

SLAP

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Oct 2013

MAGAZINE

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Oct 2013 **MAGAZINE**

SLAP MAGAZINE

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magazine are not necessarily those of its publisher or editor.

Hello and welcome to the October edition of SLAP Magazine. In this issue we celebrate the last local festival of the year with our front cover image of former local girl Rachel Clutterbuck of Rachel by the Stream. It was taken during her performance at the SLAP event at this years Worcester Music Festival. There are more highlights from the event which took place at the Arts Workshop with a montage of images from Brown Now Photography on page 25. Check out the Worcester Music Festival photography competition news on page 11 and my entry below...

It was a wonderful day made special by some amazing acts performing for free at just one of the many events across the City during the festival which took place from 30th August to 1st September. I'd like to thank Collective 43, Jenny Ludlow, XOVA, Madi



Stimpson, Juey, Machine Breakers, Rachel by the Stream, Dogs of Santorini, Mr Shankly, Nudybronque, Rattlin Doors and Johnny Kowalski & the Sexy Weirdos for taking part at the SLAP event.

In the last few issues I have mentioned the forthcoming SLAP TV which is the brainchild of the wonderful Mr Ralph Tittley of Kane TV, Pyramid Party and Malvern Rocks. You can now see the fruits of his vision on line at slapmagtv.wordpress.com.

- Ed games



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Babajack Awards Haul

For the second year running Babajack's Becky Tate was named Instrumentalist Of The Year at the British Blues Awards - with their third studio album *Rooster* securing runner-up spot in the Album Of The Year ranking - oh and they also won bronze medals in the Best Acoustic Act and for Trevor Steger in the Best Harmonica categories - not a bad haul for the Malvern folk/rock/blues/jazz/fusion outfit who were recently airplayed on Paul Jones' BBC Radio 2 rhythm and blues show!! New album *Running Man* is officially released on October 7th - we've had a sneak preview here at SLAP Towers - and it's a cracker!!

Anti - Bully Boost

Answer Back frontman Oli Grizzell said that their anti-bullying video of their track *Never Alone* happened 'almost by accident' as they realised it was a great way to get across the message that help was there for youngsters who need it. The trio of Oli, Jim Smith and Chris Lewin filmed the video at various locations in Malvern with cameo appearances from other local acts - and it's done rather well - with over 20,000 YouTube hits!!



Worcester Words Woe

Uncertainty remains over the future of Worcester Literary Festival as the founder/director unilaterally disbanded the entire committee (via email) with the apparent intention of launching a completely new 'Worcestershire Festival Of Words' next year. An on-line war of words then followed with claims and accusations from both sides. The 'sacked' committee members have pledged to continue WLF into a fourth year - so once the dust settles we'll try and keep you posted what the hell is happening...

X- Factoring On...

Two local hopefuls have made it through to the audition stage of this year's X-Factor competition - 23-year-old Michael Jackson tribute act Gathan Cheema from Worcester squeezed through after some harsh criticism from the judges - but 16-year-old former Pershore High School pupil and 2011 W-Factor winner Giles Potter from Norton seems to be one of the competitions early favourites after wowing the judges with his performance of Jessie J's 'Price Tag'...

Ab-Fab Fest

Worcester Music Festival's Nikki Boraston officially announced this year's event to be 'absolutely incredible' and chairman Ant Robbins declared himself to be 'blown away' - and with over 240 different acts



over 30+ venues across the city attracting bumper crowds, there were occasions when some of the venues had to operate a one-out-one-in policy! Most gig-goers will have seen the fancy dress fund-raising team around town over the weekend - Lisa-Marie Everall and her sporting sidekicks dressed as a dancing monkey with an organ grinder for Friday, the theme for Saturday was My Little Pony and they were 'all cats' on Sunday (!)

Taylor made for Cher

The success continues 'across the pond' for Malvern's Cher Lloyd - joining Taylor Swift on stage in Los Angeles in front of 15,000 fans to perform a duet of her double platinum track *Want U Back* - and with over five million followers on Twitter - it might be a little while before she plays another impromptu set at the Three Counties Showground...



Barnetts's Progress

These are great times for Leominster's George Barnett - the prodigious lad's had an amazing summer with over four million hits on YouTube for his version of Daft Punk's *Get Lucky* - plus an appearance on the BBC Introducing Stage for the Radio 2 Live event in Hyde Park London - playing his own numbers like *No I.D.ea* and *Animal Keeper*!!



Ringmaster in Ruins

The inaugural Ringmaster Festival was cancelled less than two weeks before it was due to take place due to an 'unforeseen financial situation' according to the organisers. The event which many touted as a replacement for Big Chill had to be relocated from its original location at Whitbourne to Hopton near Cleobury Mortimer due to access problems. Scheduled acts included Maximo Park, Hadouken! and Mystery Jets – plus local acts like Crooked Empire, Ancient Addicts and Jasper In The Company Of Others – a statement said that in the last couple of weeks the festival's position had 'become horrendous and saddening' – hmmm yes...

Ellie still No1

There were mixed reviews for Hereford's Ellie Goulding's cover of Leona Lewis's 'Burn' – with pundits describing it variously as 'radio candy' and 'a completely inoffensive slice of hands-in-the-air British pop' – but it seems like her legions of world-wide fans loved it as it held onto the UK singles #1 chart position for three weeks...



Accent on Dialect

On Tuesday 15th October, Brewers' Troupe will present an unusual event at the Boar's Head, Worcester Street, Kidderminster – a Dialect Night! The evening is billed as "a night for sharing dialects – the more different ones the merrier!" and includes an extract from Brewers' Troupe's show "Black Country Double Spake" with Heather Wastie & Brendan Hawthorne. For anyone wishing to add their own dialect to the mix, there are short open mic spots (up to 5-minutes) which can be booked on the night or in advance by emailing info@brewerstroupe.co.uk. Performers are asked to give a brief intro to where the dialect is spoken before sharing their stories, poems, jokes, songs, in fact anything to celebrate the richness of the English language and entertain! Everyone will have chance to add their own words to a Dialect Wall. The event starts at 8.00pm and admission is £3 (free to performers). For further information see www.brewerstroupe.co.uk.

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ARTS NEWS

This month sees more education and experimentation plus drummers from Ghana, cinema, music and arts. Come and see what our little arts charity has to offer!

Performance and music

Kakatsitsi

Saturday 12th 7pm.
£12/£10. For tickets
please call us on 01905
25053

Traditional performers from the Ga tribe of Southern Ghana, Kakatsitsi have been touring for over 18 years with their colourful, energetic and entertaining show, bursting with traditional African drumming, dancing and singing. Two of the drummers regularly perform with some of Ghana's leading musicians and this year the group collaborated with UK electronic music duo, **The Orb**, at Glastonbury. The music is fantastic, funky and visually stunning!.



(Pre performance food available, please book separately with Cafe Bliss on 07821733246).

World Mental Health Day: a celebration.

An evening of live music from **StuntDog, Mudball, Scrotum and Tiger Province**, raising awareness of World Mental Health Day. Sat 5th. 8pm. Free.



Lazy Sunday

This month with an 18 or under open mic session at the Cafe Bliss acoustic event, with **Stuart Woolfenden** www.facebook.com/stuartwoolfenden

Tom Forbes www.tomforbes.co.uk

Admiral Daydream & the Stolen Souvenirs (Aka Adam Daffurn) www.admiraldaydream.bandcamp.com

1pm til 6pm. Sunday 13th. Free.

Galleries

Celebration: The work of AIMS (Art In Minds).



A Shrub Hill project for people with mental ill-health, AIMS has supported its members into further education, voluntary work, residencies, employment and numerous other recoveries focused creative pathways. 2013 is the 10th anniversary and to celebrate, there will be exhibitions of their work over Worcester. Over the past 10 years they have proudly supported over 250 artists to make and exhibit their work in celebration of World Mental Health Day.

2nd Oct til 2nd Nov.

The public opening is on Fri 4th from 5.30 til 7.30pm.



**worcester
arts workshop**

Splendid Cinema

Come and enjoy independent and world cinema at its best! This month:

Sound City (US, Dave Grohl, 2013):

Foo Fighter's frontman, Dave Grohl directs this documentary about the legendary Sound City studio in LA, where some of the greatest albums of the 1970s and 1980s were recorded. A fascinating story behind the music we love!



Sunday 13th Oct. £5. 6.30pm.

The ABCs of Death (multiple countries, 26 Directors, 2012):

Audacious film project where 26 directors from around the world were each given a letter of the alphabet and expected to choose a word which pertains to death in some way and to make a short film about that word. Possibly the most bizarre film made all year!

Sunday 27th. £5. 6.30pm.

Courses and Workshops

Life drawing starts Wed 2nd - 7pm til 9pm. £96 for 8 sessions. Booking essential.

Plus time to book for watercolour, textiles and introduction to painting all starting in November. See the website for full details.

Writer's Lab

The second session of the writer's lab in partnership with the Everyman Cheltenham. 24th 7-9.30. Please check for availability.

Experimental drawing & mark making workshop

In this drawing workshop we will use techniques and materials that enable us to subdue our inner critic and capture the essence of our subject in surprising and engaging ways. With Lisa Griffiths. Suitable for all abilities. Ages 16+. Materials provided. Sat 26th £35 1pm til 4pm. Booking essential.

For info on all of our events and activities please contact us on 01905 25053 or check out the website on

www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk

World Mental Health Day 10th October 2013

To celebrate World Mental Health Day on 10th Oct, The Worcester arts Workshop will be displaying the work from





Art In Minds in the galleries (see opposite). Artist and AIMs member **Jaems Nicol** has spent six months working on a gigantic canvas in the studio at the Arts Workshop, covering hundreds of different types of mental illness and their medications. This amazing and thought provoking piece of artwork will be exhibited at Worcester University during October. All well as art, we have a night of music and awareness organised by **Andy Dixon Smith**. Andy had a few words to say about this gig and we wanted to promote the event to raise an understanding of mental health and how you may help.

"**Paul Roberts** and I were discussing what we could do for World Mental Health Day this year and Paul came up with the idea of a musical event so I took it upon myself to look into the idea of putting on some form of event in Worcester. We decided that the remit we should work to was to find a venue in Worcester that was able to put on bands whilst also having suitable space for the provision of literature and/or stalls promoting mental health issues.

Regards the music, Paul and I are in bands so I decided that these two outfits would open up the proceedings. All the bands have sympathy with the mental health cause and actively engage in charitable work connected with mental health and were prepared to promote it and World Mental Health Day. I myself have benefited tremendously in my own recovery through playing in my band and will be telling some of my story from the stage.

Worcester Arts Workshop will host this gig with **Scrotum** (anarchist punk), **Tiger Province** (heavy rock), **Mudball** (rock) and **Stuntdog** (progressive rock).

Leaflets, information will be available for the public to take away on tables/stalls preferably manned by volunteers. Art and creative writing will also be on display.

The gig is very kindly sponsored by Worcester based company **PCS Advantage**.

Saturday 5th of October 8pm. Admission

Review

Brinton's Tree Forest Kidderminster Arts Festival
August 10th-25th.

Kidderminster's art scene has boomed in recent years and being a Kidderminster born Worcesterite, I am proud and excited to see this happening. The KAF (Kidderminster

arts festival) was a fine example of how they do things and I was rather pleased that I made the time to visit the incredible '**Brinton's Tree Forest**' at the Town Hall.

A beautiful and unique space was created inside the Town Hall using carpet and recordings of the past to make a tactile and interactive tree forest. Calm and peaceful, this was a magical place to spend a little time wondering through the trees and admiring the beautiful colours and patterns of Kidderminster's history.

This was the brainchild of **Loz Samuels**, Arts Development Officer for Wyre Forest District council *"The idea just evolved from a conversation I had with the artists almost a year ago. They had the desire to create larger work on their own terms but not the means, after a bit of planning I decided it was perfect for the town and the Arts Festival. Planning with potential partners began and of course the crucial ingredient, involving Brinton's Carpets. The bid to the Arts Council was successful and work began."*

Heather Wastie who is part of the KAF creatives team was involved in making the soundtracks. They are the link with the past through the people - the explanation of what the forest is about. "An inspired idea and a beautiful result, it such a relaxing place to be. Loz works so hard to bring arts to the community. She's a visionary and a pleasure to work with."

"It's been a great development opportunity for the artists and the response from the public has been fantastic for KAF".

If you missed it then keep a look out, Loz hopes to find it another home now the festival has finished and give more people the opportunity to see it.



www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk
WORCESTER ARTS WORKSHOP
21 Sansome Street, Worcester
WR1 1UH Tel: 01905 25053



REVIEW - One Station Under A Groove - The Barbed Wyre

The gallery on Platform 2 of Worcester's Foregate Street station has been turned (until November 9th) into Cedar's Graffiti Supply Store, providing an opportunity for Worcester folk to dip into the 'alternative' world of street art.



