

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND ALL THAT TO OUR FANS OF THE CHURCH. AND ONCE AGAIN ITS BEEN SIMPLY AGES SINCE THE LAST COMMUNIQUÉ AND LIKE I KEEP TELLING MYSELF YOU MUST HAVE THE PATIENCE OF A MOUNTAIN TO STAY MORE THAN VAGUELY INTERESTED THROUGH THESE LONG SILENCES. MAYBE THE MOST IMPORTANT THING THAT HAPPENED FOR US LAST YEAR IS THAT WE FINALLY GOT ROUND TO MAKING THAT NEW ALBUM...OUR FIFTH, OR OUR SIXTH....DEPENDING IF YOU COUNT REM.LUX. AS AN ALBUM (AS IT WAS EVERYWHERE ELSE BUT AUST.)

ANYHOW...THE NEW ONE IS CALLED "STARFISH", A TITLE DREAMT UP BY R.PLOOG IN ONE OF HIS MORE LUCID MOMENTS, AND, WELL, IT JUST SEEMED TO FIT.

THE ALBUM TOOK THREE AND A HALF BLOODY MONTHS TO MAKE SO YOU'D BETTER LIKE IT OR ELSE. IT WAS RECORDED AT "THE COMPLEX", "OCEAN WAY", AND "RECORD ONE" STUDIOS, ALL LOCATED IN LOS ANGELES, CAL. AND YES, POLKS WE WENT THRU TWO EARTHQUAKES (6.6 and 6.2 ON THE RICHTER SCALE), FREEWAY SHOOTINGS, BUCKETLOADS OF POLLUTION, AND 4683 ARGUMENTS TO EVENTUALLY BRING THIS LP TO YOU. IT CONTAINS TEN TRACKS...SEVEN WRITTEN BY THE BAND AND MY LYRIQUES...ONE BY MWP..ONE BY PETE KOPPE...ONE BY ME AND K.JANSSON..AND ONE ON ME OWN. THE TITLES ARE..."DESTINATION", "UNDER THE MILKY WAY", "BLOOD MONEY", "LOST", "NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST", "SPARK", "ANTENNA", "REPTILE", "A NEW SEASON", AND "HOTEL WOMB". THE ALBUM WAS PRODUCED BY GREG LADANYI, WADDY WACHTEL AND US IN A SPLENDID AND RARE EXAMPLE OF INTERSPECIES CO-OPERATION....JUST COME AND CHECK OUT MY NEW GREY HAIRS..(BUT MUM THINKS ITS DISTINGUISHED)

ITS GOT TONS OF ELECTRIC GUITARS ON THERE AND IN FACT, VERY LITTLE OF EVERYTHING ELSE...IT HITS A LOT HARDER THAN HEYDAY DID...STRIPPED BACK DOWN TO BASICS AND MOSTLY RECORDED FAIRLY LIVE...PETER AND I ALSO BOTH HAD SINGING LESSONS...SO LOOK FOR SOME SUBTLE CHANGES IN THE VOCAL DEPT., AS WELL...FIGARO, FIGARO, FIGARO. THE COVER IS SOME MOODY SHOTS SNAPPED BY SOME FAMOUS NEW YORK PHOTOGRAPHER WHOSE NAME ESCAPES ME JUST NOW...AND, HONESTLY, I AGONIZED OVER THIS FOR AGES, BEFORE FINALLY DECIDING NOT TO INCLUDE A LYRIC SHEET...IM AFRAID YOU'LL HAVE TO DECIPHER THEM FOR YOURSELF....TRUST ME, ITS BETTER THIS WAY.

SAID ALBUM SHOULD HIT THE STORES AROUND MID TO LATE FEB..AND WILL BE RELEASED BY THE VERY WONDERFUL ^{ASISTA} ~~MUSHROOM~~ RECORD LABEL. A SINGLE "MILKY WAY" WILL BE RELEASED LATE JAN. WITH A REMIX OF "WARM SPELL" AND "MUSK" ON THE B.SIDE..BOTH RECORDED AT MY PLACE...SEE IF YOU CAN SPOT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN STATE-OF-THE-ART-HIGH-TECH AND BEDROOM STUDIOS. A VIDEO CLIP (BAH HUMBUG) WILL ALSO BE AROUND AT THE SAME TIME..MADE IN L.A. AND N.Y. AND REPUDIATED TO BE HIGHLY SURREALISTIC, AND I DONT KNOW IM HOPING IT WILL BE ALRIGHT (IF I HAD MY WAY VIDEOS WOULD BE HEARD AND NOT SEEN).

