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the **SPOT LIGHT**

the official Clear Spot News Letter

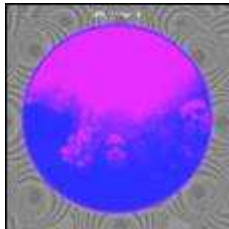
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133 / DATE: Monday, January 21st, 2008.

NEW RELEASES

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS



DON JUAN MATUS – DON JUAN MATUS (CD-LP/NASONI)

Peruvian doom merchants Don Juan Matus' debut platter manages to invoke, rather subtly, the ghosts of everyone from Sabbath to Comus, forging their respective influences into a sound that is unmistakably their own as they take us back to the golden age of Vertigo, running the gamut between extended drone suites, embryonic acoustic interludes and straight-ahead stompers. The LP-edition is available on black and coloured vinyl.



FRANTIC FIVE – ON THE MOVE (CD/ON STAGE)

B-movies from the past, garage-fuzz-rock, folk-punk and even a sniff of old soul are all clear influences one can hear on this wonderful new CD by the Frantic Five. A vinyl edition is to follow.

BULLETS – FINAL RACE (CD/ON STAGE) These accomplished rock ‘n’ roll album which is not only destined to please aficionados of music from past decades, but all open-minded people with a taste in music! Enjoy!



JUNGLE TIGERS – GOO GOO MUCK (CD/ON STAGE) 15 ultra cool nuggets by the wildest tigers of the modern rock n roll jungle! Includes saxophones and a cool cover of Ronnie Cook & The Gaylads ‘Goo Goo Muck’.

FREE SOUL – TEASIN’ WOMAN (CD/ON STAGE) The debut album by this hot steaming band from Thessaloniki features 12 tracks, with traces of American country roads and old fashioned rock’n’roll bars with blastin’ jukeboxes. Mighty enjoyable.



TRI-SONICS – LIVE IN PRISON (CD/ON STAGE) Derek Singleton is a Texas born and bred musician living in Germany. He’s been playing in bands for over 20 years and now, accompanied by Barbara on double bass and Dim on drums, he sets many a stage ablaze with a sparkling mixture of American rock’n’roll and catchy rockabilly. This album was recorded live in Stadelheim Prison, Munich. Of course the set contained an awesome version of Johnny Cash’ Folsom Prison’, and a cool rendition of Blondie’s ‘Call Me’ is among the other highlights.

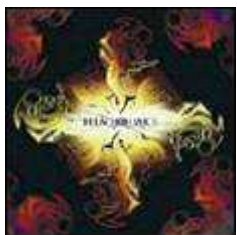
GREY FORCE WAKEFORD - MARBLE HEART (CD/ATHANOR) Faux-spiritual drone-folk from Nick Grey enters into a very stark contrast with more serious, moody edges from neo-folk pioneer Tony Wakeford, while moments of intense communion between Kris Force and Grey come off as a relief of earth-crying gloom and experimental processes and methods recalling Philip Glass' most divine moments, meeting old school industrial angst à la Throbbing Gristle with a twist of sublime, early Brian Eno. Force and Grey craft a general climate of neo-classical acoustic technique and chamber music arrangements, meeting up with Wakeford's ownset of aesthetics and conjuring a heart-warming, post-jazzy, epic fusion of the senses. Various clarinets, live vibraphone, antique old piano, creeping blues-garage guitar, voices in chorus, masterfully haunting strings and vocal solos all rejoice in a whole new genre of extremely humble post-industrial musical theatre, replete with up-to-date electronic processing techniques.



LAPIS NIGER - AT THE THRONE OF MELEK TAUS

(CD/ATHANOR) Lapis Niger symbolises the black diamond of Draconian Alchemy, the eternal star of Thaumiel of the Qliphotic Qabalah. Thus following a magician's inner journey, this musical expression opens up the gate to the world of Samael, averse counterpart of the Sephirah Hod in the Qabalah. 'At The Throne of Melek Taus' draws inspiration from the world of the Yezidis, the small Kurdish sect that still worships Melek Taus, the peacock god, also known as Shaitan. Lapis Niger is a new dark magical ambient project by Tommie Eriksson, Swedish author and musician, who's work is an expression of the Draconian Current as channelled in Dragon Rouge - Ordo Draconis et Atri Adamantis.