Curated by London based artist Cedar Lewisohn and featuring street artists from the UK and beyond, the Store has paint cans and pens galore but there isn't a till and you can't buy anything. In a corner stands an interesting placard, there's a cover version of the Sgt Pepper LP cover by Pure Evil (that comes alive under neon) opposite a badly stretched canvas (not necessarily a bad thing); all perfectly positioned weights, delicate balancing acts and primary colours. A nicely detailed drawing of a railway station sits next to a video of trains whilst a rapper raps along to some hip hop music as clouds of graffiti roll across the screen.



From our safe European homes it might seem a romantic art form but consider the danger to life and limb; an art born out of necessity? Less emergency third rail power drip and more love on a branch line as street art? This work seems less feral, less street corner territorial spraying finding itself repositioned as work to be considered, at leisure in the gallery.

The Greeks weren't averse to a doodle on the way to the Acropolis and should you find yourself in a men's loo have a look around as you lower yourself onto a still warm seat and your eye may well be drawn towards an angry johnson, a phone number and perhaps an invitation to meet up. The joke here (intentional?) is that Movement is a converted Gentlemen's toilet, so the shift from fledgling friend finder of yore to the legalised work on show highlights how what is acceptable within the gallery walls becomes illegal on the platform only a matter of feet away.



Street artists still outsiders? The prospect of a conventional art college education followed by a lifetime networking over Belgium lagers and salty snacks maybe not the agenda, but tagging a train and imagining that image moving through the city's underbelly before bursting out into suburban daylight to infiltrate the mindsets of the haves would have carried a degree of satisfaction.



Meanwhile back on the platform I wondered if any fresh faced commuters were sizing up the train's exterior as potential for a throw up. On they scrambled, all fold down bicycles and redundant umbrellas and the 17.32 to Hereford via Harlem, Lexington Avenue, Great Malvern and Colwall chugged out over the viaduct and into the late afternoon sunshine.

by Paul Johnson

REVIEW - Heed The Thunder Live @ St Peters Church Malvern - 14th Sept

I'm not one for churches at the best of times, I try not to go too often, however on the 14th of September in a small, yet intimate church somewhere in Malvern, I experienced my first religious experience in a "house of god". I'm proud to say music is my religion and for one night, **St Peter's Church** was given over to those that share my beliefs, where the good book, is one that teaches you three chords and the truth.

Malvern's adopted son **Tyler Massey** and the people of St Peter's church joined together to deliver one of the most inspired nights of music that I've ever had the fortune to witness, here in Worcestershire, a stunning set of folk in a simply wondrous setting that just amplified the occasion and performers alike.



Award winner **Catherine Howe** and local folk god **Vo Fletcher** took to the floor first, to deliver the first folk sermon. The duo performed a glorious set, with Vo's intricate acoustic guitar ringing around the church, whilst Catherine unveiled a beautiful soulful folk croon on the likes of *Beautiful Places* and *Harry*, instantly captivating the masses with their heartfelt odes, with the low lighting and building itself adding extra ambience to their already mesmeric set. Catherine and Vo completed their short set in stunning fashion with host, Tyler joining in, trading guitar licks, on the Fletcher penned *Don't Look Away*, even managing to incite the first choral participation from the assembled masses.

Becca Roberts and Tyler were up next in the guise of **The May Dolls** and proved to be something of a revelation. The softly sung vocals of Becca accompanied by her own acoustic integrated with the rich tapestry of melodies that were plucked out by Tyler's six string and his Dylan like backing vocals quickly struck a chord as they delivered a set lifted from their recent debut album. Highlights were hard to pick from such an engaging performance but a special mention has to be afforded to early number, *Colours* and the vocal interplay of *Don't Push Your Luck*.

Yet another quick change over, a name unbeknown to myself, **Mark Stevenson** delivered a short yet memorable set of celtic tinged



numbers. The first offering was a jaw dropping acapella number, that made the hairs on your back of your neck stand to attention as Mark's vocals echoed around the chapel. From that opening deliverance Mark had the audience eating from his hand with an instrumental, whistle performed number receiving mass adulation, whilst the powerful rendition of Bridget St John's *Lazarus* threatened to lift the roof.

Following on from Mark's solo numbers, Hereford based folk laden rabble rousers, **Heed The Thunder** took over to deliver an inspired set of laments from within the very midst of the audience as they picked up their instruments, double bass and all and took to the aisles to deliver their sermon. Accordion meshed with guitar, violin duelled with banjo whilst harmonised vocal choruses rang out loud. Song's such as *Drink Up And Go*, *St Louis Blues* and *Lucky Man* were lapped up with glee as the band converted the audience into believers of the power of music and performance. Mark Stevenson joined the band back at the altar to perform a few songs from an album he'd recorded with the band on a joint venture, the band framing his vocals with their instrumentation on *Caravan*, *Where Pigs Might Fly* and the rather topically named *I Am Man Of British Weather*.

To finish up the evening's entertainment, Vo and Tyler performed a few numbers before inviting all the night's performers and the audience to sing into the the night with an uplifting and dare I say it, spiritual run through Dylan's *I Shall Be Released*, drawing to a close a stunning night of music set in one of the most inspiring locations that my memory can recall.

If you attended, you'll know how special the night was, if you didn't shame on you and pray they put on another similar night of folk, fine wine and song again soon.

photos and words Will Munn



REVIEW - John Cooper Clarke - Artrix - 17th Sept

There something beguiling about Artrix – despite it being modern and purpose built it has a charm that belies its size and superb organisation. Getting to the car park was a bit more of a challenge but once the driver was able to take direction, we were in – pint in one hand, curry in the other.

Being a poetry novice it was a relief to get a gentle introduction from Essex's Luke Wright, who has more of a stand up comedy delivery with some rhyming couplets thrown in. His poetry is probably more sophisticated than I am able to give it credit for but we all really enjoyed sketches such as *'Posh Plummer'* and *'Jeremy, Who Drew Penises on Everything'*.

Next up was Mike Garry, a fellow Mancunian to the main man and a much more intense proposition. I couldn't help thinking that the small amount of knowledge that I possess about the Manchester scene / area was a big help. Stand out track (is that acceptable terminology) was *St Anthony*, all about Factory Records impresario and all round Mr Manc, Tony Wilson.

John Cooper Clarke lives in Essex now. He jokes that, since giving up the drugs, he's put on that much weight that he can't go back to Salford for fear of the Mancs shouting, *"get back on drugs you fat f****"*. Of course JCC is still as thin as a rake and looks like Wild Horses era Keith Richards in his snakeskin heels, which he uses to rock a special dance with the mic stand. Captivating stuff.

His newer work he reads from his multitude of books – sometimes he can't find what he's looking for, leading to longer ad libs; sometimes he simply can't read his own handwriting. Classics like *'Chicken Town'* are delivered without prompts (and only the very occasional fluff) and there's even a remix for *'Beasley Street'* into the upwardly mobile *'Beasley Boulevard'*.



Photography: Graham Munn

The highlight of the set was the encore *'I Wanna Be Yours'*. Johnny gave it the big build up by announcing it as from the current No.1 album from Arctic Monkeys (who have set it to music on their latest – AM). No.1!!!

But he couldn't find the words in any of his books and couldn't remember beyond the first line. Never fear as Jude came to the rescue from the audience and launched an anthology to the stage. As he flicked through, he couldn't help telling us "there some bloody good stuff in here" before nailing it to great applause.

– Glazz

Arts Feature - Art at the Theatre

The Swan Theatre last month hosted a fantastic exhibition of artwork by Worcester Society of Artists. The pieces on show included many different styles mediums and themes: from a still life of a collection of bottles, to rural landscapes complete with working horses or sheep. There were also plenty of locally



inspired artworks. Local paintings included pictures of The Talbot and the Commandery and of course the Cathedral. I particularly like the honest painting of the cathedral that shows a rainy day's rush hour traffic, and the carefully detailed painting of the inside of a tythe barn.



The same group currently have an exhibition at Worcester's Art Galley on Foregate Street, until the middle of October so if you missed the exhibition at The Swan, or if you are keen to see the next exhibition as they tour around the city, I hope you manage to catch the next exhibition.

by Sarah Ganderton

Worcester Music Festival

DA VINCI WORK OF ART WINS FESTIVAL PHOTO COMPETITION

A WISTFUL shot of a guitarist from a county progressive rock band has won this year's Worcester Music Festival photography competition, which attracted a record 750 entries.

The "stand out" image of Vinnie Liotta from Da Vinci was taken by Duncan Graves in Monroes Cellar Bar during August's celebration of original music at 35 venues across the city.

Duncan, who was thrilled to win the annual competition, was presented with his first prize of a £100 voucher for Wilkinson Cameras, courtesy of the generous competition sponsor Child Care Bureau, at an awards presentation at Worcester Arts Workshop on Sep 22nd.

One of this year's judges, Joe Singh, who regularly shoots for the BBC and is resident photographer for the city's Swan Theatre, said Duncan's work of art ticked so many boxes.

"It really was a stand out entry above the rest," he said. "The composition and crop is spot on, we can see the guitarist's face clearly and the lighting and fall off is brilliant, helped in part because he is turned away from the light source. The fact that there is lots of contrast and a dark background with no distractions also really makes this photograph pop. Big congratulations to Duncan, who I believe is going to buy a new camera lens with his prize."

Second prize went to Roy Jenks for his gritty, black and white shot of Howard Kenny from The Broken Oak Duet performing at Rise Records during Worcester Music Festival.

Third place went to Pete Brothwell for his sultry image of James Willis from Das Sexy Clap giving it his all at the Marr's Bar at this year's three day live music extravaganza.

This year's Festival photo competition was judged by Joe Singh & Mark Hoy, who have been published by the likes of Brumlive and the BBC, and Steve Johnston, a local freelance music photographer who has shot some of the biggest names in rock including Iron Maiden, KISS and Red Hot Chili Peppers, invited amateurs to enter images taken during the festival.

"What is encouraging is that, while the number of individual entries increased only slightly, we reduced the number of images photographers could submit this year from 50 to 20, meaning we attracted many more entrants this year," said Joe. "There was also a significant jump in the quality of the entries, partly the result of our free workshop before the festival to assist photographers in their approach and style when in front of a band or artist."

"It was fantastic to see people, including Duncan and many of the entrants behind the top 25 images, taking



Roy Jenks, Duncan Graves and Pete Brothwell

note of our advice at the workshop and then putting it all into practice out in the fray. We thoroughly enjoyed looking through all the submissions for this year's competition and would like to thank and congratulate everyone who entered their work."

Top Left: Da Vinci by Duncan Graves

Bottom Left: Broken Oak Duet by Roy Jenks

Top Right: Das Sexy Clap by Pete Brothwell

For all 25 finalists visit www.wumufest.co.uk

ANDY O'HARE - Anything is possible...

I think that the ideal for most musicians out there would be fame and success without compromising their artistic integrity - yes of course this would happen all the time in an perfect world but it seems like the music industry at the moment is based on the lowest common denominator of the TV talent contests - so is it necessary for bands to lower their sights a little in order to reach a wider audience?

There's always seemed to be a whole lot of tackiness associated with the music business - in the Fifties and Sixties there was the payola scandals - bribing radio stations to play certain music - I also remember some unbelievable and shameless media hyping in the Seventies of pretty crud numbers! And whether it's pay-to-play, rigged battles-of-the-bands or failed festivals' among other scams - there's been aspects of the industry that have always left a nasty taste. And it's still happening at the moment - people are always thinking up new ways of ripping off listeners and musicians all the time!! So personally I don't blame a band if they're offered a recording contract and virtually unlimited financial backing if they just change their name and location - and I imagine many others would do a brief bit of soul-searching and then say 'yeah why not?'

Sometimes I think that it's a decision you have to make whether to make music that sits easy with your own conscience and standards - essentially playing music that you like and you're happy to play - or playing music with the main object of pleasing others. Of course it's brilliant if you can do both - but that's a rare beast indeed! So it's hardly a surprise that many bands take the 'originals for show - covers for dough' option - but it doesn't half give me a sinking feeling when it's the covers and tribute acts which get Joe & Jane Public onto the dancefloor at the end of the evening - haven't they heard 'Rocks Off' enough times before?

I think that at least once every week I hear a great new tune that passes what used to be called the 'old grey whistle test' for hummability - or I come across an act that's both stunning in their musicianship and/or originality - and then the Billy Joel moment happens ('man what are you doing here?') - why are they playing this small pub or club when their music should by rights be on mainstream TV and radio and sitting high in the charts? As I mentioned last month Inca Hoots were a great example of this - stunning and memorable tunes that really deserved a wider audience - so what went wrong? Or better still - what could have happened to make it right?

Well of course - there's always the incredible-stroke-of-good-luck moment best summed up by KT Tunstall's opportunity to get to play on Later With Jools Holland (pretty much the #1 banker at the moment for fame and fortune) - when there was a late cancellation and one of the producers remembered seeing a lass with a loop pedal playing in an Edinburgh coffee shop! They phoned her, flew her down to London and well we know the rest... Let's face it - this isn't going to happen for most acts - but you can maximise your chances of this happening by simply playing as many gigs as you can manage!

And realistically I think that's the best way forward - the local acts who seem to be really bubbling under at the moment like Babajack and Jasper In The Company Of Others are the ones who are playing five or six days a week - and more importantly in different locations across the country! Others like George Barnett and This Wicked Tongue are combining this approach with a YouTube onslaught - it's about reaching as many listeners as possible - but this maximises your chances that just one of those will be the A&R person who'll divert a portion of this year's budget for new acts in your general direction...

