

KULA SHAKER
FANZINE

ISSUE No. 8
DEC 2014

STRANGE FOLK

NEW MUSIC

Solo albums, band projects

WHAT ARE THEY UPTO?

**Interviews with
the band members**



Editor's letter

Hi folks,

it has been four years since our last issue was published. Way too long we thought and made a plan: Why not release a new issue even though the band hasn't been playing lately?

So we decided to focus on all the new musical projects. And there are some lovely new tunes indeed: Alonza formed the band Tumblewild with his wife Audrey, Paul joined a London-based band called Black Casino and the Ghost and Harry released his very own debut album.

In this issue you can also read what Kula's long-time roadie Simon and his band Bucky are up to and how Jane Allison's album turned out (which was produced by Alonza, too). Speaking of Simon – he browsed his photo archives and found some real cool pics of the band from back in the day.

One band member is missing you say? You are right. All of the guys have been busy making music except for one: Crispian had his debut in film-making. "A Fantastic Fear of Everything" is the title of his first movie – in our interview he reveals what it was like to work on the set and also what else he has been up to. And if you read all of our interviews closely: There's still hope that the Mighty Shaker might return to the stage at one point. While there's life, there's hope!

We hope you enjoy issue 8 of the fanzine!

Andrea

Strange Folk - Kula Shaker fanzine

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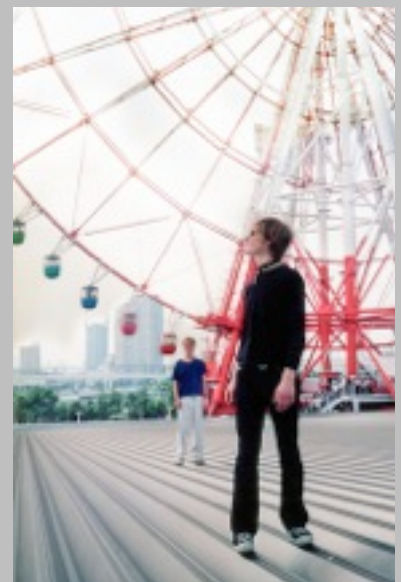
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Special thanks to all band members for interviews & photos!



Contents

- 2 Editor's Letter
- 3 Contents
- 4 Exploring different directions
 - Interview with Tumblewild
- 7 Pictures from the archives
- 8 That feeling of wistful melancholy
 - Interview with Harry Broadbent
- 10 I miss playing loud
 - Interview with Crispian Mills
- 12 Cinematic ballads and stompy cigar boxes
 - Introducing Black Casino and the Ghost
- 15 I miss hanging out with my friends
 - Interview with Paul Winterhart
- 16 Twists & turns of life
 - Interview with Jane Allison
- 18 Bucky in Berlin
- 20 Peter's Artwork





Interview with Tumblewild

Exploring different directions

by Mary Nilsson

It seems like no time at all since I was interviewing Audrey and Alonza for the release of their album 'When the World had Four Corners'. With its amazing and eclectic mix of Americana songs, it was an album that quickly found its way into the hearts of many people in every corner of the modern world. It seems that Tumblewild have got many stories to tell us and many songs to sing. So for this special Christmas issue, we thought it would be fun to catch up with them and see what they have in store for us come the New Year...

Strange Folk: First of all, just to check in, how are things going in Belgium? Still chopping wood to get prepared for the winter?

Tumblewild: Things are good in Belgium and I'm still enjoying living in a region where strangers say hello to each other. The heating situation still requires a lot of carrying and chopping and I miss the magic button on the wall that makes things warmer.

SF: 'When the World had Four Corners' has now been out since March – are you happy with the reception the album has had? Do you have any favourite reviews?

TW: It was quite hard making and releasing an album without any support so I'm really happy to have done that. More than any review we have been touched by the people who have come across the album and taken the time to write to us.

"Apart from the plates of raw vegetables that magically appear in every dressing room, I miss playing with my buddies..."

SF: Some people are still asking about a tour – is this still a possibility? If so, are you hoping to play local or will there also be other European or UK dates?

TW: As you may know we've done things a bit back to front and released an album before getting a band together. However we now have a stirring group of musicians and are hoping to start gigging in the New Year. We'll start by doing some local shows and would love to take it further afield.

SF: You have put a lovely band together now – how are things going and can you tell the readers a little more about the new members?

TW: Yes, they are lovely! Starting in the engine room we have Gael Lambreghts who studied drums in London and is also a producer in his own right. On tricky guitar parts that I can't play we



have Thomas Vereecke who reached the giddy heights of the semi-finals of The Voice Belgique and on bass and piano we have multi-instrumentalist Mathilde Gueriny who at 18 years of age is far too talented.

