

Voyager

MagellanMusic Newsletter - Summer 2008

Surprising news is the recent announcement from **MagellanMusic** that plans have changed for their next release. Originally, the notorious never-before-released "**A Phanus XXX-mas**" album was expected to be available sometime this Fall, but focus now is an album reportedly featuring acoustic songs.

Vladimir Zsoerbin told us, "There have been numerous good acoustic songs on many albums, but it's never really been emphasized. Some are so good that I'd call them 'classics'. I think this will be a fantastic effort." **Vlad** couldn't provide further details, such as album title or songs to be used, but he mentioned that they will try to have it available in time for the Christmas season. As for the **Phanus** release, **Vlad** says it's definitely planned for release sometime in the near future, hopefully Christmas of 2009.

NEWSFLASH: It has been announced that **Derek Story** is on a brief sabbatical from **MagellanMusic** and is joining a newly created spy network called **Clandestine Reconnaissance for Assertive Planning (CRAP)**. Word has it that he is to masquerade as a Black Norwegian named **Rufus Bjornssen** who masquerades as a Chinese Jew named **Kung-Pao Rothstein** who masquerades as a Mexican Pakistani named **Miguel Mohammed** (who can't speak their language). His work is to compile a list of all Muslim/Jewish/Catholic/Protestants who are allegedly planning to take over the world. It is said that they will be abducted and brought to the United States and tortured mercilessly by forcing them to work as 7-11 store managers. We will keep you informed.

More surprising news from **CD Baby** is the addition of downloading entire albums from their website. **CD Baby** has been industry leaders in the Independent Music scene since 1998, but they have always insisted on selling discs. It was the advent of the MP3 program that allowed the immense growth of Indie music online, but the slight drop in sound quality was a bother to some of us. That is why CD's are superior and should be considered PC 'hard discs' now. Plus, downloading individual songs takes away from the original intent of an artist presenting their CD's as a 'work', a vital component to numerous titles over the years. So, once again our thanks go to **CD Baby** for offering the convenience of downloading albums but maintaining the integrity of the music. **MagellanMusic** is available at www.cdbaby.com/all/magellanmusic.

On a more disturbing piece of news, it was announced recently that Mariah Carey has achieved her 18th #1 song on Billboard's Hot 100. That surpasses Elvis and makes her second only to the Beatles with the most #1 songs. We respect Mariah for her talent and the work she has done, but there is a serious clash with Billboard's charting methods.

Frankly, charting 'hits' today is a warped, discombobulating miasma of points based almost entirely on airplay, a suspiciously unsavory method since record sales have been the standard measure of popularity since the day Billboard started business in 1936. Determining popularity only from radio airplay is a badly exaggerated, inaccurate measure and it focuses on a genre that's shrunken steadily since the 1980's. The most popular formats today are Classic Rock, Oldies, MOR/Soft Rock, and Country. With the enormous growth of specialized genres through PC access and broadcasters like XM and Sirius, the playlists of hit radio is so small that it's closer to a Top 20, no longer the iconic Top 40. That means much more airplay for fewer songs, much longer runs as a hit, which has created more record-breaking chart achievements than in Billboard's entire history. Most troubling is that there's no better way to sell an artist in such a crowded market than advertising how many #1's they have achieved. One must ask, is Mariah Carey so good, so influential that her name deserves the same recognition as Elvis or the Beatles? Could payola be the heart of the matter? Could it be that artists must 'buy' their popularity today? We appreciate your talent Mariah, but Billboard's Hot 100 is bullsh*t.

NEWSFLASH: An online science news magazine recently published an interesting article featuring the **Top 5 Ways of Destroying Planet Earth**. There was no mention of sources for this information, but here is the list:

5. **Phreddy 'The Molestrious Maggot' Wheeler** releasing his first solo album featuring cover songs of his favorite artists such as The Partridge Family, Barry Manilow, the Bee Gee's, Olivia Newton-John, Helen Reddy, the Village People, and KC & the Sunshine band, featuring a very special version of his all-time favorite song - "I Am Woman".

4. **AAA Marrz** releasing a special-edition, hardbound 10 book collection of his famed autobiography series, "I Love **ME**". All will be individually numbered featuring handmade, old fashioned script paper. Also included will be the special gift of an autographed sheet of used toilet paper.

3. **Vladimir Zsoerbin** finally releasing his 50 disc set of gold rimmed CD's in a gold plated display rack with a diamond studded gold nameplate, all 50 discs featuring 15 versions of his classic song "Szyzygy". (*Word has it that he's planning a marathon listening party that will last nearly 48 hours*)

2. **Derek Story** releasing a collection of 150 CD's in which he recites backward all 34 noted works of Norman Mailer. *(It is rumored that the CIA has already bought 10 collections for torture purposes in several top-secret terror camps)*

And the **#1 Way of Destroying Planet Earth** -

Allowing George Bush to become a dictator and remain in office forever!
Yyyeeooooowwwwwiiiiiee!!...