But why stop in this country though? There's local acts like Fights & Fires, Hey You Guys!, Brassick, Vault Of Eagles and Mansize among others who've ventured onto the continent - why not at the very least put a week aside over the summer to have a go at this - at the worst you'll have also had a holiday out of it!!

Yes - it sometimes seems like a real struggle - but in acts like Ellie Goulding, Cher Lloyd and hopefully soon Becky Hill as well - our region's had not such a bad degree of success in recent years in the 'fame' stakes... Yeah of course it'd be really cool to see the likes of local acts with great songs under their belt like Das Sexy Clap, Johnny Kowalski, PlaneCrasher, Da Vinci or Dogs Of Santorini hit the #1 spot in the charts - but I honestly don't think that's an impossibility...

AOH

(comment/message me at so-sue-me@live.co.uk)



Brown Now Photography

REVIEW The Muffin Men - Marrs Bar - 24th August

I turned up at the Marrs Bar not knowing quite to expect from these Zappa loving players. It must be said a very disappointing turnout, besides myself and two friends, a group of 6 lads from Newport and 4 from Gloucester there were very few others.



Immediately you knew this band loved what they did and I always think that is a good thing. They are not a tribute band so much as a group of Zappa lovers who enjoy playing his music. Comprising of 3 original band members, Jumpy (Guitar), Roddy (Bass), Rhino (Drums) and newer member Phil on Keyboards.



I thoroughly enjoyed them particularly enjoyed their rendition of *City of Tiny Lites* and they also played, *Trouble Everyday*, *Eat That Question*, *My Guitar Wants To Kill Your Mother*. They also did a fine version of *Whipping Post* (Allman Brothers) I am always a sucker for that one. Great musicians and a good evening of entertainment just a shame there were not more to see them.

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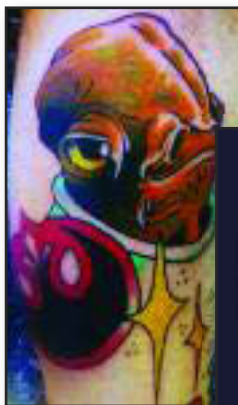
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REVIEW

This Wicked Tongue, Mansize, Ass Pasty The Star Inn, Pershore 21st September

If you thought about going out on a Saturday night for a quiet drink in picturesque Pershore, soaking up its quaint rural charms, then you would of been out of luck and at the mercy of Ass Pasty, Mansize and This Wicked Tongue.

If you like your music loud, wild and arse kicking then you could not ask for better. First up minus a drummer for half a set was Ass Pasty. The aforementioned drummer being away at university was replaced by the drum machine with a mind of its own. But onwards and upwards Rodney and on with the show, and what a show. Technical hitches aside they treated us to a bouncing set that was well received by all. The drummer from Mansize stepped up when the drum machine stepped out and helped finish off the set. This is a band I haven't had the pleasure of seeing before and will be adding them to my ever growing list of bands to see again.

Next up another band that will be going on that list is Mansize. Yet another local band who can play and write material that should be heard by a larger audience than they are playing to at the moment. The thing that impressed me with these guys was the fact that they can play driving tracks that verge on the cusp of thrash yet deliver something that makes you want to listen and get involved and lost all at the same time.



This Wicked Tongue next doing what they are good at, playing their arses off. This band I have seen a few times and are never disappointed with the level of energy they throw in to their performance. Again another band who deserves a bit more national coverage. I expect as I write this the worthies of Pershore are writing their letters of complaint to the council about this. It was good to see that the bands had a good turn out and support and a appreciative audience. With so many good places going to the wall or dropping live music in favour of carveries, it's good to see places like the Star Inn and the Millers across the road putting in the effort to ensure that the likes of me have the chance to get to see top quality bands like this for free. I know I'm preaching to the converted here but next time you go take yer Mum and Dad and keep these places going.

THE BHG

Hello all and regards here from us at The BHG, hope you have all had a good summer (its gone sorry!). In Kidderminster it has been fantastic with what has been called the 'Best Arts Festival Yet!'. This small town has seen some of the best performances and art pieces from across the country. The town hall being transformed into the carpet forest was one of particular note, with some visitors not wanting to leave the 'transcendental' paradise!

Here on Worcester Street, artists joined us to for the collaboration between the **Above Boards and Subway Deluxe Projects**. This event was an absolute success with the street full of people enjoying the music from the Fringe Fest and watching in delight as the artists street art pieces emerged. The subways have now been redone as well as a lot of the street too. One artist in particular ran out of wall space so quickly that our good landlady Sandra even found him a spot to paint in the beer garden (Thank You Leeks!). The feedback from passers by has been utterly heart warming. Thank you all!



Anyway, enough about us. On October 8th we will be hosting a very special exhibition launch which coincides with the artist himself playing with his band, **Culture Shock** on the same night. This will be the only time that **Dick Lucas** will be exhibiting his artwork and playing with his band at the same venue and we are very exciting to be hosting it. The show will open on the night which has almost sold out of tickets (probably sold out by the time you read this, but give us a call just to check!) and will run until the end of the month, so pop in for a visit!



As usual we will be holding our cosy Life Drawing session on the first Thursday of the month. If you haven't tried Life Drawing before, our sessions are a great chance to 'have a go' and really get into the practice of traditional drawing (whilst enjoying a pint!). Look out as we will also be holding more workshops too after the popularity during the Arts Fest. Many Thanks and we shall see you soon. Coz

Artist 'Leeks' at work in the Beer garden
 Artists Dave Simpson at Work
 Coz with her artwork
 Painting by Dick Lucas 'Smells like Home'
 Inside the Carpet Forest at Kidderminster Town Hall
 (photo by Craigus Barry)



This month has been an unusual one for us as this is the first time Melo and I have had our own show and thought it was about time we did so. Obviously I couldn't possibly attempt any review myself, but it's been an interesting project for us and enabled us to be quite reflective. Our exhibition will be on until Oct 7th, when we will be returning the artwork to our wall at home.

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Arts Feature - Art on the move

In what ever way you have been travelling around Worcester this month there has been plenty of art to see. "On the buses" a new project by a range of artists was displayed literally on the buses round the city. Pedestrians and drivers can also enjoy the art displayed on billboards as part of the national "Art Everywhere" exhibition.

The "On The Buses" art exhibition commissioned by the Worcestershire Arts Partnerships aims to bring high quality arts to new audiences in unconventional venues and is displayed in Worcester city on the first buses. The five different works in this series express the different artists' excitement about travelling, and interestingly do so through words and pictures. Included are artwork by William Beck's and poems by Sarah James including The Journey Home first published in 2012 about watching the world "shrink" behind you as you arrive at your destination, and The Bus Tune is a jolly little ditty about the noises made along the way by passengers and buses.



The national exhibition of art on billboards called "Art Everywhere" was an exhibition of fine art in direct contrast to the graffiti celebration of movement gallery. This was an attempt to bring art to the people by displaying it on the streets – with 57 works at 22, 000 poster sites around the country, during 2 weeks in August. The piece to be found in Worcester as part of this exhibition was a boat called the Fighting Temeraire by Joseph Mallord William Turner, with a bright sunset and a calm sea. This was displayed down rainbow hill, and made the walk or drive into town feel a little more classy than usual. The painting originates from 1839 and represents a boat that played an essential part in Nelson's victory at the Battle of Trafalgar

Seen separately, the range of different artists and styles used in these different exhibitions are quite eclectic but together seen as a collection of art based around travel and transport they certainly made journeys around Worcester a lot more interesting.

Sarah Ganderton

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REVIEW - Broom Hill Blues Festival - September 6th

Cooling temperatures and the hint of rain in the air, we are entering the final throws of a brilliant festival summer. Embedded deep in the rural back-roads of Oxfordshire, Broom Hill is the result of collaboration between local promoter **Tim Porter** and musician/promoter **Oliver Carpenter**. Campers are up, the pig is roasted, sausages sizzle and some tasty ales are on tap. Teas, coffee and cake are there for us drivers, were all ready for the show.



First up, local lad, now a session musician in London, **Oliver Darling**, gives us an easy country blues start, moving on into classics like *'Malted Milk'*, *'Going Down To Brownsville'* and *'Little Red Rooster'*. Well crafted acoustic blues, giving us a comfortable intro into the days music.

Next, a bit of a surprise, its a local covers band **Hot Wired**, notable is **Mark Jervis** on drums and vocals, whose land it is that we are all gathered on; and very grateful we are. They played everything from *Stevie Wonder* to *Led Zep*, *Beatles* to *Paul Simon*. Nodding heads.



Late afternoon and **24 Pesos** are set, emerging from London, influenced by the likes of *Ray Charles* and *Howlin Wolf*. A spot of light rain, the crowd gathers under the covers, altogether more atmospheric, reflecting this bands quality. **Julian Burdock** on guitar, slide and harp, provides plenty of attitude, **Silas**, some good bass funk, **Moz Gamble's** *Hamond*, fills the air and **Mike Connelly** hammers in the boundary posts with his drums, an altogether top-notch blues band.

Self penned *'Maxwell Street'*, mixes it with *Muddy Waters* *'Standing At The Station'*. Plenty of that funk for *'Night Train'*, continuing the rail theme into a self penned finale with *'Waiting At The Station'*, **Julian** on harp opening a modern blues classic. Brilliant band, worth looking out for, see them live or buy the excellent album, *'Busted Broken And Blue'*.



L.R Phoenix waits, stage set is minimal, he is an old school blues man par excellence! This is the man who

has dragged me here from my armchair back at home. I saw him at *Upton Blues* last year, 14 months is far too long to reprise that performance. A fine guitarist, with his



tarnished resonator, but its his voice that truly stands out, deep dark honeyed tones, an absolute pleasure to listen to. *'Red Cross'* is a reference to the destitute days of dust-bowl America. *Howlin Wolf's* *'Smokestack Lightning'* follows; adjust your eyes and be carried to that *Mississippi Delta*. **LR** plays slide with his dinner knife for *'Jack Of Diamonds'*. Dropping the guitar onto his knees hobo style to get to work with his fork for *'Spoonful'*, a whole set of cutlery set to alternative use! *'Going Down South'*, is a hard forceful, expressive, blues dirge, which brings me to that other minor detail, **L R Phoenix** is a wonderful feast of facial expression; stick in the earplugs, you will still be spellbound. *'Por Boy'* and the superb *'Skinny Woman Blues'* finish an exceptionally entertaining session. Come on *Upton*, bring him back. Living in *Finland*, you have to be prepared to seek out **L R Phoenix** when he returns for *UK sessions*, mostly festivals, just do it, absolutely unmissable and unforgettable.

Follow that; well **Honeyboy Hickling** ups the tempo, adds a large dose of humour and gives us those *Chicago Blues*. Where **LR** had us riveted to our seats, **Simon** calls us to get up and move, and so the darkened, tented 'auditorium' is alive with dancing souls and squirming bodies. **Simon**, a larger than life frontman, has been playing blues for 30 years, and certainly *'Been Around The World'*, the band has seen the *'Bright Lights Big City'* and been *'Going Up Country'* for quite a while. The **Honeyboy Hickling Band** kept everyone on their feet, finishing with **Chuck Berry's** *'Promised Land'*; leading nicely to the closing session, **The Earl Jackson Band**.

Earl Jackson, plays good old rock 'n' roll, and is prone to a bit of **Chuck Berry** music and stage showmanship.



They closed Upton Blues this year, with the whole town literally dancing in the streets; this little festival was no different, and why would it be. The music is infectious, as is Earl, a marvellous jumping, jiving, performance. 'Black Diamond', 'Back In The USA' and 'Howlin For My Baby', rolled out across the fields.



I don't know if Broom Hill Blues is a one off, there were probably 300 revellers who would eagerly return. It certainly was well organised, with all facilities assembled on site. Weather held out, though a chilly evening, and everyone had a smile on their face by end of play. Outstanding for me, LR Phoenix, with a voice that starts at the souls of his boots, and finds its way up into his throat to mesmerize us all with 'John The Revelator'; stunningly good.

Words & Pics: Graham Munn

PREVIEW - The Official Receivers

Marrs Bar, Worcester – Friday 11th October

A Return to the Marrs Bar for one of the most consistent crowd pleasers in the Midlands, The Official Receivers swing into action for a welcome return on Friday 11th October with their exciting, high energy show featuring classics from the great days of Stax and Atlantic. Songs by Otis Redding, Sam & Dave, Booker T, Edwin Starr and many more legendary performers are slickly packaged to present a fast-moving evening.



This 8 piece band has a tight rhythm section, horns a rhino would be proud of and gutsy lead vocals. This is music to move to so get in the party mood, come along and do just that.

A fast-moving selection of classic 60's soul from the eight piece band that is 'The Official Receivers'.



