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the **SPOT LIGHT**

the official Clear Spot News Letter

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147/ DATE: Monday, April 28th, 2008.

THIS WEEK CLEAR SPOT WILL BE CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY. (DUE TO SEVERAL DUTCH FESTIVITIES.) NEXT WEEK THERE WILL BE NO SPOT LIGHT. PLEASE EXPECT #148 ON MONDAY , MAY 12TH.

NEW RELEASES

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS



BLOW BACK – MORNING WOOD (CD/TRANSUBSTANS-

RECORD HAVEN) Now here's a super powerful CD by a four piece from Örebro, Sweden. They combine heavy riffery with 70's grooves, and in the end come up with a sound fit for any fan of early Led Zep, Black Sabbath, Kyuss and Orange Goblin.

www.myspace.com/blowbackband

DJ SPOOKY – SOUND UNBOUND (CD/SUB ROSA) The material on this 'Sound Unbound' mix is an audio essay that links artists as diverse as Marcel Duchamp, Vladimir Mayakovsky, Antonin Artaud and Allen Ginsberg.

www.myspace.com/djspooky



BLUES JUNKIES – LOSIN' THE BLUES (CD/MOTORWOLF)

The Blues Junkies are three hard rockin', super-sleazy, bad-ass boogie boys from The Hague, Holland! Apart from some notoriously bad manners they offer a loud mix of Peter Pan Speedrock and Herman Brood! <http://www.myspace.com/thebluesjunkies>

SATANICPORNOCULTSHOP – TAKUSAN NO OHANASAN (CD/VIVO) Japanese act Satanicpornocultshop return with brand new, this time less experimental, but more melodic material. 'Takusan No Ohanasan' features 26 well crafted tracks presenting a futuristic, eclectic mix of modern electronic hip hop, reggae, turntablism, easy listening and plunderphonics. Intelligent, 21st century quasi-pop for demanding listeners.

MERZBOW/SUTCLIFFE JUGEND/SATORI – SPLIT EP (CDEP/COLD SPRING)

A great item for the fans: a special split EP that is released for the occasion of their joint concert, which took place in London earlier this month.

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

SKIP JAMES – 1931 SESSION (LP/MISSISSIPPI) 12 Songs from Skip's first recording session, including 'Devil Got My Woman,' 'I'm So Glad,' 'Hard Time Killing Floor Blues' and 'Illinois Blues.' Better sound quality than any reissue we've heard. It is Skip James though, so expect pops and crackles. A rarely seen photo of Skip is hand glued to each cover. Arguably one of the greatest blues musicians of all time in all his misanthropic glory. This record is equal parts sadness and beauty.

VARIOUS – LOVE IS LOVE (LP/MISSISSIPPI) Re-press! Compilation of hard to find highlife, R&B, dry guitar, & palm wine music from all over Africa. Originally released two years ago in a very small edition, this version features a different cover with a photograph hand glued to every copy. Side one features mostly small electric guitar based bands, while side two offers impressive acoustic guitar performances.

EXPECTED RELEASES

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS



MANIKINS – CROCODILES (LP-CD/P.TRASH)

Though the Manikins may have grown-up, they didn't feed their catchy bite to the crocodiles. On their already fourth album, the four Swedes definitely go sweeter and wear their hearts on their sleeves in a perfect blend of punkrock and power-pop that still carries the typical Manikins guitars but gained a mouthful of smoothness and feeling.

Don't worry, the boys didn't mellow-out and you still get faster tunes like the opener 'That Train, the title-track 'Crocodiles' or 'Taste For Sweets' that are so unmistakably Manikins. But this new album also contains some slower tracks that are at least as

impressive. 'Crocodiles' may very well be the best Manikins release so far. *Expected: May.* www.myspace.com/therealmanikins

FRENCH SEMESTER – OPEN LETTER TO THE DISAPPEARED (CD/BEYOND YOUR MIND) Though based in LA, the members of The French Semester have their roots in Mexico, England, India and Vietnam. On their CD 'Open Letter To The Disappeared' quality song writing and a healthy dose of 60's pop influences result in a super enjoyable indie-rock collection, reminding of 'Bee Thousand'-era Guided By Voices and early Shins. *Expected: early May.* www.myspace.com/thefrenchsemester



GREEN GOBLINS – DRAGSTRIP QUEEN (CD/SWALLOW IT ALL) Green Goblins came to life from the ashes of the Cretins and Reservoir Dogs, two notable Greek rock outfits. Connected by their mutual love for comic books and genuine rock and roll these three young goblins invent their own world and their own music where you can feel the influences that shaped their vicious sound. They identify their sound as full speed r'n'r and it's easy to see where they come from (early Motörhead, early Zeke). *Early May.*

<http://www.myspace.com/thegreengoblins>

PERSONALITY CRISIS – INVASION OF THE DEAD DOLLS (CD/SWALLOW IT ALL) This Greek outfit started in the 90s as a ferocious 70s style punk band. Over 10 years (during which they released a 7" and a CD) later they have transformed into a glam-punk'n'roll outfit, somewhere in between the Dead Boys and Turbo Negro. *Early May.* <http://www.personalitycrisis.gr/>

