watches were retained by Apple and given as gifts to VIPs, etc. Richard Loftus designed the watch and they were manufactured by the Accurist Watch Company. During the late sixties, this style was very fashionable but is now seldom seen. Overall I have conservatively marked it as Very Good but I doubt if it has ever been worn as the printed lettering on the wrist band interior is mint.

Note: this is museum piece and I cannot make comment on it actually keeping time!"

Okay for a collector I suppose. Not my cup of tea though.

SHAMELESS SELF PROMOTION TIME

Just in case you are interested, here is yer beloved Editor at iTunes



[Check it out now...](#)

**THE BEATLES "LAUREL" SILK SCARF ?
TABLE CLOTH? WALL HANG ? THROW?
HEAD SQUARE ? - £14.99**



"LAUREL" HEAD SCARF.

BLACK / RED BORDER WITH MULTI-COLORED FLOWERS POWER INSIDE AND "SHE LOVES ME YEAH YEAH YEAH" AROUND THE EDGES. BELIEVE IT TO BE SILK BY THE FEEL BUT DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE A LABEL. MEASURE APPROX 35 INCHES SQUARE.

I am not sure what connection the words have with the pattern, but whatever rocks your boat.

**2012 Famous Fabrics Music MM memorabilia
GOLD relic STING worn shirt 2/10 - US \$69.99**

"In stock and ready to ship. Awesome piece of worn



material! Rare gold parallel - only 10 made!"

All sorts of scraps of material purportedly from an article of clothing worn by various well-known folks are available. I just picked this one because it was the first to appear. But it does possibly lend itself quite nicely to the phrase 'a sting' though. Inn fact, I wonder if there a scrap of material from something Scott Joplin wore? Now that would be funny.

**VINTAGE EVIS PRESLEY LIGHTED LUCITE
SCULPTURE ILLUSIONS LAMP W/ WOOD
BASE, NICE - US \$79.00**



"UP FOR AUCTION TODAY IS A VERY UNIQUE HAND CRAFTED ELVIS PRESLEY LIGHTED SCULPTURE LAMP. THIS RARE ITEM IS MADE OF SOME TYPE OF LUCITE AND MOUNTED ON A WOOD BASE. ILLUSIONS ARE THREE DIMENSIONAL SCULPTURES MADE BY ARTISTS USING THE ANCIENT "LOST WAX" PROCESS.

IT'S A SCULPTURE WITHIN A SCULPTURE, VERY COOL. COMES WITH THE POWER CORD AND ON/OFF SWITCH AND ONE NIGHT LIGHT BULB. MEASURES APPROX. 7" TALL, 7" WIDE AND 5" DEEP. THIS IS A MUST HAVE ITEM FOR THE SERIOUS ELVIS FAN!"

This looks decidedly creepy to me.



Stray into the woods and forests and you will enter into another world; a world of creatures that live by their own rules, protect their own kind with fierceness, and view all strangers who venture under the protective boughs with deep suspicion. Tread the forest floor with care, for this is also the home of the hairy man - the wildman of the woods. Is he a man? Is he a beast? Is he something in between? Whatever he is, he is spoken about by humans in hushed voices. They are scared of him and they tell tales of him to their children to scare them from entering the hushed darkness of the tree kingdoms. They call him many names; the woodwose, the wudawasa, the wodwos amongst them. The bane of a high-born daughter takes her unintentionally through such a forest on her last journey as a single woman to wed the man of her father's choice. Imposters from another land tramp through such a forest on a mission of their own, killing everything that comes across their path. The lives of some of the creatures that dwell in this place become unavoidably entwined with both these trespassers. The lives of some will change. Some will cease completely.

wyrd
music

MIKE DAVIS

HOW CAN I TELL YOU?



Available from iTunes, Amazon etc

Frank Sinatra Christmas Ornament With Dean Martin's Voice, Rare Collectible - \$99.00



"Never seen one like this, ever before. This is a Frank Sinatra Christmas Ornament with the song Let It Snow. However, it is not Frank Sinatra's voice singing the song. It is Dean Martin's voice. A bunch of

these were given to family members, as a Christmas present about 15 years ago. Out of the 6 ornaments, this is the only one that has Dean Martin's voice singing, instead of Frank's. On the bottom of the ornament it reads "©2000 Sheffield Enterprises, Inc. Let It Snow Let It Snow Let It Snow Frank Sinatra

Is A Trademark Of Sheffield Enterprises, Inc. All Proceeds Go To The Frank Sinatra Foundation." Another possible mistake is the small "p" before "...Let it Snow..."

How peculiar.

MARILYN MANSON (MUSIC) PHOTO PRINT 03 - £2.50

Imagine the scene. You are both sitting there, watching the telly with your feet up on the his and hers pouffes when your daughter comes home with her new beau. Just as she utters the words, "Hey mum and dad. Meet my new boyfriend" you both look up, wearing tentative smiles, to see



Sweet dreams. Until next week.



"Ev'rywhere I hear the sound
of marching charging feet, boy"

[http://www.zazzle.co.
uk/streetfightingshirts](http://www.zazzle.co.uk/streetfightingshirts)



AULD MAN'S BACCIE

RESONATING WITH THE BLUES

Gregg Kofi Brown

ROCK 'N' ROLL AND UFOs

Gregg Kofi Brown has transcended many genres of music...