ZERO KAMA – LIVE IN ARNHEM (2CD/ATHANOR) Michael DeWitt's Zero Kama was the precursor of the ritual and majick inspired music scene with bands like Coil or Psychic TV. Their label Nekrophile was a big influence on many individuals and also for the creation of Athanor. Zero Kama did only two performances, in 1985, in Amsterdam and Arnhem. This last one being presented here for the first time on CD. The release also features the interview Zero Kama did for Stad Radio in Amsterdam, plus bonus tracks.



HEADQUAKE – HEADQUAKE (LP/SOUND EFFECT) Featuring ex-members from a.o. Melting Ashes, Jesus Toy, Black Static and Villa 21, HeadQuake offer a hard rocking mix of stoner and grunge which will definitely appeal to fans of a.o. Kyuss, Fu Manchu, Monster Magnet and Spiritual Beggars. Available on black and red vinyl.

DIVINE BAZE ORCHESTRA – ONCE WE WERE BORN (CD/TRANSUBSTANS) One of the most interesting bands from the contemporary Swedish progressive scene. Raw, spontaneous and experimental, yet melodic, epic and warm. Comparisons range from Uriah Heep to King Crimson, and from Mahavishnu Orchestra to Miles Davis.

AGENT SIDE GRINDER - AGENT SIDE GRINDER (LP/ENFANT TERRIBLE) Their awaited debut album! The band plays industrial music in the style of Cabaret Voltaire, then mix it with some proto-punk in the Suicide way, fuse this with the energy of early EBM reminiscent of The Klinik, and top this off with psychedelic touches that can be traced back to The Doors. The result is a unique, contemporary and fresh sound that will appeal to fans of industrial, electro, old style EBM and krautrock alike.

ERIC THIELEMANS – A SNARE IS A BELL (LP/ULTRA ECZEMA) Eric Thielemans is from Antwerp, Belgium and has made percussive pieces for theatre, he played psychedelic guitar music with Mauro Pawlowski, spaced free-music with Sickboy

and Cassisini Division and a ton load of great free-jazz with André Goudbeek and Peter Jacquemyn. This piece is written for just one snare drum and vocals, though it may sound massive. This LP may appeal to fans of Glenn Branca and Whitehouse.

EXPECTED RELEASES

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS



THE JUKE JOINT PIMPS – BOOGIE THE HOUSE DOWN/JUKE JOINT STYLE (CD-LP/VOODOO RHYTHM) Two piece Boogie Blues act that presses the manure out of your bowls like none before... Drums and guitar, Elmore James style boogie Blues recorded with one microphone only... *Expected in February.*

POSSESSED BY PAUL JAMES – COLD & BLIND (CD-LP/VOODOO RHYTHM) From the swampy depths of the Floridian Everglades, raised by an Amish Menonite Family, comes bluegrass blues punk tour de force artist Konrad Wert a.k.a. Possessed By Paul James. Bearing that name in honour of his father and grandfather, and armed with nothing but fiddle, banjo, guitar and a battered suitcase, Possessed By Paul James sings, growls and hollers songs of love and loss and exorcises his demons live on stage, and now also on Voodoo Rhythm's brand new release 'Cold & Blind'. *Expected: Late February.*



ARCANA – RASPAIL (CD/KALINKALAND) Arcana has turned another page in the book and the next chapter will be a meeting between the old and the new. As before, we hear many instruments that bring variety to the music, but this time the vocals parts play a more important role. The medieval elements from 'Dark Age of Reason' and 'Cantar De Procella' are still there, the majestic sound from 'The Last Embrace' appears along with the serene notes from 'Inner Pale Sun' and the oriental instruments from 'Le Serpent Rouge'. Blend this with the new sounds created by Peter Bjärgö, and you find 'Raspail', the next chapter in the book of Arcana. *Expected: Late February.*

