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the **SPOT LIGHT**

the official Clear Spot News Letter

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www.clear-spot.nl <http://www.myspace.com/csclearspot>

137 / DATE: Monday, February 18th, 2008.

NEW RELEASES

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS



PILLBUGS – BUZZ FOR ALDRIN (CD/PROVERUS

ENTERTAINMENT) In their home country America this CD already was released last year, and now this fantastic pastiche of 60's influenced pop sounds and styles is also available in these parts! Superb song writing and vocal harmonies, showcasing influences from the finest of finest 60's outfits, f.i. ('Odessey & Oracle'-era) Zombies, Beatles, Left Banke, Beach Boys, early Pink Floyd, as well as f.i. XTC and Dukes Of Stratosphere. Recorded with vintage equipment on analogue tape. (Please see the 'news section' in this Spot Light for more info concerning other titles from the Proverus-catalogue.) www.pillbugs.com

CHEVEU – CHEVEU (CD-LP/BORN BAD) The long awaited debut-album by the French synth punk heroes. 10 tracks including killer tracks s.a. 'Clara Venus', 'Dog Herman', 'Superhero' and 'Unemployment Blues'. www.myspace.com/cheveu



STONE BREATH – A SILVER THREAD TO WEAVE THE SEASONS (CD/HAND/EYE-DARK HOLLER) Limited edition of 500 copies. Here is the reissue of Stone Breath's second disc of acid-pagan-forest-drone-mantra-folk mysticism. This is a fabulous collection of music divided in two parts, the first being 13 songs, the other part consists of the 30-minute drone-trance trip 'Devotional 1 & 2'. 'A Silver Thread...' features contributions of a.o. Fit & Limo and appealing covers of songs by Syd Barrett and COB. www.somedarkholler.com

BAKERTON GROUP – BAKERTON GROUP (CD-LP/EMETIC) The Bakerton Group is the side project of Clutch. The band is comprised of four of the five Clutch-members and has toured extensively throughout Canada and the U.S. Taking a sidestep from the token Clutch sound, The Bakerton Group is completely instrumental and pushes into foreign territory with a more southern, psychedelic, improvisational feel. This new album was recorded at The Magpie Cage in Baltimore, Md., by none other than J. Robbins of Jawbox fame. www.myspace.com/thebakertongroup



CLUTCH – SLOW HOLE TO CHINA (LP/EMETIC) Limited edition of 1000 copies on red vinyl! This album kicks butt and is the best Clutch-release since 'Jam Room'. It is essentially a collection of unreleased demos, re-recorded and compiled for us lucky listeners. Overall a top release and well worth a purchase for any Clutch fan. For those of you who haven't heard them, we're talking Led Zeppelin-style stoner rock here. www.myspace.com/clutchband

CHARLEMAGNE PALESTINE – FROM ETUDES TO CATACLYSMS FOR THE DOPPIO BORGATO (2CD/SUB ROSA) After the epiphany of 'An Aural Symbiotic Mystery' by Charlemagne Palestine and Tony Conrad, this is the first solo work by Charlemagne on Sub Rosa. 'From Etudes to a Cataclysms' is one of his most important works 'till this day: an impressive composition of over 140 minutes, based on the use of a double piano on which one keyboard is played by the feet! www.charlemagnepalestine.org/

ZDZISLAW PIERNIK & PIOTR ZABRODZKI (CD/VIVO) Unusual Polish contemporary music performed by tuba genius Zdzislaw Piernik! Accompanying instruments include piano, bass, organ, vibraphone and violin. www.vivo.pl/

SEKKUTSU JEAN & KAWABATA MAKOTO (CD/VIVO) Live recordings, also featuring Yoshida Tatsuya on drums and Sato Kenji on bass. For fans of Acid Mothers Temple, Ruins, Musica Transonica, Buckethead and Primus. www.vivo.pl/