It has come to our attention that a strange encounter took place in the hilly, wooded region of eastern Oklahoma recently, which involved a **MagellanMusic** band member who shall remain nameless (initials are P.E.R.J.E.N.S.E.N). The following story was submitted by nearby hikers who witnessed it. "Picture a long-haired hippy guy hiking through the woods, sees an actual Bigfoot, his face lights up, says 'Hey man, what's happenin!?. Then he gets some bananas and apples out of his backpack, walks right up to the large hairy creature, hands him an apple, and says, 'Great to see ya man!' The Bigfoot took the apple, but stood very still, ate it slowly, stared at the long haired hippy as if thinking, 'Man, this is weird'. The hippy guy then gives the Bigfoot guy a banana, they munch together, just hangin' loose like they were old buddies. Then the hippy guy said, 'Man you stink like sh*t but you're a pretty cool dude!' Then he says, 'Well my friend, I gotta keep truckin', but it's been cool! Hope to see ya around soon!' The hippy guy then hiked into the woods. The Bigfoot stood there staring, watching the long haired hippy walk away, scratching his head, probably thinking, 'Weird sh*t, man.' Then he walked away in the other direction." We asked **Per** if this story is true, but he only belched loudly.

Other news of interest is the new **MagellanMusic** logo. It is an enticing picture that features a beautiful setting sun that **Per Jensen** took when on a hot-air balloon ride. It was on the west coast and at a high altitude, which is how he got such a clean shot of the sun. This picture can be seen on Myspace and the various music sites where **MagellanMusic** is posted. Great job!

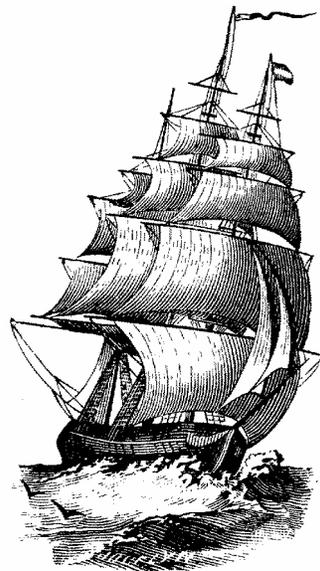
NEWSFLASH: The staff of **Voyager** has been considering the possibility of reviewing Indie artists and their CD's for some time now. There are so many artists that we've felt a need to bring attention to those with particularly good qualities. We asked **Dr. Octavius Dankceller** to assist by giving his opinion of **Phreddie & the Rump Rangers** first album "Ram Bam Thank You Man!" **Dr. Dankceller** commented, "These corpulent cretins? These nefarious nitwits? I think they're wretched. Dismal. Abominable. Just a bunch of dirty, nasty, filthy, slimy, creepy little bahstads. I hate them! I hate their **GUTS** !!" Next we asked **Dr. Dankceller** to comment on "I Are What Iz" by **StrangeIdiocy**. He responded, "You must be joking? Judge these repulsive perverts? These incorrigible maniacs? They're hideous. Atrocious. Contemptible. Just a bunch

of insipid, revolting, lecherous, nauseating, disgusting little bahstads! I hate them!! I hate their **GUTS !!!**" Well then! All of us at **Voyager** now conclude that perhaps this isn't such good idea after all.

To close out, be aware that **Jethro Tull**, **Trans-Siberian Orchestra**, and **Dan Fogelberg** are to be releasing brand new albums very soon. **Tull** and **Trans** are preparing tour schedules as this is written, but as all of us know, **Dan Fogelberg** recently died of cancer. His new (and final) album will be a certain treasure for all **Dan** fans. **YES** will also begin their '**Close To The Edge and Back**' tour in July, these dates posted at www.yesworld.com. **The Moody Blues** are also preparing for an autumn tour and have dates scheduled for Europe, but nothing yet in the United States. Let's hope they come to a theater near you!

From all of us here at **Voyager**, thank you for indulging in our insanity. If you feel ill from reading this please ingest 2 tabs of Lysergic Acid Diethylamide and you'll feel no pain quickly (as well as wonderful new realities in strange faraway places!) Or a MagellanMusic CD might help. Remember that our CD's are available at www.cdbaby.com/all/magellanmusic, and if you toss them like a Frisbee they'll go a long way - we promise you'll have a lot of fun! There is also fun stuff available at www.cafepress.com/magellanmusic. And if you **really** enjoy pain and suffering, the MM website is www.MagellanMusic.com.

<<insert mysterious bodily noises here>>



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