



i-MAGazine

SOUND

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THE OFFICIAL IRONWORKS MAGAZINE



ENTER SHIKARI

Joining the band in Inverness on October 19 will be
PDEX - D'n'B mixmaster extraordinaire

CALL TO MIND

Four ex-Culloden Academy pupils show us what they've
got at the Ironworks on October 2.

CHARLATANS





The Charlatans were one of the first big bands to play the IronWorks when it opened two years ago -- and singer Tim Burgess actually dedicated a song to the venue when they appeared at Rock Ness last year.

Tim likes the Highlands -- despite the fact that he finds London too cold! Tim says: "I live in Los Angeles now and commute to England for gigs and projects. I love being warm and in LA it can be over 100 degrees while it's far too cold in London."

Here's hoping the temperature's decent when DF Concerts present The Charlatans for their return visit to the IronWorks on October 14....

A good friend in California is actor Joaquin Phoenix, who played Johnny Cash in the film "Walk The Line" and who is linking up with Burgess and Spacehogs' Antony Langdon on a recording project.

The trio have laid down tracks in an LA studio with the help of former Creation Records boss and Charlatans' manager Alan McGee.

Burgess says: "Joaquin writes the songs and we're having a great time on the project which began last summer and doesn't look as if it will end any time soon, partly as Joaquin is such a perfectionist. His songs are great and I

really hope we can release an album."

Phoenix is a great enthusiast of The Charlatans' new album 'You Cross My Path'. He says: "It's mega, a real beauty. I can't wait to see it live." No chance of popping over to Inverness then, Joaquin?

Though it is 18 years since Manchester group recorded their first indie single, "Indian Rope", which put them on the map, The Charlatans are very much back in vogue.

That was underlined in May when 'You Cross My Path', their tenth studio album, was unveiled by free download via Xfm radio -- and enjoyed 60,000 downloads in a week!

It made them number two group this summer and Burgess says: "We feel vindicated with our philosophy that if you go free with a great record you can exceed your dreams."

Fans waxed lyrical about The Charlatans who were rated one of the big hits of this year's T In The Park. In King Tut's Wah Wah Tent they opened with 'You Cross My Path' then went on to their classic 'Weirdo'. Another highlight was 'Black and Blue Eyes' while the quick one-two of 'One to Another' and "The Only One I Know" drew the biggest crowd response before their exciting closer 'How High'.

Mixing songs right across their career with relentless energy shows The Charlatans are still buzzing. The week after Inverness, the band play Belfast, Limerick

Fans at the Enter Shikari gig at The IronWorks will get a sneak preview of their new single, being released on November 3.

It's their first new single since June 2007 and is produced by Andy Gray who has worked with Radiohead, U2, Gary Numan and Korn. Less impressively, he produced the Big Brother TV show signature tune!

It's titled 'We Can Breathe In Space, They Just Don't Want Us To Escape' and being released on the band's own Ambush Reality label.

A drastic reworking of a song the band originally demoed some time ago, it has proved popular with the fans thanks to file sharing and P2P sites.

'We Can Breathe' (and so on!) will not necessarily be included on the band's second album, which will begin recording right after the UK and Ireland tour and is provisionally scheduled for next spring.

Joining the band in Inverness on October 19 will be PDEX - D'n'B mixmaster extraordinaire, well versed in the art of 'getting the party started', and Fell Silent, a progressive metal sextet from Milton Keynes whose new album "The Hidden Words" is now out on Basick Records - www.myspace.com/fellsilent Full details (b-sides / formatting etc etc) for the single will be announced during October.

Enter Shikari's post-hardcore style has won plenty of fans since Rou Reynolds, Liam Clewlar, Chris Batten and Rob Rolfe got together in St Albans five years ago. The name Shikari means 'Hunter' in Persian, Hindi, Urdu and Punjabi and comes from a character in a play Rou wrote before joining the band.

Enter the new single...



what's on at the Ironworks

Deviation present

JoJo De Freq

Friday 10th October

JoJo De Freq can truly be called a one off. The resident DJ for Bugged Out and Nag Nag Nag is as unique and talented behind the decks as she is in the studio. Support for her own production work has been found from Erol Alkan, Simian Mobile Disco and Felix Da Housecat.



Audiolife and Robotone present

Funk D'Void

Saturday 11th October

Funk D'Void is much in demand as a DJ around the world, he's a critically acclaimed producer as well, with two albums to date – not to mention a string of killer singles and remixes.

Funk D'Void appears as special guest for the first Audiolife & Robotone co-promotion which also features DJs sets from Alan Macpherson, Esko and a live set from Robbie Dunsmore.



