

Voyager

MagellanMusic Newsletter

Winter 2013

Christmas on the horizon already!? Maybe it's our imagination, but it seems like this happened just a year ago. (*ahem*) That means we have the classic problems of how to spend low but buy well. When the time comes it's always much more difficult than we expect. Perhaps we should keep a running list of ideas all year. Perhaps entertainment (*such as **MagellanMusic***) is the surest bet, which is at www.cdbaby.com/all/magellanmusic, or maybe a couple of fun items (*such as **MagellanMusic***) from www.cafepress.com/magellanmusic would be a nice surprise (*nudge, nudge, hint, hint!*) Another idea is unusual foods; it always seems to work. Perhaps credit cards for specific stores so the recipient can buy whatever they like. There's also the remote possibility of winning a contest for a 'round-the-world cruise', all expenses paid, accompanied by your choice of person from "Drop Dead Gorgeous R Us" catalog (*if anyone finds this contest please inform the **Voyager** staff immediately*). Or a good imitation of **Scrooge** might end all buying problems entirely. We recommend the first two suggestions the most (*you know, **MagellanMusic***), but **Voyager** is of course unabashedly biased.

The most surprising news is **MagellanMusic** is finally posted on **Wikipedia**. That's the key word - finally. The **Voyager** staff has suggested it many times to band members but never got a positive response. It's partly because they have always avoided using their real names in public, but mostly because **Wikipedia** has criteria that makes posting articles very demanding. In the old days articles were being posted with too much unverifiable information, which gave it a chintzy image, but monitors are now watching more closely and why many postings are deleted quickly. That's why we learned it is a good idea for experienced **Wikipedia** writers to first verify information about the subject. **Voyager** was able to find such writers thus the proper posting we see now, including the 'official' photo **MagellanMusic** presented last year. There will be more information added, such as additional articles about each of the CD's, but those will come with time. You can see the article at www.wikipedia.org/wiki/magellanmusic.

With Christmas still in mind, here are some other unusual music suggestions for intrepid 60's music freaks. And all of these can be found on Amazon.com and iTunes (*just like **MagellanMusic***) (*ahem*):

Peanut Butter Conspiracy - the first response is, "*There was an actual band with that name? You gotta be kidding?*" Nope, there was indeed a band with

that name. And not only were they good, they were a part of the San Francisco scene at the height of the psychedelic era with Joplin, Jimi, the Airplane, Grateful Dead and many others. Plus they did enough recording that their 'best of' album is two discs. Best of all, they are just as unique as those we mentioned; there is no mistaking them for anyone, a prize catch for those into the 60's music scene. A compilation called "*Living Dream: the Best of Peanut Butter Conspiracy*" is a terrific choice.

The Tangerine Zoo - again an unusual name for a 60's band that cleverly included food, a unique trend in those days, and they too were top notch psychedelic rockers. And just as **Peanut Butter Conspiracy**, they had grown so popular that not only were they featured with name artists at concerts, but were invited to play Woodstock. Unfortunately, **Tangerine Zoo** couldn't make it to that event. Perhaps it was an omen that they would soon fall through the cracks, never be heard from again, which is exactly what happened. That is, until re-grouping just a few years ago in the Boston area. "*Outside Looking In*" is their best.

West Coast Pop Art Experimental Band - these were guys who tested the patience of label execs with such a long band name, but they deserved notice. At the height of the psychedelic era anything was possible, and their 'pop' yet adventurous attitude, and stage show too, was a great combination. The **WCPAE Band** fit the times so well that they scored a contract with Reprise Records and actually recorded four albums before moving on to greener pastures. "*Part One*" is their best album to have.

July - amazingly simple name isn't it? But still another band that fell through the cracks. They were a British band that formed earlier but developed into the groovy psyche/pop band we hear on their one and only album, which came out in 1968. While they strike a resemblance to Pink Floyd's first album, which is very refreshing actually, **July** could easily be mistaken for a 1967 San Francisco band. For those who like rare 1960's jewels, "*July*" is a keeper.

Group 1850 - is a slightly different story of a Danish psychedelic band who didn't have anything released in America until the digital age except for the few who may have found an import LP. Even that would have been difficult since they barely got into the British market. Still, **Group 1850** was one of the more serious, eclectic, acid-tinged bands in Europe. They were right up there with German counterparts like **Amon Duul** and **Can**. There is a version of "*Agemo's Trip To Mother Earth*" with 7 additional tracks from other albums, sometimes called "*1967-1968*", and either is a real treasure for 1960's aficionados.

