

COUNT DOWN

THE MAGAZINE

**SUPER
EIGHT PAGE
SPECTACULAR
CULTURE CLUB
TOUR SOUVENIR**

RAP!

THE BEAT OF THE STREETS

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN

PSEUDO ECHO

BANANARAMA

PLUS: SONGWORDS
FASHION ● MOVIES
JONOFUN COLEMAN
SPORT ● AND MORE!

WIN A CAMERA IN THE KODAK ROCK SHOTS COMPETITION

DAVID SYLVIAN

I recognise no method of living

That I know

I see only the basic materials I may use

If you ask me I may tell you

It's been this way for years

CHORUS

I play my red guitar

It's the devil in the flesh

It's the iron in my soul

REPEAT CHORUS

I understand you're facing problems

Inside you

A certain difficulty of being

That I know, too

You may ask me why do I fail

Just when I'm needed

REPEAT CHORUS THREE TIMES

If you ask me I may tell you

It's been this way for years

Words and music by David Sylvian. Lyrics reprinted by kind permission of CBS Songs Pty. Ltd.

'RED GUITAR'



THE KID WITH

As well as singing, Kitchen Kid Scott Carne can talk. And talk. And talk! Russell Handley offers a willing ear.

Scott James Carne is the lead singer of Kids In The Kitchen. He's nineteen, pretty and well on his way to being rich and famous. If **Change In Mood** had been merely promising, **Bitter Desire** should seal his fate. That record is simply the best Australian single so far this year, and displays a depth of inspiration beyond any mere beginners luck.

Scott Carne can also talk. And then some. He's an interviewer's dream and nightmare. Ask any question and you'll have to stop him before he writes a book. The Kid could use a sub-editor. We spoke by 'phone. He was in Burleigh Heads in Queensland, hard at work and loving (almost) every minute of it.

So tell us about your new guitarist.

"He's a Jamaican born fellow from New York called Claude Carrenza. He's been with us for about two weeks now (it's mid-June) and it's shaping up remarkably — he's just so good," he enthuses.

So why is Greg Doorman no longer in the band?

"Personal differences. We decided to put Greg on his merry way which was very unfortunate, but there's a lot that happens with success — egos and stuff — and it was just too much. We had to get a new guitarist, which was really **unfortunate** as it's a bit of a gamble; a risky thing to do. We weren't happy, we weren't a unit.

"There were forty applicants for this wild ad in a local music magazine down in Melbourne. It was a really full-on ad 'cause we didn't want to put in that Kids In The Kitchen want a guitarist 'cause you'd get so many people ringing up. This ad was about a fourth of a page with a list of requirements; you must be this, must be that so we could keep away a lot of the dickheads. We finally got Claude after about forty people!" he laughs.

"I tell you what, we just didn't know who was who or what was what. It was such a hard thing to go through. Claude's style is similar to Greg's — we didn't want to get a rock'n'roll guitarist to play funk. The songwriting's more mature now; more feel."

Have you got an album in the works somewhere?

"Everyone said we should have had one out already, or be due to have one out, but we don't want to rush it. We want to do it right and have a good first debut album. I want to be proud of it. I don't want to listen to it in a couple of months

and go 'shit, how and why did I record that!' Too many bands have been rushed in. We've been rushed in a couple of times — the first single and stuff — and we weren't ready for it; everything was new to us. We just did it; we didn't know what the repercussions were going to be. Now we've found out what happens if you rush things and we've decided to take our time as much as we can and decide on the producer and make sure he'll be happy working with us, and us with him," he explains.

Are you thinking of working with David Kershenbaum (the producer of **Bitter Desire**) again?

"I'd love to work with Dave, but I think I'd like to have a change. I'd like to have a change in producers just to see how things will go."

You got any names floating around?

"We're trying to get Giorgio Moroder. Trevor Horn is too busy and too much money," he laughs.

"We want a change in production so it sounds bigger and better. I love David's work; he's great, but I think the whole band wants a change to learn some new ideas from someone different," he explains.

The third Kids In The Kitchen single will be off the album, and will no doubt be released simultaneously. Much to the surprise of all concerned **Bitter Desire** failed to eclipse the success of **Change In Mood**.

"I thought it was a better song than **Change In Mood** which went to No. 9 nationally; when that was in, it was a quiet period. We thought **Bitter Desire** would do a bit better. There's so much good 'product' out at the moment; a lot of really good songs by international acts. It's sitting up on the charts, but hasn't reached as high as **Change In Mood**" he says.

Where did the name Kids In The Kitchen come from?

"The bass player thought it up, actually. It was a kind of the classic situation; we were rehearsing in the lounge room in the early stages and working on this song called **The Beat** which we needed some percussive instruments to help us out with the rhythms. We couldn't afford to buy a set of timbales or a tambourine so we went into the kitchen and got a few pots and pans! Someone said 'boys in the kitchen' and laughed, but it sort of stuck!"

A gig at a hotel followed; the name offered was 'Kids In The Kitchen'.

"We never expected the name to carry as far

as it did. The name's something you remember. I had doubts earlier on 'cause I wanted something a bit more 'deep and meaningful'. Have you heard of that band in Melbourne 'I Spit On Your Gravy'?"

