

Psych Trail Mix Issue #2
Spring/Summer 2008



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*Thanks to Dixon Edge Colbourne (RIP) for both Paul Leary Pictures, please check out more of Dixon's work on <http://www.wedigdixon.com>

*A big thanks to Eric Helsley for creating the cover art. If you'd like to check out more of Eric's artwork please visit his myspace page: <http://www.myspace.com/eahels>

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What Goes On



Brent Marley

A lot has happened since the first issue of Psych Trail Mix. I started this thing not really knowing what to expect. I am very happy with the response I have received from that first issue. It inspired me to keep it going and try to make each issue even better than the last. As long as I know that like minded individuals are enjoying the material and like getting this in the mail, then it's all worth it for me. The support has been great as well. Since putting out issue #1, I've received artwork submissions and some great cd's from folks all over the world, some of which I have reviewed. I'm very much enjoying creating this zine and I will do my best to continue to do so in the future. This is also sort of a tribute to all of those artists and musicians out there who really don't get the recognition that they deserve. I hope you all enjoy issue #2. Thanks again to all those who have given words of encouragement and support, you know who you are.

ARTIST: PAUL GREEN SCHOOL OF ROCK
FEATURING GIBBY HAYNES
VENUE: TROCADERO, PHILADELPHIA, PA
DATE: 2-16-08

SETLIST:

Human Cannonball
Colored FBI Guy
Dust Devil
Goofy's Concern
Cough Syrup
Cherub
Roky
Graveyard
I Saw An X-Ray Of A Girl Passing Gas
Cowboy Bob
Revolution Part 2
Thermador
They Came In
Jimi
The Shah Sleeps In Lee Harvey's Grave



I can still remember a few years back in 2001 when I saw the Butthole Surfers play at the Trocadero in Philadelphia. Walking out of the smoking lounge onto the main floor and seeing the smoke, projections, Paul Leary making funny faces while playing his guitar, Gibby seemed to be about 8 feet tall! Ahh what a great show it was that night. My friend and I couldn't get the warped sounds of the Gibbytronix out of our heads even through the whole next day at school. My guidance counselor's face even morphed into a pig while scolding us for skipping class. I still remember her flaring nostrils writhing in anger. So I was definitely looking forward to seeing this show, 7 long years later! I did understand going into it that this was not THE Butthole Surfers (only the lead singer of the Butthole Surfers). However, these kids played incredibly well with Mr. Haynes. Gibby seemed to be having a fantastic time with the kids and looked to be in a great mood. The show had all the works of an early Butthole Surfers show; smoke machines, strobe lights, insane video projections... They played lots of the old favorites. In between songs, kids walked on and off stage, switching band members throughout. I was very impressed with the variety at this show, a cello was even brought out for "Cough Syrup." A little over half way through the set, Gibby walked offstage and some members of The Paul Green School of Rock played some originals.



The only thing that I really missed at this show was the guitar work of Paul Leary. You cannot re-create Paul's guitar, so I don't put any fault on these kids for not being able to play like a man who was the co-founder of the Butthole Surfers and played guitar in the band for over 20 years, that would just be silly and unfair. All these kids are incredibly talented young individuals. I thought it was hilarious when the choir of young teenage girls sang the screaming parts of "Cowboy Bob," and it fit PERFECTLY. I think the highlight was the end of the show. All the kids from the show got onstage to perform "The Shah Sleeps In Lee Harvey's Grave." Gibby making up the words in between the improvised musical madness, where everyone just had fun and did whatever the fuck they wanted to. I'm glad to have attended this. What a truly one of a kind show. Who would have expected Gibby Haynes performing Butthole Surfers songs with young children?!?!



paul leary

If you are a fan of the Butthole Surfers, then you must know who is responsible for all that insane guitar work. Yes, that's Mr. Paul Walthall AKA Paul Leary. The Butthole Surfers were known for their live shows which consisted of pounding strobe lights, smoke machines, naked dancers, video projections of reconstructive surgery, shock treatment among other things. Paul Leary was one of the 2 founding members, the other being Gibby Haynes. Paul played the guitar in a very unconventional, unique kind of way that played a large part in the psychedelic nightmare circus that was the Butthole Surfers. To describe their music, a friend of mine once told me that the Butthole Surfers psychedelic trip is kind of like throwing a pile of dog shit on fire in your neighbor's mailbox kind of trip. The Butthole Surfers blend of humor and warped psychedelic music made them quite a strange brew. If it weren't for Paul Leary's guitar work, then all the potty humor may not have been quite as easy to digest, no pun intended.

1.) Who were some of your biggest influences growing up?

Oh it probably started with the Beatles then went on to like Grand Funk Railroad, Creedence Clearwater Revival, just all kinds of people.

2.) Can you briefly explain how the Butthole Surfers were formed?

Let's see... I guess I met Gibby Haynes when we were going to College at Trinity University in San Antonio, and I guess he kind of, he wrote this song called Butthole Surfers and he just... wanted to play it for me and he played for me and wanted be in a band, and I was kind of reluctant, you know I played in bands when I was a kid and stuff but I was just kind of reluctant to do it again, and he just kinda talked me into playing in a band and next thing you know we ended up playing shows in Austin and then we hopped in a van and went to California and never looked back.

3.) Who was the one that came up with most of the early weird album art, the pee pees and the bodybuilder crotches and all that stuff?

It was pretty much, Gibby and I both kinda did that stuff. You know, I found that crotch, but I guess that's where my head, well I guess all of our heads were in crotches at that time. We were always just cracking each other up with what we were drawing and coming up with some stuff. I guess being in a band was sort of an excuse for doing artwork. That seemed like it was a really fun part of it was just coming up with album covers, and doodles for song titles and things like that.

4.) Any particular Butthole Surfers album that you're most fond of or like the best?

You know I don't really listen to them a whole lot anymore. I guess that first EP kinda cracks me up to this day. Then probably Locust Abortion Technician and Rembrandt Pussyhorse would be my two favorites.

5.) I know that you guys used to tour constantly, do you have any crazy or funny road stories?