LOS IDIOTAS – TENGO UNA BIBLIO EN CASA (7\"/>

LOVER – FORCED TO THE GROUND (7\"/>



VARIOUS – DOGGY STYLE (2CD/FUTURE NOW) Three rare tracks by The Dogs, plus 25 bands paying tribute to this legendary Japanese punk outfit. Contributing artists include Muddy Frankenstein, Melt Banana, D4, Young Ones, Gimmies, Powder Monkeys, Bellrays, Go-Devils, The Ed Woods a.m.m. *No promo copies expected.* www.myspace.com/futurenowrecordsdetroit

VARIOUS – IVG / FRENCH ANTERIEUR 1979-1985 (LP/BORN BAD) Compilation CD featuring obscure and very weird synth/minimal punk from the French vaults. www.myspace.com/bornbadrecords

EXPECTED RELEASES

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS



SIENA ROOT – FAR FROM THE SUN (CD/TRANSUBSTANS) The third album by the awesome jam/hippie rockers from Stockholm, who now operate in a slightly altered line-up. A new portion of 70's psych-rock with swirling sitars, groovy guitar riffery and groundbreaking song structures. A vinyl edition of this album is expected on Clear Spot's very own Head Spin Records. More info to follow. www.sienaroot.com

STIMULUS – THE MIND DEFIES (CD/BETA-LACTAM RING) If one's furnace decided to take up singing, and in turn formed a band with the washing machine and the water heater, well, who wouldn't check out that gig? Stimulus take the term 'basement tapes' to a whole new level. They groan, drone and moan like old, water-logged and rusted equipment. But then they force up mystical melodic loops amidst the hissing and

squeaking which, as anyone who's spent time in a cellar will tell you, is a natural by-product of dark underneath spaces. www.blrrecords.com



REACTIONS – HIGH TECHNOLOGY (CD/OFF THE HIP)

Melodic garage rock from Tasmania! These guys gigged with bands s.a. White Stripes, Black Keys, Hard Ons, The Drones and The Living End. The great songs on their debut album sorta bring to mind The Hoodoo Gurus in their glory days. Excellent stuff.

www.offthehip.com.au

ULKOMAALAISET – TWO (CD/BETA-LACTAM RING) Edward Ka-Spel teams up with Alena Boikova and Martin Heuser in Finland to herald the coming of spring. The trio settings were improvised with an intimacy, conveying both the beauty and loneliness of exploring a strange, unpopulated place. Sometimes Heuser's piano plays against Ka-Spels and Bikovas electronics with the quiet subtlety and austere sweetness of a more musical John Cage/David Tudor collaboration. Occasionally the spirits (and maybe even the ghosts) of Aho and Sibelius are inadvertently conjured. This triumvirate is so well matched that they seem to create air above mountains. Two separate releases present with four very distinct pieces of loud, quiet, and loud. Cloudbursts of angelic rain bewitched the souls of the ever wandering Ulkomaalaiset. www.blrrecords.com

UW HYPOTHEEKADVIES – NATURE OF NURTURE (CD/BETA-LACTAM RING)

Uw Hypotheekadvies (translated to English that is Your Mortgage Advice) is a noisy trio from Nijmegen, the Netherlands and features members from former BIRR band Girlfriends. According to the Explosive Ordinance Field Guide: "Uw Hypotheekadvies should be handled with great care as it is one of the most powerful EO's, especially if detonated through speakers in the comfort of one's own home." Edition of 400 copies, mastered by Erik Drost and Raymond Steeg, who also work with the Legendary Pink Dots. www.blrrecords.com

VOLCANO THE BEAR – MOUNTAINS AMONG US (CD/BETA-LACTAM RING)

First edition of 500 numbered copies in a full colour book bound CD case. This year sees the eruption of the Volcano with a myriad of releases leaving the town folk covered in a fine and mysterious silt of musical entropy. The limited release of 'Mountains...' finds our boy's spelunking the creepiest of dream spawned caves, excavating crystalline fragments along the way, which are then set in beautiful mental jewelry appropriate for any formal occasion. www.blrrecords.com

NEWS



Special attention now for a truly wonderful new name on our label distribution list. **MOTHER EARTH MUSIC** is a label owned by highly rated UK folk singer **Saffron Summerfield**, who, as a solo artist, recorded beautiful folk in the 70's, and she was also part –though briefly- of the psyche tinged Fairport Convention-spin off *Trader Horne*. Not to be thought of lightly! Titles on Mother Earth include newly printed CD's from the 2000's as well as original vinyls from the 70's!!! Following here is a quick overview!