RANSOME BROTHERS – WHISKEY SET (CD/OFF THE HIP) Featuring members of Rocket Science (Roman Tucker, Kit Warhurst), The Dead South (Mikey Heartbreak) and fronted by a wild raven-haired British songstress, The Ransome Brothers boast soulful melodic wails of heartbreak and long-lost love affairs, backed with a 60s grinding organ, punching swampy guitar hooks and freakbeat-fused drums. *Expected: 1/2 May.* <http://www.myspace.com/theransomebrothers>

VARIOUS – RURAL NIGHTS OUT (CD/SWALLOW IT ALL) This fine compilation contains no less than 23 songs from 12 bands which are/were active in the town of Katerini (a city in northern Greece). For some of those bands this release is their first, for others it's their last. Anger and the urge to be different resulted in Swallow It All Records, and eventually in this release, for which the idea has been bubbling for over 20 years. *Early May.*

VARIOUS ARTISTS/AMSTERDAM SONGWRITING GUILD – SONGS, VOL. 1 (CD/ASG) The Amsterdam Songwriters Guild (ASG) is a collective of singer-songwriters from our capital who support each other, and contribute to each other's activities, in various ways. F.i. by organizing shows and open mic evenings and by playing on each others recordings. This diverse (the styles range from folk to country to pop to jazzy) and very enjoyable CD gives an impression of the many talented musicians who are part of the ASG. Among the participating names are Amarins, Lucky Fonz III,

Reaganesk, Halfhide, Tony Chapman, Gregg Weiss, Leine, Arthur Adam, M-Jo, Chinup, Jane On The Roof a.m.m. <http://amsterdamsongwritersguild.blogspot.com/>

NEWS



POSSESSED BY PAUL JAMES' awesome album '*Cold And Blind*' (CD and LP out on *Voodoo Rhythm*) currently can be found in 'DE 7EVEN', which is 3VOOR12/Kindamuzik's list of this moment's most notable releases.

<http://www.kindamuzik.net/de7even/de-7even-week-17-2008>

French label **PRIKOSNOVENIE** have announced a number of interesting new releases for May. Among these '*The Metamorphoses Of Ann*' by astonishing Moldavian artist **ALIZBAR**, which features magical, soothing harp playing. **COLLECTION D'ARNELL-ANDREA** present us with their new work '*Les Marronniers*', in a style combining coldwave, heavenly voices and gothic elements. The new CD by **CRISTA GALLI**, entitled '*Matrice D'eau*' will probably appeal to fans of groups s.a. Dead Can Dance. **NY: NA VALES** on '*L'Atmosfere*' draw their inspiration from different sources, f.i. poetic-pop, light footed jazz, nouvelle vague and bossa nova, with which a sensual atmosphere is created. And last, but certainly not least, '*Fairy World, Vol. 4*' is a CD-compilation which is part of the label's ongoing '*Heavenly Voices*' sampler series. This latest part contains 78 minutes of otherworldly music and comes with a 20 page book full of information (in French) about the label.

READING



The latest number (#155) of Dutch collector's magazine '*Platenblad*' features an interview with *Roger and Wendy Penney* from **THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE** (see photo - s/t album from '77 and 'Lost Recordings'-CD available on *Winter Solstice*). www.bermudatriangleband.net The psych-section pays attention to releases of a.o. **Angel Pavement** (*Tenth Planet/ Wooden Hill*), UK psych-outfit **The Ghost** (vinyl reissue on *Wah Wah*), acid-folk pioneer **Perry Leopold** (2 titles on *Gearfab*) and Californian 70's outfit **Homestead & Wolfe** (LP on *Anazitisi*).

SELECTED PRESS QUOTES

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS



RUSALNAIA – RUSALNAIA (CD/CAMERA OBSCURA) reviewed by Henk Rijkenbarg for Heaven site (translated excerpt) The closing track ‘Wild Summer’ is somewhat more experimental and works its way towards a climax, making sure the CD as a whole is a hypnotic and hallucinatory affair. **reviewed by Simon Lewis for Terrascope (excerpt)** Claiming Jefferson Airplane, Mellow Candle, and The Trees as influences Rusalnaia is so much more than those influences, a pagan ritual for sunny days, the soft contemplative flow of the river or the wind through the willows. Featuring the combined talents of Gillian Chadwick (Ex-Reverie, Woodwose) and the aforementioned Sharron Kraus, the album is rich and varied with the two distinct voices adding a whole level of texture to the pagan folk within. www.myspace.com/rusalnaia

NALLE – LIVE (CDR/SECRET EYE) reviewed by Gerald van Waes for Psyche van het Folk (translated excerpt) A fine, enjoyable release, which comes only as a numbered black CDR-edition of 100.