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Album Review - Roving Crows - Deliberate Distractions

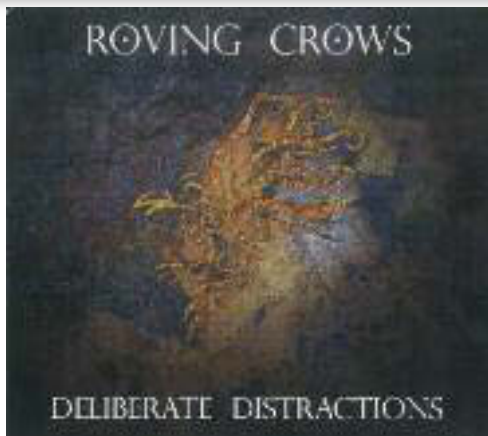
The Crows' new offering is darkly brooding from the off, with an air of Nick Cave in the vocal and indeed sonically it also echoes The Bad Seeds early 90s output. Opener 'Journeyman's Blues' comes forth with an almost ominous air of earnest melancholy. Deep intoned baritone choral sweeps unfold into a roaming fiery stomp! A wavering mariachi trumpet fanfare closes this track.

Familiar balladry themes are tackled with interesting lyrical insight by Paul O'Neil, his emphasis seems to be based on the existential troubles of making a mark on the modern world, doing what thou wilt to explore and enjoy the many different surroundings through travel & experience. Striving to exist outside of the restraints of a human machine prone to it's faults, compromises and pitfalls.

I'm quite the cynic, in that I find contemporary folk can often be both a) thwarted frequently with indie rock acts masquerading as such behind acoustic instruments or b) acts leaning towards one particular trend and settling into it! **Roving Crows** however, demonstrate a thirst for scattered cultures wrapped around dusty ballads, influences are drawn from a multitude of disciplines far and wide. 'Rollin Home' is a great example of this; with the fiddle of Caitlin Barrett taking the lead; there's a fair dose of Celtic craft infused within these melody lines each delivered with impeccable lyrical nuance. The waif like trumpet accentuates the theme via call and response, until eventually blasting into a euphoric jig, replete with musical quotations.

Speaking of which, elsewhere there's a quirky, respectfully executed, yet mature take on Penguin Café Orchestra/Simon Jeffes 'Music For A Found Harmonium'. In Roving Crows well measured interpretation, 'Guns', it is transformed into a percussive punch that follows through, but also brims with all the fantastic counterpoint, dynamics & ethereal harmony found on the original 1984 "Broadcasting from Home" version! This alone shows that Crows' panache of folk can be joyfully energetic and deliver intimate moments.

The trumpet (of Greg Wilson-Copp), comes back into the fore on 'Big Man', where it's sustained punch is reminiscent of Love's Forever Changes. I also found that upon repeated listens to this album it revealed more of the intimate details, such as those found in the finely crafted vocal harmonies that sit snugly with these songs draped in light reverb throughout.



So 'Deliberate Distractions', is overall a fine offering from Roving Crows, one which shows a lot of promise for their future releases. Production throughout is restrained and at times sparse similar to some of Penguin Café's output. It's a crisp, atmospheric, at times fun, but above all charmingly composed & evocative love letter to the ever changing art of folk!

www.rovingcrows.com

By Craigus Barry

Preview - Landscape II (See Ad opposite)

Melanie Wilson & Fuel Theatre present Landscape II at Malvern Theatres on Wednesday 23rd October.

A compelling solo work by Melanie Wilson, this bold hybrid of performance, film and sound art creates a highly contemporary and minutely observed piece of new theatre that is not to be missed.

Three women separated by a hundred years start a conversation across time. Their parallel experiences reveal shared imaginings of identity and escape, as menacing undercurrents steal into their solitary and reflective lives. Their letters, diaries, drawings and photographs expose a series of threatening episodes and unsettling occurrences. As the landscape presses in on them, they draw upon the threads that connect them to survive.

Founded in 2004, and led by Louise Blackwell and Kate McGrath, Fuel is a producing organisation working in partnership with some of the most exciting artists in the UK to develop, create and present new work for all.

Landscape II is Fuel Theatre's third production to be presented at Malvern Theatres after the success of Clod Ensemble's Zero and The Victorian in the Wall earlier in the year.

Landscape II is at Malvern Theatres on Wed 23rd Oct. Tickets are £12. Under 26s £8. Booking fee applies. To book call the box office on 01684 892 277 or visit malvern-theatres.co.uk

If you attended either of the two Fuel productions at Malvern Theatres you are invited to bring a friend for free to Landscape II. Contact Stephanie Cumbley on 01684 580 932 or email stephanie@malvern-theatres.co.uk for more details.

Melanie Wilson and Fuel present

LANDSCAPE II

By Melanie Wilson



Malvern Theatres, 23rd October
01684 892 277 malvern-theatres.co.uk

*"Wilson's lyrical imagery is deeply affecting...
this is powerful and rewarding theatre."*

Irish Examiner



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Arts Feature - Art at Malvern's Quaker Meeting House

Tucked away from the main shopping streets of Malvern, the **Quaker Meeting House** near the park in Malvern hosted an art exhibition by **Amnesty International Malvern**. This is a regular event, where the meeting house is transformed into a gallery annually around the August Bank Holiday. There was so much art, we were surprised to find even more each time we turned a corner, and it was all of such high quality, and so varied. We were even offered a refreshing cup of tea to enjoy while we enjoyed the art.

The art ranged from paintings to sculptures, to carefully crafted pots, tapestries, acrylics watercolours and pencil drawings of landscapes, still life and abstracts, as well as paintings and sculptures of different characters.

Beautifully detailed landscapes created from tapestries by **Roz Ditchfield** of local scenes such as a *Herefordshire River* and the *Brecon Beacons* jostled with paintings of landscapes by other artists. **Diana Nuttall's** acrylic *Shopshire Valley*, a series of four paintings showed the variation of seasons, while **Kathryn Burnham's** *View Towards Hay Bluff with Foxgloves* was a brightly coloured scene and **Anthony Leahy's** *Sailing Boats on the Dovey Estuary* felt incredibly inviting.

Liz Dobb had recreated a still life of *Seedpods and Flowers* in mixed medium and **Catherine Adams** had



were the surreal acrylics *Floating Away* by **Rachel Blackwell**, showing the landscape twisting and turning in in ridiculous ways as a hot air balloon takes off, in a series of light hearted paintings that take off in all directions, and from seaside scene to village.

As well as the paintings and photographs hung around the space, there were also sculptures. **Karen Bird's** beautiful *Reclining Female Figure* took over a whole stage area, surrounded by series of oil paintings by **Jeannie Brown** called *The Pilgrim*, while smaller sculptures by **Alan Richardson** were created from all sorts of mediums, from driftwood, iron, moose horn to woodpulp and molten glass



reshaped into different creations.

It was a fantastic exhibition, and I hope the artists and **Quaker Meeting House** together were able to welcome many visitors to the see the artworks and to raise lots of money for **Amnesty International**.

by *Sarah Ganderton*



Painted beautiful garden flowers, while **Bridget Hodgkinson** had presented flowers and butterflies through fantastically clear photography.

Abstracts such as *Touch The Night* created with acrylic screen printing or *New Town* a pencil drawing by **Elaine Bentley**, caused the viewer to stop and look, questioning what they saw, white my favourite pictures



REVIEW - Nick Harper & Gaz Brookfield - Marrs Barr - Sunday 22nd Sept

I'd been looking forward to this one since putting the Marrs Bar ad together for the September edition of SLAP. We rarely see the calibre of the likes of Nick Harper coming to town, especially with a support act like Gaz Brookfield in tow.

Gaz is one of those new breed of storytelling song writers with obvious comparisons to Frank Turner who was no doubt an influence but, with his own style is fast becoming a rising star following a recent O2 tour with the Levellers and many of his own sell out shows.



His short but powerful set is well received by an enthusiastic Sunday evening crowd, with songs mainly from his latest album 'Tell It to the Beer'. Since buying the album after seeing him at Wychwood, it's never been far from my CD player.

He makes full use of his percussive style of playing as he delivers the powerful 'Be the Bigger Man' and 'Four Chords and the Truth'

amongst many other stand out tracks. It's no surprise he spent the rest of the evening selling said album from the wings.

The contrast in styles of these two solo artists couldn't be greater, which always works for me. From Neil Young style folk/rock to a more subtle and haunting Jeff Buckley-esque vocal style, Nick Harper has it all. Superb guitar playing, aided with onstage laptop and iphone strapped to guitar body, he achieves some incredible sounds along with sublime finger picking and fretwork, without a capo in sight.



Songs like 'Holiday on Earth' and 'Pop Fiction: Origins' delivered with a wonderful stage presence have the audience spell bound. A personal favourite 'The Incredible Melting Man' left me in awe of the man.



I could go about tonight's gig until the cows come home but it's 5am and I'm going to press in the morning. However, Nick is touring his latest album 'Riven' extensively throughout October and November, many with fellow West Country boy Gaz Brookfield as support so do yourselves a favour - go see!

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REVIEW - Moseley Folk Festival 2013, Friday 30th Aug—Sunday 1st Sept

Now in its eighth year Moseley Folk Festival once again delivered a 'folking' great line up with its usual mix of established stars and up and coming talent in the magical setting of Moseley Park. Day One's highlights included Abi's Miracle Tonic's blend of ragtime, swing and spirituals, the dreamy romanticism of The Leisure Society and Goodnight Lenin's crowd enchanting songs of love, loss and loneliness. The big draw though was Ocean Colour Scene playing their definitive album, *Moseley Shoals*. THAT riff at the start of *The Riverboat Song* still sounds massive and the crowd lapped up every note. Touchingly the set finished with a tribute to the recently departed Jon Brookes (The Charlatans' drummer) and folk legend Ian Campbell courtesy of a moving version of *Fairport's Meet On The Ledge*.



Day Two was another delightfully eclectic mix with Cannon Street's truly stunning sibling harmonies and Jack Savoretti's mix of good looks and gravelly just got out of bed voice both going down well. British Sea Power's set



featured giant dancing polar and brown bears (really, that's not the cider talking), with newer songs such as *Machineries of Joy* proving to be every bit as popular as the oldies. If British Sea Power entertained psych folkers Wolf People astonished with one of the weekend's most dazzling displays of musicianship. That just left the medical miracle that is Edwyn Collins. After suffering two cerebral haemorrhages in 2005 Edwyn wasn't expected to survive but here he was, playing everything from the *Orange Juice* classic *Rip It Up* through to solo smash *A Girl Like You* and on to current return to form *Dilemma*. A

joyfully life affirming set that said more about the healing power of music than anything you're ever likely to witness.

Day Three brought us something old, something new, something borrowed and...er... something blue. David Campbell (son of the late great Ian) borrowed his dad's classic interpretation of *D-Day Dodgers* paving the way for something new in the shape of the ethereal Kathryn Priddy.



Next up folk's answer to Ab Fab's Bubble, Kate Rusby whose delightful between song banter and scatty self effacing humour belies one of the greatest female folk voices around right now. The Dirty Old Folkers (the name says it all) provided the 'blue', with songs about wanking and rimming Hobbits. Brilliantly bonkers. The old came courtesy of The Dublin Legends, featuring members of The Dubliners. Over the course of 90 minutes they blazed through what amounts to a *Now That's What I Call Irish Folk Music Greatest Hits Collection*. *Seven Drunken Nights*, *Dirty Ol' Town*, *Whiskey In The Jar*, *The Irish Rover*... you couldn't get more Irish if you pickled yourself in Guinness. You'd have needed a heart made of the Blarney Stone itself to have failed to be moved by the mass sing-along of *Molly Malone* at the end too.



Words: Daron Billings

Photography: Richard Shakespeare

Worcester Music Festival



Brown Now Photography
Images taken by Edyta Jaworska & Piotr Stolarek

CD REVIEW – Hey You Guys! – Gasp! Shock! Horror!

Having recently reviewed (and indeed honoured) local favourites, *Hey You Guys!* album launch party live at the Marris Bar, I thought it was high time that I settled back and devoured the recorded full length debut in question.

From the live performance I expected high energy, loud crunchy riffs, spiky adrenaline fuelled rhythms and loads of big thrills, sing-a-long hooks that would bombard the brain with vocal refrains that'd stick around long after the sub half an hour duration and probably well into the middle of next week and beyond. Well thanks to the tremendous raw and dirty production (Dave Draper), the band have captured both the live intensity and the high octane attitude whilst still managing to highlight those all important hooks firmly intact.

The album opens with a quick spoken word prologue courtesy of Peter Cooper that serves to introduce the band and album before the title track crashes into view, a minute and half blend of crunchy rock riffs, crushing drums, spoken word vocals and a yob chorus that'll have you shouting along in no time at all. From there the band

deliver an early highlight in the shape of *Earth 616*, a blistering combination of Wildhearts-esque guitar, pumping bass, pummelling rhythm and a delicious vocal refrain from Pete Adams, that's impossible to deny.

From there on in we are treated to a masterclass in tongue in cheek, loud uncompromising rock from the hard hitting *Star Sign* to the music industry baiting *Record Deal* (think Art Brut or an acidic Jarvis Cocker) via the thrashed out biting *Keston Villers Investment Club*, the serrated pop of *New Year (End Of The Decade)* and the metallic riff and vocal harmony enriched *Joy Mining*, the band are on inspired form.

