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# the **SPOT LIGHT**

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*the official Clear Spot Newsletter*

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# 150 / DATE: Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

## NEW RELEASES

### **CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS**



**SIENA ROOT – FAR FROM THE SUN (LP/HEAD SPIN)** Now available on delightful vinyl, the latest master piece from Gothenburg's early 70's inspired psych/jam rockers Siena Root! Groovy guitar riffs, swirling sitars and groundbreaking song structures. Contemporary Swedish psych rock doesn't get any better than this! [www.sienaroot.com](http://www.sienaroot.com)

**FAITH – BLESSED? (CD/TRANSUBSTANS)** Third album by one of the very first doom acts to walk Swedish soil. Faith already started out in 1984, and by now their progressive dark metal sounds have been enriched with appealing folk influences. Which resulted in this excellent and diverse collection.



**BEN REYNOLDS – TWO WINGS (CD/STRANGE ATTRACTORS AUDIO HOUSE)** Glasgow, Scotland based guitarist Ben Reynolds has been a prominent player in, and contributor to, the United Kingdom's fertile underground psych/drone scene for many years. A current member of the long-running and highly influential Ashtray Navigations, Reynolds appears on numerous recordings in the tight-knit UK drone cabal, including those by the venerable Vibracathedral Orchestra and Sunroof, and his duo project Motor Ghost with Directing Hands Alex Neilsen. 'Two Wings' is a remarkably unique, non-traditional take on the steel string tradition from a budding musical talent. [www.myspace.com/benreynoldsrocks](http://www.myspace.com/benreynoldsrocks)

**MY EDUCATION - BAD VIBRATIONS (CD/STRANGE ATTRACTORS AUDIO HOUSE)** Described as "advanced ecstasy" by David Fricke in the pages of Rolling Stone, Austin, Texas instrumentalists My Education create sweeping, cinematic music evocative and of the high-lonesome expanse of the Texas Hill Country landscape they call home. Formed in 1999 and comprised of former members of Austin-area psych mainstays Stars of the Lid, ST37 and Cinders, the band has since played over 300 shows all over the United States, alongside like-minded artists Pelican, The Black Angels, Six Organs of Admittance, A Place to Bury Strangers, Isis and many others. Now they deliver their finest outing to date, the beautiful and sublime fourth full-length 'Bad Vibrations'. [www.myspace.com/myeducation](http://www.myspace.com/myeducation)



**FAUST – KLEINE WELT (CD/EKTRO)** Live recordings from 2006 of the German kraut legends still going strong. Chaos, fear, irrationality, the grotesque, the absurd, darkness, surrealism and underground are all fitting definitions for Faust but still only modest attempts to describe one of the most notable rock bands in the world.

**THOR – LIVE IN DETROIT (CD/EKTRO)** Former pro-wrestler who went hard rock with a glam attitude. This live album, originally released in 1985, is crazy enough to deserve a reissue on Ektro.

**FLUTWACHT – HEROINLOOPS (CD/STEINKLANG)** The latest effort by German noise act Flutwacht. A mixture of old school industrial with a strong touch of modern power electronics.



**ODD CLOUDS – ODD CLOUDS (PDLP/QBICO)** Electronic psych jams, recorded between 2004 and 2007 in Detroit by Chris Pottinger, Jamie Easter, Heath Moerland, Glen Morren, Chris Sprague, Matt Smith, Noah Eikhoff and Free Wade. The music is among the most exciting that ever got released on Qbico, and the artwork and picture disc itself are totally amazing too.

**SLITHER – INVERTEBRATE (LP/QBICO)** One sided black vinyl. Hath Moerland and Chris Pottinger got together for some twisted musical experiments, with electronics and horns.



**COTTON MUSEUM – NO FACE IN THE BOG (LP/QBICO)** Side 1 originally was available as a CD-R, Side B features previously released and unreleased sounds. Far out electronic music with an acidy feel by creative wonder Chris Pottinger! Limited edition on milk white vinyl.