Andy McKee & Don Ross

Monday 13th October

Heard the one about the singer guitarist who received over 20 million - YES 20,000,000 views collectively for his Youtube videos? At one point US / American fingerstyle guitarist Andy McKee held the number 1, 2 and 3 positions for the top rated videos of all time on the hugely popular website.



DF Concerts present

The Charlatans

Tuesday 14th October

Classic Indie Rock act The Charlatans return to Ironworks as part of their October UK tour, expect all the classics "The Only One I Know", "One to Another", "How High" as well material from latest album You Cross My Path.



DF Concerts present

Funeral For A Friend

Thursday 16th October

Funeral For A Friend formed in early 2002 from the ashes of a group called January Thirst, stealing the melodic hardcore crown, winning over hordes of fans and scoring chart successes in the process.



The Cream Of The 60s

Saturday 18th October

This special 60's night brings 2 of the best UK tribute acts Are Experienced and Cream of Clapton together for a night of 60's magic featuring classics such as "Foxye Lady", "Wild Thing", "Sunshine of your Love" and more!



book now on

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Enter Shikari

Sunday 19th October

Formed in 2003 in St Albans, Hertfordshire where all four members are from. Their debut album, Take to the Skies was released on March 19, 2007 and reached #4 in the Official UK Album Chart. Their live show is much talked about and not to be missed by those who enjoy live rock music.



Beyond present

One Night Only

Monday 20th October

Following the success of their appearance at this year's Belladrum Festival the 5 piece indie act return to the Inverness area, expect the top 10 hit "Just for Tonight" and much more.



DF Concerts present

Elliot Minor

Wednesday 22nd October

With a top 10 debut album under their belts and performances at Download, T in the Park, Oxegen as well as Reading and Leeds Elliot Minor seem to be everywhere just now and their first trip to Inverness should be something special.



PCL present

The Music

Thursday 23rd October

The Music signed a new deal with Polydor in 2007 and spent the rest of the year recording their third album with producers Flood (Depeche Mode, The Killers, U2, Nine Inch Nails) and Paul Hartnoll from Orbital. Following on from the initial 8 sell out concerts the band has also recently announced plans to perform at 13 further venues including Ironworks.



Delirious?

Friday 24th October

See Delirious at Ironworks on October 24th as the band tour their 11th studio album Kingdom of Comfort. Delirious? have produced their loudest album yet with hooks and melodies that drip from every track.



REL Records present

Red Hot Chilli Pipers

Saturday 25th October

Winners of Graham Norton's prime time BBC1 Show "When Will I Be Famous" & Voted 'Best Live Act Of The Year' at The Scottish Trad Awards. Red Hot Chilli Pipers include three powerful pipers and a rock band who will hit the stage with a sound which will blow you away!



Jimi 'n Clapton joint tribute

Two of the top UK tribute acts around team up for an unmissable night of 60s rock music on October 18 -- featuring classic songs such as "Sunshine of your Love", "All Along The Watchtower", "Foxy Lady", "Purple Haze" and "Strange Brew" ARE YOU EXPERIENCED? were formed over eleven years ago and in that time they have become widely regarded as just about the best JIMI HENDRIX tribute show you will see.

Guitarist John Campbell bears more than just a passing resemblance and has drawn on his many years of playing in different bands and various styles to perfect his Hendrix persona. When he plays his strat behind his head and with his teeth, it brings a smile to the face of even the most finicky Hendrix fan!

Not only does John look like Jimi but he is a master at emulating the classic sound of the 60's guitar hero.

The last time Are You Experienced came to IronWorks, John Campbell finished his set by setting his guitar on fire just like Jimi for his classic Monterey Festival performance. What will he do this time!

CREAM OF CLAPTON is a remarkable and utterly authentic tribute to Cream. They have been playing together for seven years - and it shows with the skill and execution they pull of playing classic numbers such as Sunshine of Your Love, Crossroads plus many more Clapton classics.

This special seated show debuts at The Ironworks and is sure to be a hot ticket.

Belladrum Blitzers!

One Night Only were a big hit at this summer's Belladrum festival and the teenage five-piece show is one of the UK's bands of the year. Their fourth single 'You and Me' is going down well and the lads from Helmsley, North Yorkshire -- formed when singer George Craig was only 12 -- appear at Inverness in Beyond Presents One Night Only on October 20.

Formed in 2003 when singer George Craig was only 12, the school friends tore up the local scene before using 'You and Me' as their demo and after a fierce A & R battle, they signed with Vertigo in March 2007.