SF: Do you hope to have any new music out in 2015?

TW: Yes, we've started writing new stuff and hopefully we'll have something out in the New Year. Exploring different directions in a world with four corners so really haven't a clue how it's going to end up.

SF: Audrey, you are always inspired by unusual and romantic stories – any new inspiration in the making?

TW: Still inspired by books I read, images I see. Fancying writing about apocalyptic, Hunger Games style of story... we'll see.

SF: Alonza, are you currently involved with any other music projects at the Tea Rooms?

TW: I've been working with and recording local groups and musicians, I'm currently working with Olivier Terwagne, a Brussels based singer song writing pianist who's done some great interpretations of Brassens songs and poetry.

SF: Finally, and this is being asked to everyone for this issue – in what way do you miss Kula Shaker?

TW: Apart from the plates of raw vegetables that magically appear in every dressing room, I miss playing with my buddies even though they're miserable, moan all the time and are a pain to be around, just like myself.

Many thanks to Audrey and Alonza for their time... since we last heard from them in March, it seems like they have been very busy making sure that there is much more music for all of us in the New Year. A very individual album, for those of you who have not yet heard it, it truly is a treat to the senses.

Physical copies of the album can be purchased from the band's website, www.tumblewild.com or can be purchased as a download from Bandcamp.com.



When the World Had Four Corners – A Review

by Peter Bruce

When asked to write this review, I was not sure what way to approach it, as for those of you who know me, I am more of an artist than a writer. But it was such a good listen, how could I refuse? So here goes and I hope you enjoy...

When the World had Four Corners is an interesting listen - if only for the production values which in this instance is high. The vocal quality of Audrey Evans is almost angelic and lends itself well to the song styles on this album. It's hard to liken this album to any other - this could be down to the fact I don't normally subscribe to music of this nature - however I would like to consider myself with quite a broad musical ear (metaphorically).

For me, the standout songs are the single 'Revenge', 'Way Home' and the penultimate song 'Dog on a Chain' (I am discounting the bonus track here). My personal favourite, 'Dog on a Chain' stands out because of the way it harks back to songs of the 30's and 40's - something Tumblewild have clearly recognised in their music video for this particular piece. I encourage you to check it out!

Many will know that the bonus track Sinnerman was released under their original name of Tumbleweed, but for the album release, not wanting to be confused with the Australian band of the same name, the two renamed their band, with the change of two letters making the name Tumblewild. I think this name change makes a lot of sense as the former name conjures up images of dusty lonely taverns in the Wild West - and while some songs on this album have a distinctly American vibe to them - their overall range they deliver here is so much broader and WILDer. Going back to Audrey's vocals I would like to point out my delight in hearing a vocalist exhibiting not only a fresh style but also crystal clear intonation. Something I think a lot of artists in the charts are lacking.

However, the reason all of you are reading this little "review" is because this is the Kula Shaker Fanzine and you wouldn't even know about Tumblewild unless it was for one guy... His name is Alonza and we all know him as the legendary bassist from the eclectic Britpop/folk/rock ensemble that is Kula Shaker... Alonza always came across as a talented musician, occasionally

trying his hand at other instruments - putting his sub frequency axe to one side and picking up something else. The first time I saw this with my own eyes was the Relentless Garage free competition gig for the release of 'Pilgrims Progress', where on the track 'Ophelia', Alonza was invited with his big Welsh thumbs to play the acoustic guitar on stage, which he did beautifully. Therefore, it would seem that this current project with Audrey has allowed him to dabble in his musical production abilities and also try out some other instruments in the process. While we all know he can sing, he takes a backseat on this album and I hope to hear him back on the mic in the next one. I am excited to hear what other gems these guys can deliver!



Pictures from the archives

These pics were taken by the long-time roadie Simon Roberts in the late 90's. Enjoy a trip down memory lane...

