



CD TITLE: 'JET'
ARTIST: JET
LABEL: RADIANT FUTURE
CATALOGUE NUMBER: RFVPOO2CD
DISTRIBUTOR: VOICEPRINT
LABEL WEBSITE: <http://www.voiceprint.co.uk>
ARTIST WEBSITE: <http://www.martingordon.de>

Overview:

Jet was the legendary link between John's Children and punk, when glamour was king and the sparkly bandwagon rolled merrily on without so much as a hint of safety pin through its cheek. Formed by former Sparks bassist Martin Gordon, Andy Ellison from John's Children (and later with Radio Stars) was vocalist, Chris Townson was on drums and guitar was provided by the semi-legendary Davey O'List, who had been in the **Nice**, **Roxy Music** and a raft of others. (He had also depped for Syd Barrett during that other bonkers legend's last days in the **Pink Floyd**). Keyboard duties fell to Sir 'Peter' Oxendale. They looked like a gang of glam anteaters – well, some of them, at least. **Queen's** producer Roy Thomas Baker produced their solitary album; it was critically savaged at the time but has subsequently become a cult classic.

Jet's album now emerges once more, blinking into the light of the 21st century. '**Jet**', a mid-price CD on Radiant Future, distributed by Voiceprint (UK) is the original album with a non-album B-side plus a hidden track (which is actually 15 minutes of recordings from the control room while Davey O'List is putting guitars on 'Nothing To Do With Us'). Participants in this excruciating soap opera are Andy Ellison, Martin Gordon, Davey O'List, Chris Townson, producer Roy Thomas Baker, engineer/fork soloist Gary Lyons and assistant Gary Langan. It's torture, from anyone's perspective, but it shows (all too clearly, perhaps) the nature of the band and the individuals in it. For the first time, all lyrics are included and a re-written track-by-track commentary is also stuffed in there. The sleeve notes were re-written as well but there wasn't space for them, so they appear on Martin Gordon's website.



JET

- 1 Start Here
- 2 Brian Damage
- 3 It Would Be Good
- 4 Song For Hymn
- 5 Nothing To Do With Us
- 6 Tittle-tattle
- 7 Fax'n'info
- 8 My River
- 9 Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend
- 10 Whangdepootenawah
- 11 Cover Girl

Bonus track

- 12 Quandary

Hidden track

- 13 The Making of 'Nothing To Do With Us'

Addendum:

In 1977, Andy, Martin and Chris added guitarist Ian Macleod to become **Radio Stars**, who went on to achieve success with their two albums ('Songs For Swinging Lovers and The Holiday Album'), and even racked up a hit single or two. Renowned for their live performances, they broke up due to dental problems in 1981 but will naturally be touring Japan later this year.

Martin Gordon biog:

The world seems to have discovered Martin Gordon backwards. His first band Sparks have recently returned to international prominence thanks to their repetitive falsetto twittering and equally falsetto dancing; his second band Jet, despite accusations of not being Australian, are now acclaimed as the first supergroup of glam, and their recordings sell more today than they did when they were first released, although this is by definition not a significant achievement. His third band Radio Stars have been recently rediscovered by lovers of pop music with a veneer of humour disguised by electric guitars, and their catalogue has been made available once more to the masses.

In the intervening years between these bands and the present day, this intrepid musical warrior has travelled the globe, recording in India with Asha Bhosle and Boy George, in the UK with George Michael, Primal Scream and Kylie, in Germany with the Tiger Lillies, in Morocco, Ghana, the Gambia, Bali, Pakistan, Egypt, Turkey and, perhaps most notably, in France with the Rolling Stones. Spending a year working on Sezen Aksu's album in Istanbul reminded him of the joys of hogwash, and he returned to his roots with a series of solo recordings that critics have, perhaps accurately, referred to as the Mammal Trilogy (the Baboon in the Basement, the Joy of More Hogwash and God's on His Lunchbreak).

'Baboon' (2003) was based loosely on the work of Carl Jung. 'Hogwash' (2004) was even more loosely based on the work of Dr Alex Comfort, and 'God' (2005) was based tremendously loosely upon the work of God, who also contributed backing vocals. Following this burst of effort, 2006 saw the release of a book (the 'Companion Volume to God's on His Lunchbreak'), a box set (the 'Mammal Trilogy') and a best-of compilation ('How Am I Doing So Far?'). And now, lawsuits, idiocy and dismal transactional scripting notwithstanding, 2007 saw the release of the long-awaited fourth part of the Mammal Trilogy and Gordon's live debut in Boston, USA. A live Radio Stars archive recording is set for release in March 2008 ('Something For The Weekend'), and the first 1000 copies include 'Hello Boston!', a soundboard recording of Gordon's August performance in that city in 2007).