For a number of years we've lacked a band with vigour and attitude, but now Hey You Guys! have come armed with killer songs, big thrills and no need for frills. *Gasp! Shock! Horror!* is the perfect shot in the arm and boot up the backside the UK (not to mention local) rock fraternity need, it's brash, ballsy and catchier than the common cold.

www.hygoofficial.co.uk

Will Munn



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REVIEW - Steve White drum clinic - M.A.D Midlands Academy of Drumming - 29 August

M.A.D opened its doors in 2008 by Andy Edwards & Dave Mason whose ethos was always to build a community of drummers and like minded people, realising that as drum clinics and workshops were scarce in the Midlands they would put on M.A.D events along side their day jobs of teaching drums.



scary probing at this Clinic! With plenty of sociable mingling before/afterhand and the bar not too far away, an enjoyable afternoon was certainly had by all.

After a short introduction from Andy, Steve set about demonstrating why he's such

The pairs' aim was to get established drummers involved in their events and they have more than succeeded by welcoming the likes of **Mal Garret** and **Colin Woolway** (author of *Drum Sense*) to the M.A.D fold.

Also importantly through these events Andy and Dave met Steve White who is a big advocate of spreading the drumming gospel as it were and proposed a Drum Clinic of his very own.

For those not in the know **Steve White** is one of the most respected and prolific drummers in the land having played with the likes of **Paul Weller**, **Oasis**, **The Who**, **Ian Dury** and local faves **The Players**. His current band are **Trio Valore** with **Damon Minchella** (*Ocean Colour Scene*) and class keysman **Justin Shearn**.

The Big Message was: Don't Be Afraid! And for those who had never been to such an event, on 29 Aug at Moochers Stourbridge, they were happy to discover there was no

a big name in the music industry. An enthralled audience watched as he played stunningly for over 30 minutes both to backing tracks and solo. He then spoke about life as a working drummer, gave a demo about technique inc some practical advice on vocabulary and metering plus some practice pieces to follow which can be downloaded from the M.A.D website.

The clinic ended with a Q&A from the audience who quizzed him on recording practices etc. Finally asked what his most important piece of advice would be to (aspiring) tubthumpers, the great man perhaps unsurprisingly said.... "PRACTICE!"

Hopefully this has whetted your whistles for future M.A.D clinics/events so head on over to www.midlandacademyofdrumming.co.uk for dates, profiles and kinda interesting info to satisfy all your percussive desires.

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Review - Robert Plant presents the Sensational Space Shifters

WOLVERHAMPTON CIVIC 2ND SEPTEMBER 2013

Ok, where to start? Everyone reading this knows who Robert Plant is. Not just the Black Country's most famous musical son, but one that is a genuine worldwide superstar from one of THE most successful and influential bands of all time (that'll be Led Zeppelin, by the way). The fact that Zeppelin have played just one gig proper after drummer John Bonham's death says a lot about the respect & bond they still have with each other and their fans. Since that 2007 concert (which they only did for charity for the late Ahmet Ertegun of Atlantic Records), they have reputedly turned down astronomical sums to tour the world, all members seemingly content to move forward. Eyes are mainly on the front man's moves of course and that same year saw the release of Plant & Alison Krauss's *'Raising Sand'* a truly great success & world tour, but not followed up. Instead, Plant released the *'Band Of Joy'* album in 2010, and formed The Sensational Space Shifters in 2012, playing sporadic gigs around the globe, this year seeing him back near his home turf at Wolves Civic.

The Space Shifters themselves are culled mainly from the band who accompanied Robert on his best 'solo' album *'Mighty Rearranger'* in 2005. A truly mixed affair of guitarist Skin Tyson (Cast), fellow guitarist John Adams (of many Real World sessions), bassist Billy Fuller & keyboard/sampler man John Baggott (both from the Bristol 'trip hop' Portishead/Massive Attack scene), Juldeh Camara on African one string violin & drummer Dave Smith who studied percussion in Gambia and was headhunted by Adams & Camara for this project, the mixture of age, nationality & musical experience obviously excites Plant who tonight treats us to re-interpretations of music that influenced himself, along with selections from *'Mighty Rearranger'* and, yes, Led Zeppelin.

Taking the stage under a single spotlight, Skin treats us to a remarkable acoustic solo piece that totally belies his 'Britpop' past, before breaking into the familiar refrain of *'Babe, I'm Gonna Leave You'*, at which point Plant enters the stage to (obviously) rapturous applause, resplendent in black shirt & trousers, not the rock star denim garb of old, but still a commanding presence. His voice has mellowed of course, but its power remains (the same?) & the band rightfully play the track with the light & shade which made Zeppelin so unique amongst other 'hard rock' bands.

After that truly remarkable opener, it was obvious that the set wasn't going to be a straightforward affair as it was followed by Uncle Tupelo's *'Satan Your Kingdom Must Come Down'*, Plant the music fan treating us to a personal favourite from his vast & various collection. *'Tin Pan Valley'* followed from the aforementioned *'Mighty Rearranger'* (in fact all of the solo originals in the set bar one were from this album) before *'Spoonful'* by Charley Patton, an influence on the young Plant, followed by what appeared to be a brand new track, until the familiar opening lyric of

"Hey hey Mama see the way you move ..." made us realise it was *'Black Dog'*, the opener to Zep IV, re-interpreted seemingly into oblivion but none the worse for it (and it goes down a storm).



'Another Tribe' followed, the joy on Plant's face obvious as he takes a sidestep from singing, immersing himself in the music of his (hugely talented) band, before a beautiful *'Going To California'* with just himself & Tyson staying faithful to the much loved original. *'The Enchanter'* was next, Plant shouting "Studio One" at the point the track goes into some impressive dub & samples sounding not unlike a Lee Perry creation. Two Zeppelin surprises in *'Four Sticks'* and a particularly stunning *'Friends'* from the third album followed, hard to think that the acoustic tracks on that album were greeted with derision by 'rock' fans at the time & sound utterly contemporary now. Bukka White's *'Fixin' To Die'* was up next before personal highlight *'What Is And What Should Never Be'* (a Top 5 Zep song of mine) and set closer *'Whole Lotta Love'* like *'Black Dog'* before it, vastly different but retaining THAT riff. The encore was short, but *'Big Log'*, shorn of it's 80's sheen & drum machine was a beaut, and set closer *'Rock And Roll'* ended the night on a high, the band taking a group bow and the audience seemingly unable to let them go.

"Next up, Unit Four Plus Two" yelled Plant as he skipped off the stage, a nod to his early gigging days and a reminder of those acts who were Plant's contemporaries but long forgotten and faded away. Maybe Robert is still held in respect and popular because of his genuine love for all styles of music which comes across especially well with this band, or for the fact that he's never turned his back on the Black Country, but the Civic audience left delighted and I personally witnessed an undoubted gig of the year. Next year, Willenhall Baths maybe? See you there.

Baz Bojak.

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REVIEW - The Laurence Jones Band (supporting Larry Miller)

Gloucester Guildhall - September 21st

A new generation of blues-rock guitarists has arrived in the form of **Laurence Jones**, a 21 year-old from Stratford-upon-Avon. Over the coming months Laurence and his band will be playing alongside some of the elite of modern blues guitarists including Walter Trout, Pat Travers and Joanne Shaw Taylor but tonight it was the turn of rubber-faced blues wizard, Larry Miller, to have the backing of the Laurence Jones band.

As well as being an outstanding guitarist, Laurence is an accomplished singer songwriter and last year the band released its debut album, *'Thunder in the Sky'*. Tonight's set comprised a mix of original material interspersed with some well known covers.

The set kicked off with *'Gotta Get Back Up'*, from *Thunder in the Sky*, followed by *'Can't keep living like this'*, a new song that's due to feature on his new album being recorded in December. *Thunder in the Sky* also supplied the next track, *'Going Down'*, a brilliant song that could easily have been written by Rory Gallagher. We continued with a cover, *'Empty Arms'* by Stevie Ray Vaughan then it was back to *Thunder in the Sky* for *'Bad Girl'*, a song with such a great hook that makes it difficult not to like.

The set finished with a couple of tributes. The first was Jimi Hendrix's *'Killing floor'* followed by *'All along the*

watchtower' always associated with Hendrix but penned, of course, by Bob Dylan.



Laurence's dexterity is up there with many of the leading blues guitarists and if you haven't seen or heard him then I INSIST that you do so; this baby-faced bluesician is coming right at you and while he seems content supporting some of the top blues-rock guitarists for now he'll soon be standing there at the top of the bill, no doubt being supported by the next generation of blues prodigies, before you know it. The blues future is bright, the blues future is Laurence Jones! Why are you still reading this - go and listen to him....now!

Words & Pics: Reg Richardson

www.laurencejonesmusic.com

CD REVIEW - Martin Thorne

"Long Hot summer"

His latest cd is something he self-recorded during this August, evidently beguiled by the soft fragrant whispers of an unexpectedly fine season.

5 long tracks feature revisits to his songbook, characterized by keening slide, droning grace-notes and his unique, mid-range singing.


For me the stand-out track is a new one, *'Say Hello To Mother Nature'*, which links the pastoral to his occasionally bleak (*"Crazy Gun"*) but deceptively life-affirming repertoire. Martin's is a taste that, once acquired, rewards the discerning listener.



Bob Jones

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REVIEW – Justin Currie – Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton – 7th Sept

Del Amitri are a bit of a divider amongst fellow music lovers. Their first self titled album from 1985 is amongst the best of 80's indie-pop, intertwining guitars, breathless vocals, lyrically complex & no choruses. Strangely commercial, yet it was a "failure" resulting in parent label Chrysalis dropping them. After line-up & management changes, there was a conscious stylistic attempt to simplify, finally resulting in "debut proper" *'Waking Hours'* which gave us *'Nothing Ever Happens'* a bleak comment on the late 80's which struck a chord with the public and gave them a bona fide hit. Radio (2) staples such as *'Always The Last To Know'*, *'When You Were Young'*, *'Tell Her This'* and, of course *'Roll To Me'* followed. Critics ignored them, though it didn't harm their success one bit. You may have one of their cd's next to Deacon Blue, which would be grossly unfair.



Photography Tom Sheehan 2013

Since 2007, singer & main songwriter Justin has been steadily ploughing his own solo furrow to receptive critics and ever growing audiences, finally receiving a little bit of kudos for his talent as a lyricist and vocalist extraordinaire. That year's *'What Is Love For?'* was a very

stripped down affair it's often bleak (that word again!) view married to some lovely acoustic & string arrangements. *'The Great War'* from 2010 continued the theme but was generally more upbeat and guitar led, which brings us to the new *'Lower Reaches'* album, as reflective as usual yet lighter in tone resulting in a top 50 album chart placing & Justin's biggest solo tour to date.

I was expecting The Wulfun to be a bold leap after three Slade Rooms gigs over the past few years, yet it was busy and though seated, still intimate & thoroughly enjoyable. With just an acoustic, pedals with loops & a keyboard, Justin opens the set with *'Every Song's The Same'* from the new album, before a surprising choice of *'Food For Songs'* from the dels' *'Twisted'* album of 1995. *'Priscilla'* followed before an audience request of *'Empty'* from *'Waking Hours'* gets an airing (he'd been rehearsing it recently so kindly obliged. More of that later ...). Despite his lyrics, Justin is an amusing chappie, saying to the audience that they don't have to be "sedate or reverent" just because it's seated, & telling a story of a classical concert he went to as a child where a lady was joining in loudly, only to discover she was actually having an epileptic fit. *'Half Of Me'* was next followed by *'Into A Pearl'*, Justin on keys only to discover a squeak as the song was reaching it's climax & completely fluffing the ending. *'The Way That It Falls'* sees him back on guitar, before another nod to the past, *'Always The Last To Know'*. Then *'Everyone I Love'*, an incomplete cover of a song called *'Hard On'* (due to a broken string), before *'I Hate Myself For Loving You'*, then he is joined by guitarist 'Stuart' for a stirring *'Driving With The Brakes On'*, *'On A Roll'*, *'Gold Dust'* from his debut, *'Move Away Jimmy Blue'*, *'Bends To My Will'*, *'Tell Her This'*, *'Falsetto'*, the 'hit' *'Nothing Ever Happens'* (which they cock up at the end, even though he's performed the song "ten thousand times") and set closer, the awesome *'Fight To Be Human'* from *'The Great War'*. The inevitable encore started with first single from *'Lower Reaches'*, *'Little Stars'*, del Amitri's *'It Might As Well Be You'*, *'If I Ever Loved You'*, the solo classic *'No, Surrender'* from *'What Is Love For?'* and the dels' *'Be My Downfall'* to close.

It was the second time this year I've had the pleasure to see Mr. Currie, a warm, engaging, witty performer making a relatively large venue very homely. Indeed, one punter shouted to the stage that "I've gotta go now mate, sorry. Cheers!" resulting in an "Ok mate, see ya" from Justin like they were mates saying goodbye in a pub. The same level of intimacy won't be there next year when del Amitri are returning for a short tour for the first time in a decade, but I'm sure it'll be great. Watch out for an exclusive interview with Justin in this very magazine, coming soon!

