



DAGGER ZINE- since 1987

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The Dot comes before the Dash- the Danny Ingram interview.

You would see their names on the back of records, many for Washington's DC's Dischord label and you might see a photo every now and again, but don't know much about them unless you were part of that scene (ie; see my previous interview with Chris Bald from a few years ago). Danny Ingram was another one of those names. I knew he'd been in some of the early Dischord bands (Youth Brigade, etc.) and knew he'd done a lot of other stuff but wasn't exactly sure where, when or in what context ('cept that I knew he's a drummer). Fast forward to nearly a decade ago when I saw his name as drummer of a new Washington, DC combo named Dot Dash. Their guitarist/vocalist Terry Banks had been in some of my favorite indie pop combos, namely Tree Fort Angst and The Saturday People, so I knew I was gonna like this one (Hunter Bennett rounds out the trio on bass)! I've enjoyed all of their records, but this latest one, *Proto* Retro (released earlier this year on The Beautiful Music label) is really a special thing of beauty. Well-written rock-pop songs that are both heartfelt and fun (and catchy as hell). Back to Ingram though, he was one of the older punks on the DC scene and thus saw and heard a lot so grab your favorite beverage, your reading glasses and bathrobe and take a stroll both down memory lane and up 'til the current day.

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Just a moment!



Dot Dash tearin' down the house.

2 notes Dec 23rd, 2018

MORE YOU MIGHT LIKE

Celebrity Mixtape Party #3 with celebrity musical guest Jonathan Segel!

Big thanks to our Stockholm correspondent for giving a listen to mixtape number three. I had as much fun reading Jonathan's musings as I did making the mix.





The Neats - 6

I had a thing against this band because of their use of a capital-Lamdba as an A on their band logo, so I always read it as "The Nelts" and by the time I finally understood it was "The Neats" I wasn't interested. This song is an obvious love poem to 96 Tears, with the organ sound and spy-riff guitar. Nice Pebbles-type music, the lyrics are stupid.

The Chills - I Think I Thought of Nothing Left To Think About

Chills are great, I have always been a fan of the NZ scene, so many good bands. "Driving yet melodic" as they used to say

The Mantles - Don't Cross Town

Nice simple melody guitar intro. Indie band quality recording, good for those in the know (I'm not, though.) Again, the classic guitar/organ with the bass and drums. These guys sound like they learned how to play in order toto form this band.

Magazine - Touch and Go

Nice edgy new wave from Magazine! This is classic stuff, heard on KDVS when I was in high school, making rock music what it needed to be. Listening now, I can hear the glam in it as well.

Naked Raygun - Rollerqueen

Bass driven rock music with droney scream vocals, I guess it was considered punk at the time. But it's a love song! About a big legged

lady, no less. From the punk styles that used Marshall amps, yet claimed to hate the big rockers of the 70s.

POSTS LIKES ARCHIVE

The Names - Floating World

Back to the classic 80s organ/chugging guitar/arpeggios with a chorus pedal. I'm glad people made records like this, nobody would tolerate singing like this these days unless it was from teenagers. "let's go away, far."

Unrest - Vibe Out

"Vibe out", vocoded. Bass riff central again, eventually we get to the almost-in-tune girl vocal pair, which I have to say, makes me happy. There's something about it that makes me happy, especially the suspensions. All strummy strum, downstrokes on the bass, with that pair of crooners melodicizing.

Slant 6 - 30/30 Vision

Ok now we're in proto-math rock territory, awesome riffs and key changes, great sounds from the guitars and bass. Spoken vocals, again, the almost in tune girl melodics that just get me. Great build to new sections! Faster pace, and a weird phrase for the chorus "30/30 vision" then back to the slow bass riff. I think I would have loved these guys live, never saw them!

New Order - Ceremony

The most pop track so far, most of these bands with the bass-riff intros probably copped it from these guys. This is a great track (and I'm not a super NO fan) with great simple melody and strong guitar and bass parts. I obviously stole something from this song for a song on the second CVB album, "Chain of Circumstance".

The Sound - Unwritten Law (7" version)

Back to the garage, cool guitar riff on two janglers going slightly stretched tuning wise. I haven't heard it before. "a hand is a hand a knife is a knife". Where did these guys come from and where did they go?

Happy Refugees - Enshrined In a Memory

POSTS LIKES ARCHIVE Another 7", again I'm not in on this band, sounds cool, sort of Fall-ish delivery but with the REM jangle. I'm gonna get good at music trivia.

Television Personalities - Reaching For The Stars

I know these guys, had many albums, so my trivia knowledge is influenced by KDVS. And

The Three Johns - Brainbox

Nice strong song, good recording, complete with the major key anthem fade out.

The Pooh Sticks - Time to Time

Welsh post punks garage rocking it

The Primitives - I'll Be Your Mirror

More 80s bands mirroring the Velvet Underground?

Biff Bang Pow - 7 Seconds

Like UK's own Paisley Underground. I guess most of this tape is 80s/early 90s Brit snark mixed with a bit of acid.

Party Day - Carousel

Early Goth! This type of bass and to a certain extent guitar, are why I thought the Cocteau Twins were goth at the start, same early 1980s era.

Mick Trouble - Tales of Hank Marvin

(Mick trouble, really? Tales of Hank Marvin! The throwback nostalgia to Hank, doing up the old strummy guitar. It also reminds me a bit of TV P's)

Bad Sports - Can't Just Be Friends

This is like a love note note 7". Every time I go you can put me on your stereo.

The Unknowns - Not My Memory

Early 80s when the new wave was crashing and nobody knew what the genre enclosed. I like the way he clucks like a chicken.

Julian Cope - I've Got Levitation

Man, Julian Cope. Was high. That super crack midrange snare is like hyped up Rolling Stones, with this blues progression. He was into cutting high and low end to squeeze more volume out of analog gear. Punchy! You can sort of see where this is going in terms of UK drug and rave culture.

Abecedarians -They Said Tomorrow/Wildflower

I liked these guys, DIY post punk Californians. Sort of into the texture as much as the notes. Moar reeverb!

Red Zebra - The Art of Conversation

Don't know them, I think...Belgian punkers. Sounds pretty emo these days. Nice gothy chorus on bass and digital delay on guitar. And freaky ending!

Wire - The 15th

Monks of Doom covered this song relatively recently on What's Left For Kicks (2006) so that version almost supplanted this version! Wire is so weird, they're always great but somehow unknowable. Like what are they actually talking about? Is it as dire as they make it sound? Love their style with all the direct downstrokes on the guitar and the organ.