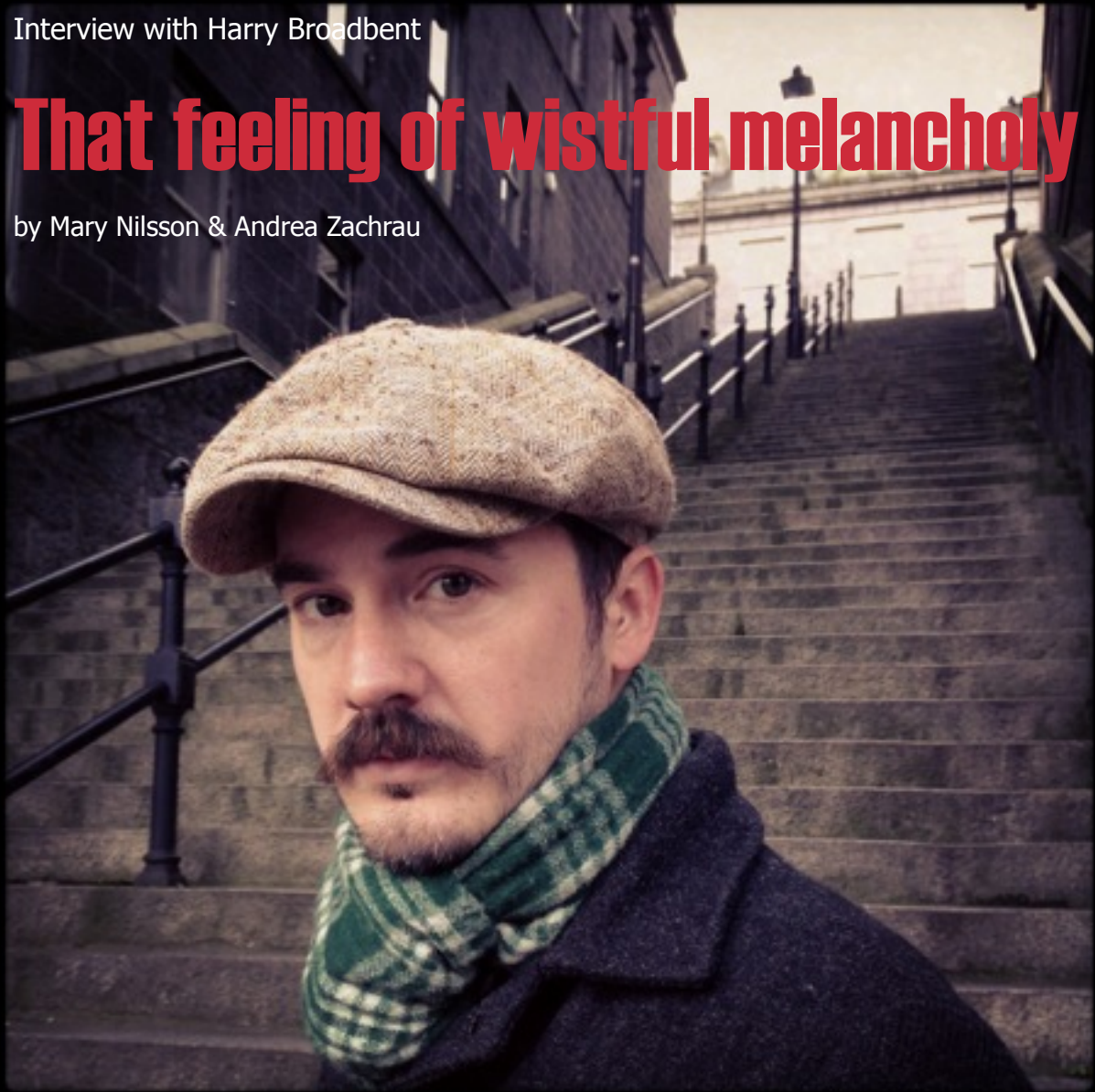


Photos by Simon Roberts

Interview with Harry Broadbent

That feeling of wistful melancholy

by Mary Nilsson & Andrea Zachrau



Hey Kula fans,

as we continue with this bumper packed issue; we thought it would be nice to catch up with Harry. It has been quite a while since we last managed to catch up with this lovely moustached gentleman – and from the looks of how busy he has been, that is hardly surprising. Between touring, getting married and making solo records, it seems our poor Harry has been rushed off of his feet! However, being the gentleman that he is, he has still taken a little time out from his busy schedule to have a quick chat with us here at Strange Folk.

So, grab a cuppa, take the weight off your feet, chill out and see what news Mr. Broadbent holds for us readers!

Strange Folk: So, Harry, one wedding, several Amy MacDonald tours and a couple of years later, you finally managed to get 'Easy Life' released. How does it feel?

Harry Broadbent: Yes, it certainly took a while... It feels really great. You put so much of yourself into making this thing and more than once it can start to feel like a painful chore too – a real battle with yourself – so yes, I'm very happy. I'm proud of what I've done but I'm also REALLY glad to have finished it.

SF: It has a certain melancholy feel to the music, what inspired you? (Please tell us it wasn't the slinky on the treadmill)...

HB: In fact it turned out a bit more melancholy than I expected, I thought I was a more sunny character! No, nothing in particular inspired me in that sense – certainly nothing sad. That feeling of wistful melancholy is so beautiful though. And very intimate – you know misty marshes or moody walks on a windswept beach. I guess that's what I was trying to do. I hope it didn't end up too miserable.