Oh God, I mean where would one begin... It was pretty much several years of just not having a home to go to, just staying on the road and being as weird as we could, it was just amazing we didn't go to jail. I remember one night we were in Portland, Oregon and we were eating Kentucky Fried Chicken in the parking lot, we just bought chicken and was eating it in our van and the next thing I know we're surrounded by six police cars and they wanted to know who we were and what we were doing there. Apparently, the people working at the Kentucky Fried thought we were gonna rob them. Then they call the cops and they found out we were the Butthole Surfers and they started laughing about the six people they arrested at our last show in Portland. We had a dancer with us named Kathleen for a while that was always doing crazy things, she would dance naked onstage and then offstage she would do things like not speak for 3 months or wear nothing but men's underwear. She once shit into her hand and fed the fish in front of a boat full of Newlywed couples.

Yeah I heard she took a diarrhea shit on the wall one time or something?

Well that was kind of how she got her name as "The Shit Lady." She was known as "The Shit Lady" up in New York City and she worked at a place called Sex World I guess, and her first night on the job you know, and they told her to take her clothes off slowly and the first thing she did was take off her clothes and blast diarrhea on the wall and send everybody screaming out the door. She was unashamed.

6.) I really admire your guitar style, just all over the place. When did you start playing the guitar? Did you ever take guitar lessons at all?

Oh yeah, shoot I started playing guitar in 1962. My Dad bought me a little 4 string guitar in Mexico for \$5 and I played it for a year until he got me a real guitar. Started taking lessons you know when I was 6, shoot I took all kinds of stupid guitar lessons then I just kind of got tired of playing guitar and put it down for a couple years, I was in College and then Gibby talked me into picking it up again. Then I decided it was fun again.

I used to take lessons and it was funny I would go in there and the guitar teacher would try to get me to learn the stuff that he wanted me to learn how to play and I'd just want him to teach me how to play different rock songs and stuff or I'd go in there and he'd be making fart noises with his hands or something.

Yeah I had a guy that I took lessons from when I was in High School, I would just like take records in and he would put the record on the turntable and figure out the songs for me until I was able to learn how to figure out songs for myself. It seemed like such a mystery at first. Why was it so mysterious...?

7.) Any info for all the gear heads out there as far as what equipment, amps and what not that you are using right now?

Right now I've been on a big Harmony guitar kick. I picked up a whole bunch of old Harmony guitars from the 60's. Like a couple of Harmony Rebels, a couple of Bobcats a couple of Stratotones. Let's see I guess I'm playing through, my newest amps are called Swart Atomic Space Tone Amps. Someone named Michael Swart makes these amps and he made me a stereo pair, so I've got a stereo pedal board with all kinds of weird effects that I haven't used before. Out of the stereo Swarts, it almost sounds like I'm playing an organ sometimes. And hopefully some of that stuff will get heard someday, I'm in a... my new band Carny.

Yeah I heard about that band. One of the questions I was going to ask you, is when can we expect to get a Carny album?

Well I'm hoping to get it finished by the end of this year, that's my goal. We've been working on it for too long and I think we're getting about close to finishing it up.

Yeah I've heard the songs on myspace and stuff, I love all that stuff, I can't wait to get a cd of it to get all the songs.

Gosh darnit I can't wait to provide one.

8.) I heard that you're a pretty successful producer now, having produced some pretty big names. How did you get into that? Are you still enjoying it now?

I was the guy in the band that spent the most time trying to figure out how to work the tape recorders and microphones and all that crap, and then it just uhh... I didn't really think of producing or anything like that and one day I got a call from the Meat Puppets and they wanted me to ask John Paul Jones if he'd produce their next record, and I called John Paul Jones and he wasn't interested. So the Meat Puppets asked if I'd do it, and I was like well sure... I guess that record went gold and had a radio hit and so that kind of gave me a little jump start into the producing world. Then I got to work with Sublime and did pretty good with that and then I got to work with all kinds of weird bands like U2 and stuff like that, it's kinda freaky. These days you know I kind of keep it limited, I work with a couple of bands. I work with a band called Pepper and another band Slightly Stupid. Was working with a girl Maggie Walters and she's got an album that's about to come out, I'm really proud of that one. The rest of the time I just try not to work too much anymore.

Oh ok, you've paid your dues.

Well, you know, it just distracts me from what I really want to do, which is playing music. So you know, that's what I like about my new band, keeps me busy playing music all the time.

Yeah I'd love to see you guys come around and see Carny tour, that'd be awesome.

Yeah that would be something, hopefully that'll happen. You know it just depends, it's hard to imagine if anybody will even like us. We may put out a record that everybody will just hate and will just as soon ignore, it's hard to tell.

Yeah, you never know these days.

Hahaha you never know what the kids want.

Right, exactly.

Can't believe they ever wanted us, you know I mean Butthole Surfers. That was a pretty tough band to like.

9.) What hobbies do you like to partake in other than making and producing music?

I just like working in the yard, I've got a house here in Austin that's got like 2 thirds of an acre for a yard, I just like wandering around like an idiot in the yard. Hanging out with my wife as much as I can, she works a lot and she goes outta town. There really isn't a whole lot of hobbies and stuff, I like to watch Judge Judy and I follow the Young and the Restless and watch a little football when I can. Pretty boring.

Haha no it's not boring, I like to watch football sometimes too.

Yeah I got this cool house, it's like its own city block in Austin and it's hard to even want to leave the house. It's this funky house, I look around it's like living in a park or something.

Yeah I don't really like leaving the house much either. I dealt with an issue of road rage yesterday so it kind of makes me just want to stay in the house now.

Oh haha road rage. I had a guy road rage on me when I was riding my little scooter around town here. I noticed some guy like tailgating me really bad I was going to my Doctors Office, I turn into my Doctor's Office, I park in front of the Doctors Office and this guy pulls up behind me and he gets out and just starts screaming about how I cut him off you know 10 miles back and he'd been following me ever since. I just like tried to apologize and he kept screaming and it's all in front of my Doctors Office, it's like WOW..