Then came huge singles 'Just for Tonight' and 'It's About Time', their gold top 10 debut album 'Started a Fire' and three sellout tours.

George and his teenage mates -- Mark Hayton (guitar), Sam Ford (drums), Dan Parkin (bass) and Jack Sails (keyboard) -- show no signs of stopping.



Forward Funeral...

Those wailing Welsh rockers Funeral for a Friend will be appearing in Inverness three days after the release of their new album 'Kicking and Screaming' on October 13.

It comes out in CD, 7", download bundle and iTunes bundle five years to the day that their first album 'Casually Dressed' catapulted them fame. It became a gold debut album and they went on to have three Top 20 singles and build a big US fan base through tours there.

Ryan Richards says: "The new album will contain harsh, screaming vocals and riffs and will be closer to Casually Dressed than any of other other albums.

"But it will still be significantly different and more technical. We want to move forward and never go back to any old style.

"We took the first few months of this year off to write an EP but things went well and we found we'd enough material for an album, which wasn't really on the agenda for 2008."

The band have left Atlantic Records and the new album is on their own label, Join Us.

The Culloden sound!

Heard the one about the four Inverness lads who all met in Glasgow -- and formed a band?

Call To Mind is made up of four ex-Culloden Academy pupils -- singer Jamie Ross, his brother Martin Ross as singer-organist, Joe Smillie on drums and Andrew Masson on bass, all aged 23.

"We all knew one another but I went to university in Glasgow and the others came down for courses and the like and we got chatting -- and the band was born", smiles Jamie.

"Steve Robertson of The IronWorks actually got us our first gig in a Battle of the Bands event at Belladrum Festival two years ago and we did well. We've progressed so much that Belladrum this

August was our 50th gig.

"We've played the Airwaves Festival in Iceland and at concerts in Manchester and London, so we've done a fair bit of mileage."

Call To Mind came from a line in their first lyric and they are one of four local groups featuring in a Northlander night at the IronWorks on October 3 -- the others on show are The Breech, Naked Red and The Chymes.

Jamie says: "I was at the previous Northlander event and it was terrific -- the place was heaving. It's a great platform for local groups and I hope they're staged more often. We're really looking forward to playing this one."

Minor now major



A group whose debut album released in April reached number six in the UK charts is now on a 28-date UK tour and DF Concerts presents Elliot Minor at Inverness on October 22.

Eight years ago Alex Davies and Ed Minton, music scholars at Uppingham School, built a recording studio in their attic flat, wrote songs and recorded demos. They took a gap year to develop the band -- and certainly did that. Don Hetheron arrived as drummer and this summer they've gone done extremely well at the Download Festival and T in the Park.

Andy's 20 million fans...

Andy McKee still lives in his birthplace of Topeka, Kansas, but one of the world's finest acoustic guitarists hits the Highlands straight from tours of Portugal and Sweden.

He and his mentor Don Ross play at Ullapool Guitar Festival before they hit the IronWorks on October 13 -- giving North fans the chance to hear how McKee is creating new audiences for fingerstyle guitar by taking advantage of the Internet and playing pop-oriented cover tunes with jaw-dropping chops.

Andy was back to teaching guitar and playing occasional gigs until indie record label Candyrat posted his video on YouTube -- and a staggering 20 million people viewed it.

"That has totally changed my life", he says. "I stopped teaching and am back playing guitar for a living."

Inverness will hear tracks from 'The Thing That Came from Somewhere', a new McKee-Ross

album. in an interesting twist, on some pieces McKee plays Ross's original solo guitar part while Ross adds a new second guitar part.

Andy explains: "I spent years in my bedroom learning Don's tunes, I knew how to play some of them and for the album he's come up with new accompaniment patterns."

Although knuckle-busting techniques and up-tempo tunes pepper McKee's repertoire, compositions like 'Nakagawa-san' -- off 'The Gates of Gnomeria' album -- show his ability to write a ballad with a catchy melody.

He's also a leading exponent of the harp guitar but it's his work on the solo steel-string guitar which has taken a country-blues style through to one of the most innovative development in guitar music.

McKee's style includes combining two-handed tapping and other extended techniques with tunes that would be right at home on contemporary radio.

JAKE'S DILEMMA

Stiff Little Fingers created some of the toughest, rawest punk to come out of the UK and this 30 year old band bring their rattling, bristling guitars, led by front man Jake Burns' trademark coarse, throaty vocals, to The Ironworks on October 4.

And Jake, the only one to have stayed with the band since it formed in as pure punk in Belfast in 1977, admits that gigs like Inverness give SLF a dilemma.