**WERKRAUM – EARLY LOVE MUSIC (CD/AHNSTERN)** For this new title Werkraum teamed up with a number of well known musicians from the dark world of neo-folk. A double vinyl version with fold-out cover and inlay is expected in June.

**JOY OF NATURE – THE EMPTY CIRCLE PART 1 (CD/AHNSTERN)** Musical outings from a multimedia project based on the Azores. This first part of a trilogy musically draws from –mostly acoustic- folk, ambient and experimental music.

**DÉFILÉ DES AMES – LUST'N'STONE (CD/AHNSTERN)** Dark avant garde folk from Greece. This is the band's debut on which they get assistance from Sieben's Matt Howden.

**SAGITTARIUS – SONGS FROM THE IVORY TOWER (CD/COLD SPRING)** No, this is not the late 60's west-coast project, but a dark neo-classical release. This disc features 16 songs including some instrumental pieces.

**SIXTH COMM/FREY ASWYNN – FRUITS OF YGGDRASIL (CD/HAU RUCK)** The CD-reissue of this vinyl release comes in a digipack with silver foilblocked artwork.

**TRINTHOS – 333 (CD/HEIMATFOLK)** Debut by a new band in the field of dark, ritual, pagan etc music.

**VARIOUS - STEINKLANG INDUSTRIES IV (CD/STEINKLANG)** Fourth Steinklang compilation featuring many of their artists. On offer are dark folk songs and industrial outings.

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

**JOE FENDER – JOE FENDER (LP/VADIM)** Frank Pleyer was a notable leader of big bands and other combo's in 1960s en 1970s Germany. He made a number of fine albums which nevertheless remained quite obscure. He also recorded one LP under the alias of Joe Fender, which is full of brilliant bossa arrangements, pulsating Latin funk rhythms and scat choruses. This title is now famous among collectors of European grooves, of whom some are willing to pay hundreds for an original LP. However, thanks to Vadim Records 'Joe Fender' is now available at an affordable price, and with excellent sound!

**EXPECTED RELEASES**

**CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS**



**BLANBLADEN – I GREVENS TID (CD/TRANSUBSTANS)** Trippy spacerock from Malmö, Sweden, created by musicians with a history in f.i. Öresund Space Collective and Kaabel. This is the official issue of the homemade recordings from 2003, about which people have been whispering... *Expected in June.*

**THE FINKERS – EPILOGUE (2CD/OFF THE HIP)** Complete studio recordings from the mighty Australian powerpop quartet, featuring Michael Carpenter, Mick O'Regan, Matt Allison and Off The Hip-boss Mickster. In 1999 they released their impressive debut album 'Fresh Set-O-Prints', containing classic tracks like 'This Time It's Love', 'Adeline Now', 'Tonight' and many more. During their 3 year existence they recorded 52 tracks of powerpop laced with garage nous over 2 albums, 2 CD/EP's, countless compilation tracks and songs for tribute releases to The Stems, The Replacements, Gene Clark, The Flamin' Groovies, The Real Kids and Radio Birdman. This ace collection comes with 16 page full colour booklet including rare pics, and extensive liner notes.

**REVEREND BEAT-MAN – SURREAL FOLK BLUES GOSPEL TRASH VOL. 3 (DVD/VOODOO RHYTHM)** Here it comes, the long awaited 3<sup>rd</sup> volume of Reverend Beat-Man's 'Surreal Folk Blues Gospel Trash'-trilogy. This third part is a super enjoyable DVD, containing no less than 19 videos of songs from the first two volumes. (On CD and LP!) Each clip is made by a different video artist/movie maker, and there are no limits to the creativity put in. For those who loved volumes 1 and 2 of 'Surreal Folk Blues Gospel Trash', the DVD is a fabulous addition and a must have. *Expected in June.*

**CON-DOM – THE EIGHTH PILLAR-A CONFESSION (CD/FUNCTIONAL)** Brutal power electronics and industrial by Con-Dom label-boss Mike Dando. Those who missed the limited edition LP back in 1991 get another chance.