Yeah, people are insane. This guy was about to fight me. I was pumping gas and I went into the store to get some coffee and stuff and my girlfriend calls me on my cell phone when I was in the store and she told me that this guy was cursing and screaming at her outside so I was like ok. I rang the stuff up and I went out and he's like, "is this your car?" I was like yeah and he goes, "well fuckin move it motherfucker what are you doing"... I was like just get outta here!

That doesn't inspire you to start moving real quick you know? I'd sit in the car and start eating what I got and read the paper hahaha....

Yeah exactly, I was like ok just get outta here man, I get in my car and he goes, "oh yeah get outta here," and he jumps out of his car and starts running over, then he gets back into his car. So I just turn on the car right, I was just gonna leave and get outta there, so I turn my car on and then he speeds in front of me and blocks my car from leaving the gas station.

Ahh hahaha

So he starts screaming and cursing at me, saying, "you longhaired punk!"

Hahaha at least you made him angry.

Yeah, at least I accomplished that much. Eventually, I found a little diagonal outlet and sped out that and just left. I didn't know if the guy had a gun or what, who knows.

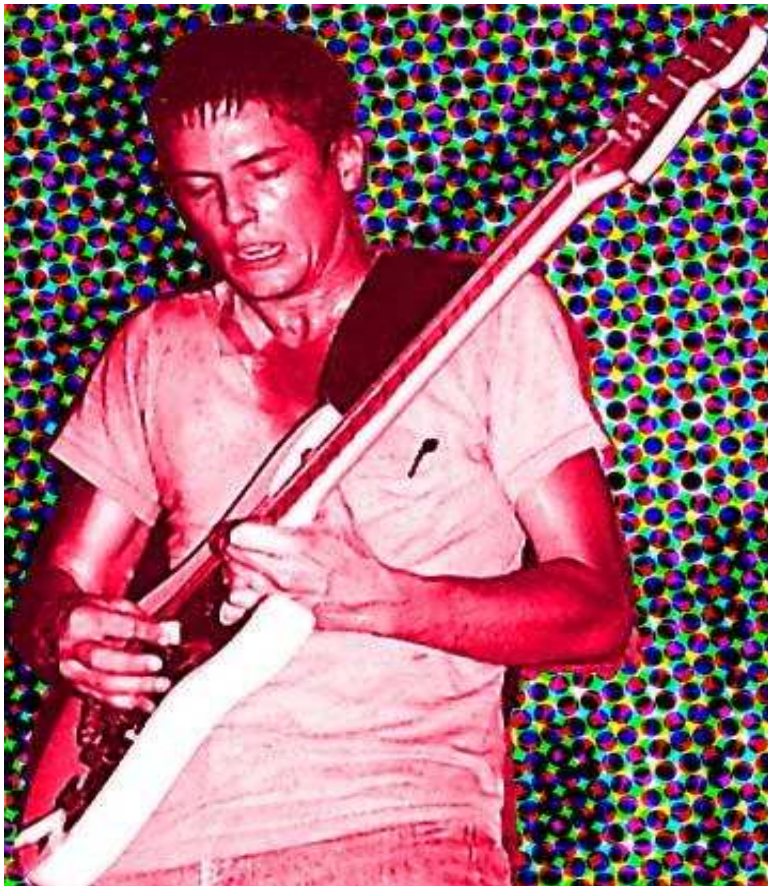
You never know. There's a lot of fucked up people out there. And they're all angry.

Yeah, I didn't know what this guy's rage was. There was like 12 different gas pumps and he could have went to any one of them, but he chose to single me out for some reason. I don't know...

He was angry.

At least I didn't get killed or he didn't ram my car or anything.

Yeah, no shit...



**For more info on Carny please visit: www.myspace.com/carnymusic*

**Also check out: www.buttoholesurfers.com*

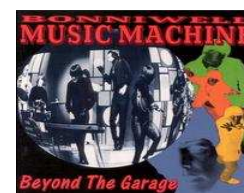


Artist: Sula Bassana and The Nasoni Pop
Art Experimental Band
Album: Vol. 1
Label: Nasoni-Records
More Info: www.sulabassana.de



From the deepest depths of the German psychedelic underground, emerges Sula Bassana also known as Dave Schmidt. You've got a nice chunk of some heavy space rock with these tunes. For all you fans out there of heavy fuzz, there's plenty of it here in a late 60's psych vibe. I love the way the organ is utilized in a lot of these songs. They do it in a way that really works. Some really cool hypnotic songs here that will have you floating in the air looking down upon some beautiful lush landscapes. The mellow part in the middle of the song "Go" put me into a trance-like state, and I wasn't even high at the time! The song "Pay For Freedom" is one of my personal favorites on this album, with the warped vocals and fast fuzzed out wah guitar, ahhh.... fuckin love it man. This is some of the best space psych I've heard in quite a while that's actually been recorded in recent years (2005)!! Also a little factoid for you, just in case you're wondering what Sula Bassana means, it's the Latin name for a pelican type bird which is named gannets or boobies.

Artist: Bonniwell Music Machine
Album: Beyond The Garage
Label: Sundazed
Order: www.sundazed.com



You may be familiar with the Music Machine from a couple of songs that they have on the Nuggets Box Set compilation ("Talk Talk" and "Double Yellow Line"). As you'll see with this awesome collection of songs, the Music Machine were no one hit wonder. Sundazed pairs up the bands whole second album with some great unissued tracks as well. Many compare Sean Bonniwell's voice to Jim Morrison, I also find some similarities. A lot of the keyboards on this sound like a 3 ring circus, in a good way. Unlike their first record, these songs are all originals. Lots of very dark songs here, you really get an idea of what a tortured soul Bonniwell was. Just listen to the lyrics on "The Trap," "so you see reality is a prison for the mind in the trap the trap the trap." Great stuff, and you have to admire the tempo changes on this song. I have to mention one of the greatest 60's garage fuzz monsters on this, "Eagle Never Hunts The Fly." The feedback, the fuzz laden guitar, the screeching wail from Bonniwell, what a killer tune! As usual, nice package from Sundazed with cool liner notes.