SPIRES THAT IN THE SUNSET RISE – CURSE THE TRACED BIRD (CD-LP/SECRET EYE) reviewed by Gerald van Waes for Psyche van het Folk (excerpt) A weird tension with strings, rhythmical touches of thumbpiano, squalls of violin, builds up with more of a witches’ feeling...
<http://profile.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=user.viewprofile&friendid=36206558>

THE COME N’ GO – SOMETHING’S GOT TO GIVE (CD-LP/VOODOO RHYTHM) reviewed by Tom Schilders for Up magazine (translated excerpt) Frankly, the recipe remained the same: fucked up rhythm and blues with lots of harmonica. It’s become a bit less frantic, but not necessarily less cool for that reason. www.myspace.com/comengo



UNDERWATER SLEEPING SOCIETY – ALL OTHER LIGHTS GO OUT (CD/NMC) reviewed by Jan Vink for Ratatoskonline (translated excerpt) This CD needed a couple of spins, but I can say this first acquaintance was a success.
www.myspace.com/uwssoc

STONE BREATH – A SILVER THREAD TO WEAVE THE SEASONS (CD/HAND EYE-DARK HOLLER) reviewed by Henk Rijkenbarg for Heaven site (translated excerpt)

This must be filed next to In Gowan Ring and Boduf Songs, to name a few like minded souls. Essential for genre addicts.



JESSICA BAILIFF & ANELIES MONSERÉ – E.P.

(CDEP/MORC) reviewed by Storm for FileUnder (translated excerpt) ...the beauty to which their amalgamation leads makes me sigh.

www.annelies-monsere.net/ www.myspace.com/jessicabailiff

R.O.T. – CECI N'EST PLUS AVIOTH (12"/MORC) reviewed by Storm for FileUnder (translated excerpt) R.O.T.'s 'Ceci N'est Plus Avioth' also doesn't take very long. 19 minutes and 15 seconds to be precise. But these are breathtaking minutes as well.



MAGNIFICANT BROTHERHOOD – MAGNIFICANT

BROTHERHOOD (CD/WORLD IN SOUND) reviewed by Prikkie for FileUnder

(translated excerpt) ...these guys are as psychedelic as can be, complete with Farfisa organ and a sound reminding of the days before The Who and Jimi Hendrix. Is that a bad thing? Hell, no! This album calls for nostalgic feelings that remain pleasant during the entire album. www.myspace.com/themagnificentbrotherhood

HIDRIA SPACEFOLK – SYMETRIA (CD/NORDIC NOTES) reviewed by Gerald van Waes for Psyche van het Folk (translated excerpt) A professional album that makes the group distinctive in a genre that usually doesn't know too much variation.

www.myspace.com/hidriaspacefolk

BABY WOODROSE (CRUSHER a.o.) – LIVE AT ROADBURN 2008 reviewed by KindaMuzik (translated excerpt) Their psychedelic rock in 13th Floor Elevators and Monster Magnet mould gets blown into the venue in a tight fashion and with loads of charisma. www.myspace.com/babywoodrose

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

LIVE

ROY AND THE DEVIL'S MOTORCYCLE (VOODOO RHYTHM)

April 30th : Haarlem, NL (Patronaat)

May 1st : Utrecht, NL (dB's) www.roydmc.ch/

DIGGER & THE PUSSYCATS (P.TRASH)

April 30th : afternoon - Den Helder, NL (Bliksem)

April 30th : evening - Venlo, NL (Perron)

www.myspace.com/hipboneslim

OBSKURIA (WORLD IN SOUND)

Expected in July. More news to follow.

www.myspace.com/obskurians

IRFAN (PRIKOSNOVENIE)

August 1st : Lisse, NL (Castlefest)

August 2nd : Lisse, NL (Castlefest)

August 8th : Utrecht (Summer Darkness)

August 9th : Eindhoven (Folkwoods)

www.myspace.com/irfantheband

TARUJEN SAARI (FIREBURN)

August 9th : Eindhoven, NL (Folkwoods festival) www.tarujensaari.com

THINGUMA*JigSAW (DESERTED VILLAGE)

The amazing and lovable Norwegian splatter-folkduo will follow up their successful first visit of The Netherlands in September! www.myspace.com/thingumajigsaw

NICK CASTRO & THE YOUNG ELDERS (a.o. STRANGE ATTRACTORS, DAFFODELIC, SILENT PLACE)

Dutch and Belgian dates expected in September, more news to follow.

www.myspace.com/nickcastroandthepoisontree

RUSALNAIA (CAMERA OBSCURA)

Expected in September, more news to follow www.myspace.com/rusalnaia

DEAD MAN (CRUSHER)

Expected in September, more news to follow www.myspace.com/deadmansweden

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

3voor12 <http://3voor12.vpro.nl/>

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

Heaven <http://www.heaven.be>

KindaMuzik <http://www.kindamuzik.net>

Psyche van het Folk <http://psychefolk.com/>

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

Terrascopie <http://www.terrascope.co.uk>