

WAX

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andrew gold. graham gouldman



In 1982 I was called by the (then) Head of A&R at Warner Brothers Lenny Waronker, who I had known for years. He asked if I was a fan of 10cc, and I told him that indeed I was, very much. He said the band had a new album they were releasing called "Ten Out Of Ten", and he was of the opinion that, although the album was very strong, it might benefit the US audience to have a few additional cuts tailored more for the American ear.

As he knew I was an Anglophile, we might hit it off well. I said it would be an honour if the band said OK. I spoke to Graham and Eric by phone and soon I was in the UK, co-writing and co-producing three tracks for the album, which was a blast to do and turned out very well.

During the course of my three-week stay, Eric, Graham and I fell in love, as it were, and soon they asked me to join the band, which was an extremely exciting offer. For various reasons, which now seem dumb to me, and after great consideration, I demurred in favour of pursuing my own career and returned to America.

But before long Graham and I were talking again, and he asked if I wanted to return to England to write and just kind of hang for a few weeks. I went and ended up staying for seven months. Eric had decided to take some time off from 10cc and Graham, ever happy to be working, hunkered down with me writing and recording in his home studio in Cheshire. Soon we realised that what we were doing was basically writing and recording a home made band album.

Over the next few months we put the finishing touches on the album, just Graham and I alone in his studio, with a Fostex B-16 sixteen-track and a small Allen & Heath console, one Jupiter 8 synthesiser, a Linn 2 drum machine (the latest thing at the time), a piano and assorted guitars.. and we came up with this record.

At first we were at a loss to know what to call the band. We thought "World In Action" was good for some reason I can no longer imagine, as it was the name of a boring television show at the time, and our first single "Don't Break My Heart" had a few copies released under this name (now a rarity!).

But soon we changed the name to Common Knowledge, which was far better, and off we went. Unfortunately neither "Don't Break My Heart" nor a second track "Victoria" fared too well, and at that point the album became a "long lost legend" as the rest of it never came out.

We changed labels and changed our name to Wax and had success with new recordings, but this album has some special memories for me during that spring and summer of 1984.

Now at last you can hear the original album~ together with two other early Eighties tracks "Big Fat Baby" and "Heartbeat To Heartbeat" and three new songs, "Sometimes", "Shanghai Moon" (the latter co-written by us with Stephen Bishop) and "First Time In Love", recorded at my studio in the US in 1997 and 1998.

Graham and I still get together regularly to make music and will probably do so ad infinitum, as we just plain enjoy making music. Hope you enjoy this because, if you enjoy it half as much as we did making it, then we've enjoyed it twice as much as you!

ANDREW GOLD



I first met Andrew in 1981 when 10cc's record company suggested that we work with an American songwriter/producer to make an album that was more compatible with the US market.

When Andrew's name came up I was absolutely knocked out, having been a big fan of his since the mid-Seventies.

The results of those recording sessions were better than we could have hoped for with all the three tracks that Andrew co-wrote and co-produced being released as singles.

After 10cc split up in 1983 there was only guy I wanted to work with, but he wasn't available so I called Andrew.

I suggested that he come over to England for a few weeks to write and record some stuff in my studio at home. Those weeks turned into seven glorious months, the result of which is this CD.

After listening to it, I hope you feel excited as we did when we recorded it and as excited as we still feel about it today.

And I hope you like the new songs, too.

GRAHAM GOULDMAN

With thanks to Andrew, Graham and Harvey Lisberg for enabling this unreleased gem to see the light of day at last. Having signed Wax to RCA in 1985, I am thrilled now to oversee the release of this forerunner to *"MAGNETIC HEAVEN"*.

PETER ROBINSON

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Tel 44 171 602 5586 Fax 171 603 9048 Email: domerecords@dial.pipex.com www.domerecords.co.uk/domerecords

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10cc Fan Club (Phil Loftus), 45 Windsor Road, Droylsden, Manchester, England M43 6WB

Andrew Gold: www.andrewgold.com



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1. SHANGHAI MOON

(Gold/Gouldman/Stephen Bishop)

Quarkbrain Music/Zomba Music/Broughton Park Music

2. SOMETIMES

Quarkbrain Music/Zomba Music/Broughton Park Music

3. FIRST TIME IN LOVE

Quarkbrain Music/Zomba Music/Broughton Park Music

4. VICTORIA

5. DON'T BREAK MY HEART

6. LET'S HAVE SOME LUNCH SOMETIME

7. THE KING OF SHOWBIZ

8. HOLIDAY

9. BIG BROTHER

10. SEPARATE LIMOS

11. ALL OVER YOU

12. J.B. IN ARABIA

13. ONE MORE HEARTACHE

(Robinson/Monroe/White/Rogers/Tarplin)

Jobete Music

14. BIG FAT BABY

15. HEARTBEAT TO HEARTBEAT

All titles composed by ANDREW GOLD and GRAHAM GOULDMAN except as indicated.

All titles published by Zomba Music/EM I Music Publishing except tracks 1,2,3 and 13.

All instruments and vocals by ANDREW GOLD and GRAHAM GOULDMAN

PRODUCED BY ANDREW GOLD AND GRAHAM GOULDMAN