MARY ASQUITH – CLOSING TIME (LP/CD) Original LP and CD-edition of this work by Manchester's Queen of folk and blues, who during the late 70's and early 80's also was a regular in Dutch and Belgian folkclubs. **SAFFRON SUMMERFIELD – SALISBURY PLAIN (LP)** Limited edition Mother Earth Music reissue on Spectacle Records. Originally from 1974. **SAFFRON SUMMERFIELD - FANCY MEETING YOU HERE (LP)** Another limited edition Mother Earth Music-reissue on Spectacle Records. This title originally dates from 1976. **MIRIAM BACKHOUSE – GYPSY WITHOUT A ROAD (CD)** Reissue on CD of this great British acid folk album, first released in 1977! Also available are three Saffron Summerfield albums on CD: her latest album (2002) '*Stonemason's Dream*', the compilation disc '*The Early Years*' and '*Who's Land Is It Anyway*'. www.motherearthmusic.co.uk

Another notable new name on our distro-list is that of **PROVERUS ENTERTAINMENT**. This Ohio based company specializes in tasteful, well produced and song orientated pop. Their catalogue includes releases of talented artists s.a. **SCOTT HUNT**, **SPRAGS** and three titles by the stunning **PILLBUGS!** www.proverus.com

The third new label recently added to Clear Spot's distribution stable is called **PRIKOSNOVÉNIE**. This French label has a colorful and rich catalogue offering music ranging from dreamy trip-hop to friendly folk, and from heavenly ambient to delicate fairy tale like atmospheres. Artists include *Orange Blossom, Lys, Fleur, Jack Or Jive, Caprice, XVII* VIE, Pinknruby, Irfan, Ghost Fish a.m.o.* www.prikosnovenie.com

RADIO



Radio show **FOLK IT! (XL edition)** forthcoming Saturday (Concertzender, 3-4pm on Radio 6) as always offers plenty of appealing folk sounds, including much attention for UK band *Spirogyra* and a track by NYC 70's psych-folk heroes **THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE** (2 CD's on *Winter Solstice*. On the photo vocalist/bassist Wendy Penny). www.bermudatriangleband.net

SELECTED PRESS QUOTES

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS



THINGUMA*JIGSAW – (awakeinwhitechapel) (CD/DESERTED VILLAGE) *reviewed by Henk Rijkenburg for Heaven (translated excerpt)* The genre, which they invented themselves, contains elements of Irish/British/US folk, avant-garde, horror flicks and modern poetry. After several spins it loses nothing of its dark, mystic feel. Timeless! (rating: **** of 5) www.myspace.com/thingumajigsaw

THE PILLBUGS – BUZZ FOR ALDRIN (CD/PROVERUS ENTERTAINMENT) *reviewed by Eric van Domburg-Scipio for Heaven (translated excerpt)* The Pillbugs deal in beautiful pop songs in the finest tradition of Beatles, Love and XTC. Their new, fourth, CD 'Buzz For Aldrin' can be considered an absolute miracle of the art of psychedelic song writing... (rating: ****½ of 5) www.pillbugs.com