CHANDEEN – TEENAGE POETRY (CD/KALINKALAND) The music on 'Teenage Poetry' is an emotional passage through dark and surreal worlds, coloured with haunting and melancholic landscapes. With its epic soundscapes and the breathtaking, heavenly voice of new vocalist, Julia Beyer, 'Teenage Poetry' is both, deeply moving and yet uplifting... an exciting exploration of the human soul. *Expected: March*

JESSICA CONSTABLE & PHILIPPE GELDA (CD/DARK HOLLER-HAND/EYE) Jessica Constable sings written texts or stream-of-consciousness lyrics that she uses to explore resonance and texture, sometimes using electronic filters, echoes and modulation

to transform her voice. Philippe Gelda prepares upright piano, using everyday objects like beer mats and clothes pegs or uses other keyboards such as organ, toy piano, or melodica to create percussive and harmonic soundscapes reminiscent of various contemporary composers and sound artists, French popular song, and rock. The two have been composing, improvising and performing together since 1991. Their suites for voice and piano (or organ) have been performed in venues ranging from theatres to a shepherd's cabin. Constable and Gelda consider The Vine and Vein Collection to be a turning point in the evolution of their duo, when years of striving relaxed and became instead gratefulness for their unique working relationship. *Expected: March.*



CROW TONGUE – GHOST EYE SEEKER (CD/DARK HOLLER-HAND/EYE) Crow Tongue's first full length finds them summoning distant howls from the fog of night. Fingerpicked strings and Eastern instruments recall Crow Tongue's musical heritage (the acid-folk of Stone Breath), but here they are layered with primitive homemade instruments, circuit-bent electronics, and mantric drones. *Expected: March.*

BATHTUB GIN – THE LOST WEAK END (LP/RED LOUNGE) From the Tennessee-Georgia border, an LP with guitar, drums and vocals slightly reminding of Greg Cartwright. Crazy stuff sure to please any Oblivians and Drags fanatic. *Expected: February.*

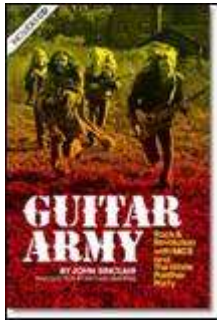
SPIRITS BURNING – ALIEN INJECTION (LP/BLACK WIDOW) A project founded by Don Falcone, who welcomes special guests among whom Daavid Allen (Soft Machine, Gong, Universe Of Errors), Hawkwind-members Bridget Wiseheart and Michael Moorcock, Adrian Shaw (Bevis Frond), Pete Pavil of High Tide-fame and the ST36 crew. And the music? Excellent psych-space rock!

FERRIS WHEEL – CONSTELLATION OF TOMBS (CD/SOLNZE) More remarkable sounds from the vast Russian underground. Infernal nu disco from St. Petersburg, combining punk and rockabilly affected disco sounds, electric beats and a creepy voice. Lyrics about death, darkness and fears make this a great soundtrack for any (pre-) Halloween party.

60's & 70's & 80's (RE-)RELEASES AND ARTISTS + OTHER OLDIES
BACIO DEL MEDUSA – BACIO DEL MEDUSA (CD/BLACK WIDOW) Top notch progressive sounds from the Italian 70's scene. Wonderful classical influences make this debut album by the highly rated band from Perugia a real treat for all fans of the genre.

BACIO DEL MEDUSA – DISCESA AGL'INFERNI D'UN GIOVANE (CD-LP/BLACK WIDOW) Reissue of this superb Italian progressive concept album from the 70's. The sound and style on this release, their second LP, can be compared to top names s.a. Le Orme, Osanna, Museo Rosenbach and Biglietto Per L'Inferno. Connoisseurs need to know no more. *Expected: February.*

BOOKS



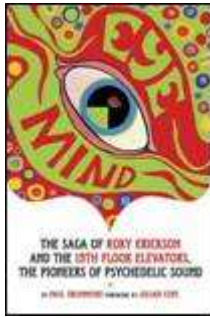
JOHN SINCLAIR – GUITAR ARMY (BOOK/PROCESS MEDIA)

