



FROM: Giles Smith
 TO: Johannes, Martin & Hanns-Christian at Apricot
 London, January 2003

Dear Johannes, Martin & Hanns-Christian,

Thanks very much for the e-mail asking if I could come up with some liner notes for this new compilation you're putting out. It's really flattering to be asked and everything, and I'd have loved to, but I'm afraid I'm going to have to say no.

Sorry to disappoint you - especially given that I was, as you say, 'really, really up for it' when we first spoke about it last year in that club in Frankfurt, where I was promoting a book and we got to talking. But you know what authors are like when they're on tour: full of shit.

Actually, to be fair to myself, I'm pretty busy at the moment, what with work and the children and stuff. But there's another thing, too, which is that I recently found a couple of CDs on my desk. They were in a plastic cover and I'm not quite sure where they came from, but they're obviously some kind of test-pressing and someone has scribbled a title on them: 'Daft something something', it says. Well, whatever. But the point is, in an idle moment the other day, I put one on and then the other - and right now I don't seem to want to listen to anything else.

You know how sometimes pop songs soak you up, completely absorb you? Well, it keeps happening with these CDs, track after track. Panamaformat's 'Wild Strawberries', 'In a Blue Balloon' by Labrador, 'Such a Sound' by Birdie, Orwell singing Gilbert O'Sullivan's 'Clair', sweet as can be... Do you know any of this stuff? Probably not. But trust me, it's fabulous: lovely, dreamy, heart-expanding tunes, made with guitars and glockenspiels and ancient electric pianos and the odd fresh blast of trumpet and flute and girls singing 'bah bah bah' who sound like wonderful Wendy Smith from Prefab Sprout.

And it kind of puts you off writing about music, in a way, if you don't have to, because you think, well, why bother? Why not just play it instead? Take 'Emmanuel Bear' by Would-be-Goods, for example, which contains the lines: 'Why don't I look like Emmanuel Bear?/ Instead of fish'n'chips she lives on salade nicoise.' What could anyone have to add to that?

So I hope you'll see that, all in all, this would not be a good time to send me some stuff and ask me to write a few words about it. Incidentally, Would-be-Goods, Birdie, Tiger Baby, Orwell, Majestic... Why aren't these people famous all over the world? Why aren't they knocking around in Los Angeles, fighting Robbie Williams for the hand of Rachel Hunter? Too smart, I guess.

Anyway, you should get hold of a copy, assuming it's available, and play it. Or if I find another one, I'll send it to you. Really, it's the least I can do in the circumstances.

Maybe some other time, then, when I'm not so absorbed. In the meantime, good luck with that compilation of yours.

Lots of love,

Giles

DAFT WILD SPARKLING STRAWBERRY SODA

CD 1

- 01 Orwell "toutes les nouvelles parlent d'hier"
- 02 Superheroes "someone else"
- 03 Tahiti 80 "1000 times"
- 04 Panamaformat "wild strawberries"
- 05 Tiger Baby "chinese fairytale"
- 06 Superheroes "what's going on"
- 07 Trembling Blue Stars "the ghost of an unknissed kiss"
- 08 Majestic "tumbling"
- 09 Would-Be-Goods "emmanuelle beart"
- 10 Tahiti 80 "soul deep"
- 11 Riviera "so wie du"
- 12 Labrador "when love is war"
- 13 Panamaformat "non-stop express" (video edit)
- 14 Riviera "alaska"
- 15 Tiger Baby "that feeling"
- 16 Orwell "clair"

CD 2

- 01 Bart Davenport "chimes"
- 02 Majestic "sunday driver"
- 03 Birdie "such a sound"
- 04 The Perishers "someday"
- 05 Belasco "breath"
- 06 Lloyd Cole "39 down"
- 07 Labrador "in a blue balloon"
- 08 Would-Be-Goods "vivre sa vie"
- 09 The Perishers "when i wake up tomorrow"
- 10 Bart Davenport "miami afternoon"
- 11 Belasco "mask"
- 12 Labrador "please rain fall"
- 13 Lloyd Cole "impossible girl"
- 14 Trembling Blue Stars "half in love with leaving"



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 fax +49-611-718972 - www.apricot-records.de - info@apricot-records.de



made in Germany

apricd029

Daft Wild Sparkling Strawberry Soda

apricot records

Panamaformat
 www.panamaformat.de
 wild strawberries, non-stop express (video edit)

Riviera
 www.mpg.com/riviera
 alaska, so wie du

Superheroes
 www.superheroes.dk
 someone else, what's going on

Tahiti 80
 www.tahiti80.net
 1000 times, soul deep

The Perishers
 www.perishers.nu
 and atmospheriques

Trembling Blue Stars
 www.tbstars.co.uk
 the ghost of an unknissed kiss, half in love with leaving

Tiger Baby
 www.tigerbaby.dk
 chinese fairytale, that feeling

Would-Be-Goods
 www.would-be-goods.co.uk
 emmanuelle beart, vivre sa vie

Birdie
 www.birdiepop.com
 such a sound, please rain fall

Labrador
 www.labrador.dk
 when love is war, in a blue balloon

Lloyd Cole
 www.lloydcollection.com
 39 down, impossible girl

Majestic
 www.majesticpop.com
 tumbling, sunday driver

Orwell
 www.orwellmusic.com
 toutes les nouvelles parlent d'hier, clair

Belasco
 www.belasco.co.uk
 breath, mask

Bart Davenport
 www.bartdavenport.com
 chimes, miami afternoon

Belasco
 www.belasco.co.uk
 "bart davenport" (released in europe via mushroom pillowrecords)

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