Baz Bojak.

ALBUM LAUNCH/REVIEW - Babajack - Running Man



The Grove, Malvern - Sept 22nd

'Running Man' launched from the blocks tonight at the lovely Grove in Malvern. Home to Julia Parker-Price, who plays cello on the album. Assembled in the auditorium were many invited guests, most of whom had



pledged the support required to make this new release come to fruition.

The full band of Becky, Trevor, Tosh on drums, Adam



on bass and Julia, gave the album its first, full, live performance to the gathered followers.

Notable pledges were acknowledged as the evening



proceeded, with the help of some fine refreshments sourced from suppliers, who had also given support.

Though a partisan audience, the band, as ever, gave everything, a scintillating show from the bare, soulful, *'Hammer and Tongs'*, and *'I'm Done'*, through to the full on *'Rock n' Roll Star'* and *'Some People'*. The only additions were from previous album Rooster, appropriately, *'The Moneys All Gone'*, *'Gallows Pole'*, along with the frenetic show closer, *'Black Betty'*. All in



a wonderful evening, delivered in appreciation of the

Photography: Graham Mun

Babajack, are an award winning Malvern based, roots blues, duo that has expanded into a 4 piece band for the long awaited 'Running Man' album. I have been privileged to be able to preview the album in its entirety.

The title track 'Running Man', has been aired both in acoustic and full band mode over the last few months at various gigs and festivals. This driving, rhythmic song, more a 400m than a 100m sprint, has been warmly received, but, it's the second track 'Coming Home', that intrigues. Trevor Steger's roots blues slide guitar opens, then slipping in underneath the beautiful chords from the bow of a cello, Becky Tate's soulful voice kicks in. This is the slow victory lap after the opening race, but it has a surprising change of direction mid way, before settling back to its heartfelt openings.

When I first heard 'Hammer And Tongs', I was sold, I love its minimalist, raw feel. Becky's vocals are dominant, accompanied by some very nice harmonica from Trevor, and just the steady thump of Becky's stomp box, simply superb. I have also to mention 'Death Letter Blues', not an original, but there are few bands who can give this classic from *Son House* the empathy it deserves. Gut wrenching vocals, dirty guitar and slide, faultless.

BABAJACK Running Man



'I'm Done', again showcases strong vocals, a Ry Cooder like guitar, dark moody lyrics lead through another blues song. You may feel that they're done, the end; but no, there's a bit more. 'Some People' gives the album close a little lift.

The mix of songs is broader than the previous albums, and there was not much wrong with them, but Babajack have grown and are now giving us a blend of cut back blues mixed with more upbeat songs delivered by the whole band. At quiet moments, the song that fills that void in my thoughts is, oddly, 'Rock And Roll Star'; it has 'pop chart' credentials written all over

The *Running Man* album is a treat from start to finish, lyrically strong, superb vocals and instrumentation. A fine production that captures the spirit and drive of Babajack retaining the raw, edgy, feel of a live performance. Then there are the other little subtleties, the cello from Julia Palmer-Price coming through, the extra drive provided by the bass and drums of Adam Bertenshaw and Tosh Murase. It's an astoundingly good album, given the airplay it deserves, it could propel Babajack onto another level. I have always felt they were destined to do well, this release will be significant.

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REVIEW - Punk in yer eyes - The Boars Head Kidderminster

Nobody but nobody can deny that this really has been the summer for Stiff Joints. With the Stiff army following along, they have had a least a gig every weekend for the whole summer and at one point four gigs in one weekend! You have to have been under a rock to have missed this incredible 10 piece ska band.

As the nights draw in, it's about time they were allowed a night off to not be the Stiffies but instead take entire different disguises altogether. Introducing, 'Punk in Yer Eyes!': a good set-up by the band and a few mates too, seeing them transform into iconic Punk Bands, Sex Pistols,



The Clash, The Ramones, Dead Kennedys and the Misfits. I must say our view from in the gallery (and running downstairs), was one of the most fun of all to see some very dodgy wigs being reshaped and spray painting of some of dads finest shirts to have great big dollar signs on.

The night did not disappoint at all! Many times did we hear people use the phrase, 'Yeah, well it's Punk enit' to excuse all manner of outfit and behavior! The bands piled out the hits and had the entire crowd pogo-ing like mad men! Some of the sound a likes were absolutely spot on and others were....'Punk ennit!'. Through all the hairspray and safety pins, the bands did a great job in raising £430 for Teenage Cancer Trust. Nice one lads! Oi!!! OOOOiiiiii!!!

Words: Corina Harper Photography: Toni Charles

REVIEW - Droitwich Salt Festival - 14th & 15th Sept - Vines Park, Droitwich

John Dudley's now established blues Et jazz afternoon filled the marquee. The Grimaldis opened with their usual beautiful set of originals, with fine vocals and harmonies from this engaging trio.

Then Gwyn Ashton hurled himself into a selection from his new CD Radiogram, with a selection of guitars and his let-the-soundman-tremble pounding, roaring slide, percussion and rack-harp.



That Gwyn was the star of the afternoon takes nothing from the rest of the session ; Stomping On Spiders gave a relaxed but invigorating performance with Garrington Tolly and Noor Ali's duelling guitars a pickers' treat.



Stripped Down Blues re-visited our blues book, followed by the Blue Mondays Jazz Quintet. They are leaving the scene for a year, but judging from their assured, highly competent treatment of jazz and R&B standards, this stylish young band will not repine for long.

Bob Jones

CIRCUIT SWEET - Hereford with Naomi Preece

September was another fantastic month for Circuit Sweet and all our Circuit Sweeties. At the time of going to press we have just attended a new live night in our hometown - **Hereford Live**. With months of planning and determination to give the live music scene a big push, the community group behind Hereford Live had their successful launch night at the Jailhouse, Wednesday 25th September. The free entry evening was home to bands and talented acts such as **Red Room Therapy**, **Linerunners**, **Skrewfaze**, **Key Green**, **Jennifer Booton**, **Bandemonium**, **Arthur Mills** and the **Black Eyed Fridays** and more. You can find our own special photography feature and live review on the night on our website at www.circuitsweet.co.uk and more announcements on the group's hive of activity on our facebook and twitter page.

So that was the phenomenal end to our September but a few weeks back kickstarting that fantastic month was, of course, **Worcester Music Festival**. Another great year for the charity and event organisers and another year to be very proud of their achievements. On Sunday 1st September our very own **Aulos** headlined at the **Horn and Trumpet**. The evening was hosted by **Fierce Deity Promotions** for a night of prog, math, post-rock and post-hardcore goodness with **Aulos**, **Niall Jones** the one man marvel who fronts **We Used to Have Horses**, **Post Descartes**, **Ancient Addicts** and opening the night was **A Last Salute To Byss**. **ALSTB's** performance was brought to you by the curator of the evening **Maks Szymanski** for the act's first ever solo live performance. The entire night was an incredible success and **Maks** proved how to make a gig promoter's job looked easy. **Fierce Deity Promotions** is a force you can trust for a genuine good night and smooth running gig and we can only hope for more live nights.



A Last Salute To Byss

Following another triumphant year for WMF and the brilliant gigs put on throughout the city, we came across two new releases for the Circuit Sweet online store. **We Used To Have Horses** and their amazing EP 'Parts'-blending post-rock, math, ambience and epic live drumming, this complexly energetic performance is available exclusively on a rare hard copy. We also welcome **A Last Salute to Byss** with their debut EP '*Dawn*' now holding a residency within our store. Written

and produced by **Maks Szymanski & Niall Jones** it is a beautiful and powerful EP combining electronic, classical and ambient sections, all crafted with care. You can also find an exclusive interview with **Maks** regarding the forthcoming EP and follow up to '*Dawn*', including plans for more live shows and lots more - new artwork, tracklisting and an indepth interview - at our website underneath the interviews tab.

Find the new releases at circuitsweet.bigcartel.com

And finally, throughout a specific week in September, Hereford celebrates creativeness. **h.Art** celebrates the artists that thrive in our surroundings, an annual showcase aimed at promoting the large number and wide variety of artists and craftmakers working in the region. **h.Art's** core aim is to support the county's artists and makers and promote them both within the local community, to visitors to the region and across the UK with the specific intention of increasing sales of work. During the week visitors are invited to explore and be guided by bright pink signs to 119 venues located across Herefordshire - a FREE nine day event where you can meet the maker and purchase artwork.

Circuit Sweet visited a special all day celebration party to mark five years of **Artsite3** - the event was an exciting multimedia exhibition of award winning local city artists including paintings, illustration, ceramics and textile design. A fresh, innovative, urban and unusual art collection housed in a 350 year old gentleman's residence and award winning walled garden with a café and organic restaurant. **Artsite3** is a not for profit unit of studios with a diverse community



Liam Bromage

of professional artists and designers located in central Hereford. A variety of single and shared studios are available with access to kilns and communal work spaces. Founded in 2008 by a co-operative of artists, designers and crafts people who pooled their resources to gain affordable studio space, **Artsite3** has gone on to support many artists and designers at differing stages of their careers. Housing creatives working in a range of specialisms including illustration, textile design, ceramics, fine art, mixed media and print making, the studio has evolved to become a sought after working environment. Home to a wide array of talented individuals such as regular Circuit Sweet friends



Tom Roberts

Liam Bromage, Tom Roberts and James Rueben, we took up the offer to join in the celebrations and to bask in a wide array of talented work based at their own workshops in Hereford. You can find a photography feature on the private viewing night on our website.

As for October, we are looking forward to more nights from Hereford Live and we will be attending some great live events

throughout the month, nationwide. Make sure you keep tabs on what we are up to on all of our media outlets. If you are based in Herefordshire and you would like to stock SLAP Magazine, put your release in our online store, submit a review, request an interview, want us to cover your live gig then email Naomi@circuitsweet.co.uk OR if you want a band photo shoot (either live or on location), budget gig photography and music shoots email oli@circuitsweet.co.uk.

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REVIEW – Caro Emerald – A Sparkling Emerald at Symphony Hall – 16th Sept

Fortunately, we had bought our tickets way back at the start of April, because this date of a European wide tour was a sell out. Such has been the impact of the vivacious **Caro Emerald** on the music scene since setting out in 2007. *'Deleted Scenes From the Cutting Room Floor'* has been a massive world wide success, with its tango and jazz rhythms, laced with cheeky lyrics. Caro has since followed up with *'The Shocking Miss Emerald'*, from which this tour takes its name. Here we have a different Caro, she is more sultry in mood, more akin to the cellar clubs of Paris and Berlin, darker lyrics, that possibly lack the 'hook' that the previous albums style had; more a steady burner rather than incendiary.



Both albums are fully aired on stage, Caro has a solid 7 piece band in support, plenty of brass, double bass, guitar leads, piano, drum and a busy 'DJ scratcher'. The audience enthused visibly with the catchy tango rhythms from the earlier album, *'Back it Up'*, *'A Night Like This'*, and *'The Other Woman'*. All splendidly foot tapping, bum squirming stuff, but there was much more from Caro, with the deeper ballads mixed with the livelier songs from the tour album. The tongue in cheek, *'Coming Back As A Man'*, a 30's 'flapper' style song, *'Pack Up The Louie'*, nods towards the St. Louis style of blues. The bouncy, get up and dance *'Liquid Lunch'* contrasts with the Bond like thematic *'I Belong To You'*.

Caro's voice is outstanding throughout her 2+ hours performance, only leaving the stage for her dress changes. Half way through and the glittering heels are discarded as Caro uses the stage more.

In amongst all this was a little acoustic set with double bass and guitar, *'Paris'* was superbly delivered, and we were informed that there was a 6 song acoustic download available on her site; for free.

Overall the performance of Caro Emerald was as expected from a diva of her stature, the band very polished, 'solo's on guitar, piano and by the brass section were delivered with aplomb; and there lies the one little niggle. It was all perhaps too polished and I feel requires a little grit to scratch through the surface and find the another layer.

The acoustic song was the clue, I downloaded that 6 track, and it is excellent, sometimes less is more.

Also worthy of note was the fascinating changing backdrop lighting and scenes. *'That Man'*, saw a silhouette revealed in a spotlight of red, then running across between bands of black, nice graphic stuff.

The whole show was seamless start to finish, Caro is an accomplished singer, and she delivers her songs with conviction, the whole production appears flawless. Everyone was on their feet calling for more, Caro obliged, with 3 songs from *'The Cutting Room Floor'*, the 30's 'speak-easy' flapper styled, *'That Man'* appearing to be the finish. But no, the lights came back up, and Caro was giving one more song, an old standard imported from France back in the 60's *'If You Go Away'* sung with the later English translation, falling back into French, superb, minimal 'production', subdued lighting, as a dingily lit cellar in a 50's Paris, beautifully delivered by a sparkling Emerald.

Less is more.

Try the free EP MP3 on caroemerald.com, it is excellent, and I have to add *'The Shocking Miss Emerald'* is rapidly growing on me.