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

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

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

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

CD and book available soon from Gonzo Multimedia

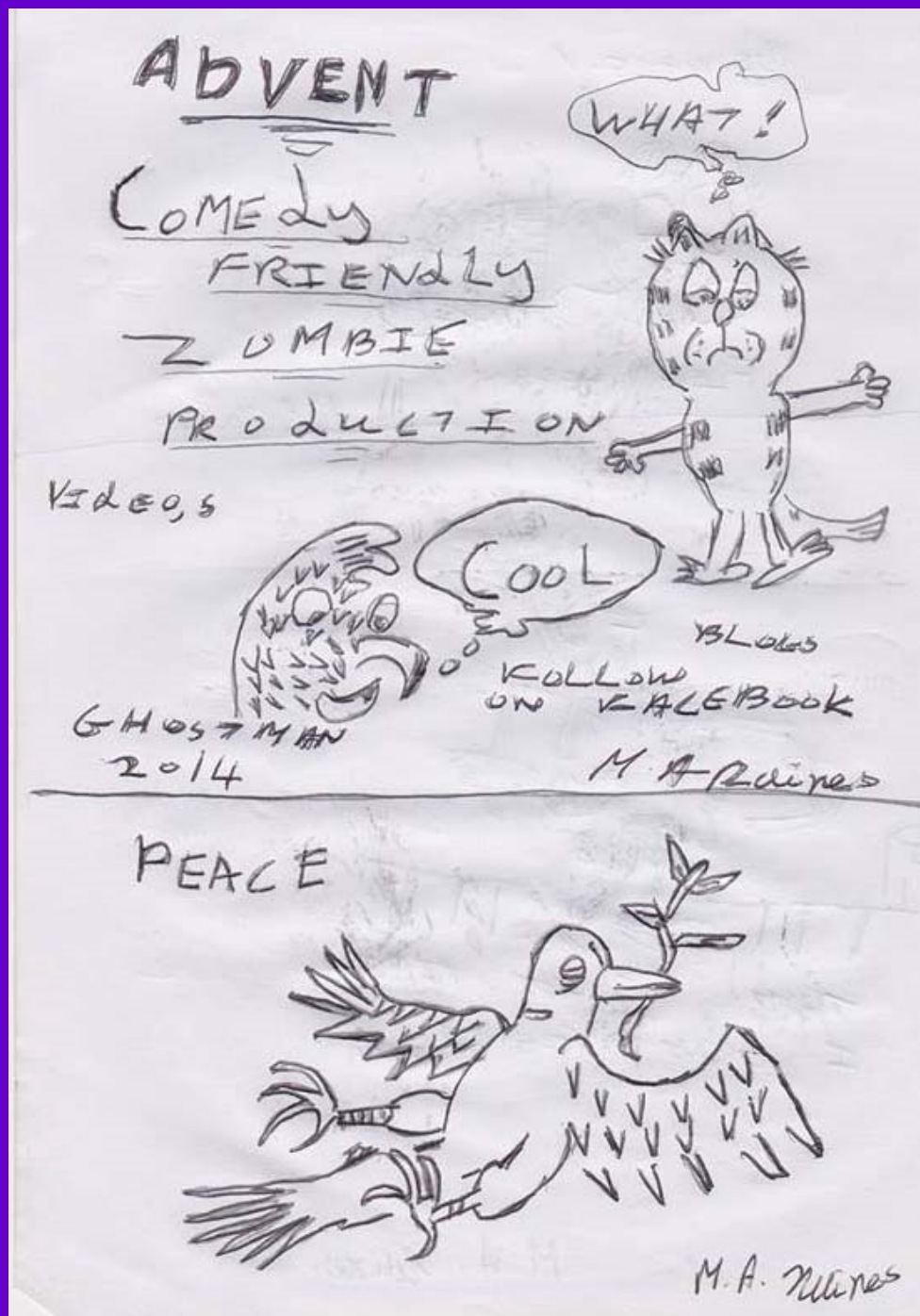


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THE WORLD OF GONZO ACCORDING TO

Mark Raines



And so we come to the end of another week, and am I going to say that it has been a peculiar one? Well, I shall try not to. But I have come to the conclusion that no week *casa Downes* is particularly normal by the standards of yer man in the street. But we all know what Sid Vicious said about the proverbial man in the street.

Swiftly moving on.

I am very pleased about the way that this magazine is developing. Alan's piece on Tibet this week is an example in point. As I wrote elsewhere recently my fascination with the place came partly from the (totally fallacious) books by Lobsang Rampa (who was about as much of a Lama as I am) and partly from Daevid Allen whom Alan namechecks in his excellent article. And it wasn't until typesetting the said article that I realised quite how much of what I thought I knew about the situation was frankly wrong.

And then in my book review this week I said almost exactly the same thing, but this time about Mike Love and The Beach Boys. If this magazine can continue to make people, including its editor, think, then it is doing exactly what I wanted it to do.

This week I wrote on Facebook that my love goes out to an old friend of the past three and a half decades who is suffering from bowel cancer and having a horrible time with his chemotherapy. And



to another friend who looks like he is losing his house due to his age, despite the fact that he had been promised a new mortgage.

Today I would like to add love and healing vibes to another friend who was sexually abused by a family member during her childhood. With great courage she stepped forward two years ago and went to the police, and today heard that the prosecution was successful. Well done my dear. Much love to you all. Today seems like a healing day so I am not going to be waffling on about pop music or butterflies...

Peace and Love
jd



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BEEFHEART AT HIS BEST

Live on stage

ADMIT • ONE | \$5.50 | STALLS

Somewhere Over Detroit

11 DEC 1980
ON STAGE 20.30

FROM HARPOS CONCERT THEATRE, DETROIT

11 DEC 1980
ON STAGE 20.30

CAPTAIN BEEFHEART



& The

Magic Band

ERIC DREW FELDMAN * ROBERT WILLIAMS * RICHARD SNYDER * JEFF TAPIR/WHITE * JEFF MORIS TEPPER

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