**IRO – IRO TAMAFURI (CD/PSF)** An improvising, shamanic noise duo (guitar, vocals, percussion) from Japan. These guys have been playing together for over 28 years.

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



#### **BERMUDA TRIANGLE – BERMUDA TRIANGLE (LP/ANAZITISI)**

At last, a reissue of Roger & Wendy Penney's autoharp driven psychedelic folk gem from 1977 appears on LP! Features all those wonderful tracks, like the amazing Aerosmith-cover 'Dream On', 'Night Train' and 'Wind'. The Bermuda Triangle-LP will be available on black and coloured vinyl. *Expected soon!*

## **SELECTED PRESS QUOTES**

### **CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS**



#### **PAAVOHARJU – LAULU LAAKSON KUKISTA (CD-LP/FONAL)**

*reviewed by Gerald van Waes for Psyche van het Folk (excerpt)* This latest release of Paavoharju almost sounds like an astral soundtrack with ghosts of images that appear, become visible and disappear, featuring breathy and ethereal vocals, Kalevala-alike spoken word, round-about electric and toy piano, church organ, outdoor birds sounds, with an occasional electropop song quickly drifting back into the background of processed sounds. [www.myspace.com/paavoharju](http://www.myspace.com/paavoharju)

**SIENA ROOT – FAR FROM THE SUN (CD/TRANSUBSTANS)** *reviewed by Ronny Dijksterhuis for Up magazine (translated excerpt)* With a sound that appears to emerge directly from the first half of the 70's, they work their way through 9 tracks in 50 minutes, while leaving plenty of space for the individual musicians to showcase their excellent qualities. [www.sienaroot.com](http://www.sienaroot.com)



**RUSALNAIA – RUSALNAIA (CD/CAMERA OBSCURA) reviewed by Ewie for FileUnder (translated excerpt)** Together Gillian Chadwick and Sharron Kraus make 70s inspired folksongs with some psychedelic touches. The instruments they use are a.o. guitar, xylophone and recorder. Their most mighty weapons however are their voices. [www.myspace.com/rusalnaia](http://www.myspace.com/rusalnaia)

**DEAD MAN – EUPHORIA (CD-LP/CRUSHER) reviewed by Ronny Dijksterhuis for Up magazine (translated excerpt)** ..the arrangements vary from acoustic to long stretched Pink Floyd-like passages, while the Grateful Dead are watching full of approval. A more than acceptable –always difficult- second album.



**MANIKINS – CROCODILES (CD-LP/P.TRASH) reviewed by Joost Jan Meertens for Planet Trash (translated excerpt)** The Swedes take turns between fast songs and slow ones on this brightly produced guitar album. Twelve songs that insist on getting played again after each spin.

**ZENO TORNADO & THE BONEY GOOGLE BROTHERS – RAMBLING MAN (CD-LP/VOODOO RHYTHM) reviewed by Lucky Rotterdam for Up magazine (translated excerpt)** These Swiss guys seem to come straight from the south of the States. They wander criss cross through country and bluegrass, and here and there they lean towards rockabilly.



**PINK FITS – SUPER MINI ALBUM (CDEP/OFF THE HIP) reviewed by Rob van Kaam for Up magazine (translated excerpt)** It's hard not to move along when you hear the songs, which stick to the brain in a pleasant way. *reviewed by DubbelMono for FileUnder (translated excerpt)* A very enjoyable record, with the perfect length: 21 minutes.

**DIVINE BAZE ORCHESTRA – ONCE WE WERE BORN (CD/TRANSUBSTANS) reviewed by Jan Vink for Ratatoskonline (translated excerpt)** After hearing this CD our household is in high spirits. I got out the incense, I'm growing my hair and beard and I'm full of ideals for the world. The 70s are back and it feels good.



**COME N' GO – SOMETHING'S GOT TO GIVE (CD-LP/VOODOO RHYTHM)** *reviewed by Patrick Bruneel for Gonzo Circus website (translated excerpt)*  
'Something's Got To Give' is the third album that the Come N' Go recorded for Voodoo Rhythm, and it's their most melodic work so far.

