

Share:

-
-
-
-

 Like 15  Share  Share:
 Tweet

-
-
-
-

NEW RELEASES FROM DiNOLA and HARVEY McLAUGHLIN, PIÑATA PROTEST 'PLETHORA' VINYL REISSUE + MORE



DiNOLA 'Up High', Harvey McLaughlin debuts with 'Tabloid News', Piñata Protest 'Plethora' vinyl reissue

Happy new year all. We have some great new releases upcoming that hopefully showcase the variety of what we try to do at Saustex. Also - the state and federal tax man cometh so we'll be honoring prices on the "year end blowout" offered in the last newsletter through January 31st, 2018. Visit the link on the Saustex home page below for details.

[VISIT SAUSTEX.COM](http://www.saustex.com)

DiNOLA BECKONS WITH 'UP HIGH'

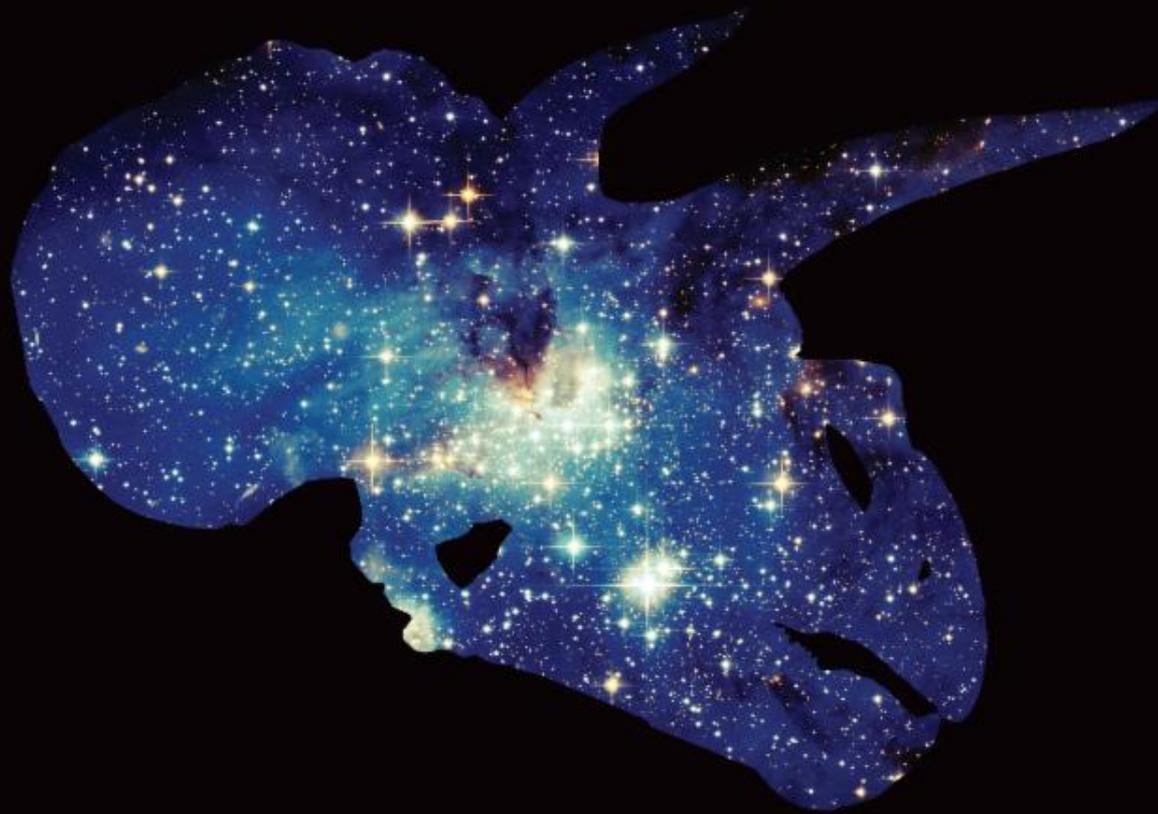


PHOTO: JEFF SMITH FOR SAUSTEX

Hailing from the storied city of New Orleans come DiNOLA. This female fronted quartet reimagine heavy British Blues in a manner that captures the rhythm and gothic voodoo of their hometown while staying true to their punk roots with terse arrangements evocative of U.X.A. and the early recordings of Siouxsie & The Banshees.