Artist: Q65
Album: Revolution
Label: Rotation
Order: www.bombstore.com



Q65 was lumped into the category “Nederbeat” based on what they called music made by Dutch bands in the 60’s. “Neder” meaning Netherlands and “beat” meaning the beat music of the time. Q65 were considered by many the “Dutch Pretty Things.” Many considered them to be a nastier/raunchier version of The Pretty Things, and I happen to agree. An incredible foot-stomping collection here of 60’s garage R&B punk. “The Life I Live” is here in all its snotty glory, you may have heard it on the Nuggets 2 compilation. The cd is worth it alone for the 60’s punker “I Got Nightmares.” One of my favorite tracks on this is “Just Who’s In Sight,” with its classical guitar and flute, there’s sort of an eastern vibe to it. “Down In The Bottom” is a fast blues foot stomper with William Biel’s signature snarling vocals. “Spoonful” is another great song with the bottleneck guitar and hand clapping. For some reason, I can picture playing this song on an outdoor wooden porch on a hot summer day with a cold bottle of beer. “Summer Thoughts In A Field Of Weed” is also another favorite. The mellow intro kicking into the snarling R&B stomper with cool lyrics. A few bonus tracks on this cd also. Great cd of some hard 60’s R&B tunes. If you’re a fan of the trashy R&B of The Pretty Things, I highly recommend this cd.

Artist: Fabienne Shine
Album: Fabienne Shine And The Planets
Label: FabishineMusic
Order: www.cdbaby.com



Fabienne Shine was heavily influenced by Nico from the Velvet underground, who actually took her to her first rock concert. Fabienne was in a band called Shakin Street back in the mid 70’s. Shakin Street opened for Nico in 1979. Miss Shine was acquainted with many big names in the rock world. Shakin Street opened for many big rock acts including; Black Sabbath, Blue Oyster Cult, ACDC, Journey, Molly Hatchet and more. Fabienne was married to the late Damon Edge of Chrome and you can hear her vocals on Chrome’s “3rd From The Sun” album. This record is the story of Fabienne’s life. Some really great rock and roll here, and Fabienne’s voice is simply beautiful, her vocal abilities are amazing. This record isn’t just straight rock and roll though, just listen to the sitar and echoed vocals on “Life Is A Symphony.” Some really cool stuff there. We get some more of that sitar again on “If I Was A Planet,” while Fabienne paints the images for us in our heads with her mesmerizing voice. We hear Fabienne’s disdain for George Bush, his lies and war on “Mr. President.” On “My Girls, My Heroes” you can hear Fabienne’s story about arriving in NYC and seeing Tina, Patti and Nico, Max’s Kansas City. Fabienne had an interesting life in music and here it is documented with this record. The album comes in a nice digipack with some cool liner notes inside as well!

Artist: Blues Magoos
Album: Kaleidoscopic Compendium: The Best Of The Blues Magoos
Label: Mercury
Order: www.amazon.com



The Blues Magoos may have been one of the best Psych bands to make it on a mainstream level in the 60’s. You get a nice value here with this 23 song anthology. Most are probably familiar with their cover of “Tobacco Road,” very cool song. One of my favorite songs on here is “Sometimes I Think About.” I think a lot more of these songs should have been hits. “One By One” is one of the best songs on here and it really reminds a lot of the Byrds, they seemed quite similar here. I had to double check and make sure that the right cd was in. I don’t think they brought in Roger McGuinn with his 12 string, did they? “Summer Is The Man” is a beautiful song, I really dig the thump thump plucking sounds of the bass on this one. The song mentions “flowers,” but not in the phony, corny way like that of much of the hippie culture throughout the 60’s. I recommend picking up this collection of great tunes for that wall of 60’s psych albums in your home.

Artist: Q65

Album: Singles A's & B's (2 CD)

Label: Hunter/Universal

Order: www.amazon.com



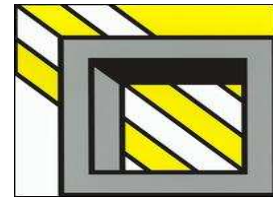
After hearing their debut album “Revolution,” you’re probably craving more Q65. I know that I was. This 2 cd set should give you your fix of Q65 and all their snotty 60’s punk glory. One thing I was happy about is that the essential “Cry In The Night” is included here! “From Above” is definitely one of the best tracks on this collection also, just listen to that controlled feedback! Not only do you get plenty of their snarling R&B stompers on songs like “I Despise You,” “You’re The Victor,” and “And Your Kind,” but you also get some of their later (late 60’s) Q65 going further into a psychedelic direction with songs like “Sundance” and “Mother Motha’s Great Sundance.” I love that stuff, but I more prefer their ugly R&B and Blues tunes, which are plentiful with this set. Their cover of “I Was Young” is just fucking badass. There’s also some great instrumentals here, “80% O” about 80% Opium. Comes in a nice double cd case with a chunky booklet of extensive liner notes. You get 2 cd’s full of great stuff, all the other essential Q65 you need. Once you’ve got this and “Revolution,” I think you’re all set with your Q65 collection. Pick this up while you can, I understand it’s rather scarce these days.