I wonder how Kids In The Kitchen feel about being constantly grouped with Pseudo Echo particularly, but also Real Life as part of some new Melbourne Sound.

"It can't be helped. The thing that I really hate (and they must hate it too) is everytime someone plays Pseudo Echo on the radio, they follow it with Kids In The Kitchen or Real Life or vice versa. It really shits me, actually. Everyone puts Pseudo Echo and us in the same category of music. The only things I think we've got in common is we're young and fresh!"

Kids In The Kitchen have been accused of owing a debt to Simple Minds.

"Oh God (laughs). I think my early dance style might have been similar to Mr Jim's but I don't think I've got anything in common really. If you listen to the music, there's no Simple Minds there."

Let's get back to your album; a lot of bands play live for a couple of years then do a debut album which consists of whatever they've been playing live for the past year. Are you going to write a bunch of new songs now you feel much happier with?

"We could put those songs on the album and it would be OK, but I want the album to be of a world standard. We'll probably keep five or six of our songs. We also want to give Claude a chance to contribute to the album, but we're not going to cut our own throats because Greg's left and not do **any** of the old stuff."

Did you ever seriously think about doing anything else other than being in a band?

"If I wasn't doing this, I'd probably be sitting in some day job getting bored out of my mind! I really wanted to be in a band, but I never thought I could do anything successful. I just didn't think I had it. My ultimate dream was to play the Sydney Myer Music Bowl in Melbourne. I played that and I thought what the hell do I do now?" he laughs again.

So what's the next dream?

"I don't know... play Madison Square Gardens! I think I'm going over the top there, but I thought I was doing that dreaming about playing The Music Bowl in Melbourne. We'll see what happens."

No doubt we will.

H THE TALKING HEAD

BANANARAMA

Q

SURNAME:
CHRISTIAN NAME:
PLACE OF BIRTH:
DATE OF BIRTH:
HEIGHT:
COLOUR OF HAIR:
COLOUR OF EYES:
STARSIGN:
EDUCATION/JOB:

Which was your favourite toy as a child?

Who was your teenage idol?

Which is your favourite animal/pet?
Which is your favourite food/meal?

Which is your favourite drink?
Which three things/persons would you take on a desert island? (No food)
Where would you like to live?

Which is your favourite holiday spot?

Are you collecting something?
Which was the first and last record you bought yourself?

What kind of music do you listen to?

How much money do you have in your pockets at the moment?

Fahey
Siobhan
Dublin, Ireland
10.9.60
5'5½"
Bleached Blonde
Brown
Virgo
Press office at record company
Predictably it was a doll. My two favourites were Marion and Jackie.
Marc Bolan

Dogs and cats and chimps.

Any kind of eggs except for omelettes (yuk).

Tea.

Phil. Wind up record player & I Want You by Marvin Gaye and a photo album.
I'm happy where I am but I don't know where I want to be when I'm old.
I've only been on holiday twice but the Cote D'Azur is beautiful.
Press cuttings of the group.

First: "Ain't No Sunshine" by Michael Jackson. Last: "Lady Sings The Blues" by Billie Holiday.
A complete mixture.

Fifteen pounds.

Woodward
Keren
England
2.4.64
5'6"
Dark Brown
Blue
Aries
Comprehensive School. Job at the B.B.C.
Matchbox E-type Jaguar.

David Essex.

Dog.

Roast beef, yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes and sprouts.
Tea.

A male companion. Pears soap and records.

I like where I live now in London.

Yet to find a good one.

No time.

First: "Tiger Feet" by Mud.
Last: "Caught You" by Steel Pulse.

Everything.

One pound and twenty one pence.

Dallin
Sarah
England — half Irish.
17.12.63
5'7"
Blonde
Green
Sagittarius
Comprehensive Schools and London College of Fashion
My brother's Action Man.

Bryan Ferry, David Bowie, Marc Bolan and David Essex.
Dogs — Boxers and Labradors. Tame Buddies.
Bacon and eggs, fish fingers, lamb chops and strawberries.

Vodka and orange, Cocktails, milk and tea.
Al Pacino, cup of tea and Steel Pulse LP.

Where I am — London, New York — Bali.

Italy and Margate.

Earrings, Nike Trainers.

"Alice Cooper's Greatest Hits" "Just Be Good To Me" by S.O.S. Band.

Everything. Pop, rock, reggae. No Country and Western — only Dolly Parton.
Nothing.

Which living person would you like to meet (contemporary)?
Which historical personality do you admire?
At which particular event would you like to have been present? (Can be historical, to present day or future).
Do you believe in God?
Is there any love-story either on film or in literature which moved you?
How long did your longest/shortest love-affair last?
Love is ...
With which person/character of either DALLAS or DYNASTY do you identify yourself with?
Which is your ideal flat/house and where?
What in particular do you not like on/in yourself?
What do you like best on/in yourself?
What makes you laugh?

Do you have a favourite joke/saying?

Hurricane Higgins.

Maud Gonne.

1916 — Easter Rising in Ireland.

Yes.
"Tess Of The D'Urbervilles"

Longest: 3 years
Shortest: 3 weeks.