He explains: "We have so much new material but you have to strike a balance. The difficulty is trying not to sound like a cabaret band. But a lot of the old songs are greeted by audiences like old friends.

"Some nights we don't feel like playing the early songs -- but somebody out there might not have seen us before, never heard of us."

The band's first single 'Suspect Device' was given repeated air time by John Peel which led to a record deal and a move to London and their first hit album 'Inflammable Material' in 1979. Down the years their signature lyrics have melded the personal with the political, combining the energy of punk with their own honest, committed style.

They broke up in 1982, reformed five years later and are still travelling the world. In March 2006 original bass guitarist Ali McMordie rejoined following the departure of The Jam bass Bruce Foxton after 15 years with SLF. Along with Burns and McMordie, the IronWorks fans will see guitarist Ian McCallum and Steve Grantley on drums.

Their live album 'Fifteen and Counting' was at Glasgow's Barrowlands on St Patricks Day, 2006 but last autumn 'Still Burning', Don Letts' road movie on the group was a hit DVD.

Exclusive chance for The Music's new single

Yorkshire-born group The Music are selling their new single 'Drugs' exclusively at gigs -- and they are at The IronWorks on October 23, days before setting off on a tour of Japan. The single comes from hit album 'Strength in Numbers', released in June to mark their comeback after

You'll hear them on The Dark Side of the Moon

The Surrogate Pink Floyd, appearing at the Ironworks on the 27th September, are widely seen as the UK's most favourite tribute to pioneering Pink Floyd with over 2 hours of classic material performed by one of the best bands in the country. The show was formed back in August 2000 with most of the members having played together in various high profile bands around Scotland and all being obsessive 'Floyd' fans, the idea seemed to good to miss. Their manager suggested the idea to them after being unimpressed with an existing tribute group. "I managed these guys when they were 16 and they played Floyd songs better than anyone I've heard", he explained.

Their set is loud and powerful, yet subtle and emotional. Press coverage constantly mentions that the band don't just churn out the tracks but feel them as well, so much that if you close your eyes its just like the real thing.

To date, they have played over 200 gigs, including some very prestigious venues. The level of musicianship within the band is incredibly high, and includes some of the most talented players in the UK; music teachers, session musicians and vastly experienced performing artists.

Taking a breather

Alternative rock group Delirious? - whose latest album 'Kingdom of Comfort' is said to be their loudest yet -- have revealed that they are to take a break at the end of next year to allow members to pursue other projects.

Thus their appearance at the IronWorks on October 24 may be the last chance for North fans to see the group from Littlehampton, England, who have played in front of millions of people over the past 11 years. Martin Smith, vocals and guitar,

a break while frontman Robert Harvey had treatment for alcohol addiction.

The Music took the indie charts by storm in 2002 then they did a US tour after signing for Capitol Records who produced their self-titled album which went stateside as well as hitting number four in the UK charts.

The Leeds quartet of Harvey, Stuart Coleman, Adam Nutter and Phil Jordan rock out with full Led Zep riffing and heavy guitar layering but use beats and song structuring that borrows from dance rather than classic rock.

explains: "We'll continue to play and be excited about our current tours and bookings but we'll not be adding any more over the next 16 months."

Drummer Paul Evans joined the group in April when Stew Smith left. Stu Garrard (guitar and backing vocals), Jon Thatcher (bass) and Tim Jupp (keyboard and piano) complete Delirious? who formed their own label to record their impact-making debut album 'King of Fools' in 1997.

They signed up for EMI and have racked up 14 albums, including "Fast Forward To Rewind" last year and in 2006 'Now Is The Time', recorded live at Willow Creek, Chicago.



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Let's face it though - we make life hard for ourselves. We understand the need to get hours of instruction before we even think about sitting a driving test and we're happy to spend hours practising our sports and hobbies to improve our skills. For some reason that common sense logic escapes us when it comes to computers and

we expect to just sit down at the screen and be in total control.

Thankfully, help is at hand and closer than we think. Whatever our skills level we can all benefit from some guidance or training. Our first reaction should be to hit the "Help" button in the application we are working with. Nowadays, a surprising amount of information is provided through the Help facility and often we just have to type a simple question into the search box to get all the information we need. This sounds so obvious but most of us underestimate the level of support built in to modern programmes.

The Internet is also a ready source of training courses, "How To" guides and templates offering ready-made shortcuts for our projects. Every topic is covered and whether your interest is in writing, working with spreadsheets, making presentations, editing photos or making a family or personal web site there is a huge choice of free and low cost learning tools.

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