Artist: The Outsiders

Album: CQ

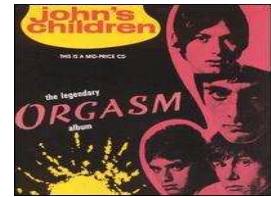
Label: Pseudonym

Order: ebay.com/amazon.com



To start off, I would just like to say that when I finished listening to this I had to ask myself, “why am I just now getting around to owning this album?” The Outsiders, hailing from the Netherlands fall under the category of “Neder-Beat,” as described in the Q65 review above. The opening track “Misfit” is a fast R&B number, sort of Stooges-esque, but this is at least a year before the first Stooges record (1968). Very cool song with very punk lyrics. The second track “Zsarrah” changes the mood altogether. Strange toned vocals accompanied by what sounds like some bongos and a twelve string guitar. The next track “CQ” is one of my favorites, and also one of the strangest. The lyrics are of a man lost in space trying to get through on the radio. Sounds of static and ocean waves crashing, killer fuzz guitar to meld it all together while your brain melts inside your skull until the explosion at the end of the song. The next track “Daddy Died On Saturday” is an amazing song. Piano on this and it works great. The story of a boy and girl in love but the girl’s father doesn’t like the boy, so they decide to poison the father. Whatever happened to songs that tell stories? The next song, “It Seems Like Nothing’s Gonna Come My Way Today” is a nice mellow folk ballad. “Doctor” is one of the best songs on here, starts out as a fast, fuzzed out tune and then breaking into total sonic mayhem with wailing feedback and bongos. “Man on the Dune” is a cool tune that tells us the story of the man on the dune with the pipe in his hand. How about the lyrics to “Happyville?” “I don’t mind your enthusiasm, I don’t mind your wild orgasm.” Turns out the song is about the dark side of Holland’s sex industry. “You’re Everything On Earth” is another quite beautiful acoustic ballad. Singer Wally Tax sounds great on these kinds of songs. The last song on the album is entitled “Prison Song.” Another song that tells a story. This time the story of a man being released from prison and the anxiety and paranoia of it all, looking forward to seeing his woman again. The music goes along nicely to the story. The man’s senses are overloaded as he walks the street, sounds of traffic accompany the music at this point in the song. At the end the man finds his woman in bed with another man and he shoots them both, nice ending huh? The cd also comes with a few bonus tracks of singles. I know I gave this an extra long review, but I had to tell someone of its greatness in detail. It’s got everything in here; dark moody atmospheres, experimentation, strange and eerie. I’ve come to find out that this is out of print and pretty hard to get. I think this is a travesty! This record needs to be re-released and readily available to you 60’s psych fans foaming at the mouth reading this review. I got lucky and snagged an affordable copy of the cd on ebay which is a good place to start and Gemm.com. If you can find this, buy it! You will not be disappointed.

Artist: John's Children
Album: Legendary Orgasm Album
Label: Cherry Red Records
Order: www.amazon.com



I had heard John's Children songs before and was very much looking forward to getting the Legendary Orgasm Album. Unfortunately, it was a big let down when I actually heard it. The first song, "Smash Blocked" sounded great, then it was all downhill from there and I'll explain why.... The rest of the songs have fake crowd sounds in the mix! Why whatever genius at the studio decided to do this, I do not know. It's not even like the crowd noise is just faintly in the background, it's obnoxiously loud and the level is just as loud as the music, sometimes even overpowering the music! Imagine those old TV appearances that the Beatles did back in the early 60's with all the screaming, crying young girls in the front row, it's like that, but much worse. It sounds like the teeny boppers in the crowd are bootlegging the show, that's how obnoxiously loud it is! I'm not giving up on John's Children though, I know they're a great band. The music on this sounds great, it's just you can't hear it with all the screams of fake crowd sounds. I'll try and get my hands on the 2 cd greatest hits set to be reviewed in a future issue.

Artist: The Outsiders
Album: Strange Things Are Happening
Label: RPM
Order: www.amazon.com



Another one from the Outsiders here, it seems like this band can do no wrong. You get a really nice package here with a jam packed cd of 24 songs, all the Outsiders singles, a's and b sides as well, spanning the years 1965 through 1969. The cd starts off with a song called "You Mistreat Me," which many compare to the Pretty Things song "Rosalyn." I can see why, although I think the song is unique and not just some Pretty Things rip off. The next song, "Suns Going Down" is one of my favorites on this collection. Signature Wally Tax vocals on this one with eerie background vocals, such a great song. "Thinking About Today" is another personal favorite of mine on here. It's a couple of basic chords, but it's so raunchy, dirty sounding and catchy. The version of the song "Touch" on this is the rare single version, not the one you may have heard on countless neder-beat compilations. Anyway, this version sounds awesome and it's a great song. "Monkey On Your Back" is a great song about addiction. Very heartfelt lyrics on this song, "I don't want to be around to see your world come tumbling down." "Summer Is Here" stands out as one of the better songs on the collection, a mellow tune that is about just what the song title says, the arrival of summer. This song sort of reminded me of the Kinks "Death Of A Clown" upon first listen. Very upbeat lyrics that paint pictures of summer in your head, it puts you into a trance like state. I believe the only song on here that was included on an actual Outsiders record is "Daddy Died On Saturday," which is on the incredible "CQ" album. So this comes highly recommended by me, as you'll get a great value with ALL of the Outsiders singles, a's and b sides.

Artist: The Outsiders
Album: The Outsiders
Label: Pseudonym
Order: ebay.com/amazon.com



I kind of went backwards here and listened debut album of the Outsiders last, after I listened to the other two above. Doesn't matter though, going backward or forward, the quality is always consistent from these Neder-Beat 60's punkers. The first six tracks are from a highly energetic live performance. The remaining six tracks are some killer early studio songs. Love the fuzzed out bass on "Afraid Of The Dark." A lot of these songs are incredibly fast, those "hardcore" punk rockers should have a look back in time to records like this to see where all that shit came from. Don't think the lyrics are all clichéd hippy peace songs either, like most of the stuff on that 60's infomercial with Roger Daltrey, that overrated jack-off. Just listen to "Filthy Rich," not to mention those lovely fuzzed out guitar leads in that song. "Don't You Cry" is also another favorite, showcases a bit of the drummer's work nicely here. Hell, these are all great songs as usual, and shows the Outsiders in their earliest, rawest form. If you manage to track a copy of this down, GET IT!

CENTRALIA, PENNSYLVANIA

WEIRD PA: OBSERVATIONS OF STRANGE SURROUNDINGS



A desperate mother named Rose Da Silva takes her young daughter Sharon, who is being tortured by incredibly horrible nightmares, to the town of Silent Hill in an attempt to cure her. On the way, Rose crashes the car and when she awakens from unconsciousness, Sharon is nowhere to be found. Smoke, fog and ash descend on the town as Rose begins her trek into Silent Hill in an attempt find her missing daughter Sharon. Through the course of her journey, Rose begins to learn more and more about the mysterious history that lay behind the disaster that nearly burned the town to the ground 30 years prior, leaving little if any survivors at all. On her quest to recover her daughter, Rose is pursued by deformed, ugly, hideous, alien like creatures with intermittent emergency alert sirens going off. Eventually, it is revealed that the town had been completely evacuated 30 years ago due to an underground coal mine fire that is still burning to this day.