Graham Munn

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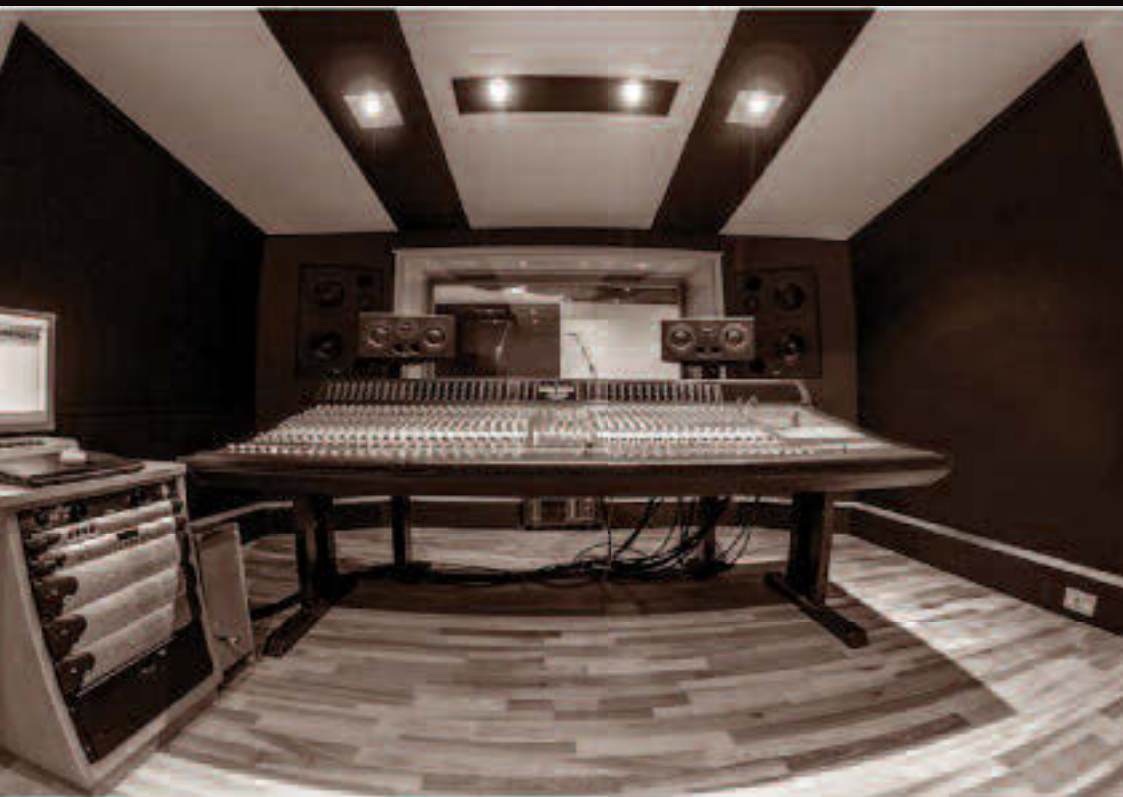
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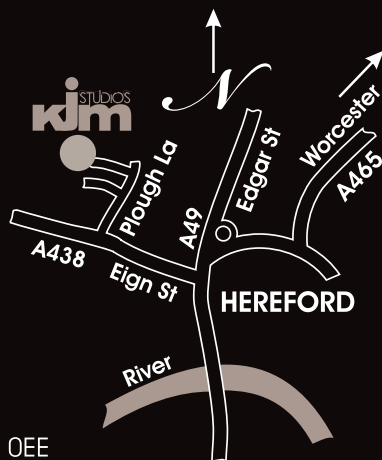
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REVIEW – Fabulous Boogie Boys Break into Church Huntington Hall - Sept 20th

The Fabulous Boogie Boys hit the ground running, in what proved to be a very entertaining fun filled evening at this venerable venue. They 'Shake Rattle & Roll' through their playlist, plenty of foot stomping favourites like 'Hallelujah', 'This Old House', 'Saturday Night Fish Fry's' and 'Oh Marie'. A veritable maelstrom of good old rock & roll, jump-jive and swing. A pity there is barely room to swing a cat in this boxed and seated venue, as the 150 participants restrained their desire to boogie to the band.

This band is unmistakable with their bright red baggy suits, mothballed no doubt before the austerity of post 1939. Cliff Dawe, front man and vocalist, teases and poses to an enthusiastic crowd, but the jewel in the crown is the fabulous Sarah Warren. Whether swing, rock or blues, she delivers an unforgettable performance, outstanding in the Etta James favourite 'At Last'.

The second half also saw a quick musical chairs set, as Cliff went to double bass, bassist Nick Lynden, moved to the keyboards, and keys man Ben Wilson took to the microphone, playing his part wonderfully in that Cab Calloway blockbuster, 'Mini The Moocher' among others. Excellent fun, and some fine 'solo' sessions from Stu on guitar, Hugh on Sax, not forgetting Richie on drums.

A few more party pleaser's were thrown to the mob, 'Chickens', 'See You Later Alligator', a bit of monkeying around with 'Wanna Be Like You', and a real blasting finale

included 'Johnny B Goode', with Stu strutting his Chuck B stuff.



The Fabulous Boogie Band with Miss Sarah Warren, are a real tonic to thrust you into the weekend. Locally based around Worcester and Upton, you should not have to look too far afield to catch a session with them; though they are in demand across the UK and Europe. Next local gig is November 29th at the Talbot, Knightwick.

Thanks to John Banner who has been promoting shows at Huntington Hall for 10 years, for bringing us an entertaining and colourful evening of pleasure.

Words & Pics: Graham Munn

Guy, Kristen & Archer welcome you to The Wheatsheaf

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REVIEW – Davina And The Vagabonds

The Robin 2, Bilston September 9th

Where to start, I am selective in the bands I see and review, too much hard work if your not likely to enjoy the music. I have seen some excellent bands and fine performances, rarely disappointed, but occasionally, you just have to revise your reference points. **Davina and The Vagabonds** have defrag'd my hard drive, and written a new sector. They are just stupendously, bloody good. Its cream cake day, time to open that 50 year malt, words may fail me.

Davina sparkles with mischief on the piano, everything from beautifully soulful blues to full on barrel house, is at her fingertips. In her voice I hear elements of Eartha Kitt, Nina Simone, Amy Winehouse and Paloma Faith, in a fusion of jazz and blues.

The Vagabonds dovetail with Davina perfectly, superlative trumpet and trombone, from Dan and Ben, who both add to the vocals. Underpinned with double bass and drums from Andy and Alec.

The play is a mixture of New Orleans blues, dixie, a bit of rock & roll, and large doses of jazz and blues. BUT, everything is delivered in their own style, whether its Fats, 'Ain't That A Shame', Etta's, 'I'd Rather Go Blind' (superb) or Chuck's 'Nadine'. They are not a covers band, these songs receive original interpretation, and then some! Some lovely trombone and trumpet work from Ben and Dan places 'Nadine' on a different level.

Self penned compositions liberally sprinkle the session, the deeply soulful 'Blues Got A Hold Of Me' contrasts with the tango rhythms of a cheeky 'I Really Try To Be Good', Eartha Kitt could not have done it better. 'Lipstick And Chrome' is a rollicking full on, swinging, dixie band start, leading into Davina's energetic boogie on the piano, 'River', runs deep into the blues waters.



Hold it there; its not just about the fabulous musical performance conjured up by this band, there is a huge bucket-load of humour and banter mixed in, the audience is drawn in to the fun. Davina vocally jousts with the sounds Dan can squeeze out of that horn. Have a look on You Tube for 'St Michael Vs the Devil', and you will get the idea and feel of Davina and co. 'St James Infirmary Blues' is to die for!!!

The whole evening seemed to pass in the blink of an eye, I wanted more, much more. The tour in the UK is brief, following an extensive time in Europe. I hope they all return soon, but don't tell anyone else, I may not get through the door. Blues with a difference, indescribably wonderful.

Words & photograph: Graham Munn

Preview - Reaction Theatre Makers - 'FishHead' - mac, Birmingham - Oct 24th

Based in Malvern, Reaction Theatre Makers' are trailblazers for contemporary drama. They create highly visual work with strong story-lines, powerful sound-tracks and a juxtaposition of realism and abstract movement. Their last production was acclaimed as 'Mesmerising' by The Hereford Times, and 'The best piece of drama I have ever seen' by Arts Alive.

FishHead are currently in rehearsal at the Grove, Malvern developing the second part of Reaction theatre makers trilogy of new plays which focus on mental well-being and relate to our changing environment. Each play stands alone and can be seen in no particular order. They aim to have all three of parts of the trilogy running concurrently throughout the West Midlands within the next year.

FishHead is the beautiful and moving story of Tom and Lydia who meet by the sea, where all the best stories start. He is a fisherman and she a ventriloquist. A fairy-tale for the growing up, Fish Head's net casts wide!

The plays are written and directed by Malvern based, artistic director Tiffany Hosking. A puppet has been created for FishHead by Karen Johns as one of the characters in the play is a ventriloquist. The play is performed by Michelle Pogmore, Trevor Fleming and Sean Connell.



For this production they have collaborated with Arts in Minds, who have created some of the art-work for the piece as well as collaborating with Worcester University, where dance students and designers will lend their talent to the production.

This production is piloting at mac Birmingham on October 24th at 8pm

www.reactiontheatremakers.com www.macarts.co.uk

Tuesday 1 October 2013

The John Steeds
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Open Mic with 'Dodgy' Nigel
Millers Arms, Pershore

Open Mic
The Courtyard, Hereford

Open Mic
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic with Keith Slater
Queens Head, Wolverley

Acoustic Session with Vince Ballard
Woo Bar, Worcester

Kid Karate
Moochers, Stourbridge

Wednesday 2 October 2013

Marzys' Jam Night
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Open Mic
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Music @ The Morgan
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Irish Session
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Loz Rabone
The Masons Arms, Wichenford

Reggae Wednesday
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Hannah Faulkner
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

True Colours
Hop Pole, Bewdley

Thursday 3 October 2013

Open Mic
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Open Mic @ Worcester Uni
The Pear Tree (Worcester University), Worcester

Open Mic
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Lawrence & Mark
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic
Pig n Drum, Worcester

Elizabeth Fields, Nigel Summer, Atlas
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Sean Steward & Luke Spooner (upstairs)
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Richard Durrant Live
The Courtyard, Hereford

West Malvern Open Mic
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

C-Jam
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Friday 4 October 2013

Ronin
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Blind Lemon
Drummonds, Worcester

Midnight City
Queens Head, Wolverley

Tygers Of Pan Tang
Moochers, Stourbridge

Slowburner
White Horse Beer Festival

Charity Gig with Kings & Captains
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Nothing Like A Whale
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Reflections
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Molly Samson & The Cautionary Tales
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Chevy Chase Stole My Wife, Clockwork Rifle, Hysterica
Base Studios, Stourbridge

HDQ, Jaded Eyes, Thirty Six Strategies
The Firefly, Worcester

Ex-Presidents
Millers Arms, Pershore

The Lobster Band, Malarkey
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Boss Hogs Live Music
Pig n Drum, Worcester

Saturday 5 October 2013

Retrophonics
Pavilion In The Park, Worcester

DJ SmallmanPhatt, DJ Rapeman, DJ Tiga, Ass Pasty
The Bridge Inn, Lowesmoor, Worcester

Sonic Storm
Pig n Drum, Worcester

Nostalgia
Moochers, Stourbridge

Roscoe P Coltrane
The Rainbow Hill Club, Worcester

The Undercovers
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

StuntDog, Mudball, Tiger Province and Scrotum
Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

Slide Boy Roy
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Mercy House , Mansize, Evolution of Man
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Northern Soul & Motown Dj Night
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Obnoxious Uk, Angry Itch
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Allstars Dub Band
The Star Inn, Pershore

Miss Pearl and The Rough Diamonds
The Chestnut, Worcester

The May Dolls
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Nocturnal House Music
Woo Bar, Worcester

The Correspondents
The Jailhouse, Hereford

Sunday 6 October 2013

Amy Wadge and Pete Riley Tour
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Unplugged Sunday
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Annual Conker Contest 12 o'clock prompt!
Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Mark Huff & John Byrd
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Jam Night hosted by Clive
The Oast House, Redditch

Vivs Vinyl Jukebox
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Monday 7 October 2013

Acoustic Open Mic
Cafe Mambo @ No.5, Redditch

Grainne Duffy Band
The Norman Night, Whichford, Shipston-on-Stour

Dave Onions
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

Folk Sessions
Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Open Mic with Esther Turner
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Tuesday 8 October 2013

Culture Shck, Omnia Opera
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Open Mic with Keith Slater
Queens Head, Wolverley

Metal Sludge's Hairband Extravaganza
Moochers, Stourbridge

Open Mic
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Acoustic Session with Vince Ballard
Woo Bar, Worcester

Wednesday 9 October 2013

Marzys' Jam Night
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Music @ The Morgan
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Phil King
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Irish Session
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Kim Lowind & The Greenwoods Modern Folk
Hop Pole, Bewdley

Sister Sin + support
Moochers, Stourbridge

Thursday 10 October 2013

Budapest Cafe Orchestra
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Jailhouse Sessions
Moochers, Stourbridge

