

The Michael Armstrong Newsletter



JUNE 2017

Happy 50th Birthday Sgt Pepper



50 years ago on 1st June 1967 one of the most important and influential albums of all time was released. Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band was and still is monumental. The band were all in their mid-20's. Not bad for four lads from Liverpool...

For me they were the start of my love for music and the seed from which all my inspirations have grown. I remember my parents playing the 'red and blue' greatest hits cassettes in the car when I was very small and singing along with my brother. I think it was for my 10th birthday that my mum relented and bought me the entire Beatles collection in a vinyl boxset (CD's weren't yet invented) - which was quite an expense. I religiously listened to each album in the correct chronological order again and again. I knew then what I wanted to do with the rest of my life.

I thought I was possibly the biggest fan ever until I met Warren Bennett. Alas, he is a proper aficionado. One afternoon a couple of weeks ago we got chatting about the 50th anniversary of Pepper and decided there and then to take a break from the rigours of recording the original material for the forthcoming album and have a bit of fun for a few hours. The result is our version of "Getting Better" which is included as

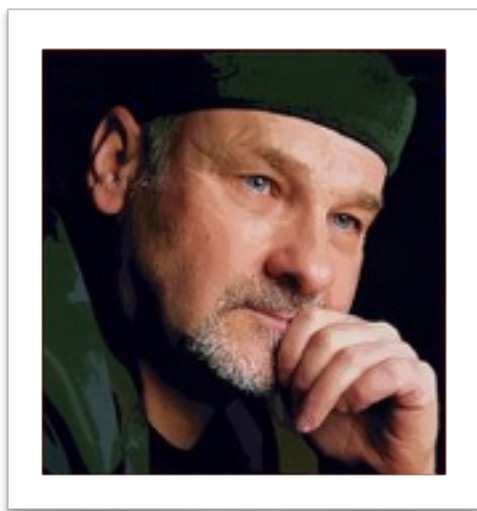
a free mp3 for all you newsletter subscribers as a thank you from me for all your continued support. I hope you like it. It was so much fun to do, as you'll see from the video I've made to accompany it: -

https://youtu.be/Oraoo_RY480

Michael Armstrong's Under The Influence



YOU WILL BE HEARING NEW TRACKS FROM THE
ALBUM VERY SOON...



But in the meantime, here is Episode II of my Under the Influence video tour, where I travel to different locations that artists who have inspired me have hailed from. This edition finds me in Sheffield paying homage to the great songwriter and performer that is Paul Carrack.

https://youtu.be/IFBVpdgX_x0

Thanks for your suggestions for future video tributes. Glyn Moxham came up with a great one for the pioneers of rock 'n'

roll outside the old 2i's coffee bar on Old Compton Street - so that's a definite. I've added them all to my list and will do my very best to film these for you when I find myself close by. Please feel free to send in your suggestions for 'Under The Influence' to the usual address LDPromos@aol.com.

AND DON'T FORGET THAT YOU CAN STILL BE A **BIG PART** OF THE NEW ALBUM BY JOINING IN THE FUN HERE: -

<http://pmusic.co/rwMPWw>

The Stories Behind The Songs

The second track on the debut album is 'Innocence Of Men'. In this video series I explain the origins of the songs, a bit about recording them, and spill a few secrets on their meanings! These videos appear exclusively first on my FaceBook fan page, way ahead of my newsletter, along with lots of other great stuff and like minded people you can chat to about great music and life in general! You should join up here -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/221857971592287/>



The Story Behind 'Innocence Of Men'

<https://youtu.be/cUxervR4iXs>

NEWS



1) Lisa and I have been working for the last six months or so with Mike & Jules Peters from The Alarm. They have a fantastic new album out and Mike has some great stories about working with Bob Dylan, Neil Young, Bruce Springsteen, and Bono - to name just a few. Both Mike and Jules have been fighting cancer. They are two of the most inspirational people I have ever met. Unsurprisingly the BBC recently aired an amazing documentary about their lives. If you

didn't manage to see it, check it out on the link below. It's a harrowing watch at times but well worth it.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b08ryqrw/mike-and-jules-while-we-still-have-time>

2) Last month I introduced you to Lisa Davies' Video Blog about having braces fitted in her 50's. These vlogs have proved really popular and she's made a third edition. Check it out on the link below and if you haven't seen the first two be sure to give them a watch. It's fascinating stuff. Are braces the new botox?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0lENtxwmM24>

3) If you're linked up with me on FaceBook and/or Twitter try and check out, like and share my weekly Sunday morning posts - Sounds Of Sunday Morning. Each week I choose a video from one of my favourite artists and post it with a short bit of blurb. These too have proved really popular and any of your suggestions for future posts are more than welcome. As usual send to LDPromos@aol.com.

MIKE WITH A STAR



10cc have been back out on the road again with Graham Gouldman at the helm. It was a great moment for me when I met him at BBC Radio 2 in 2015. He was doing The Wogan show just ahead of me and we had a chat afterwards. In the photo he's holding my debut album which was of course co-produced by Keith Bessey who himself worked for many years with Graham and 10cc. Graham also wrote The Hollies hit song 'Bus Stop' and of course my good pal Peter Howarth now sings that most nights as the current lead singer of The Hollies.

FAN LETTERS & PICS

Well...Lisa Davies has hit the ball right out of the park this month with a photograph of her cuddling...yes, cuddling... the one and only Michael Jackson!!!! This picture was taken at the height of his fame, shortly after Thriller was released (which Lisa promoted) and during his trip to London to unveil his Madame Tussauds waxwork. Not content with blowing us away with Wacko Jacko she's doubled it up and managed to sneak in Nigel Farage in the background! This is going to take some beating. Over to you guys...



Now it's your job to get writing and sending in. I want your letters about anything and everything... from gigs you've seen either of me or anyone, to funny stories, to your tales of meeting the stars. And if you have any photos of 'You With A Star' then I'll be publishing the best ones in future editions. Send all your stuff to LDPromos@aol.com with the subject heading MICHAEL ARMSTRONG NEWSLETTER.

MANCHESTER

We all know of the terrible events that took place at the Manchester Arena last month. Music is meant to be a celebration and should bring people together. I woke up to hear and watch the shocking news but it was when I looked at my phone the full horror hit me. Two of my longest and most loyal fans, and regular contributors to this newsletter, Christina and Olivia Hunt had been at the show. Thankfully they both escaped unharmed. These are two young girls with their whole lives ahead of them. They love their music and they love going to concerts and seeing and hearing their idols. We can only hope that this hasn't scarred them too much and that they continue to love and support live music. I know you will all join me in wishing them both, their poor frantic mother Barbara, and tower of strength Graham Frodsham all our best wishes.

DEDICATIONS

There may well have many more of you who were directly affected by the Manchester bombing. As per the girls above we send you all our best wishes and thoughts.

I receive many emails and letters from people and I read all of them. I like to give a mention to anyone who's having a bit of a tough time and let them know we're here, so this one's for you.

Maria Sanders x



The debut album 'Michael Armstrong' is available NOW at: -

<http://tinyurl.com/lprn474>

OR HERE: -

<http://www.michaelarmstrongmusic.co.uk/shop.html>

Where next? D'you lie?