“Rock and Revolution with the MC5 and the White Panther Party”. Guitar Army is the incendiary book that proclaimed "Rock and Roll is a Weapon of Cultural Revolution" for young, revved-up readers in 1972. Author John Sinclair spearheaded the leftist revolutionary vanguard White Panther Party and managed the Detroit rock band MC5, leading them from the ferment of the Detroit riots to the Chicago Democratic Convention of 1968, where the band played minutes before police clubbed antiwar demonstrators. In October of 1970 the FBI referred to the White Panthers as "potentially the largest and most dangerous of revolutionary organizations in the United States." However, just three years earlier, the groups leaders hosted a Love-In on Detroit’s Belle Isle, presided over by Sinclair, whom the Detroit News proclaimed "High Priest of the Detroit Hippies." This 35th anniversary edition of ‘Guitar Army’ includes two dozen previously unpublished period photographs, recent writings from John Sinclair, and an introduction from Michael Simmons that leads the reader through the revolutionary times to Sinclair’s life today. The book contains 360 pages and the bonus CD contains rare recordings of MC5 and other Detroit-area revolutionary bands, Allen Ginsberg, Black Panther Bobby Seale on the White Panthers, and original White Panther Party meetings.



ROBERT SCOTTO - MOONDOG: THE VIKING OF SIXTH

AVENUE (BOOK/PROCESS MEDIA) "The Authorized Biography". Here is one of the most improbable lives of the twentieth century: a blind and homeless man who became the most famous eccentric in New York and who, with enormous diligence, rose to prominence as an internationally respected music presence. His unique, melodic compositions were released on the Prestige jazz label. In the late 1960s the Viking-garbed Moondog was a pop music sensation on Columbia Records. Moondog has been noted most recently as an inspiration for the contemporary experimental folk movement. His compositional style influenced his former roommate, Philip Glass, whose Preface and performances of Moondog works appear in the book. Moondog's work transcends labels and redefines the distinction between popular and high culture. A CD compilation with a variety of Moondog's compositions is bound into the book. 320 pages.



PAUL DRUMMOND - EYE MIND: 13TH FLOOR ELEVATORS

SAGA (BOOK/PROCESS MEDIA) "The Saga of the 13th Floor Elevators, the Pioneers of Psychedelic Sound". The trailblazing 13th Floor Elevators released the first "psychedelic" rock album in America, transforming culture throughout the 1960s and beyond. The Elevators followed their own spiritual cosmic agenda - to change society by finding a new path to enlightenment. Their battles with repressive authorities are legendary. Lead singer Roky Erickson was put away in a maximum security unit for the criminally insane for years. Tommy Hall, their Svengali lyricist, lived in a cave. Guitarist Stacy Sutherland was imprisoned. The drummer was involuntarily subjected to electric shock treatments. This fascinating biography breaks decades of silence of band members and features dozens of never-before-printed photos. "One of the most exhilarating rock'n'roll stories ever told", so says Julian Cope.



ISIS AQUARIAN - THE SOURCE: FATHER YOD, YA HO WHA...

(BOOK/ PROCESS MEDIA) 'The Untold Story of Father Yod, Ya Ho Wha 13, and the Source Family'. It was 1972, time of the cult-occult-commune explosion. By day, the Source Family served organic cuisine to John Lennon, Julie Christie, Frank Zappa and others at the famed Source restaurant. By night, in a mansion in Hollywood Hills, they explored the cosmos through the channeled wisdom of their charismatic leader, Father Yod. Father was an outlandish figure who had 14 "spiritual wives," drove a Rolls-Royce, and fronted the rock band Ya Ho Wa 13, now considered by collectors to be one of the most singular psychedelic bands of all time. A truly bizarre history! 280 pages., over 200 original period photographs and CD included.