Their wide-release debut 'Up High' was produced by Dave Catching (Q.O.T.S.A., Eagles of Death Metal) and recorded and mixed by Hayden Scott (Arctic Monkeys, AWOLNATION). This diamond tough set features the active-rock sleeper hit title track, a cover version of Screamin' Jay Hawkins 'I Put A Spell on You' and four more thumping originals. Recorded at Catching's Rancho Del La Luna studio in Joshua Tree, California 'Up High' also features some guest guitar work by Catching. Clocking in at 22 minutes the 12" 45 rpm version of the disc holds the distinction of being the very first album manufactured at New Orleans Record Press, a newly opened vinyl plant in the Crescent City.

DINOLA



UP HIGH

[DINOLA 'UP HIGH' DIGIPAK CD \\$9 + S&H](#) (available for immediate delivery)

[DINOLA 'UP HIGH' 12" LP \(BLACK VINYL ONLY\) \\$14 + S&H](#) (available for immediate delivery)

Catalog #:

SEX1801

Formats:

CD: UPC 614511850223

LP: UPC 614511849722

Release Date:

North America 01.19.2018

Europe & U.K. 02.23.2018

The band developed organically out of the relationship forged among the members as they gradually aggregated into lead vocalist Sue Ford's Mardi Gras parade band Pink Slip. The trailblazing act was not only the first rock band to perform on a float during the hundreds of years old festival, but also the first all-female act. Now in their eighteenth year of performing annually in the parades, Pink Slip has a repertoire of hundreds of songs, in addition to their very own float and often feature special guests including Catching, Tony Maimone of Pere Ubu, the legendary Susan Cowsill and Sean Ysault of White Zombie.

Sue, a Boston transplant who works by day as a scenic artist in the movie business would over time pull Eric Laws (guitar) and Eddie Payne (bass) into the Pink Slip fold. Eventually she would allow her husband Jimmy to become the band's drummer, a promotion from his previous duties as sound tech and roadie for Pink Slip. Shortly after the turn of this decade the four of them would assume the name DiNOLA and the new act was born as a vehicle for their heavier original tunes.

Sue is quoted in a 2012 piece in OffBeat Magazine by Michael Patrick Welch thusly: "When picking my krewe, it's like going on a canoe trip. First, you're thinking about all the great friends you want to bring. Then it starts raining and the canoe gets stuck, and you think, 'OK, who would not deal with this well?' and you start crossing people off that list."

DiNOLA is more than just a rock band - they are an extended family of post-Katrina survivors and thrivers and the philosophy expressed by Sue above would seem to extend to all areas of their lives. One need spend only a little time around this colorful bunch to see the love they share and how they enjoy each other as people. Jimmy, one-time manager to Richard Hell and the dB's, among others, is a New Orleans fixture with his thick city accent being the perfect embellishment to his many tall but true tales, including one about owning New Orleans bars where "my hook was ladies drink free after 3am...". Laws, the son of a working musician, is sprightly, rambunctious and energetically bounces about the stage laying down succinct guitar parts as a counterpoint to the linebacker physiqued Payne, who alternates between deadpanning and sly grins as he forges a boneshaking rumble in draught horse manner against the rudimentary yet hypnotic beats Jimmy bangs out on a three piece jazz kit beneath the domain of his awe inspiring snow white mutton chop sideburns and legendary eyebrows. Meanwhile, the throaty Sue plays an absinth-soaked chanteuse - bitter, alluring, desperate and hopeful all at once.

They rehearse and headquarter out the Ford's modest house in the Uptown neighborhood that fell prey to one of the greatest natural disasters in the history of the country, Hurricane Katrina. The two-story home near the hospital where Jimmy was born flooded inside to a level of four feet. While the chaos visited upon their home and lives was not unique, it was compounded by the fact that the couple needed to take care of their two mobility impaired children Jonah and Jesse, in addition to another very young son Frankie, only 5 at the time.