—
Punk from Dallas 'coz he's got a nice selection of loud bootlace ties.
BUCK HOUSE.

Mauve eyeshadow and pink blusher.
My birthday suit.

Our dance routines.

"Sit in front of the fire until your Googie Withers."

Al Pacino.

Dick Turpin.

The Great Train Robbery.

Yes.
Pam and Bobby Ewings break-up.

Longest: 1½ years
Shortest: A few days.
A pain in the ass.
Pam — she's so mixed up emotionally.

My house in London.

I hate my big toes, and my hair.
I am easily amused.

Anything pathetically stupid.

Never bunny with a kozza (Cockney for don't talk to a policeman). Up your hole with a big jam roll.

Al Pacino.

Peasants in the Great Plague and Fire of London.
The Bill Grundy interview with The Sex Pistols and Siouxsie.

Yes.
Dallas — Pam and Bobby.
Marc Arayson blowing up in a plane.
Longest: 3 years
Shortest: 2 nights.
Loud music.
Sue-Ellen, the alcoholic.

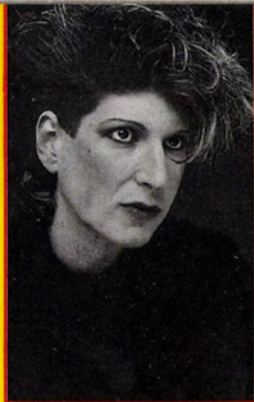
London — it's just home.

Moodiness, stubbornness and childish outbursts.
Humour.

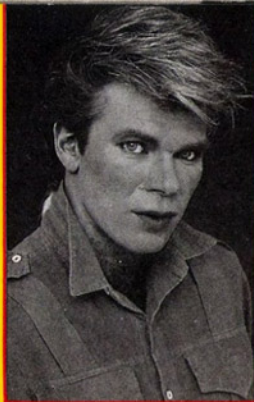
Myself, Les Dawson, people falling over in public especially Keren.
"Shut up or I'll read you the riot act". "Get a load of those mules". "Blinding bit of tucker". (very pleasant meal).



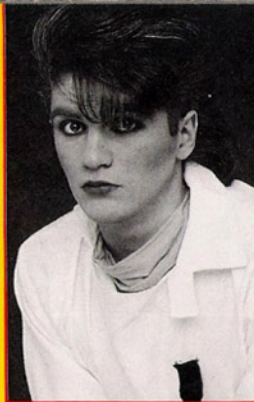
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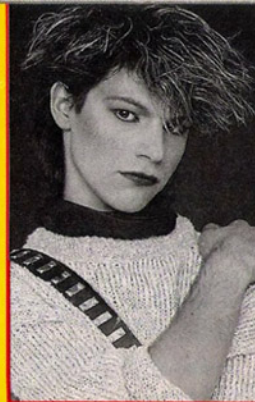
ANTHONY



TONY



PIERO PIERO



BRIAN

Photos by John Webber

Real Name:
Born (Place/Date):
Siblings:
Height:
Weight:
Eyes:
Hair:

Previous Bands:

Previous Occupations:

Fav. Colours:
Fav. Food:
Hobbies:

Ambition In Life:

Self-description:

High Point of Career:

Fav. Films:

Anthony Johan Argiro
Melbourne
2 brothers (1 older, 1 younger)
6'
Thin
Brown
Black

The Asthmatics
Bank Teller

Red and pale yellow and black
Muesely Slices (SUNBRITE)
Playing drums and listening to music
To be happy, calm and respectful of myself
A dreamer

Auditioning for Pseudo Echo

'The Wizard of Oz', 'The Shining',
'Clash Of The Titans'

Tony Allan Lugton
Australia on 1 October 1958
1 brother, 1 sister
5'10"
12 Stone
Blue
Blonde

The Radio Stars, Stealer and
Live Wire
Gardener, foreman and sign
writer

Aqua
Japanese food
Home recording

To retire early

Quiet, gentle and loving

Playing to 25,000 people at an
outdoor concert
'West World', 'The Omen' and
'The Howling'

Piero Piero
Melbourne on 7 January 1963
1 older sister and hubby
5'7"
10 Stone
2 Brown
All my own — multicolour,
brown, red, blonde
A few unknown bands with
Brian
Waiter

Blue and grey
Italian
Visiting family and friends when
I can and 4-track recording
To always be happy, have
success and produce records
Well? I enjoy my own company!
I'm pretty quiet
Recording 'Autumnal Park', our
debut album with John Punter
'American Gigolo'

Brian John Canham
Melbourne on 3 July 62
4 older brothers
5'7"
8 1/4 Stone
Brown
Seasonal (naturally brown)

Ozrolite, The Lites and Secret
Agents
Cabinet maker and furniture
stainer
Earthy and pastel colours
Chinese
Collecting old musical
instruments
To do and get everything I
always wanted
Little guy with a big opinion

Recording our album 'Autumnal
Park'
'Excalibur', 'Clash Of The Titans'
and sci-fi movies