SF: Which is the song that means most to you and why?

HB: Oh I couldn't say. The song Plain Sailing is for my dear friend Nick who very tragically and suddenly died last year, but as a whole the album is dedicated to my amazing wife Arianna. It certainly wouldn't have got finished without her.

SF: When did you develop the idea of making your own album and how long did it take until the record was finished?

HB: I think I started messing around with some ideas as far back as 2010. I knew I was going to do something largely on my own and it takes a while to find your sound – although in fact I'm probably still finding it – but I guess I started work properly in 2012. Unfortunately the reality of life as a musician is that you still have to work for a living so there would be massive hiatuses while I went out on tour etc. When you're working with pretty much zero budget the first thing that has to be sacrificed is speed.

SF: How has the album been received so far?

HB: Really well. I've got so much love from people it's great. I've really done no promotion at all – I just kind of needed to get it out. I also didn't have a band so its kind of pointless putting too much effort into that until you've got the time to do some shows etc.

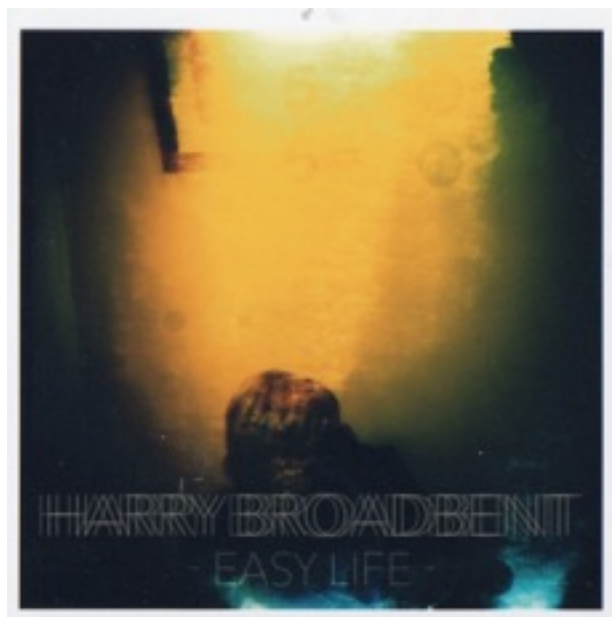
"There are pros and cons - nobody disagrees with you when you're on your own, but on the other hand there's also no-one to give you a kick up the ass when you need it."

SF: Alonza has been taking the helm a lot recently as producer – how different is this relationship with him as opposed to being a bandmate?

HB: Alonza did a great job mixing the record. Apart from his technical abilities there's a shared aesthetic which help the process a lot. I really needed his input at that stage to help me sail the boat home.

SF: Looking at the credits – it pretty much seems you are the one man band – did you set out to do the album this way, or is this just how things ended up?

HB: Pretty much. I think I started with the idea that it would be mostly me but I'd get some friends to play as well, but in the end once I'd put most of the foundations down I kind of thought that that was how I should continue. Maybe the next record I make will be with a band. There are



pros and cons – nobody disagrees with you when you're on your own, but on the other hand there's also no-one to give you a kick up the ass when you need it.

SF: Are there any live dates planned?

HB: Yes. Nothing booked as of right now but I'll do some shows in 2015. A lot of really amazing musicians have shown an interest in doing some playing with me which is exiting and humbling at the same time so I'm really looking forward to getting on the stage as soon as possible.

SF: Apart from finishing 'Easy Life', would you like to share with us what else you have been getting up to? Any more movies?


HB: Same old really. A lot of touring, learning some new instruments, enjoying life.

SF: Finally (and this is a standard question for this issue), do you miss Kula Shaker as much as we all do?

HB: Of course. Kula Shaker is a very special band and a very special part of my life – we all really miss it. Nothing would please us more than to go out on tour again soon – but we kind of need some new music to give that a point. Soon hopefully!

So there we have it folks... it would appear that even whilst the mighty King still slumbers, Harry is still very hard at work to bring us all some lovely music.

For those of you who have not had the chance to hear Harry's new solo album, Easy Life, it is available now for download via Bandcamp.com. Happy listening!



Interview with Crispian Mills

“I miss playing loud”

by Mary Nilsson & Andrea Zachrau

Photo by Izham Effendi

So, here we are. It is almost Christmas again and before we know it, 2015 will have chimed in and it will be almost 5 years since we have had the good fortune of a new album from Kula Shaker... But it does seem that our intrepid heroes have been very busy with other projects, which does include drinking tea, but also fabulous musical endeavours, or in the case of Crispian, the joys of film-making.

