

RUSS BALLARD

THE VERY BEST IN LISBON

September 28 2013

LISBON COLISEU



+ & **GUN**
HOT STUFF

For recent updates from Russ Ballard, simply send an email to:
russ.b.news@hotmail.co.uk and you will receive the official
newsletter or visit his music page on facebook

Photography of Russ:
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Many thanks to Sven Kramer for this brilliant poster this time. Please feel free to use this to promote Russ. Let's see how far across Facebook we can spread it but please give credit to Sven. And thanks to Sven for promoting the newsletter!

Don't forget, on Merseyland Alternative Radio, DJ Paul Jay has a Russ Ballard slot on Sunday evenings at 5pm BST. Paul plays up to 3 of Russ's tracks, Argent tracks or songs written by Russ.

<http://www.mar.me.uk/index2.html>

The Lisbon gig is rapidly approaching. I know some of the newsletter recipients are going. If anyone would like to tell those of us who are less fortunate all about the gig, please do. I will delay the October newsletter by a little if necessary so it can be included. Please let me know if you would like to write about the gig.

Sue.

NEWS

This month Russ has done an interview for Greek site, Rock Overdose.

http://www.rockoverdose.gr/news_details.php?id=24019&fb_source=message#.UdozkqphnPg.facebook

YOUR QUESTIONS

Which of Unit 4+2's tracks did Russ play on?

Russ: *"The songs with Unit 4 were, 'Concrete and Clay' - the follow up... 'You've Never Been In Love Like This Before'.... 'I Was Only Playing Games'.... '3.30' and a Bob Dylan song...the first line was "OOh - EE ride me high" I forget the title. There were others that I don't remember.*

Unit 4 were good mates of mine from the early days and Buster Meikle and I ,with Bob H, were in a band when I was fourteen....When I turned Pro. and

joined Adam Faith, Buster started a group with our other friend, Tommy Moeller, Brian Parker and Pete Moules - they called themselves, Unit 4. In 1964, they signed a recording contract with Decca, then made a single called 'Green Fields', sort of Kingston Trio-ish...Brian and Tom then wrote 'Concrete and Clay' - I remember being in a pub where Unit 4 were rehearsing the song - I thought it was brilliant.....when they came to record it, they asked Bob and me if we'd play on it...[They didn't have a lead guitarist or drummer].....I guess Bob and I became the Plus Two. I wanted to over-dub a triangle, but the band didn't have one, but I found a tiny 'Ring for service' bell at the studio reception and that's what can be heard on the record."

Tommy Moeller said on FB recently that 15 of the early tracks from Unit 4+2, including "Concrete and Clay" and "(You've) Never Been In Love Like This Before" have reverted in ownership to him. The original master recordings are approaching 50 years old, some quite rare, have all now been licensed by him to Chance MUSIC for re-release in 2013 in a special and unique 50th Anniversary Edition.

YOUR STORIES

From Marsie Hall Newbold.

Somewhere in the 80's, I tracked down Russ's address and wrote a letter asking what he'd been up to as I hadn't heard much lately. To my delight, he answered! Here is a photo of me that my husband took recently of me sitting on our front porch holding the framed letter and autographed photo. The letter and photo are two of my most prized possessions and have hung in all of my offices through the years. The last line in Russ's letter is, "It's a great life, isn't it?"

Yes it is. Russ's wonderful melodies and well-crafted lyrics have formed the soundtrack of my life. I love him so much (I feel like he is a part of my family in some way) and wish him and his loved ones all the happiness that life can bring!

My husband and I hope to see Russ play live sometime in the near future. Our travel plans have never coincided with any of his gigs, but, we hope to remedy that.



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