Fav. Actor:	James Dean, Astro Boy, Jerry Lewis and David Bowie	Clint Eastwood	Jerry Lewis	Jerry Lewis
Fav. Actress:	Marilyn Monroe and Judy Garland	Bridget Bardot	Rebecca Gilling	Barbara Eden
Person You Would Most Like To Meet:	HIM	Ralphus Poopdianianus	Steve Jansen from Japan	Curly Howard
Most Important Possession:	Japan records and a small Japanese music box	My life	My family and my 'Sons of Pioneers' book	My car
Most Hated Record:	Ones with scratches on them	'Three Minute Egg'	None come to mind	Don't have one
Fav. Bands:	Japan, Simple Minds, Ultravox, Comsat Angels, Talk Talk and B-Movie	Spandau Ballet, Simple Minds, The Expression, Classix Nouveau	Japan, Spandau Ballet, Duran Duran, Simple Minds and Icehouse	Jean Michel Jarre, Ultravox, Simple Minds and Thompson Twins
Fav. Singers:	David Sylvian and David Bowie	David Byrne, Bryan Ferry and Gary Numan	David Sylvian and Brian	Tom Bailey, Martin Fry, David Sylvian, Jim Kerr and Midge Ure
Fav. Albums:	'Dare' by Human League, 'Gentlemen Take Polaroids' by Japan, 'Vienna' by Ultravox and 'Goodbye Yellow Brick Road' by Elton John	'New Gold Dream' by Simple Minds and 'The Expression'	'Quiet Life' by Japan, 'New Gold Dream' by Simple Minds and 'Icehouse' by Flowers	'Oxygene' by Jean Michel Jarre, 'Vienna' by Ultravox, 'Rio' by Duran Duran and 'Living On The Ceiling' by Blancmange
Fav. Single:	First Japan Single and 'Gentlemen Take Polaroids'	'Cut a Long Story' and 'Total Eclipse' by The Expression	'Life in Tokyo' by Japan	'Planet Earth' by Duran Duran and 'Living On The Ceiling' by Blancmange
First Record Ever Bought:	Second hand copy of 'Space Oddity'	'Electric Warrior' by T-Rex	'Imagine' by John Lennon	'Tight Rope' by Leon Russell
Likes:	Reading for stars and a gleaming sports car. Listening	Good food, sunshine and living it up	Travelling around (touring) and meeting people. Red Porsches	Lotus Espirits and keyboards
Dislikes:	Fake people	Being broke and wintertime	The fact that some bands have to work too hard to get somewhere	'Prisoner'
Fav. Animal:	The cat	Panther	Cha-Ley (my cat)	Dog
Fav. Person:	A respected few	Debbie Woodman	Sonia	Fiona
Heroes:	Astro Boy and James Dean	Kimba, The White Lion	Rudolph Valentino and Russell Mulcahy	James Bond, The Three Stooges and Jerry Lewis
Villains:	Dick Dastardly and The Devil	Dracula	Road Runner	Ziegfeld
Greatest Embarrassment:	Having two ladies sleep over when a special lady knocks on the door	Being sick on a peak hour tram	Lisa and Mandy finding me in my bathrobe	No comment
Self-Confession:	Gluttony for no cause	Dislike screaming babies	I'm scared of dentists	I can't make pancakes
First romance:	Too naive to know and too young to remember	Doctors and nurses — aged four	My Mum	Primary School
Fav. Fun Things To Do	Huddling close at night and listening to the sea.	Watching scary movies	Snow ski in winter whenever I can. Go driving on summer afternoons with as many people as possible.	Watch movies, listen to music and driving my car.

PSEUDO ECHO

I Won't Let The Go Down On Me

Forty winks in the lobby
Make mine a G and T
Then to our favourite hobby
Searching for an enemy
Here in our paper houses
Stretching for miles and miles
Old men in stripey trousers
Rule the world with plastic smiles

Good or bad, like it or not
It's the only one we've got

I won't let the sun go down on me
I won't let the sun go down

Mother nature isn't in it
Three hundred million years
Goodbye in just a minute
Gone forever, no more tears

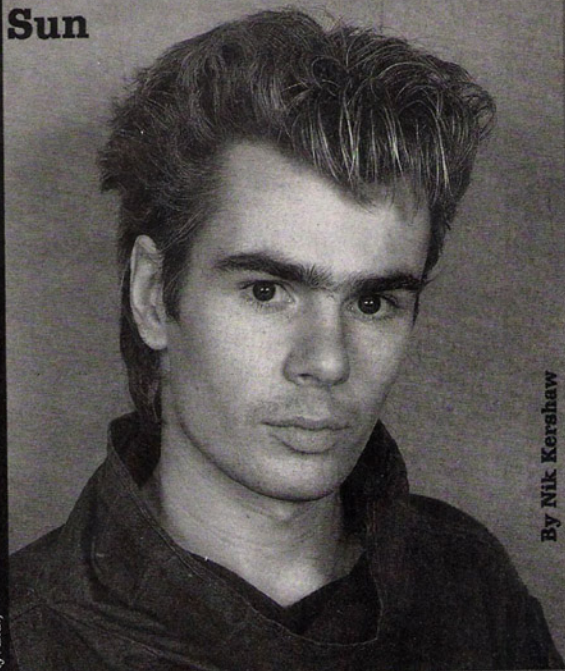
Pinball man, power glutton
Vacuum inside his head
Forefinger on the button
Is he blue or is he red?

