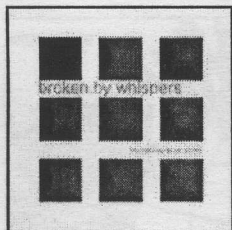


shinkansen

free!!! RECORDINGS

Ah yes, good afternoon, or possibly evening, and welcome to this, a small A5 leaflet telling you all about the latest releases on Shinkansen, a silky-smooth, beautifully-proportioned but sadly embittered young record-label often to be found crouched awkwardly a few streets south of Waterloo. And this is what we've done lately.



TREMBLING BLUE STARS: "Broken By Whispers"

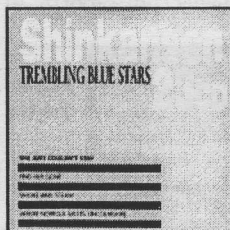
SHINKANSEN 22CD (£9.50)

Third album by the band that emerged a little scorched but generally unrepentant from the ashes of The Field Mice, whom older readers might remember changing the face of popular music back in the early nineties. You might also have heard TBS in session on John Peel the other week. Or you might have been out doing something else, it's your life, you do what you like, just don't come running to me when it all falls apart, OK? The album was licensed to Sub Pop, and for a few brief hours one afternoon in April was No.1 in the Amazon.com chart, just ahead of N Sync, Macy Gray and Santana - that's actually true, and we tell everyone we can.

TREMBLING BLUE STARS: "She Just Couldn't Stay"

SHINKANSEN 23CD (£2.50)

Second single from the above album, featuring one of its more obvious pop moments - it shimmers, it soars, it says hit me baby one more time and means it. Plus, you get 3 non-album tracks as B-sides and, like all the New Season Shinkansen CD singles, it comes in a card wallet with insert - you might say it was an indie 7" for the new Millennium. But, then again, you might say all sorts of things. And *that's* why people don't like you.



"Lights On A Darkening Shore"

SHINKANSEN 24CD (£3.50)

"And I'm trusting the off-guard glimpse of a distant, lit-up city from the top-deck of a 159 racing down Brixton Hill charges you with the same moment-melting urge to kiss strangers that hearing, say, "Smile Again" for the first time did - lights-out, tucked-up under the bedclothes, in the bed of someone stranger and more wonderful than you'd ever dared hope - because then you'll already know why I'm refusing to list here numbers, formats or pressing-quantities, just like you'll know whether to be scared, thrilled or bewildered when the conductor, handing you your change, bends low and whispers that talk at the depot these days is all of how we're each of us made from nothing but the dusty insides of long-dead stars."

[extract from sleeve/notes]



Our first compilation and, with 19 songs for the price of a CD single, an ideal way to sample a little bit of everyone before needing to grow up and settle down with just one band for the rest of your life. It comes in a full-colour digipak, with photos of two local power-stations and two local geese.

FOSCA: "The Agony Without The Ecstasy"

SHINKANSEN 25CD (£2.50)

Led by Dickon Edwards, formerly of the wonderful ORLANDO. Imagine: the Pet Shop Boys busk Quentin Crisp outside Archway tube at 8pm on a smoky night in November; a West-End show with book by Evelyn Waugh and

Baxendale doing the score; a glitterball lying silent on the floor of a Holloway Road attic under a broken skylight in a moonlit pool of rain. All human life is here, and more.

and if we held a protest demonstration/we'd all march off in different directions/confused and proud...

["Confused & Proud", one of the two B-sides]





FOSCA: "On Earth To Make The Numbers Up"

SHINKANSEN 26CD (£9.50)

An eight-song long-player. Seven epics and one pop song. Two songs more than "Station To Station", and one more than "Don't Stand Me Down". Let's make this precious, so cellos AND sequencers to irk the purists. My lisping tongue, on my own words be it. Take that, Nature! We chatted about how much we hated everything and loved everyone. More work was done when I was out of the studio, pretending to smoke. It's okay, I used a little portable ashtray, given to me in Japan with a letter that quoted Rimbaud on "Hello Kitty" notepaper.

[extract from "The Story Of An Album"]

FOSCA play the **12 Bar Club** on October 12th (onstage 9pm!) and **Upstairs at The Garage** on November 25th. You can also hear them in session on BBC London Live, 94.9 FM this Sunday (8th), between 7.30pm and 8.00pm.

PACIFIC RADIO: "Pacific Radio"

SHINKANSEN 27CD (£7.00)

Listening to Lamacq last night I discovered that Teenage Fanclub had finally released the record of which we always knew them capable, i.e. the worst record in the history of recorded music - which is why it's even more important for you to buy this, to hear how that old tumultuous guitar drenched cascading harmony laden golden syrup on crumpets type thing can still sound if done properly. Recorded in north London under the guiding light of Guided By Voices, plus a little help from Clive and Martine Broken Dog, you might have heard this lot in session on John Peel too, under their previous name **MONOGRAPH**. In a perfect world, everything lasts less than 2 minutes.



TOMPOT BLENNY: "Found Under Blankets"

SHINKANSEN 28CD (£7.00) - OUT NOVEMBER 20th!!!

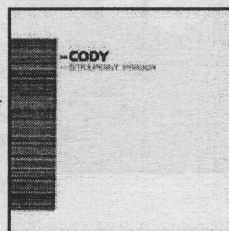
Debut 8 song mini-album from a mysterious trio who've spent the last four years moving round the east Midlands like hunted men - they're currently holed up in a suburb of Nottingham. They named themselves after a fish, put out two of the first five singles on Shinkansen - records which had people shaking their heads and muttering things like "Young Marble Giants", "Rough Trade era Go-Betweens", and "I paid good money for this, damn you" - and then went off to seek their fortunes in Leicester, since when they've rarely looked back, largely due to a morbid fear of tripping over things.

CODY: "Stillpoint Primer"

SHINKANSEN 29CD (£9.50) - OUT NOVEMBER 13th!!!

A slap of beauty across the face of the void, proving that Oxford isn't just the home of guitar-based prog and bouncing perpetual teenagers. Layering the lovely sounds of gently distressed guitars over gliding beats and euro-tinged synthtones, Cody reject pointless experimental widdling in favour of attention-grabbing, genre-trashing, silver-plated pulse-pop. Cody thumb their collective nose at the shuffling masses of the musically destitute and sneer at their citadels of tedium. Thoughtful, articulate and above all sensible, Cody's electronically-augmented post-pop pushes light into those shady corners dull bands avoid. They may not wish to rock your world, but they'd certainly love to wiggle it from side to side a bit.

[extract from forthcoming Cody press-release]



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MAIL-ORDER: everything can be ordered direct from us by sending the price quoted above plus 55p for postage (plus an extra 20p for each further item, if you're ordering more than one thing). And remember, we now take credit-cards! So don't leave your wallet lying around.

The website has full details of everything we've ever done, including a complete mail-order list, and the "Latest News" page is updated at the start of each month. There's also an e-mail mailing-list. Finally, can I quickly say that I've absolutely no idea how well these sleeve shots are going to photocopy, so if this page is decorated with nothing but enigmatically blurry 3cm squares, then please trust me that they all look better in real-life. As, indeed, do I.