RADIO

Forthcoming Saturday those music fans with 'a healthy fixation for uniforms, powerful symbols and all things truly masculine' may want to tune into Radio 6, since the merry gentlemen of *Death In June* (NER) have been granted permission to march through the friendly and peaceful landscape which radio show **FOLK IT!** usually offers (3-4pm). Other names appearing in this broadcast, of which the weekly mini-special obviously will be dedicated to the dark realm of neo-folk, are *Blood Axis* (*Cold Meat Industry*, *Athamor*) and *Darkwood* (releases on *Heidenvolk*). For something completely different in the same program one can enjoy Italian *Painting Petals On Planet Ghost* (releases on a.o. *A Silent Place* and *Time-Lag*).

SELECTED PRESS QUOTES

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS



HIDRIA SPACEFOLK – SYMETRIA (CD/NORDIC NOTES)

reviewed by Storm for FileUnder (translated excerpt) What they offer on ‘Symetria’ does appeal to me. Most probably also because I am an above average fan of Porcupine Tree and Rush. ...‘Symetria’ has resulted in a cool record. *reviewed by Cosmicmasseur for ConcreteWeb (excerpt)* When it comes to hypno progressive trance rock on the Ozric Tentacles formula, none are better than Finnish Hidria Spacefolk. This is the second release I’ve heard from the band and I just can’t rave enough about these guys.

VILLE LEINONEN – SUUDELMITAR (CD/FONAL) *reviewed by Gerjan van de Kamp for Rataoskonline (translated excerpt)* A genuine troubadour is this Ville Leinonen. Armed with an acoustic guitar and a convincing voice he tells us of both the beauty and sadness of love.



REVEREND BEAT-MAN – SURREAL FOLK BLUES GOSPEL

TRASH VOL. 2 (CD-LP/VOODOO RHYTHM) *reviewed by Thomas Dumarey for punkrocktheory.com (excerpt)* Parents, better lock up your children when the reverend is coming to town, because Beat-Man is out to corrupt their souls rather than save ‘em.

BREAKUP SOCIETY – NOBODY LIKES A WINNER (CD/GET HIP) *reviewed by Thomas Dumarey for punkrocktheory.com (excerpt)* Musically things are mostly upbeat with great hooks...



THE URGES – PSYCH WARD (CD-LP/SCREAMING APPLE)

reviewed by David Bash for Shindig (excerpt) ...the songs are some of the most vibrant garage rock one could hear in 2007.

STEEL MAMMOTH – ATOMIC MOUNTAIN (CD/EKTRO) *reviewed by Patrick Bruneel for Gonzo Circus (translated excerpt)* Steel Mammoth or not, this sounds much like the best work of Circle. From them we recently had plenty of new work, but we nevertheless can’t get enough.



ES – SATEENKAARISUUDELMA (CD/FONAL) reviewed by Gerjan van de Kamp for Ratatoskonline (translated excerpt) Sami Sanpakkila with Es makes experimental music for advanced genre fans. At times we hear ambient, or drones, or almost classical compositions, or freakfolk, or postrock. ...A very successful release.

OCTOPUS SYNG – BIRDS OF MORNING ARE NEVER LATE (CD-LP/NASONI) reviewed by Cosmicmasseur for Concreteweb (excerpt) Appealing laidback hippie folkrock with 3-4 minute tunes and a Syd Barrett vibe. ...A folk album for all those of you who enjoy beautiful, enchanting, gentle music. **reviewed by Ludo for FileUnder (translated excerpt)** Octopus Syng, a one man band from metal country Finland, presents us with a tasty dose of hippie psychedelia.



OBSKURIA – DISCOVERY OF OBSKURIA (CD/WORLD IN SOUND) reviewed by Cosmicmasseur for Concreteweb (excerpt) Obskuria plays heavy surreal free stoner, often repetitive, space music. ...A unique effort that combines a variety of talents.

ERIC DEVRIES – SWEET OBLIVION (CD/INBETWEENS) reviewed by Marcel Harkens for Oor (translated excerpt) ...as a composer of bitter sweet songs Devries can compete with any American colleague...



MARK & THE SPIES – MARK & THE SPIES (CD-LP/SCREAMING APPLE) reviewed by David Bash for Shindig (excerpt) Mark & The Spies deserve to be hailed as a classic of the period, period!