It has been a couple of years now since 'A Fantastic Fear of Everything' hit our cinema screens (a damn fine piece of holiday viewing for those of you who may not have seen it). So what else has he been up to? Well, it would seem the past few years has involved the birth of his second son Haridas, plenty of new movies on the horizon

and from the sound of things a life filled with the echoing sound of Blue Meanies... so let's kick back and have a catch up with Mr. Mills and see what he has been up to!

Strange Folk: Crispian, it has been a long time since we all chatted. How are things at the moment and what are you getting up to these days?

Crispian Mills: Still busy with films & family. Evenings I often play guitar in the living room with my kids. We started off with 'Drunken Sailor' and rapidly moved to Beatles, chanting, and a surprising amount of Led Zeppelin. It was during one such evening I discovered how much 6-year-old boys like 'Dictator of the Free World'.



SF: What was it like working on "A Fantastic Fear"?

CM: The creative side of film making was incredible, but the practical process of producing the film, raising money, dealing with Marketing execs and so forth, that was a challenge. It's the same for anyone in any artistic endeavour: vision and idealism struggle to breathe under the fat arse of reality.

SF: Are there any other movie projects in the pipeline?

CM: Yes, altogether four, but last time I checked only two were still breathing.

SF: Do you think movies are going to be the way forward for you, or do you think you will find yourself going back to music anytime soon?

CM: Music is a huge part of films. Writing, filming, editing, I usually think in musical terms since that's my background. So, whether I'm playing live, or recording, or making films, music's always going on...

SF: Recently, Alonza has been taking the helm with the production with various projects recorded at the Tea Rooms. Are you happy to hear such lovely music making its way from the studio?

CM: Alonza is remarkable. If he spent as much time in his studio as he does beside the kettle, making tea, he'd be up there with Pharrell.

SF: As a musician, you know that you have many fans the world over that adore your music. Seems a lot of people miss Kula Shaker greatly – do you miss being a part of Kula Shaker as much as we all miss hearing the music?

CM: I miss playing loud, missing yelling at Paul to keep time, miss going to sleep with tinnitus, waking up with a fucked neck, and I miss seeing the fans at gigs, of course. So I doubt you've heard the last of us.

SF: One last question – last we heard from you was just prior to your second son being born. How are your lovely boys doing?

CM: Keshava is 6 and Haridas is 3. Keshava wants to be a drummer and a scientist, so he can make bombs. Hari likes to play along on a ukulele and often quotes random dialogue from Yellow Submarine, like: "It's all in the mind..." etc. (Chest swells with pride)

There we have it folks... it seems Crispian is still alive and well, and clearly Kula Shaker are also alive and kicking. Don't forget, for those of us that have not yet had the fortune of seeing 'A Fantastic Fear of Everything', both movie and totally rocking soundtrack are available from most major music and film outlets.





Cinematic ballads and stompy cigar boxes

Introducing...

Black Casino and the Ghost

Currently Kula's drummer Paul is busy playing with a London-based band called Black Casino and the Ghost. Singer Elisa Zoot explains what the band is about and reveals that the other band members had been huge Kula Shaker fans in the past.

By Elisa Zoot

Black Casino and the Ghost were formed in 2010 in London. We released a first EP in 2011 called "Falling into pieces". At the time we had a different line-up as a three piece featuring Ariel on guitars, me on vocals and keys and Andy Tracey on drums. Our favourite song from that EP is called Odyssey, a spaghetti western orchestral track about the tenacity of polar bears.

It was only when we met Pauli (drums, of course) and Gary (bass) that our project really turned into a band, and it was with them that we recorded our debut album "Some dogs think their name is

no", which came out in 2014. We were all (me, Ariel and Gary) completely blown away by the opportunity of working with Pauli... all three of us were really big Kula Shaker fans since the K days, and it was great to be able to make music with one of our heroes... who also happens to be a total dude.

The sound of "Some dogs think their name is no" is a mix of alternative rock, delta blues, cinematic piano-led ballads and stompy cigar boxes. We recorded most of it live at Fish Factory Studio here in London (amazing place, big room and great vibes... recommended!) and then Ariel mixed and mastered it back at our place. We released two singles from that album, the first one was called "I like you 'cause you're free" and the second one was called "Hoboland". We shot a video in the garden by our studio for Hoboland and found out we all made pretty good zombies, and we went on a mini UK tour.

We are now hard at work producing our second album. This is being made entirely at our place, entirely organic and home-grown. It's good for you.



PRESS QUOTES

"Very different to everything else around at the moment, and that's always a great thing in my book, that's Black Casino and the Ghost ... I like what they're doing very much"

(Simon Raymonde, Bella Union - Amazing Radio)

"...Black Casino and the Ghost make serious music with a sense of humour"

(The Guardian)

"Epic!"