Many of you have probably seen the movie above and/or played the Silent Hill video game before. An evacuated town with smoke and fog overhead caused by a coal mine fire that "STILL BURNS TO THIS VERY DAY," definitely sounds like fiction huh? You may be surprised to find that it's based on a town that actually exists and the movie isn't as far fetched as you might think. When I heard that Centralia, Pennsylvania was only a couple short hours away from where I live, I had to visit this mysterious town and see it first hand. We all piled into a friend's car and headed for the town of Centralia. The dark dreary day added to the mystique of this strange town in which we were about to enter. The fire was started in May of 1962 when some local firefighters were cleaning out the landfill next to the Odd Fellows Cemetery. The firefighters would set the

landfill on fire for a period of time in an attempt to clean it out and eliminate some of the trash. After the task is complete the fire fighters would extinguish the fire. This time they failed to do so. The fire continued to burn and eventually reached the bottom of the landfill and found its way into the abandoned coal mines beneath the town of Centralia. All attempts to extinguish the fire were unsuccessful, and yes, the fire does continue to burn to this day. Presently, there are less than 10 inhabitants in the entire town.



We explored the town for a while in an SUV type vehicle which was good to have as we encountered some rough terrain. Headed down some creepy empty streets, which were most likely once filled with homes and families. For some reason there were lots of abandoned tires laying around everywhere, I found that kind of strange.

Along these barren streets were also several abandoned, run down houses such as the one you see to your right. Looks pretty eerie with all the overgrown brush. On top of that, this one reminds me of the house in "Nightmare On Elm St." You can tell that it must have been here for an extremely long period of time due to the deterioration and extremely poor condition of the home, or what was once a home I should say. It also had a very dead smell inside it, just like an extremely stale, musty creepy sort of smell. It's interesting to think that a family most likely once lived in this home. I wonder when they decided to split from Centralia, how long after the fire?



I looked around the yards and overgrown shrubs and grass surrounding the deteriorating homes and found objects laying around from the previous inhabitants who once lived there. The whole experience was very strange, almost like walking around after Armageddon or something. There were lots of different items around the perimeter of the empty houses; a children's bicycle, a jump rope, and the dolls head that you see on the left here. Yeah, the hair sticking up added to the effect of a seemingly post-apocalyptic wasteland.

Soon we were about to enter the most interesting area of the entire trip and see first hand, the effects of the coal mine fire that burned beneath us the entire time we explored this desolate town. As we pulled up and parked the car, we could already see the smoke that was pouring out of the ground as if a meteor or something had fallen from the sky. We read warnings about the presence of toxic fumes of carbon monoxide and hydrogen sulfate.



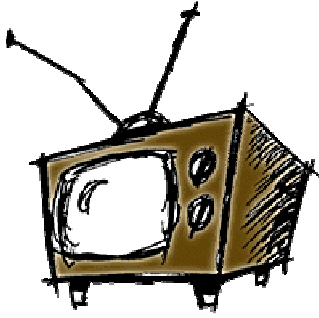
The air smelled very bad of sulfur or rotten eggs. We tried to hold our breath and not breathe in the fumes as we ventured closer to observe the holes in the ground where the smoke and toxic fumes escaped from the earth. Around this area is the dump in which the fire originated. Not much vegetation at all near these areas where the holes in the ground display the affects of the fire below.



When I put my hand near the hole in the ground where the smoke was emerging, it felt like my hand was near an oven. I moved my hand closer to inside the hole where the smoke was blowing out of and I had to move my hand away immediately as it was scorching hot and my hand was covered in sweat when I pulled it away from the hole. Gas monitoring and temperature reading pipes were installed in these areas to monitor the gas and the temperature of the fire. In the distance of all this was a home with cars in the driveway where people obviously lived. I can't imagine what it would be like living in this area so close to the fire underground with dangerous fumes coming out of the ground, and the true story of when young Todd Domboski fell into a sinkhole that suddenly opened under him, his cousin grabbed his arm and saved him from falling into the hole that was 150 feet deep.



In 2002 Centralia's zip code 17927 was revoked by the United States Postal Service. Despite attempts by the US Government to buy out the land, there are still a handful of people who live in Centralia. It has been estimated that the fire burning below could burn for at least another 250 years. The nearby town of Ashland is at risk of being affected by the fire in Centralia.



DVD & BOOK REVIEWS



DVD: You're Gonna Miss Me

Label: Palm Pictures

Order: <http://store.palmpictures.com>

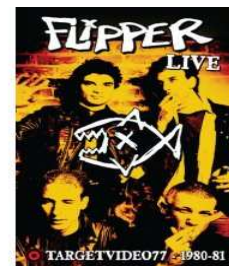


Most of you who have heard the 13th Floor Elevators know the story of frontman singer/guitarist Roky Erickson, and if you haven't heard the 13th Floor Elevators yet, you HAVE to. I'm telling you, no I'm DEMANDING you to go out right now and buy their first two records (Psychedelic Sounds Of & Easter Everywhere). The film opens up with Roky in the living room of his home with several transistor radios and TV's going at once, it's actually quite sad. There are lots of interview segments of people talking about Roky; Gibby Haynes, ZZ Top, Thurston Moore. The thing that I didn't really like about this DVD is that it tends to focus mainly on Roky's condition, rather than go into the incredible music that the man made. Someone watching this who had never heard Roky's music wouldn't know of the genius that all the interviewees spoke of. The extras on the disc are actually better than the main film itself. There's some nice acoustic performances of "Bloody Hammer," "Starry Eyes," "Right Track Now," and "Don't Slander Me," and a post-script short film that shows Roky out playing shows and in good spirits. If you're a big fan of Roky Erickson and The 13th Floor Elevators then this DVD is definitely worth a spot on the shelf. However, I advise you to seek out some videos of Roky just playing his music and doing what he loves. That will lift your spirits and send you soaring to the 13th Floor so high.