There are three ominous words in the music business, and they are "Royalty Free Music." Insiders know what it means, but to Indie musicians it might not mean anything. Normally, any song played anywhere in public earns a small royalty fee, which is a long established law administered by performance rights companies like BMI and ASCAP. But royalty free music is a means of selling music as a generic entity to films, commercials, elevators, offices, etc - the

best example being Muzak - thus no ongoing royalties to any composers. However, the odd fact is royalty free music companies are on the rise. Many small online companies offer such services, but to keep their catalog supplied they invite artists to essentially give them their music free of charge. These companies offer little or no information verifying their business history or who their customers are. Could this mean your music is offered to publishers and known artists in need of new songs? Possibly. Considering the perpetual uncertainty of music sales in recent times, as well as the miniscule royalty money from music sites like Pandora and others, the Music Biz is looking for ways to survive like all other limping industries do. All you Indie artists out there - beware of and avoid any royalty free music sites!

Now for some REALLY bad news - the **Voyager** staff expresses sadness to frequent **MagellanMusic** member **Vlad Zsoerbin** after learning he has fallen into a chronic-mega-super-hyper-depression after discovering the existence of progressive rock band **Syzygy**. One of **Vlad's** greatest songs, called "**Syzygy**" (so good that **MagellanMusic** never recorded it), nearly encouraged a solo career dedicated to that song. In 1988 **Vlad** began recording sessions to culminate in a 10 disc gold-plated autographed boxed collection of 108 different versions of "**Syzygy**". This project was never completed because all engineers, technical staff, and support personnel fled the studio in maniacal frenzy and are now residing at the 'Dangerously Psychotic' wing of the Sunnyvale Home for the Deranged. Rumors abound that **Vlad** will spend next year dead to avoid medical recovery costs. **Voyager** will report any developments in this tragic story.

Now, some good news is **AAA Marrs** is slowly recovering from LBD - LackaBrain Disorder. It is reported his IQ was recently measured at 72, a distinct improvement from 61 two years ago. Then, when it was discovered last year that he's been sitting on his brain for too long, which is especially traumatized by the severe crack in it, he was tested with what doctors call an experimental 'brain diaper' - a procedure called Diaperectomy. It is filled with foam padding that softens the pressure on his brain while he is sitting on it. Indication of improvement was noticeably increased speaking ability. Normally it took 5 minutes to utter just one paragraph, but now it's down to 3 minutes. It was also noted that he could correctly spell words like 'cat', 'dog', and 'bus'. The **Voyager** staff is very happy for **AAA**, we hope he will soon be able to read classic literature like "*Green Eggs and Ham*" by Dr. Seuss.

As for **Per Jensen**, we know that he suffered very serious neurovascular problems several years ago, but because of the precarious after-effects he must undergo regular tests to monitor it. At last count **Per** has experienced 277 blood tests, 211 eye/ear tests, 192 balance tests, 164 MRI scans, 148 CT

scans, and 57 angiograms. It's also rumored that doctors installed a hinged door in his head to regularly check oil, belts, hoses, and radiator levels. All-in-all, reports are promising. It's rumored that doctors no longer hear an echo when they whisper in his ear. It's also rumored **Per** can count backwards, "*Eno, owt, eerht, ruof, evif, xis.*" **Voyager** hopes the best for **Per**, and we will keep readers informed of his progress.

Latest reports of **Derek Story** are slim. The most recent news is he called our office and told a staff member, "*We must come into the NOW, man!*" then hung up. It's rumored **Derek** is touring Mongolia on a 1962 Honda 250 searching for the Meaning of Life in the Middle of F**king Nowhere, which is probably why there are also rumors he can't even find the Meaning of Public Bathrooms in the Middle of F**king Nowhere either. If we hear **Derek** has come into the NOW, man, we will pass it along, man.

The **Voyager** staff has also learned that **Ellis Dee** is perfecting a new version of **LSD**. It is said to be unusually potent from Uranium enrichment and will be called **LSD-235**. It is rumored to be strong enough to make a 6 ton elephant trip for a month, as well as glow in the dark and change colors faster than a chameleon. It would also require a two week recovery program at the "**Ubu-Ubu Rehabilitation Center**" in **Orpa, Nigeria**. No word yet on **Ellis's** progress, or whether he's been trampled by a herd of extremely p*ssed-off elephants.

And now that **Voyager** is about to wear out its welcome, we leave you with a classic quote from **Donald Rumsfeld**, Secretary of Defense during the George Bush Regime, which lead us into the economic nightmare that America may never recover from. It typifies the mentality of incompetence in politics:

"There are known knowns. These are things we know that we know. There are known unknowns. That is to say, there are things that we know we don't know. But there are also unknown unknowns. There are things we don't know we don't know." - Donald Rumsfeld

Remember that Christmas isn't for the good of receiving, it's for the good of giving. That is the greatest gift of all!

(MagellanMusic discs and downloads are at:
www.cdbaby.com/all/magellanmusic, and the collectibles are at
www.cafepress.com/magellanmusic)