Break your silence if you would
Before the sun goes down for good

I won't let the sun go down on me
I won't let the sun go down

(Music & Lyrics by Nik Kershaw. Used by kind permission of Rondor Music (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.)

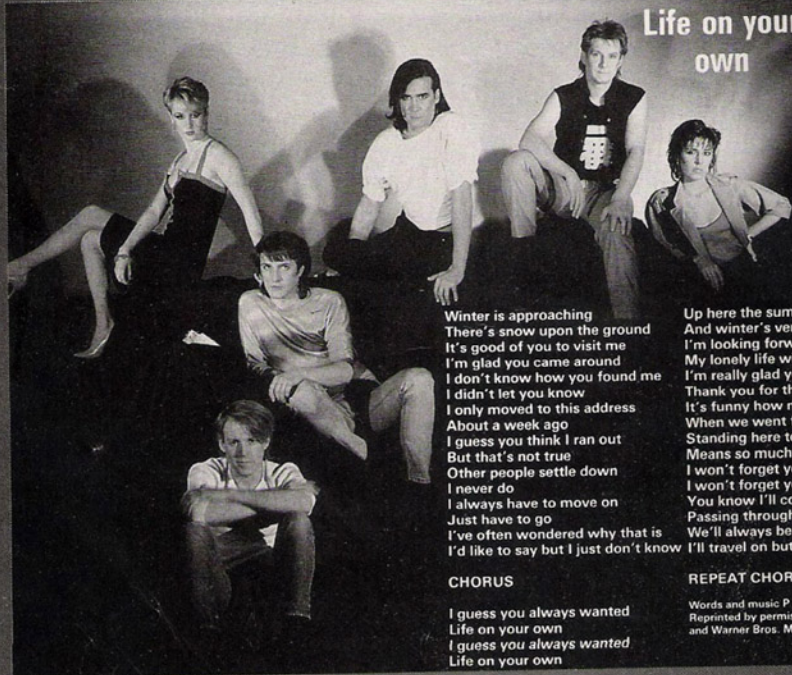
Sun



By Nik Kershaw

Life on your own

HUMAN LEAGUE



Winter is approaching
There's snow upon the ground
It's good of you to visit me
I'm glad you came around
I don't know how you found me
I didn't let you know
I only moved to this address
About a week ago
I guess you think I ran out
But that's not true
Other people settle down
I never do
I always have to move on
Just have to go
I've often wondered why that is
I'd like to say but I just don't know

CHORUS

I guess you always wanted
Life on your own
I guess you always wanted
Life on your own

Up here the summer's shorter
And winter's very cold
I'm looking forward to the peace
My lonely life will hold
I'm really glad you came here
Thank you for the talk
It's funny how my problem stopped
When we went for a walk
Standing here together
Means so much
I won't forget your confidence
I won't forget your touch
You know I'll come to see you
Passing through
We'll always be a world apart
I'll travel on but I will be true

REPEAT CHORUS FIVE TIMES TO FADE

Words and music P. Oakey/P. Adrian Wright/J. Callis
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and Warner Bros. Music Aust.

Sweet Feet

Bi-copter

Dance Machine

Gunman

Headspin

Electro Squirt

Lock

Bullet

Break

TRE
& FE

Whiz Kid

Dynamic Break Team

LET NAMES LET GAMES



So how's this for a theory:

Breakdancing, 'rap' dancing — call it what you will — evolves in the clubs and (literally) on the streets of New York, in particular the suburb of South Bronx. Its relationship with music is a two way affair and soon there's a group of producers, musicians and D.J.'s mixing and scratching out a soundtrack. Sounds like soul, disco, funk and jazz meets 'Star Wars'.

Eventually the dancers make it on to video and film to promote the music, which in turn promotes the dancing.

'Flashdance' is just the tip of the movie iceberg. More feature films are in production and soon kids from Paris to Parramatta and Manchester to Murray Bridge are breaking, popping, jamming, locking and bopping. Is this a trend, or what?

But for the purposes of this article, the date to remember is the 7th of March, 1983. On that day, PolyGram released the debut single by ex-Sex Pistols and Bow Wow Wow manager Mr. Malcolm McLaren. *Buffalo Gals* is a monster — that clip, that sound, those dancers!! It's the beginning...

Breakdancers start popping up in clubs around the country, but it's the showing of the movie 'Breakdance' which finally blows everything wide open. People are dancing in the streets. Disco music (for want of a better term) is once again the single dominant force in popular music, and dancing is becoming an obsession.

"... four buffalo boys go around the outside, 'round the outside, 'round the outside, four buffalo boys go around the outside, and doe-si-doe your partner..."

Eighteen year old Louie Daher is the leader of the Dynamic Break Team, and an instructor at Rap City, located on the fourth floor of a seedy looking building in Sydney's George Street, on the edge of Chinatown. Three times a week Rap City is a place for up to two hundred people to step out. Most of the students are boys; most are under eighteen.