But, as luck would have it, they had been urged to double-down on their dwelling insurance only six months earlier, and after the mess dissipated it became an opportunity. They would use the insurance money begin to totally retrofit the house with ramps all around and an elevator, making it perhaps the most mobility-friendly house of its style and vintage in the city. This charity begins at home attitude would be used as a rallying cry and extended to the small businesses and public transportation system of New Orleans as the couple's son, comedian and activist Jonah Bascle, would run for mayor in 2012 on a platform founded on accessibility issues. Jonah succumbed to complications from Muscular Dystrophy in 2014 but received a posthumous victory in 2017 as the Regional Transportation Authority eventually ruled that the iconic St. Charles streetcar line must provide six wheelchair accessible stops as a direct result of the work begun by Jonah. The Ford family continues the work by providing free or low-cost portable ramps to businesses needing to add access.

The first tune Jimmy Ford and Dave Catching wrote together was 'I Wanna' Die in New Orleans'. It was co-opted by Pink Slip and then DiNOLA made it their own. It's a fitting anthem occasionally requested by city cops at Pink Slip's parade appearances ... as their name suggests (literally "Of New Orleans") the band and their music embody all the qualities of their hometown - a seamy dark and gothic side balanced by a good-timing gregariousness and generosity of deed and spirit that never loses faith that there is always something better ahead. DiNOLA represent an indomitable force of regeneration and reinvention amidst loss and chaos.

UPCOMING DiNOLA DATES:

Sunday February 4th Circle Bar - New Orleans, LA

Tuesday February 6th Gasa Gasa - New Orleans, LA

Wednesday March 14th The Lost Well - Austin, TX

Friday March 16th The Groove & Vibe Festival - Houston, TX

Saturday March 17th Voodoo Doughnuts St. Patrick's Day Party - Austin, TX

Sunday March 18th Heatwave Fest - San Antonio, TX

HARVEY McLAUGHLIN DELIVERS THE 'TABLOID NEWS'!



PHOTO: OSCAR MORENO

'Tabloid News' is the debut solo album by San Antonio born and based singer and songwriter Harvey McLaughlin. The album represents something of a throwback to the 1970's piano based long players by the likes of greats such as Warren Zevon, Randy Newman and Tom Waits with nods to New Orleans R&B and Chicano Soul while maintaining the urgency of the young roots rock bands that Harvey has honed his craft and musicianship with over the last dozen years. He admits, only half-jokingly "I want to play the piano the way Link Wray plays the guitar."

Thematically the album draws on thirty year old McLaughlin's fascination with pulp magazines and urban legends as seen through the eyes of a young but weary romantic. McLaughlin says "I've made a career out of writing about dragons, ghost trains, dodo birds, banshee queens, chupacabras, and other such quasi-cryptic conundrums that seem to populate the fringes of our collective news consciousness...Back when everything you read in the newspaper was just as vibrant and believable as the word of mouth passed on the street, in a barber shop, or around a camp fire - when tall tales were the best kind of story formed currency."

"Armed with a dusty spook house piano and a near drunken rhythm section", the volume was recorded at Dale Watson's Ameripolitan Studio in Austin with additional recording taking place at Matador Studio in San Antonio. The thirteen original songs are simultaneously poetic and musically engaging while lacking the saccharine precociousness of many of his contemporaries. The result is witching, a well-executed mash up of pre-rock stylings with a defiantly contemporary twist.

'Tabloid News' will put McLaughlin on the map with critics, DJ's and fans.



[HARVEY McLAUGHLIN 'TABLOID NEWS' LP on limited edition RED VINYL \(100 copies only - includes newsprint insert\) \\$16 + S&H](#) (expected delivery 02.09.2018 - red vinyl edition available exclusively from Saustex)

[HARVEY McLAUGHLIN 'TABLOID NEWS' LP TEST PRESSING \(ltd 15 - 10 copies only available to public\) \\$22 = S&H](#) (expected delivery 02.01.2018)

[HARVEY McLAUGHLIN 'TABLOID NEWS' DIGIPAK CD \(includes 8 page booklet\) \\$11 + S&H](#) (expected delivery 01.26.2018)

The album will be released February 16th on Saustex Records on LP (with tabloid newsprint insert), Digipak CD and Digital Download formats, and will be distributed in North America by Burnside Distribution and Rough Trade Distribution in Europe and the U.K.

Catalog #:

SEX1706

Formats:

CD: UPC 614511845021

LP: UPC 614511846226

Release Date:

North America 02.16.2018

Europe & U.K. T.B.A.