Open Mic
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Oxjam Fund Raiser
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Suzi & The Backbeats
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

West Malvern Open Mic
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Perry Fosters Open Mic
The Chestnut Inn, Worcester

Luke Concannon & Jimmy
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Andy Morrish & Tom Lloyd (upstairs)
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Friday 11 October 2013

Souled Out 2 Funk
Drummonds, Worcester

Official Receivers
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Underdogs
Queens Head, Wolverley

Vo & Tyler
The Plough and Harrow, Malvern

Worcestershire Jazz Orchestra
Droitwich Legion, Droitwich

Mike Sanchez Rockin'Robin RSVB Fund Raiser
Sheldon Bosley Hub, Shipston-on-Stour

Voodoo
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Grainne Duffy
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Boss Hogs Live Music
Pig n Drum, Worcester

All Cramped Up
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Come Up And See Me
The Masons Arms, Wichenford

Executives
Millers Arms, Pershore

DJ Night
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Saturday 12 October 2013

Vue Bar Open Mic, Done By Sunrise
Severn View Hotel, Worcester

The Midland Regulators
The Norman Night, Whichford, Shipston-on-Stour

Aquarius

Star & Garter, Droitwich

Luke Warm & The Cold Fronts

Star Inn, Pershore

King Pleasure & the Biscuit Boys

Number 8, Pershore

Skrood

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys

No 8, Pershore

Mike Parker

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Ottis Mack

Callow End Social Club, Worcester

Notorious Brothers

Crown Inn, St Johns, Worcester

Three Blind Mice

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Linerunners

The Markets Tavern, Brecon

The Reflections

Pavilion In The Park, Worcester

Smooth Jazz Night

Cafe Mambo @ No.5, Redditch

Junction 7

The Rainbow Hill Club, Worcester

Marzy's Bordello Burlesque Evening

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Allstars Dub Band

The Chestnut, Worcester

The Fabulous Bordellos

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Corona World Finalist Shaun Lane

Woo Bar, Worcester

Sonic Storm

Pig n Drum, Worcester

Sunday 13 October 2013

Luke Concannon (Nizlopi) and Jimmy Davis

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Unplugged Sunday

The Morgan, Great Malvern

Jam Night hosted by Clive

The Oast House, Redditch

Vivs Vinyl Jukebox

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Dave Onions

The Wheatsheaf, Shrewsbury

Remi Harris

The Chestnut Inn, Worcester

Jazz

Queens Head, Wolverley

Gastric Band

Nottinghamshire Arms, Tokesbury

Monday 14 October 2013

Jesse Terry

The Norman Night, Whichford, Shipston-on-Stour

Open Mic

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Tuesday 15 October 2013

Worcester Gilbert and Sullivan Society

The Swan Theatre, Worcester

Open Mic

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Acoustic Session with Vince Ballard

Woo Bar, Worcester

Open Mic

Queens Head, Wolverley

Wednesday 16 October 2013

Acoustic Music Session

The Farriers Arms, Worcester

Marzys' Jam Night

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Music @ The Morgan

The Morgan, Great Malvern

Russ Poole

Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Mojohand Rhythm & Blues

Hop Pole, Bewdley

Dan Greenaway

The Masons Arms, Wichenford

Irish Session

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Thursday 17 October 2013

Kay

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic

Re-Con, Great Malvern

Blak Can

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Esther (upstairs)

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

West Malvern Open Mic

West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

The Executives

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Friday 18 October 2013

The John Steeds

The Royal Oak, , Kinnersley

Vault of Eagles + Support

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Nigel Clark from Dodgy, Skewwhiff

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Delray Rockets

The Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

The Collective Soul Band
Drummonds, Worcester

The Keith Thompson Blues Band
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

King Lizard + support
Moochers, Stourbridge

Crimson Child
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Local Covers Band
Woo Bar, Worcester

Skaville
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Slowburner
Queens Head, Wolverley

Moonshiners
Droitwich Legion, Droitwich

No Exit
Millers Arms, Pershore

Matt Woosey – Mad Hatters Tour
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Boss Hogs Live Music
Pig n Drum, Worcester

Saturday 19 October 2013

The John Steeds
The Pillar Of Salt, Droitwich

The Felix Leiter Band
Pavilion In The Park, Worcester

Krazy Legs
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

The Undercocks
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

The Fabulous Bordellos
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Hijack
Star Inn, Pershore

Slowburner
Express Inn, Malvern

Johnny Kowaski & The Sexy Weirdos
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Hitchhiker
Crown Inn, St Johns, Worcester

Gastric Band
The Chestnut Inn, Worcester

Deep House with Steve 'Blue Nose' Smith
Woo Bar, Worcester

Junction 7
Green Dragon, Malvern

Totem, Adam & Garth Project, Mad Dave, Magic Rooms, Alan Mason, Stew Tyler, Dan Homans
Cafe Mambo @ No.5, Redditch

Rawk Headboom
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Rudy & The Revolvers
Callow End Social Club

Hereford Live presents George Barnett, The Misers, Richa
The Jailhouse, Hereford

Hennesea
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Tiger Province
Whitehall, Rushwick

Sonic Storm
Pig n Drum, Worcester

Open Mic
Droitwich Legion, Droitwich

Pussycat And The Dirty Johnsons
Moochers, Stourbridge

Sunday 20 October 2013

Norman Watt-Roy & Friends
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Unplugged Sunday
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Vo & Tyler
The Three King, Church End, Hanley Castle

Jam Night hosted by Clive
The Oast House, Redditch

Jazz feat Geoff Skillings
Queens Head, Wolverley

Monday 21 October 2013

Acoustic Open Mic
Cafe Mambo @ No.5, Redditch

Emily Barker, Chris T-T
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Folk Sessions
Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Open Mic
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Steve 'Big Man' Clayton and the 44's
The Norman Night, Whichford, Shipston-on-Stour

Dave Onions
Cock n Magpie, Shrewsbury

Tuesday 22 October 2013

Hawklords
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Open Mic
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic with Keith Slater
Queens Head, Wolverley

Acoustic Session with Vince Ballard
Woo Bar, Worcester

Wednesday 23 October 2013

Marzys' Jam Night
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Hereford Live presents Raptor, Abysmal, Rubble
The Jailhouse, Hereford

Irish Session
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Sondura
Moochers, Stourbridge

Music @ The Morgan
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Live @ Gloucester Studio presents Acoustic Best
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Grumpy Old Guitarists
Hop Pole, Bewdley

Daniel Seth
The Masons Arms, Wichenford

Thursday 24 October 2013

Amanda Stone
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Fortress, 11:11, Rip Tyde
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

West Malvern Open Mic
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Halloween Show
Moochers, Stourbridge

The Terry Clarke Band
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Kim Lowings
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Perry Fosters Open Mic Night
The Chestnut Inn, Worcester

Friday 25 October 2013

The Moonshakers
Drummonds, Worcester

Rock Anthems
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Knock Out Kane
Moochers, Stourbridge

Boss Hogs Live Music
Pig n Drum, Worcester

Are You Experienced
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Ian Luther
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Steve Ajao & The Blues Giants
Queens Head, Wolverley

Rattlesnake Kiss (Roktoberfest)
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Vo & Tyler
The Wellington, Chances Pitch, Colwall

Funkinsteins
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Journeyman
Millers Arms, Pershore

XSLF, Time Of The Mouth
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

The Delray Rockets
Stable Tavern, Cleobury Mortimer

Woo Town
Woo Bar, Worcester

Saturday 26 October 2013

Aquarius
The Oak Apple, Worcester

Killerstream
Pavilion In The Park, Worcester

Blitzkeig, Erection Police
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

The Delray Rockets
The Beauchamp Arms, Malvern

Glambusters
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

On The House Deadfiend & Guests
Woo Bar, Worcester

The Magoos @ Theo's Friends Charity Ball
Worcester Rugby Club, Worcester

Roddy Radiation & The Skabilly Rebels
Moochers, Stourbridge

The Jam D.R.C. Mod
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Junction 7
Swan Inn, Bengeworth, Evesham

Rocky Horror Night with food & Fancy Dress
Cafe Mambo @ No.5, Redditch

Limehouse Lizzy
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Nappatandy
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

Sugar Mama
Star Inn, Pershore

Miss Pearl & The Rough Diamonds
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

On The House Dj Night
Woo Bar, Worcester

The Quik
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Sonic Storm
Pig n Drum, Worcester

Sunday 27 October 2013

Black Umfolosi 5
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Unplugged Sunday
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Jam Night hosted by Clive
The Oast House, Redditch

Vivs Vinyl Jukebox
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Chuck Harriot Trio
The Chestnut Inn, Worcester

Jazz with Mercia Jazz Five
Queens Head, Wolverley

Tuesday 29 October 2013

Folk Night
Millers Arms, Pershore

Open Mic
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic with Keith Slater
Queens Head, Wolverley

Acoustic Session with Vince Ballard
Woo Bar, Worcester

Wednesday 30 October 2013

Marzys' Jam Night
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Wishbone Ash
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Irish Session
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Halloween Party with Voodoo Blue
Queens Head, Wolverley

Music @ The Morgan
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Rich O'Brien Project
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Maxine Moxam
Hop Pole, Bewdley

Alex Rainsford
The Masons Arms, Wichenford

Thursday 31 October 2013

All For One, Aceldama, Adamantium, Tainted Nation
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Ronin
Actress And Bishop, Birmingham

The Boars Headless Ball
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Halloween with Kings & Captains
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Open Mic
Re-Con, Great Malvern

West Malvern Open Mic, Halloween Edition
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Sounds Of Simon
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Haloween Party
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic Halloween
Star Inn, Pershore

Listings in conjunction with www.notjustsausage.com

Re-con
01684 300720 4 Church Street Malvern
info@re-con.org.uk WR14 2AF

Thursday
COMEDY NIGHT
OPEN MIC NIGHT
Re-con

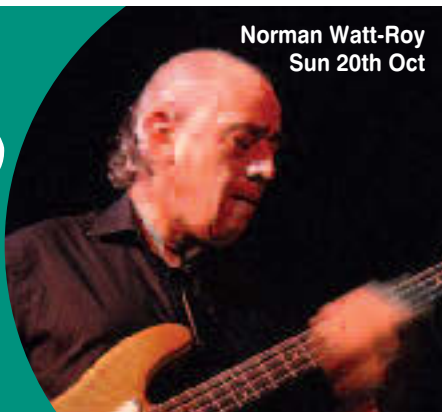
Friday
Deep AND Dirty
Jay Newman
Re-con Every Friday
Starting 3000 9pm
18+ No Entry
Malverns Only Deep Bass Techno House Drift Night

Saturday
Five Bands Every Saturday From 9pm
A photograph of a person playing a guitar.

THE MARR'S BAR

OCT 2013

Norman Watt-Roy
Sun 20th Oct



Friday 4th

Ronin - Limerence EP Launch

£4.00 a ticket £5.00 on the door

Saturday 5th

Tone Monster presents... The Mercy House + Evolution of Man + Mansize
£3.00 Admission

Wreckless Club Night (Indie/Rock)

£2 between 11-12 or £3 12-4

Sunday 6th

Amy Wadge and Pete Riley Tour

£10 Admission

Thursday 10th

Oxjam Fund Raiser

£3 a ticket £5 on the door

Friday 11th

Official Receivers

£8 a ticket £10 on the door

Saturday 12th

Marzy's Bordello Burlesque Evening

£8 a ticket £10 on the door

Wreckless Club Night (Indie/Rock)

£2 between 11-12 or £3 12-4

Sunday 13th

Luke Concannon (Nizlopi) & Jimmy Davis

£8.00 a ticket £10 on the door

Thursday 17th

Romeo & Juliet

£8 a ticket £10 on the door

• **Friday 18th**

• **The Keith Thompson Blues Band**

• £8.00 a ticket £10.00 on the door

• **Saturday 19th**

• **RAWK Episode 5: DocumentOne 10pm-5am**

• **Dirty Electro/Dubstep/Gliche-HopBreaks**

• www.rawkmusic.com

• £7 a ticket £10 on the Door

• **Sunday 20th**

• **Norman Watt-Roy (Blockheads) & Friends**

• £12.00 a ticket £15.00 on the door

• **Tuesday 22nd**

• **Hawklords (Hawkwind)**

• £12.50 a ticket £15.00 on the door

• **Thursday 24th**

• **Fortress, 11:11 and Rip Tyde**

• £5.00 a ticket and £7.00 on the door

• **Friday 25th**

• **Are You Experienced (Jimi Hendrix tribute)**

• £8.00 a ticket and £10.00 on the door

• **Saturday 26th**

• **Limehouse Lizzy (Thin Lizzy tribute)**

• £10 a ticket and £12 on the door

• **Wreckless Club Night (Indie/Rock)**

• £2 between 11-12 or £3 12-4

• **Thursday 31st**

• **Adamantium Halloween Extravaganza**

• **Tainted Nation, Adamantium, Aceldama**

• **and All For One**

• £5 on the door or £3 if in fancy dress

Wednesdays - Jamming night

Dates available for private hire

Tickets available from
Marr's Bar and Music City

www.marrsbar.co.uk

01905 613336

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