**UFOMAMMUT – IDOLUM (CD/SUPERNATURALCAT)** *reviewed by Remco for Gothronic (translated excerpt)* 'Idolum' is an album I can recommend to every stoner and doom fan, for this is quality rock that'll blow your pants off.



**EL CUY – EL CUY (CD/WORLD IN SOUND)** *reviewed by André de Waal for IO Pages (translated excerpt)* One thing should be clear: each friend of the Peruvian spacerock collective La Ira De Dios is a friend of mine.

## **LIVE**

**SHARRON KRAUS (CAMERA OBSCURA a.o.)**

*May 26<sup>th</sup> : Gent, B (Morc/Inhouse show) + Meg Baird*

*May 27<sup>th</sup> : Leiden, NL (Sub071) + Meg Baird*

**SPEEDBALL JR (GREEN COOKIE)**

*June 9<sup>th</sup> : Terneuzen, NL (The Pub)*

*August 22<sup>nd</sup> : Breda (Graanbeurs)*

[www.myspace.com/speedballjr](http://www.myspace.com/speedballjr)

**RAISON D'ETRE (COLD MEAT INDUSTRY)**

*June 20<sup>th</sup> : Enschede (Atak)*

*June 21<sup>st</sup> : Alkmaar (Parkhof)*

**AUTUMN SHADE (STRANGE ATTRACTORS AUDIO HOUSE)**

*June 22<sup>nd</sup> : Haarlem, NL (Patronaat)*

*June 24<sup>th</sup> : daytime Amsterdam, NL (Dwars @ vpro radio session/Studio Desmet)  
evening Leiden, NL (Sub071)*

*June 28<sup>th</sup> : Noordwijk, NL (Bloembed) t.b.c.*

*June 29<sup>th</sup> : Dordrecht, NL (CBP-(f)luister-)*

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

[www.autumn-shade.com](http://www.autumn-shade.com)

**HIPBONE SLIM & THE KNEE TREMBLERS (VOODOO RHYTHM)**

*June 27<sup>th</sup> : Rotterdam, NL (Primitive festival/Waterfront)*

[www.myspace.com/hipboneslim](http://www.myspace.com/hipboneslim)

**OBSKURIA (WORLD IN SOUND)**

*Expected in July. More news to follow.*

[www.myspace.com/obskurians](http://www.myspace.com/obskurians)

**IRFAN (PRIKOSNOVENIE)**

*August 1<sup>st</sup> : Lisse, NL (Castlefest)*

*August 2<sup>nd</sup> : Lisse, NL (Castlefest)*

*August 8<sup>th</sup> : Utrecht (Summer Darkness)*

*August 9<sup>th</sup> : Eindhoven (Folkwoods)*

[www.myspace.com/irfantheband](http://www.myspace.com/irfantheband)

**TARUJEN SAARI (FIREBURN)**

*August 9<sup>th</sup> : Eindhoven, NL (Folkwoods festival) [www.tarujensaari.com](http://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](http://www.myspace.com/thingumajigsaw)*

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

*Dreamy and mesmerizing folksongs from the US west-coast! Dutch and Belgian dates expected in September, more news to follow.*

[www.myspace.com/nickcastroandthepoisontree](http://www.myspace.com/nickcastroandthepoisontree)

**RUSALNAIA (CAMERA OBSCURA)**

*The duo comprising Sharron Kraus and Gillian 'Ex Reverie' Chadwick is expected in September, more news to follow [www.myspace.com/rusalnaia](http://www.myspace.com/rusalnaia)*

**DEAD MAN (CRUSHER)**

*Expected in September, more news to follow [www.myspace.com/deadmansweden](http://www.myspace.com/deadmansweden)*

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

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

Gonzo Circus [www.gonzocircus.com](http://www.gonzocircus.com)

Gothtronic <http://www.gothtronic.com>

Planet Trash <http://www.planettrash.nl>

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

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