BABY WOODROSE – I'M GONNA MAKE YOU MINE (7"/CRUSHER) reviewed by Garwood Pickjon for Shindig (excerpt) The seedy corker of an A-Side, with the electric piano being replaced by Farfisa is superb!



VARIOUS – JOHN BARLEYCORN REBORN (CD/COLD SPRING)

reviewed by Matthijs Linnemann for Oor (translated excerpt) ...an utterly important album to which musicologists one day will dedicate studies.

VARIOUS – TRUMPETT DAYS (LP/ENFANT TERRIBLE) *reviewed by swat for Gonzo Circus (translated excerpt)* What makes this compilation special is the atmosphere it creates: a combination of unsettling soundscapes and dance orientated electro pop.

60's & 70's & 80's (RE-)RELEASES AND ARTISTS + OTHER OLDIES



BLIND RAVAGE – BLIND RAVAGE (CD/GEAR FAB) *reviewed by*

Cosmicmasseur for Concreteweb (excerpt) It's melodic, hooky, even tasteful bluesy hard rock. If you're into 70's underground hardrock acts I give the advice to check out Blind Ravage...

EDWARDS HAND – EDWARDS HAND + STRANDED (LP/LIGHTNING TREE) *reviewed by John 'Mojo' Mills for Record Collector (excerpt)* ...1969 and 1970 pastoral concoctions aided and abetted by George Martin and John Cameron. Mind candy.



CAROL OF HARVEST – CAROL OF HARVEST (LP/GUERSSSEN)

reviewed by Paul Rigby for Record Collector (excerpt) The original Carol of Harvest album fetches silly money, so psych-folk fans should rejoice that this excellent album is now within the financial reach of most. It's not just the dedicated folkie who should seek out this German 1978 release, but also the prog-rocker, who will value its akmost symphonic tendencies and Moog solos.

THE ELASTIK BAND – THE ELASTIK BAND (CD/DIGITAL CELLARS) *reviewed by John 'Mojo' Mills for Record Collector (excerpt)* Lovers of well crafted folk-rock/garage jangle and soft psych will instantly fall in love with these 21 tracks...



VARIOUS ARTISTS – WAKING UP SCHEHERAZADE (LP/GREY PAST) *reviewed by Lenny Helsing for Shindig (excerpt)* It's choice material all the way and the melding of ethnic-style melodies, utilised with the resources of the (then) now, loud rock'n'roll group scene makes for heady sounds that fill the room with great woozy vibrations.

LIVE

TROUM (DRONE, SMALL VOICES) + a.o. *Savage Republic + Militia*
January 27th : Antwerp, B (Hof ter Lo)

SPEEDBALL JR (GREEN COOKIE)
February 22nd : Den Bosch, NL (W2)

STRANGE FLOWERS (BEYOND YOUR MIND)
March 21st : Haarlem, NL (Patronaat)
more Benelux days t.b.a.

NICK CASTRO & THE YOUNG ELDERS (STRANGE ATTRACTORS, DAFFODELIC, A SILENT PLACE)
Available for NL/B shows late March.

BABY WOODROSE (CRUSHER a.o.), LA IRA DE DIOS (NASONI), MOS GENERATOR (NASONI), ZONE SIX (NASONI), CHURCH OF MISERY (LEAFHOUND) a.m.o.
April 18th : Tilburg, NL (Roadburn festival/013)

BORIS (INOXIA a.o.), ELECTRIC ORANGE (SULATRON), ACID MOTHERS GONG (VIVO) a.m.o.
April 19th : Tilburg, NL (Roadburn festival/013)

Thinguma*jigSaw (DESERTED VILLAGE)
Dutch and Belgian shows expected in April. More info to follow.

FOR INTERVIEW REQUESTS OR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE TOURS AND/OR BOOKINGS, PLEASE CONTACT HANS AT: promotion@clearspot.nl or 072-5679996.

Concrete Web <http://www.concreteweb.be>

FileUnder <http://www.fileunder.nl>

Gonzo Circus www.gonzocircus.com

PunkRockTheory www.punkrocktheory.com

Ratatoskonline <http://www.ratatoskonline.net>

Shindig <http://www.shindig-magazine.com>