['Tabloid News' Soundcloud preview link](#)

Thursday January 25th KRTU - San Antonio, TX on-air interview and album preview (11pm)

Wednesday January 31st - Hitones - San Antonio, TX

Thursday February 1st - Valentino's - San Marcos, TX

Friday February 2nd - Electric Church - Austin, TX

Saturday February 3rd - Under The Volcano - Houston, TX

Sunday February 4th - Circle Bar - New Orleans, LA

Monday February 5th - Radio Cafe - Nashville, TN

Tuesday February 6th -TBA

Wednesday February 7th - TBA - Carbondale, IL

Thursday February 8th - Terrapin Station - Murray, KY

Friday February 9th - Media ReRun - Murfreesboro, TN

Saturday February 10th - Char - Cookeville, TN

Saturday February 24th - Limelight - San Antonio, TX (record release party)

More dates T.B.A.



Piñata Protest 'Plethora (Reloaded)' Vinyl Reissue

Also on the new release front we're happy to announce that we'll be making Piñata Protest's now classic debut album available on vinyl again. Previously the album was licensed by another small label out of the Rio Grande Valley, Fallback Records.

The upcoming Saustex release is made from a completely new vinyl master and stamper plates and pressed on 140 gram vinyl in Dallas, Texas. The opaque red limited edition of 100 version is available exclusively from Saustex mail-order, with the sturdy black American vinyl edition available through all the usual channels. Avoid future regret - order yours today!

[SEX1802 Piñata Protest 'Plethora \(Reloaded\)' LP on limited edition of 100 opaque red vinyl \\$16 + S&H](#)

(expected delivery 03.01.2018)

[SEX1802 Piñata Protest 'Plethora \(Reloaded\)' LP TEST PRESSING \(limited edition of 15/10 only available to public\) \\$22 + S&H](#)

(expected delivery 02.01.2018)

Catalog #:

SEX1802

Formats:

LP: UPC 614511850629

Release Date:

North America 03.16.2018

Europe & U.K. 03.16.2018

Rest in Peace - Mike Carroll

It's been a pretty ugly start to the year with the loss of a couple of friends I shared the stage with in the 80's and onward. Mike Carroll passed away just Tuesday from bacterial meningitis. Initially the roadie for legendary Austin band The Big Boys, Mike would step into the spotlight with Poison 13. His quiet demeanor by day was cast aside when he began fronting the band with wildcat vocals and manic passion.

For those unfamiliar, Poison 13 were the Texan musical contemporaries of The Gun Club and The Flesheaters. And while basically ignored by their hometown crowd, their West Coast tours and two albums for Geoff Cordner's Wrestler Records would cement their legacy as being a huge influence on Seattle's nascent Grunge Rock movement - prompting SubPop to do a mid-90's reissue of their two albums.

A memorial is pending in February.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAT BLASHILL

R.I.P. - J.J. Jacobson

Another frontman weaved into the fabric of my own history was J.J. Jacobson of The Offenders, who was found unresponsive in Austin earlier this month and died at the scene. Many of you might have seen my more extensive Facebook post about J.J.

A hard-luck street kid, J.J. struggled with drugs, incarceration and homelessness for much of his life. He was the perfect compliment to The Offenders blistering hardcore/metal-crossover sound - channeling the rage and frustration of a life lived entirely on the edge. Their two albums for Rabid Cat Records 'We Must Rebel' and 'Endless Struggle' stand tall.

There will be a memorial for J.J. this coming Sunday January 21st at The Lost Well in Austin.

[JJ Memorial Facebook Event](#)

Also - check out David Ensminger's piece for Maximum Rock'n'Roll right here:

[JJ Obituary MAXRNR](#)

PHOTO COURTESY OF GEOFF CORDNER



Gary Dixon Tribute

Yet another soft-spoken but talented man I would cross paths with and share bills with over the years was Gary Dixon. Gary succumbed to Parkinson's disease last fall. The son of a Cleveland sports memorabilia dealer (also the man who invented the Slurpee baseball helmet cup!), as well as the brother of Screamin' Siren Boom Boom Lafoon, Gary specialized in a trashy guitar style that echoed Link Wray and evoked hot rods and horror movies.

Gary fronted or played in many bands over the years including Dino Lee & The Whirlybirds, The Hollywood Hillbillies, The Baloney Heads and The Real Dixons. The Hole in the Wall in Austin will host a tribute on Sunday January 28th at 3pm, featuring many friends including Texacala Jones and Rosie Flores.