RUSALNAIA (ft. Sharron Kraus) – RUSALNAIA (CD/CAMERA OBSCURA) *reviewed by Erwin Zijleman for Velvet magazine (translated excerpt)* Fans of psychedelic folk, with both an authentic and a contemporary feel, at the moment can't find a better release than Rusalnaia's debut. Highly recommended. *reviewed by Gerald van Waes for Psyche van het Folk (excerpt)* Like twin sisters, Sharron Kraus and Gillian Chadwick shared inspiration, time and energy to make this collection of songs. ...The last, longest, track takes the listener further to summer, with improvisation on psalter, flutes, handbells, heavenly singing and violin, on a rhythm like a witches dance, which makes it the most psychedelic track of all... www.myspace.com/rusalnaia

TSURUBAMI – TENRON (CD/VIVO) *reviewed by Nanne Tepper for Oor (translated excerpt)* As if they pumped the old Mahavishnu Orchestra full of acid, squeezed out all the jazz and genuinely emptied the brain. www.acidmothers.com



OBSKURIA – DISCOVERY OF OBSKURIA (CD/WORLD IN SOUND) *reviewed by Nanne Tepper for Oor (translated excerpt)* ...a superior 80-minute trip... What was it our grandfathers used to say after a record like this? *Faaaaaaaaaar fuckin'out!* www.obskuria.com

DON JUAN MATUS – DON JUAN MATUS (CD-LP/NASONI) *reviewed by Erwin Zijleman for Velvet newsletter (translated excerpt)* The debut of these Peruvians reminds of Black Sabbath, Pink Floyd, Rush, Hawkwind and more names from the psychedelic scene of the 70's. ...a record that can mesmerize many a fan of the genre. *reviewed by Gerald van Waes for Psyche van het Folk (excerpt)* ...great hard rock and little acoustic guitar songs. www.nasoni-records.com



UNDERWATER SLEEPING SOCIETY – ALL OTHER LIGHTS GO OUT (CD/SIAMESE SOUNDS) *reviewed by Erwin Zijleman for Velvet newsletter (translated excerpt)* 'All Other Lights Go Out' in the end isn't just a CD with many unexpected influences, but also one that creates a very own sound. www.myspace.com/uwssoc

S.T. MIKAEL – MIND OF FIRE (CD-LP/SUBLIMINAL) *reviewed by Wim Boluijt for Heaven (translated excerpt)* Excellent psychedelia in which the somewhat unsteady voice of S.T. Michael is supported by the widely meandering music. (rating: ***1/2 of 5) www.sublimalsounds.se/DOK/stmikael.html



EL CUY – EL CUY (CD/WORLD IN SOUND) *reviewed by DubbelMono for FileUnder (translated excerpt)* These 10 tracks don't just lead us back to the late 60's and early 70's, but they also remind of the classic combination of oversteered riffs and high energy guitar solos of a band like Motörhead. www.myspace.com/cuyrock

DIVINE BAZE ORCHESTRA – ONCE WE WERE BORN (CD/TRANSUBSTANS-RECORD HEAVEN) *reviewed by Gerald van Waes for Psyche van het Folk (excerpt)* A convincing debut and another proof that the sound of the progressive 70's never ended in Scandinavia. <http://thedbo.com>



BOB URH & THE BARE BONES – SWAMP O DELIC (CD/GREEN COOKIE) *reviewed by Jurgen Dignef for Goddeau (translated excerpt)* That Bob Urh & The Bare Bones manage to make such a leap forwards, without wandering off too far from what they already achieved with Hoodoo Garage, is slightly fantastic. www.myspace.com/boburhandthebarebones

POSSESSED BY PAUL JAMES – COLD AND BLIND (CD-LP/VOODOO RHYTHM)

reviewed by Joost Jan Meertens for Planet Trash (translated excerpt) A schizophrenic mixture of the alienated, religious, traditional and possessed sides of Konrad Wert.