I asked him how this all started. "The first film clip I ever saw was *Buffalo Gals*," he explains. "And by just watching that over and over again, I picked up some basics. In the last six months we've got ourselves a group and opened up Rap City. It takes a lot of practice — at least five days a week. You've got to be fit and if you've got a bit of gymnastics in you, that's good 'cause you've got to be flexi also."

"And you've got to have rhythm. If you haven't got rhythm, it's impossible," he continues.

"I was dancing the normal disco stuff from 1974/75. It wasn't that John Travolta stuff. I've always wanted to dance."

Story: Russell Handley

Photos: Scott Edmunds

THE TAKEAWAYS 'SWEET AND SOUR'

I know that times are tough
And dreams can cost me dearly
My dreams have been turned and tossed
But now they unfold clearly
Ambition is a beast we all must tame
We can become so obsessed with it we lose the game

One day the wind blows hot and cold
Life can be sweet and sour, but I am in control
It can chill me to the bone
Give me wings to fly on my own
I am in control

Well I keep my head ahead of the tide,
Cos where one door slams another opens up wide
When the green-eyed monster knocks at my door
I ask him what on earth he came here for

(Lyrics and Music by Sharon O'Neill,
Published by CBS Songs Australia Pty.
Limited. Lyrics reprinted by permission.)



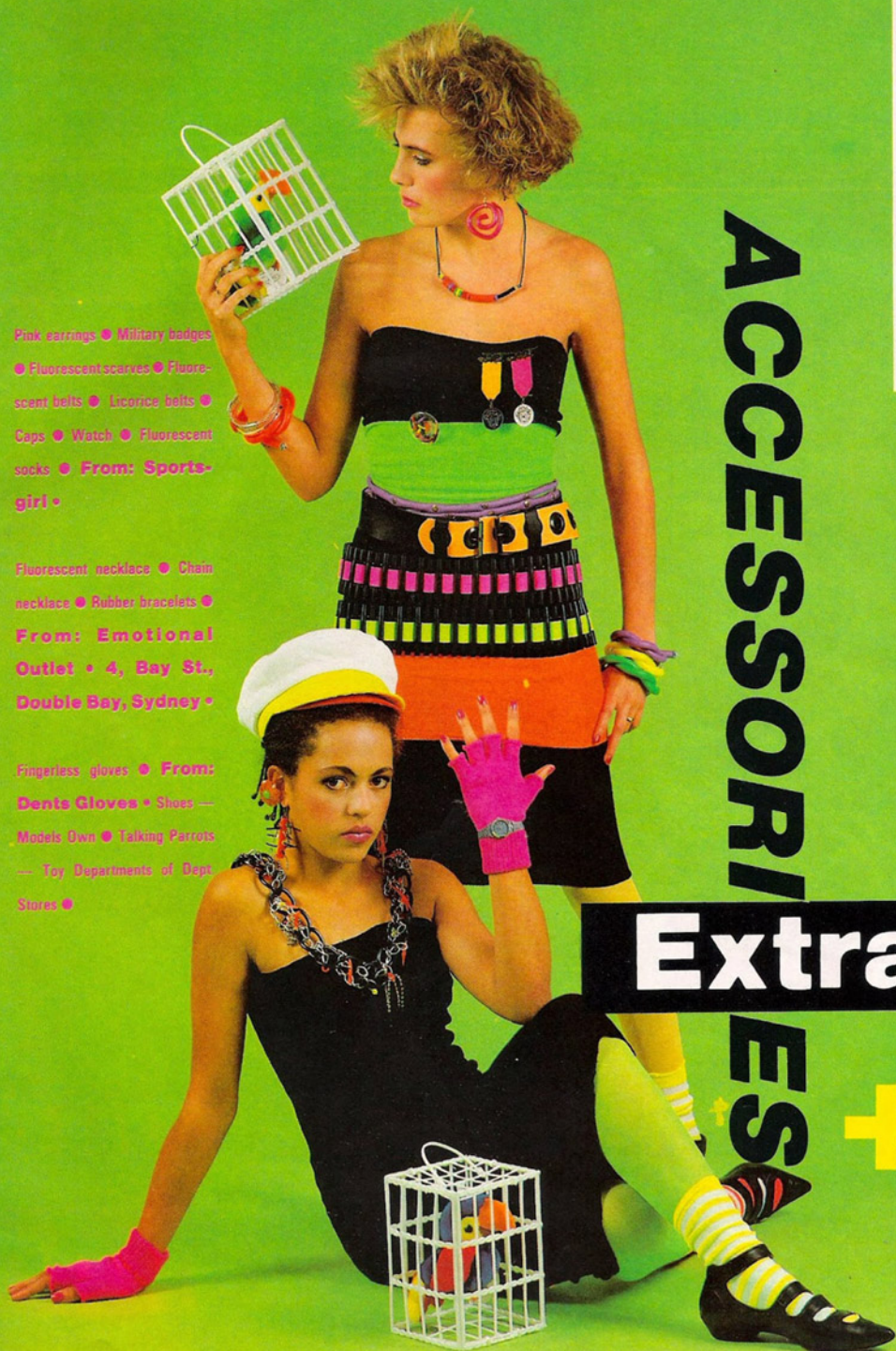
ACCESSORIES

Extra!