[Gary Dixon Austin Chronicle Obituary](#)

BORN WITH THE BEAT AND SOUL DEEP
Celebrating the Life of Brother, Friend, and Rock & Roll Troubador...

GARY DICKSON 1950 2017

LES DEBAUCHES - TEKACALA JONES
THE STABBIES - BLACK CAT 88 - ROSIE FLORES
And an array of Surprise Guests!

Sunday, January 28, 2018
NO COVER / MUSIC 3:00pm 'til CLOSE / SHARE YOUR MEMORIES OF GARY

HOLE IN THE WALL
2538 GUADALUPE STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS • 512.472.5599

Poster Design © 2018 by JERRY CLAYWORTH (San Antonio, Texas, USA) www.atomicsjukebox.com

FLIER BY JERRY CLAYWORTH

R.I.P. - Chris Wing

The last unfortunate passing I will share is that of Chris Wing, singer for first wave Austin punk band Sharon Tate's Baby and a later notable act, Jerryskids.

Not nearly as soft-spoken as the folks mentioned above, Chris had lived in Austin for most of the past 40 years. Often employed in the circle of non-profit theater in the city, I first met Chris when he was managing Studio 29 (the former Rome Inn in North Campus that hosted legendary Austin appearances by Stevie Ray Vaughan, among others). Like many of the Raul's era folk he represented a link between the hippie era and punk culture. He brought a lot of showmanship, snark and dark humor to the stage and everyday life. One notorious annual "prank" he pulled was spray painting dead body outlines where the victims of Charles Whitman's massacre lay. Chris left this world in late 2017 at the age of 73 in Louisiana.

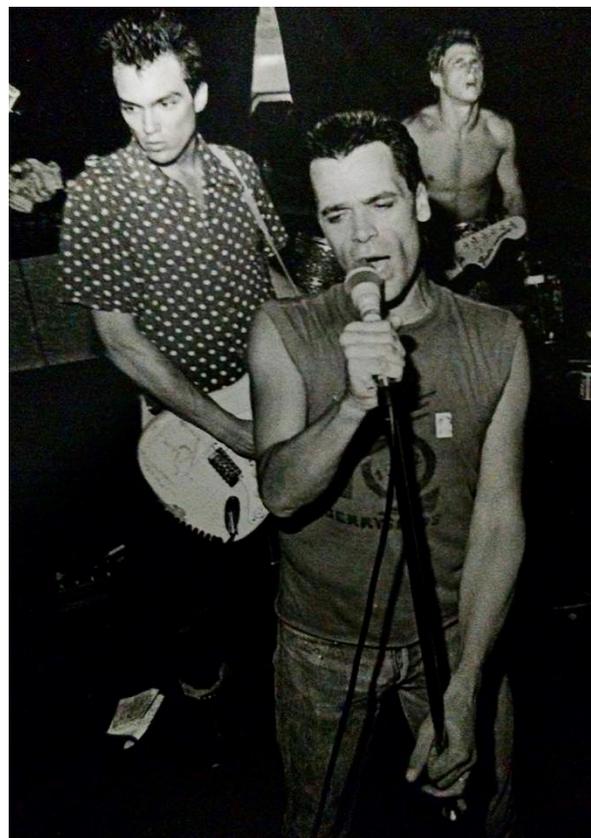


PHOTO COURTESY OF BILL DANIEL

So - I know that maybe a couple of years back I had stated in this forum that I didn't want this newsletter to become "some sort of half-assed obituary column" - and that still holds. Daily we see mainstream music media outlets jumping over each other to try and post the scoop on this or that musician who has passed.

However, these men were my friends, contemporaries and kindred spirits to varying degrees - to not mention them would dishonor their contributions to my musical culture, and the wider musical and pop culture worlds. They all had unique voices and hearts, giving all they had to give. I hope you take the time to investigate their music and history.

Here's to not delivering this sort of news next month. Take care of yourselves and each other and thanks for your continued support.

Smitty

Jeff Smith
Saustex Records & Entertainment, LLC

Jeff Smith | Saustex Records | 210-745-1418 | jeff.smith@saustex.com | Saustex.com

STAY CONNECTED:



Confirm that you like this.

Click the "Like" button.

Confirm that you like this.

Click the "Like" button.