www.myspace.com/possessedbypauljames

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



GURU GURU – UFO (LP/WAH WAH) *reviewed by Paul Rigby for Record Collector (excerpt)* Like a mix between a Hendrix jam session and a soaring Pink Floyd ‘happening’, with lots of ambient guitar feedback, upon its initial release in 1970, ‘UFO’ was daring and boundary breaking. (rating: ***** of 5)

www.wah-wahsupersonic.com

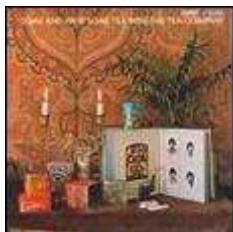
YVES, SERGE & VICTOR – CAGIBI (LP/GUERSSSEN) *reviewed by Gerald van Waes*

for Psyche van het Folk (excerpt) The style of their songs and arrangements, strange enough for a French product, is very much American, often with a West Coast reference. www.guerssen.com



THE BLUE THINGS – LET THE BLUE THINGS BLOW YOUR MIND (2CD/ CICADELIC) *reviewed by Eric van Domburg-Scipio for Heaven (translated excerpt)* Due to the quality of the song material and the by all means strong performance The Blue Things are a group that no fan of sixties beat and folkrock may neglect. (rating: **** of 5) *reviewed by Ad Zwaga for Platomania (translated excerpt)* An excellent compilation that clearly showcases the musical development of the band.

reviewed by Matthijs Linnemann for Oor (translated excerpt) The Blue Things from Kansas are a household name in garages all over the world. This wonderful double CD on the good old Cicadelic label, with 65 tracks, contains an as good as complete overview of their recordings. www.cicadelic.com/bluethingscd2.htm



THE TEA COMPANY – COME AND HAVE SOME TEA WITH... (CD-LP/WORLD IN SOUND) *reviewed by Matthijs Linnemann for Oor (translated excerpt)* Their only album, dating from 1968 is a nice time document.

www.worldinsound.com

LIVE

SPEEDBALL JR (GREEN COOKIE)

February 22nd : Den Bosch, NL (W2) www.colorcookies.moonfruit.com

STRANGE FLOWERS (BEYOND YOUR MIND)

March 21st : Haarlem, NL (Patronaat) www.strangeflowers.net

STINKY LOU AND THE GOON MAT (VOODOO RHYTHM)

March 21st : Middelburg, NL (Blues route)

March 23rd : Turnhout, B (Rockin' Around Turnhout)

May 11th : Antwerp, B (Hof ter Lo) chompi.free.fr/Stinckylouandthegoonmat

THINGUMA*JigSAW (DESERTED VILLAGE)

April 10th : Leiden, NL (Sub071)

April 11th : daytime – Amsterdam, NL (dwars@vpro radio session)
evening - Amsterdam, NL (Paradiso)

April 12th : Rotterdam, NL (Festival Motel Mozaique) <http://www.motelmozaique.nl/2008/>

YURA YURA TEIKOKU (MESH-KEY, CAPTAIN TRIP a.o.)

April 12th : Rotterdam (Motel Mozaique)

www.mesh-key.com/yura.html

BABY WOODROSE (CRUSHER a.o.), LA IRA DE DIOS (NASONI), MOS GENERATOR (NASONI), ZONE SIX (NASONI/SULATRON), 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) www.roadburn.com

LA IRA DE DIOS (NASONI)

following up their appearance at Roadburn...

April 24th : Leiden, NL (Sub071)

April 25th : Antwerp, B (De Rots)

April 26th : Geel, B (De Boogerd)

for more tour dates please visit www.lairadedios.com

AUTUMN SHADE (STRANEGE ATTRACTORS AUDIO HOUSE)

June 22nd : Haarlem, NL (Patronaat)

June 24th : Amsterdam, NL (Dwars @ vpro radio session/Studio De Smet)

More Dutch/Belgian dates expected late June: more details t.b.a.

www.autumn-shade.com

TARUJEN SAARI (FIREBURN)

August 9th : Eindhoven, NL (Folkwoods festival)

www.tarujensaari.com

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

FileUnder <http://www.fileunder.nl>
Goddeau <http://www.goddeau.com>
Heaven <http://www.heaven.be>
Planet Trash <http://www.planettrash.nl>
Psyche van het Folk <http://psychevanhetfolk.homestead.com>
Velvet site www.velvetmusic.nl