(Fresh on the net)

"What strikes you, like a crisply thwacked cricket ball to the testicles is the sheer poetry and intelligence of the lyrics plus the quite remarkable vocals of Elisa Zoot... Genius"

(The Von Pip Musical Express)

More about Black Casino and the Ghost:

<http://blackcasinoandtheghost.bandcamp.com/>

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

<http://www.youtube.com/user/bcatg>

<http://www.twitter.com/user/bcatg>

"Some Dogs Think Their Name Is No is a great record. It's got so many ideas, so much variety coursing through every song on it that there's enough here to keep you finding something new every time you hear it"

(Louderthanwar.com)

"Alternative music with real intelligence and clarity"

(Mojopenia.com)

"Black Casino & The Ghost are a London based band that are clearly on another level in the underground scene"

(Doghnutmag.com)



Some Dogs think their Name is No - A Review

by Mike Bray

Since Pilgrims Progress Crispian has been directing films, Alonza has been making music with Tumblewild and Harry has released his first solo album; but what has Paul been up to? Well, Paul's new band, Black Casino and the Ghost, have been writing, gigging and recording. Their first album, Some Dogs Think Their Name Is No, was released in 2013 and is a treat for indie lovers.

The album opens with our man Paul on the drums in what becomes the first track, 'Boogeyman'. Lead singer Elisa Zoot's wonderful unique voice accompanies the chorus that you'll be singing the for the rest of the day. The second track, 'Johnny Boy', again opens with Paul's drums. For me, this stand-out track of the album just keeps on giving and the excellent vocals from Elisa have a great range, really hitting the high notes in places, with a cheeky twist at times.

Track 3, 'Ballad of the Ghost' takes us to another side of the band, which is softer, smoother and less raw. And there's always something fun about hearing a woman sing 'I know I am a mortal man'.

'Wolf is Howling', starts simply, with the piano echoing the chorus line; and then it builds up and up before bringing us back down again.

'Been a Bad Woman' starts off like it is setting the scene from a smoke filled American jazz club but takes us on a journey, at one point the rhythm section changing the tone completely before bringing it back to where it left off

Track 6, 'Son of the Dust' is the second ballad of the album, shows a softer side of the band, before 'Hoboland' kicks in with another catchy chorus and hook line. This one feels like the kind of song that you could listen to at 100 mph on the motorway, the catchy almost wordless chorus is a great example of their great tunes, executed with power and gusto.

'If it Doesn't Hurt' (...it means it's not working) is a beautiful song with some wonderful acoustic guitar played by Ariel Lerner, almost classical spanish guitar. the next track, 'Connect the Dots' is completely different from the rest of the album, honky-tonk piano that you could imagine in a western saloon, and a chorus that wouldn't be out of place in a West End show. A great fun track, it has the feel of a song that has been upgraded from a B side because they love it; and why not?!

'We've Seen Nothing' sounds like it could be from the mind of Danny Elfman, the composer behind the scores of Tim Burton's films. A mere 1.5 minutes long instrumental, and without sounding too harsh, it does have the feel of a filler.

The album closes with "I Like You Cause You're Free" their most epic of the album, with a fantastic line of "tell me how you really feel or don't even bother"; words to live by?

The whole album seems to have a feel of a band who have a lot to offer, a huge range of styles, and of course, an excellent drummer.



Interview with Paul Winterhart

“I miss hanging out with my friends”

by Mary Nilsson & Andrea Zachrau

Whilst the mighty king still sleeps, all four members have been involved in many other projects. Pauli has been keeping himself busy (he is not one for letting the grass grow under his feet). At the moment he seems to be multi-tasking – a great quality for a musician and not only is he involved with various bands, but also finds time to be teaching drums to some very lucky students. So, if you have the time, hang around and see exactly what Pauli has been up to over the past couple of years!

SF: Hello Pauli! It has been too long since we got to ask some questions, so I will start with asking you, how does it feel to be a Mediaeval Baebe? Just kidding, have you been having fun touring with the Baebes as their drummer?

PW: Ha – well it was an experience! I haven't played with the Baebes since this time last year when we did a cathedral Christmas tour. Crazy acoustics – nice for voices though.

SF: Black Casino and the Ghost have had their album out for a little while now. How have things progressed since then?

PW: With Black Casino, I just recorded the drums for another record, which hopefully they'll finish by Christmas. I get on their case about gigging but they're sticking to their reclusive ways. I'm sure we'll get out and about – we just need to get a manager label and agent – ha-ha.

SF: What is it like to work with the band and what are your plans for the future?