Pink earrings • Military badges
• Fluorescent scarves • Fluorescent belts • Licorice belts • Caps • Watch • Fluorescent socks • From: Sports-girl •

Fluorescent necklace • Chain necklace • Rubber bracelets • From: Emotional Outlet • 4, Bay St., Double Bay, Sydney •

Fingerless gloves • From: Dents Gloves • Shoes — Models Own • Talking Parrots — Toy Departments of Dept. Stores •





Hat • Wrap • Leather min •

Gloves • Stud Belt • From:

Cash Palace, Oxford
St., Sydney •

Chain & stone earrings • Chain

necklace • Earrings • Rubber

bracelets • From: Emo-

tional Outlet, 4, Bay

St., Double Bay,

Sydney •

Metal sleeve hands • From:

Gowings, Sydney •

Beret • From: The

Strand Hatters,

Sydney •

Dark glasses • From:

Sportsgirl •

Extra!

**Accessories — put
take 'em off, day or**

Cocktail Hat • Fez • From
Strand Hatters •

Earrings • Choker • Neckpiece
• Large brooch • Bracelets •
Earrings • Necklace • Black
beads • From: Joy Bee,
Stand 21, Padding-
ton Markets •

Gloves • From: Dents
Gloves •

Styling Jane Maher
Photography Rhonda Thwaite
Makeup Sue Stenmark

**'em on
night look right!**

INTRODUCING
One of Europe's Hottest Dance Bands

THE TWINs

A WILD ROMANCE LIB 5030

THE TWINs
A WILD ROMANCE

Featuring the Hit
"NOT THE LOVING KIND"



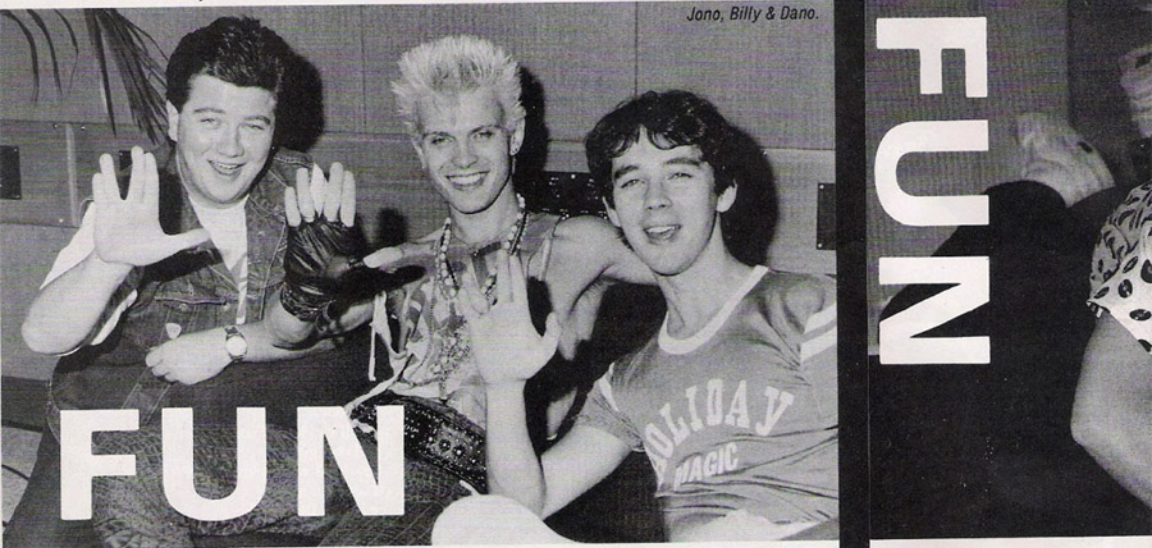
Shake

Shake Records Marketed by Liberation.

Certified multi-media personality Jonathan Coleman tells Samantha Trenoweth what he would do if he was God for a day (which happens next week...)

JUST W

Jono, Billy & Dano.



FUN

FUN

Jonathan Coleman whirls into Sydney's 2MMM-FM offices...

"Hi. Sorry I'm late... Before we start, I have to make a phone call... Here, have a look at the single... and this little blurb Warner Bros. put out... and look at this... This interview just came out. It mentions my girlfriend's name and now she won't speak to me. I thought she'd appreciate the publicity... Sorry I smell like a pig. We're doing this *Wonder World* send-up on *Wavelength* and I had to play with this pig all yesterday... Just can't get the smell off..."

What with *Wavelength*, the Wide Boy Youth Single, a new mini-album and a regular show on commercial radio, Jonathan Coleman's life is becoming a mite hectic but, really, that's just a measure of his achievement. So, with fame and fortune possibly just a stone's throw away, what does he see as the secret of his success?

"Just being a real person, I think. Some TV stars/rock'n'roll stars/big bimbos/mega-demi-gods are so cool and so wonderful and so unbelievably chic that people can't identify with them but people come up to me anywhere and say, 'Hey Jono, how're you going?' It tends to annoy your friends a bit but that's just one of the by-products, unfortunately. You can't say, 'Hold on, I'm not famous today.'"