WELL...

THATS ABOUT AS MUCH AS I CAN TELL YA ABOUT STARFISH, SHORT OF ACTUALLY COMING ROUND AND PLAYING YOU THE TAPE..I HOPE YOUR CURIOSITY HAS BEEN WHETTED..AND REMEMBER..PLEASE BUY 3 AND MAKE ME RICH BEYOND MY WILDEST DREAMS.

ON THE OLD SOLO FRONT IVE JUST RELEASED "THE SLOW CRACK" AN 8 SONG ALBUM ON RED EYE RECORDS WHICH YOU MAY ENJOY..ALSO A SINGLE OFF THAT ALBUM HAS BEEN PRESSED IN RED VINYL (BIG DEAL?) AND ALSO HAS A COUPLE OF UNAVAILIBILITIES ON TH'FLIP...ISNT THIS COLLECTORS MENTALITY DATA TRYING??...AND THERES ALSO AN "UNEARTHED" TEA-SHIRT AVAILABLE FROM DISC-ERNING RECORD SHOPS AND MAIL ORDER.COPIES OF MY BOOK ARE STILL AVAILABLE ALSO.. ~~TWELVE~~, TWELVE BUCKS FROM P.O. BOX2977, sydney 2001 NSW. FOR THAT ONE.

PETER ALSO IS RELEASING A SOLO L.P. SHORTLY ENTITLED (.I THINK) "MAN,CHILD,MYTH" ON HIS OWN RECORD LABEL,WORLD WATER MUSIC.HE TRUSTS THAT YOU WILL ENJOY IT.

M W-P ALSO, ALSO HAS NOT ONE BUT 2 SOLO ALBS IN THE PIPELINE..THE FIRST ONE OUT SOON I THINK CALLED "ART ATTACK" AND ANOTHER ONE WAITING IN THE WINGS....

AND IF ALL THAT ISNT ENOUGH,GOOD OLD EMI ARE SOON TO RELEASE THIS COMPILATION DOUBLE ALBUM FEATURING CHOICE CUTS AND HORRIBLE OLD B-SIDES WHICH WILL PROBABLY COME OUT THE SAME DAY AS STARFISH AND CONFUSE EVERYONE....

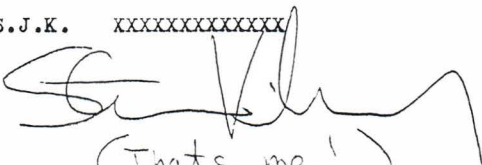
ON THE LIVE CONCERT SCENE THINGS STILL LOOK SKETCHY....A CONCERT OR TWO IN SYD IN FEB THEN OFF O.S. FOR A WHILE THEN BACK HOME FOR MORE DATES IN MELB,BRIS,ADE,AND PER AND MAYBE EVEN HOB AND CANB. BUT DONT ASK ME WHEN WE'RE PLAYING...IM JUST AN IDIOT IN THE BAND. PLEASE KEEP WRITING TO US AND DONT THINK BECAUSE YOURE UNANSWERED THAT YOURE UNREAD...YOUR KIND (AND NOT SO KIND) LETTERS KEEP US WITH OUR FINGERS ON THE PULSE AND OUR FEET ON THE GROUND ETC... WE NEED THIS FEEDBACK AND ALL YOUR SUGGESTIONS,CRITIBISMS AND HARSH WORDS ARE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED BEFORE BEINGTOTALLY IGNORED... (SORRY,"DISGRUNTLED" OF HORNSBY,JUST HALF JOKING)

A GAIN A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU AND THANX FOR CARING

TI AMO,JE T'AIME,ICH LIEBER DICH,JAG ALSKAR DIG,MINNA RAKKASTANSINGOA IN OTHER WORDS.....

S.J.K. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Please include
IRS & SAE



(That's me!)