PW: it's great working with them, they're super talented, lovely – but they have a big white Alsatian dog who hates me!

SF: What about touring? Do you think if you do another tour, will it be in the same areas, or perhaps spread your wings a little further north?

PW: They need a kick up the backside to get out and play more!

SF: Last time we met, you mentioned that you were teaching drums – are you still involved in teaching?

PW: I 'm teaching now – waiting for student to turn up. Teaching in Essex which the band used to think was the Germany of England or maybe the Texas!

SF: Finally, do you miss Kula Shaker as much as we do?

PW: Do I miss K.S? Well I miss doing big shows, staying in nice hotels in far flung corners of the world, and I miss hanging out with my friends. As for the rest of it life is ok as it is. Music is a tough but rewarding area to work in – I never expected to be a super successful freelance guy – but that's how it has turned out. We were lucky with the band – if we can get together and work in the future that would be a bonus! Hope this is not too boring!

Let's all say a big thanks to Pauli for taking the time to chat with us. As you can see, like everyone else from KS, Pauli has also been very busy. Last year on the road with an ensemble of musical ladies, plus touring and recording with Black Casino and the Ghost, it sounds like he was meeting himself coming back! But even through all of that, he finds time to teach.

Anyway, the wonderful album 'Some Dogs Think Their Name is No' is available from the Black Casino and the Ghost website. With stunning vocals from Elisa Zoot, it is the perfect stocking filler for Christmas! For those who prefer, the album is also available for download from **Bandcamp.com**



Interview with Jane Allison

Twists & turns of life

by Mary Nilsson & Andrea Zachrau

For those of you who watched Crispian's movie, "A Fantastic Fear of Everything" and wondered who the Siouxsie Sioux-esque customer was in the launderette, it was none other than Jane Allison, long-time member of the band Karma Deva and now, also a rocking solo artist. Jane recorded her first solo album in the Tea Rooms over the last year or so, getting to enjoy the fabulous production values of our Mr Bevan. Here she talks life, music and moving to Berlin.

Strange Folk: First up – now that you are a bonafide member of the Tea Rooms family, how does it feel to finally get the "Just Another Girl" album out there?

Jane Allison: Getting the album out was a bit like having a baby - conception was fairly quick , gestation to birth seemed to drag on and on, then you just can't wait to get it out there and one day, when the time is right, and with one all mighty

push, hey presto there it is! Actually that's pretty much how it happened, we only took 2 weeks to record and mix the whole album , the rest of the time was waiting for everything else to fall into place, photographer, art work, funding, pressing, that all took a further 18 to 20 months or so of concerted effort. It is gratifying to finally see it all come together I must say.

SF: Having been used to being in a band, you have pulled this project together by your own initiative. How different has that been?

JA: I just muddled along and hoped for the best! Writing it kind of just happened in one big wave, I guess I had the time and space to just get on with it when I was living in Berlin. Then I had a lot of support from people at every other stage, so it hasn't felt like a too daunting or too lonely a task. Alonza and I were very much on the same page creatively so the recording was a joy and the same has to be said for my photographer John Morgan and designer Scott Nilsson.

SF: You have put together a beautiful set of songs for this album – what inspired you and do you have a particular favourite from the album?

JA: Well thank you very kindly! Inspiration comes from the curious twists & turns of life and I've always been prone to sorrow and longing in the circus of the heart. There's often a muse to court and spark the creative fires too. At the moment "All Over Now" is one of my favourites but that can change as quick as my mood.

SF: Jane, you are one of the most tenacious ladies I have come across in a long time – you were extremely determined to get this album out to the masses and even put together a Kickstarter campaign to get the funds... who gave you the idea for the little Dylan-esque video sequence that you used for the campaign?

JA: In a nutshell I just nicked it from Dylan, not very inventive of me. That crowd funder to raise the money to get the album manufactured was a new and interesting experience... very daunting and extremely hard work. You have to be devoid of all pride or shame to do it, which ain't an easy task, but ultimately it was really rewarding on every level... people were so extremely supportive and so generous, not just financially but of spirit too.



SF: You done a lot of work with Alonza for this album – there is even a fab picture of you together on the album cover – how did you enjoy working with him in Belgium? Will he be helping on your other project?

JA: Alonza's a real joy to work with, his musical wizardry is astonishing and bountiful! Creatively we gelled, he just 'got' me and understood exactly what I wanted for the songs. And of course being in the heart of the Belgium countryside is so inspiring and a bit like having a lovely holiday to boot. I'm very excited about going back to work with him for my next album.



SF: Word has it that you will soon be relocating to Germany – do you think this huge change will reflect in your inspiration?