DVD: Flipper- Live 1980-81

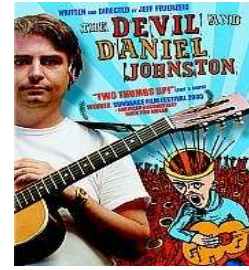
Label: TARGETVIDEO77

Order: <http://www.seeofsound.com>



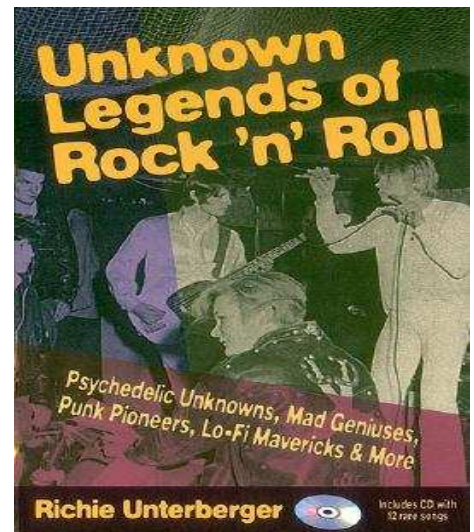
Finally! After years of anxiously waiting, Joe Reese of Target Video has completed editing the footage for the first official DVD release from sloppy, sludgy, psychedelic punks: FLIPPER. The DVD starts out with some great early footage of the band completely wasted at Berkeley Square in Berkeley, CA on July 28th 1980. They drunkenly run through the set, playing an amusing unreleased song called "Friends" as well. At one point, Will Shatter gets lost in a song and just starts banging on an open string on his bass, but hey that's Flipper for ya! Seeing live footage of an early version of "The Wheel" with audience members joining in was also very amusing. The next gig Flipper find themselves opening for Throbbing Gristle at the Kezar Stadium in San Francisco on May 29th 1981. While not as intimate as the previous gig, the sound quality on this one does seem to be superior. A decent set of songs played by Flipper to what looks like an uninterested crowd of Throbbing Gristle fans. Overall, I think that this DVD is worth it just for the fact that Flipper footage is so hard to come by. Although, I would have liked to have seen more on it, as this DVD clocks in at just over an hour. A bit short in duration after all the waiting for this release. I had also hoped for some bonus footage of those few songs that were actually played at Target Video: "Low Rider", "Falling", and "End the Game," but for some reason it is not included here.

DVD: The Devil and Daniel Johnston
Label: Sony Pictures Classics
Order: www.amazon.com



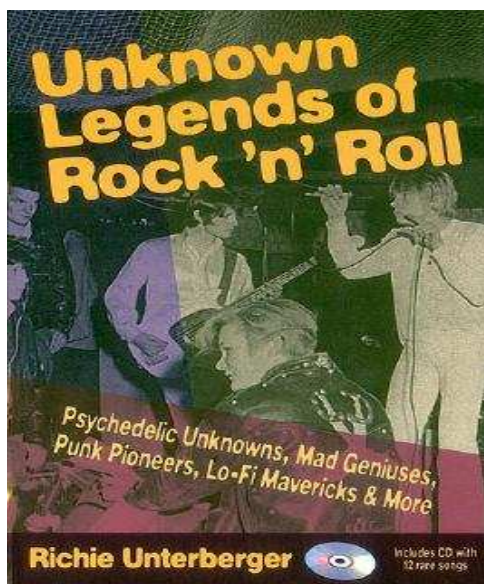
I thought that this was an extremely well done documentary on artist/musician Daniel Johnston. Daniel Johnston started out as many others have in the late 70's, making Beatles inspired music. Daniel played piano and recorded his songs on a cheap boom box. He created comic book inspired artwork and handed his music out with a smile to anyone who would take it. Early on he was diagnosed as bi-polar and manic depressive. Many of Daniel's songs throughout the years are about a girl whom he fell madly in love with named Laurie Allen. The songs are delivered in an almost child-like fashion. Daniel's condition is well documented here; from the time he was still living with his parents being verbally abused by his Mother, the incident in which Daniel was slipped some acid at a Butthole Surfers show in the early 80's and really freaked out, the time he pulled the key out of the ignition of his Father's private plane. His life story is quite sad and interesting, and it's displayed nicely here with old Super 8 footage and things that Daniel recorded on his boom box that really give this doc an authentic feel. The bonus features on the disc are quite entertaining as well. There's a segment where Daniel is reunited with Laurie Allen, the girl he met in art school and fell in love with who inspired much of his work. There's also footage of Daniel ranting like a madman with Gibby Haynes at what looks like a backstage area of some kind. Even if you aren't a huge fan of the man's music, which I am not, his story is well worth the DVD alone.

Book: Unknown Legends of Rock 'n' Roll
Author: Richie Unterberger
Order: www.amazon.com



Richie Unterberger is a journalist whose main topic of interest is music. Richie was a big contributor to the All Music Guide, a massive online database of music biographies and album reviews. Richie also wrote liner notes to plenty of cd's from noteworthy labels such as the great Sundazed. I got a chance to read one of Richie's books for the first time recently. I was browsing my local book store and noticed the cover of the book that you see to your right, and it really piqued my interest. I skimmed the pages of the book and noticed artists that I have heard before and also many that I was not familiar with, but wanted to learn more. On top of that, the book comes with a cd of artists that are featured in the book! What a great added bonus.

The book features a plethora of artists/musicians that did not really get the recognition that they deserve due to many reasons, lots of the usual suspects; too weird for the mainstream, turmoil within the band, music biz bullshit... you get the idea. Most of the information that is contained within the pages is based on first hand interviews that Richie conducted himself with the artists/musicians. The content is incredibly detailed and had me immediately looking up the artists online after reading their respective chapters. Another thing that I really like about this book is that after the chapter on a particular artist or band, there are a few little mini album reviews to give you an idea of what to look for on your quest for discovering the works of the artists. Unknown Legends of Rock 'n' Roll covers a wide variety of artists and profiles a total of 61 musicians in 13 different sections! These sections include; Lost British Invaders, Out of The Garage, Psychedelic Unknowns, From The Continent, Mad Geniuses and Eccentric Recluses, Lo-Fi Mavericks, Punk Pioneers, Post-Punk Hybrids, Overlooked Originators, Comic Relief, One Shot Was All They Got, Laws Unto Themselves: Rock Enigmas, Folk Music: Rock Attitude. As you can see, the coverage spans many genres of music. Not only does the Author document the stories of the artists and the music that they created, but he also goes into great detail about the behind the scenes things that went on with the record labels and things that pushed these artists further into obscurity. Many of them could have had a better chance at succeeding in a financial sense if the labels weren't too busy looking for the next Beatles or just songs that they knew would be a quick hit on the radio to pull in some bucks. The music covered here far outlives most of the music embraced by the mainstream, such is normally the case. So you will find some of the most eclectic, original, innovative music of the last several decades in this massive 400 page wealth of information. It's a scary thought thinking about the albums that may not have graced the shelves of my music collection if it weren't for this book!



