



(Banner by Sven Kramer)

This is the 20th consecutive Russ Ballard News and it is still slowly evolving. Thank you, everyone for staying with us. We are pleased that you enjoy reading it! Please join in....stories, questions, photos, letters etc. Anything Russ related. Get involved!

Sue

NEWS

More news about Sada Vidoo and her single and album co-written by her, Russ and Christian and produced by Russ and Christian.

Sada is having a reception before an invited audience to announce the release of her album on Wednesday 15th October at Madame Jojo's in London, when she will be performing several of the tracks. Russ will be making a guest appearance.

Her album has been hugely successful in her native Denmark, where she is known as "The Queen of Dark Pop" with her bizarre stage persona and mesmerising music.

Her debut single, "The Actress" will be released in the UK on 16th November and the album, "A Story With No End" will be released in early 2015, both through Right Track/Universal.

Here's a reminder..."The Actress"...

<http://youtu.be/QpN8GTJzgvo>

THIS MONTH.....

Russ: *"I'm going to attempt to give you a break down of my past few weeks.....I've been up early most days 5.30 - 6.00am. and in to the studio to finish songs that I'd been developing. There are two in particular that I've finished and mixed for UMU. The tracks will be the first to be released on UMU, which launches this month.*

My old friend Dave Courtney came over and played me some of his new songs. Dave used to write with Leo Sayer and Adam Faith. Dave discovered Leo, all those years ago and wrote and co-wrote Leo's first album 'Silverbird' and songs like 'The Show Must Go On' and 'One Man Band'.....We're hoping to do some collaborating soon, for a special project....The songs sound strong....we'll see."

One Man Band by Leo Sayer, written by Leo Sayer and Dave Courtney.

<http://youtu.be/OWelphbehv4>

This one wasn't written by Dave Courtney but he is playing piano. Our friend Bob Henrit is there too and see who is on guitar! Giving It All Away - Roger Daltrey.

<http://youtu.be/ou6xx70NyZ4>

"Bonnie Bailey arrived here Wednesday to write and record with Christian and Lavvy....They wrote something very quickly, it's called 'Connection' and it sounds brilliant....Wednesday evening I took Christian, Bonnie, Denny, Archie, Emilio and Lennie to My local Chinese restaurant... 'China Red' - Thursday, Christian, Bonnie and Lavvy continued their song - In the evening Bonnie, Denny and I went to Zeros in Ware for a great Italian meal.....Friday was a similar day, although the weather was warm. I laid on a swing, reading, and Bonnie told me of her Spiritual journey, which appears to be quite intense. That evening, my friend, Peter Ross came over from Basingstoke.....we'd arranged to see Christian and Lavvy performing close by in Hertford. Peter, Bonnie and I decided to eat at an Indian restaurant opposite the venue. Peter had never met Bonnie before....they hit it off well.... I looked at my watch and realised it was 8.55pm. and

Christian and Lavvy were on at 9.00. I asked for a bill and we walked across the road to the gig..Christian was DJ and Lavvy sang a couple of the songs they've recently recorded and the crowd loved them. Lavvy surprised Bonnie by playing their new tune....it sounded great. I saw some great people that I haven't seen for years.....Brilliant! "

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Russ: "First of all I want to put you in the picture of how I came up with the TFTM. idea. It was, because, as many of you know....I'd released an album in 2007 called 'Book of Love'....For years, I'd been concerned with the Human condition and why we're still fighting after a thousand years of going to war....I'd read so much on Emotional and Spiritual growth and made up my mind to record an album on E. and S. growth and the search for the answer to why we're still fighting as individuals and collectively [Countries and tribes, etc...]

For - Thought For The Month - Here's a subject I covered 'You Are The World' - I know Michael Jackson and Lionel Ritchie wrote the song, however, it's a topic that's been covered by most Spiritual Teachers and Gurus.... If you've never thought deeply about it, then you might think "How can I be the World?" - Fair comment....but in this case, it's about the Psychological similarities of Humans.....Wherever we live....U.S. Russia, Uk, Africa, it doesn't matter....We all Suffer. Sometimes, we're happy, sad, fearful, we sometimes feel guilty, hurt, we all cry, sometimes, we laugh, we're angry.

We are our conditioning, our history, our culture, we are our thoughts.....it's common to all of us, wherever!.....

This fact hit me really hard and I just had to write a song based on this observation....On 'Book of Love' I wrote 'Just Like Me' about a Chinese girl and an African man....but I was really writing about everyone.

Be happy and I hope I'll have two or three new songs out 'there' this time next month."

REMEMBERING LISBON

From Sven Kramer



(Russ in Lisbon. Photo by krameronline)

It was May 2013 as it was announced that Russ Ballard and his brilliant band would play Lisbon later that year. And this was the starting point for me, to have a wonderful time doing promotion for the gig here via the newsletter and in September seeing a brilliant concert, team up with dear friends and meet Russ. Thank you all for these special moments and thanks again to my lovely wife, for doing this crazy trip with me.

To celebrate the first anniversary of Russ Ballard - Live at Lisbon Coliseu in a proper way, I did a new video and added something more to www.krameronline.eu in the Russ Ballard section.

Hope you enjoy it

http://www.krameronline.eu/russballardvideos.html#anchor-remember_Lisbon

LETTERS

Hello Sue,

I enjoyed your (Sept) newsletter although a bit sad. I have just read Bob Henrit's book and it reminded me what happened in Waltham Cross at that time. Seeing how Russ has kept so slim

inspired me to lose weight and I am now back to 11st 7lb the same weight as when I got married fifty years ago. Thank you Russ.
Brian

YOUR QUESTIONS

When in Toronto some 20 years ago I picked up a double cd entitled Russ Ballard Past....Present and Future . Haven't seen it very often here in Uk. [I have this CD too. Anyone else? - Sue] Cd1 is Russ written hits by artists such as Hot Chocolate, Rainbow, Santana, Elkie Brooks, Frida, Three Dog Night, America, couple of solo tracks of Russ's and of course Argent.

Cd2 is a bit of a mystery. All the tracks are written by Russ or Russ/Murray but there is no detail as to who is actually performing them ! Tracks are

He don't love you
How can I tell my heart
If I knew then
If you'd only love me
I'm the one
Lost to love
My journey's end
Please don't go
Still be loving you
When tomorrow comes
Street dreams

Can Russ throw some light on these tracks - performers , has he ever recorded them . If so where can I find them ?

Russ: *"The Past, Present, Future CD....I didn't realise it was available to the general public....only because, it was put out by Complete Music Publishers, when I signed with them [Ten years ago] I think it was originally conceived as a vehicle for TV advertising...The second list of songs, they were some things I wrote with my son, Christian and his original writing partner Andrew Murray. If I remember rightly, there were various singers on the songs. I can't recall who was who, although, my great friends, Chris Winter and Robert Hart sang on a few....Chris sang 'If I Knew Then' and 'Lost To Love' - Robert sang on 'If You'd Only Love Me' and 'Street Dreams' I wrote and produced Robert's album....he's a fabulous singer and was for a while singer for Bad Company and The Jones Gang."*

RECORDED BY OTHERS

Hello - New York Groove

<http://youtu.be/rgBYSDfnq48>

This song was recorded by British band, Hello in 1975 for their album Keep Us Off The Streets. It reached #9 in the UK and #7 in Germany. Russ was sitting in a plane on his way back to New York having not been there for some time. He got the feeling that he was getting back in the New York groove....and a song was written!!
There are other versions, which we will come back to later.

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