"I don't want to get so famous I can't go anywhere. I just want to get well known enough that

I can not have to do the things I'm not happy with. It would be great to just do three or four things a year, like a record thing, maybe a book, a bit of radio and a few specials; to be famous enough that I don't have to be on every day of the week and people don't say, 'Oh, not another Jonathan Coleman thing!'"

One of Jonathan Coleman's biggest "things" right now is his mini-album — 'Jonathan Coleman's Polka Project' — a collection of comedy, comedy-music and "serious" music, produced and partly co-written by Alan Mansfield (of Robert Palmer, Bette Midler and Dragon fame), along the lines of polka being the next big musical revival.

Another of his big things, and quite a new thing for him, is his, now national, TV show.

"I think *Wavelength* is breaking new ground. When Channel Nine and Triple M approached me about doing a music show, I was worried it would be like all the others. They're all a bit sort of (puts on his impeccably modulated video-jock speaking growl). 'Hi, I'm the host... Here's another clip... and here's so and so... love the new album... tell us about the tour dates...' There must be more to a music show than that. What I wanted to do was inject some fun.

"Now, there are people who write in and say,

really seriously, 'You shouldn't muck around with the videos, man. It's bad karma', like we were making religious jokes or something, but that's what it's all about. Having the technology to put me into a clip is much better than having a boring old set with a couple of dying palm trees and a coffee table.

"It's like Billy Idol said when we showed him some stuff: What we're doing is the ultimate video piracy. These people spend \$200,000 on a video and there's this crazy person popping up in the middle of it."

Though Jonathan will readily admit that *Wavelength* has a long way to go, he's excited by its potential and optimistic about its future.

"The main thing I want to do next is introduce more of the elements that make the radio show work — send-up commercials and real rock'n'roll stars who've got a bit of a sense of humour and who aren't completely up themselves and think they're wonderful and won't do anything without their image going with them.

"Certain Australian bands have shied away from appearing on *Wavelength* because it's not good for their image — like, 'we're not into chromakey man' — but it was the same on *Simon Townsend's Wonder World*. Some people used to say, 'I'd rather Jonathan Coleman

ANTS TO HAVE

Maz & Boy George.



didn't do the story,' but probably the larger percentage would say, 'Oh, can you make sure Jonathan Coleman comes out and does it?'

At the moment, Jonathan's prime interest seems to lie in consolidating the footholds he's already gained but, eventually, every young entertainer's gaze turns across the Pacific to the land of hamburgers, hot dogs and the American dream.

"I'd like to get some recognition in America. Not that I want to sell out but it would be nice to show that American comedy isn't the only comedy in the world. Especially when you think Monty Python's big there now and Benny Hill's still big in America. There's got to be a situation over there for a little rounded guy and his Fijian compadre."

The Fijian compadre (don't expect fuzzy hair and a sulu) is, of course, the almost indispensable Dano (Ian Rogerson). Jono and Dano have been working together for years now, ever since they were teamed up for a radio show on the ABC's slightly off-beat offspring 2JJJ.

"We're like Morecombe and Wise or Abbot and Costello. We'll be working together for a long time. Working with Dano takes a lot of the pressure off me. If people don't like something it's not just me that gets the pooh poured on them."

What sort of things don't people like?

"I've annoyed people with some of the things I've said on radio. This guy rang up the other night and said he wanted to kill me — he was pretty serious — because I'd given out the location of a booze bus. I'd just said that a bus had broken down and that the police were in attendance and not to worry, that there were plenty of blue lights on top of the bus so you could see where it was. Then this guy rang up and went berserk. It freaked me out a bit."

Strangely, the reason Jonathan Coleman originally got into comedy was to avoid such disturbing incidents as threats upon his life.

"All I want to do is get on with people. I just can't handle aggro. That's the whole reason why I got into making people laugh, I think. Because, at school, I wanted to stay on the good side of the bullies. You make them laugh so they're not going to want to beat you up. I just want to keep people happy so they'll say, 'Hey, that Jonathan Coleman, he's a nice guy, we won't kill him now.'"

At 28, Jonathan Coleman has been making people laugh for quite a while. Is it hard being funny all the time? Does he think he'll ever run out of funny things to say?

"I'm not fun all the time — only in very import-

ant business meetings. I find it hard not to be funny in business meetings and when there's a lot of serious people around... but I think the real world is funny. There are so many funny things going on every day in the street. You've just got to read the papers and watch the TV. There's so much funny stuff that happens on TV that's meant to be serious, like the commercials. One motto I've got is, 'there's no such thing as bad television.' I'm a real couch potato."

There is a serious side to Jonathan Coleman, though. He can be serious about his work and he was very serious about the Franklin Dam project. He tried to take a *Wonder World* camera crew to Tasmania but, when he wasn't allowed, he took some time off work, went alone and got arrested like everyone else. Are there other things he's serious about? If, for instance, he could be God for a day, what would he do?

"Well, if I was God, I'd get rid of all the nuclear stuff we've got today. I'd just erase it from people's minds and memories so they wouldn't know how to do it anymore and wouldn't want to fight with each other all the time. That would be perfect. It's such a great world and there are so many good things happening. It's just such a hassle that there's all this garbage going on with people fighting all the time."