RICHIE UNTERBERGER

1.) What gave you the idea to write a book on unknown musicians?

Miller Freeman, the original publishers (the book's still in print but is now distributed by Hal Leonard), asked me for book ideas after becoming familiar with my writing for the All Music Guide. I wanted to write a book on the most interesting cult rock acts of all time, both because they hadn't been covered well in book form, and also because I myself was interested in finding out more about the artists' stories, through research and first-hand interviews.

2.) Out of all the musicians that you interviewed/researched, do you happen to have any particular favorite(s)? Or which ones were the most interesting?

The most interesting story for me to research was the one on the psychedelic group the Misunderstood, because their story was so mysterious, and the music they made in the brief time they were together so phenomenal. I found the guitarist, Glenn Ross Campbell, and he gave me a couple of fascinating hours of interview time. When the book came out, lead singer Rick Brown, now living in Thailand, found it and wrote to thank me. As a result I soon met him, and the other members were also tracked down, leading to a massive thorough history of the group in the '60s rock magazine Ugly Things.

3.) Was there any particular reason you picked the bands that are on the cd that comes with the book?

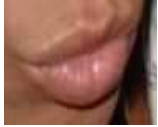
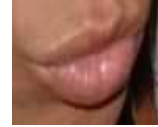
It was primarily a matter of what tracks were available for licensing for a special product such as this. The publisher's budget for the CD was limited, so unfortunately in most cases licensing from major labels was too expensive. Fortunately, some artists and labels made their tracks available for little or no money, and I think we got a good cross-section of material that's representative of what's covered in the book.

4.) What was the most rewarding part of writing this book?

The opportunity to interview the musicians themselves (and sometimes their associates, such as producers). In many cases they'd rarely had the chance to tell their story, and it was very interesting for me to find out the details behind these musicians and records, since such little information was available about them in many cases.

5.) Do you have other books that you've written on music that would be a good follow up to Unknown Legends of Rock & Roll?

My book "Urban Spacemen & Wayfaring Strangers: Overlooked Innovators & Eccentric Visionaries of '60s Rock," which came out a few years later, profiles twenty cult acts of '60s rock that I didn't cover in "Unknown Legends." Each chapter is much longer than the ones in "Unknown Legends," allowing me to go in much more depth on each artist. My two-volume history of 1960s folk-rock, "Turn! Turn! Turn!" and "Eight Miles High," also covers some very overlooked, obscure folk-rockers of that period in addition to the well-known major artists in the style. I have done eight books in all, and am working on some others; there is information about them, and my other activities, on my website, www.richieunterberger.com.



Myspace Attention Craving Whores

I've kept this in for a while, but now that I can write about it here, I'll be happy to get it off my chest. Over the past few years now with social networking sites popping up all over the place, it gives people the ability to post pictures, blogs and other information about themselves. I don't have a problem with any of this; it's a great method of networking and best of all: FREE PROMOTION (www.myspace.com/psychtrailmix) oh, sorry about the shameless self promotion! Now, I understand that once the masses find out and everyone catches on, there is an inevitable element of lame that will begin to emerge. I like to call them the "myspace attention craving whores." Ok, may sound a bit harsh, but hear me out. It's not only young teeny boppers that have earned this title, the Myspace attention whore spans all ages. Believe it or not, there are people even in their late 20's that are this fucking dumb. Just browse some profiles on Myspace and you'll find these large piles of wasted sperm and eggs. I can see having a few pictures of yourself posted, but when you've got page after page of nearly 100 photographs of yourself or more, you have a problem. Ok, great we see that you've got incredible self confidence and that you are extremely happy with your looks. However, this is mental illness, not self confidence. It's especially amusing when the photos are all of the same exact pose. Usually it's the clichéd pose with the sideways peace sign or the rock and roll hand sign with the middle and ring fingers down, when the closest thing that they've heard to rock and roll is the shitty local emo band playing at whatever lame local bar scene that they're involved in that resembles a large high school clique of meatheads and bimboes. These hand signs are usually always accompanied by the fucking puckered lips.... Whoever started this fad where you need to pucker your lips in every photo that you're in should die a slow, miserable, torturous death. Pucker up then motherfucker. How incredibly narcissistic do you have to be to pucker your lips in all your photos? It's not cute, you just look like a fucking idiot! I also love the places in which these self obsessed photos of themselves are taken. It's usually in front of their bathroom mirror with the camera above their head so that you can see their entire upper torso, or in the local lame bar scene that was discussed earlier. I love these bar shots too, every shot they're holding a drink while sticking their tongue out, giving the sideways peace sign, the rock and roll sign, the most retarded of them all: the puckered lips. Often times the above poses are all combined into one self indulging photograph of them and "their girls" doing "what they do best." Ok, we get it... you're holding a drink, you're getting wild, you're about to start dancing on top of the bar table, but at the end of the night, the joke is on you when you inevitably spread your legs for some "smooth talking G" who will fuck anything that walks. These girls get a notification every time a comment is posted about one of the hundreds of photos they have posted of themselves. Always from some boneheaded wanna-be tough guy spouting off the usual lines; "showin some luv girl," "girl u lookin fine," or a line from one of "their girls" with the always corny "that's hot" comment. These only add to her already bloated ego and false self confidence. So please, stop with the sideways peace signs, the rock and roll signs, the fucking stupid puckered lips, the zillion pictures of yourself on Myspace. You're not a wild, rebellious, bad girl.... You're just a carbon copy of all the other millions of Myspace attention craving whores.