JA: Well the word is true; I am back in Berlin again. Most of second album has already been written in Bristol but I'm sure the Berlin air will colour the last few songs and the third album and give me something new to reflect upon.

SF: And of course last but not least, having previously enjoyed their work – do you miss Kula Shaker?

JA: Ah well we all miss the musings of King Kula Shaker but I'm loving the projects that they're all doing as individuals. Tumblewild, Black Casino and The Ghost and Harry's album are all fab and of course Crispian's expedition into film has been a lot of fun. I'm looking forward to seeing what he gets involved in next cinematically.

We would like to end this interview by extending our huge thanks to Jane for taking time out in the middle of her move to Berlin just to answer our questions! It would seem the Tea Rooms are becoming a very happy little recording hub in the heart of Belgium, and on most days, Alonza is busy with one project or another.

If you would like to hear how his journey into production is coming along, you can purchase Jane's album "Just Another Girl" (CD or download) from Bandcamp.com! Happy listening ya'll!

THE 100 YEAR OLD BAND.



Bucky in Berlin

by Mary Nilsson

For the observant (or in this case, even the unobservant), our readers will have noticed that this year has commemorated the 100th Anniversary of the beginning of World War I. A very sad time in human history – it is something that has definitely taken up a huge chunk of the history of 1914. However, it would seem that 1914 may also have been the year in which some of the oldest members of the **'The 100 Year Old Band'** were likely to have been born! Taking part in this band are none other than Simon Roberts and Joff Winterhart, also known as 'Bucky the Band'.

As some of you may remember, Bucky have a huge connection to Kula Shaker, what with Simon being their head music technician (and member of the Companeros, 2008 tour) and of course, Joff, who is the brother of Pauli (and also a damn fine drummer for those of you that are new to Bucky). So what do Bucky have to do with the 100 Year Old Band project? What is it, and how did it come to be?

Well it seems it was the brainchild of Joff and a contemporary artist who works a lot in community based projects, known as Sue Palmer. Having personally met Joff, I can honestly say that he is a vibrant individual – and much like his brother, he is always full of ideas, which he tenaciously tends to see through to the end. So, in a conversation with Sue about things that they had always wanted to accomplish, Joff thought it prudent to say that he had always fancied playing drums as part of a band that was multi-generational – it was from this conversation that the band was born.



It is a band that works in an unusual way – it tends to be done through word of mouth or chance meetings on the street, where people are invited to perform with the band. Normally, it works by finding 10 people from a particular town or city, all of which are from the past 10 decades – this is how they manage to transcend the age barrier. Collectively, they write a song, which then makes its way to be played in front of a live audience. They work along the lines of 'One week, one song, one gig', which has been an amazing way to encompass the musical talents of so many people across many countries. For Joff, Simon and Sue, it definitely appears to be a lot of fun, as they have been committed to this project since 2009. You can find out about their past rehearsals and gigs at www.the100yearoldband.com.

With the project continuing to be successful, The 100 Year Old Band was invited to Berlin to take part in the 20th anniversary of a project known as 'Gob Squad'. Like the 100 Year Old Band, Gob Squad are also a unique set of artists that span between the UK and Germany. It was established 20 years ago in Nottingham, and are known for finding the beauty in everyday life, even where others can't see it. With the exception of Antarctica (which might be a little too cold), Gob Squad have happily toured around the world, taking their art to the masses! So with their project 'Be Something Bigger', it seemed that the 100 Year Old Band were invited to make a bit of noise and put a smile on a few faces... From the pictures that Simon has given us, it seems like it was a great performance – with an exciting exchange of ideas flowing freely among all the members of the Berlin based branch of the band.

Currently, we are waiting for footage to be placed on the Gob Squad website www.gobsquad.com, where we will hear and see the performance as well as many of the other projects that were a part of what appeared to be a huge weekend for the art group! However, if it resembles some of

the work that they currently have online, you will see that the message conveyed by the music is about having fun. It doesn't stick to a particular recipe; it is an eclectic mix and covers every genre available! If we refer to 'School of Braja', Crispian talks about some of the quirks heard within the album, and refers to the old adage that 'live music is imperfect by nature'. No two performances will ever be the same and as such, will result in music of a raw nature. This applies to the 100 Year Old Band too. But as you will hear, whatever version of their music you happen to come across, they are all having a rocking good time.

So, if you have a nosey on their website and happen to notice that they are going to be playing at a music venue near you, then go along, have some fun. Bang a drum, pick up a tambourine – but always remember, music feeds the soul, it always has its own character and no matter what, it always brings people together – which was the point of the 100 Year old band in the first place!

You can also read more about Bucky the Band at www.buckytheband.com.



Artwork by Peter Bruce

