

The Disturbance

Glyn Bailey & the Many Splendid Things

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Some seek obscurity, others have it thrust upon them ... Glyn Bailey accepts that he'll never be a competitor in what remains of the music market of today, but then he stopped caring about that sort of thing years ago. He just does what he does, and most importantly, does it well ... in his own little world, trying to make sense of the bigger one.

Ten songs make up his latest collection **The Disturbance**. Each track narrates one strange tale after another, varying the viewpoint between protagonist, victim or observer, prying into life's complexities and contradictions with a wordsmith's sensitivity & warmth. The subject matter may be informed by a dark misanthropic pessimism, but is relieved by subtle dark humour that can be surprisingly uplifting.

When asked to name specific influences, his answer is usually an unhelpful "*Everything I hear*", but there are undeniable traces of Beatles, Bowie, Brel and Nick Cave. Guiding the listener through the insistent melodies and charming lyrics, the voice remains unmistakably his own.

The previous two releases, **Toys from Balsa** ('05) and **Songs from the Old Illawalla** ('07), were mostly solo affairs. On this new album Bailey's musical vision is enhanced by the addition of his new band 'The Many Splendid Things', seasoned veterans once described as '*flanking Bailey like his own personal squad of nightclub bouncers*'.

The Disturbance opens with the eastern flavoured rock beast *Old Illawalla*, a backwards-nod to his previous album, telling of an unearthed musical manuscript and a satanic encounter. Following a downward gear shift to the sweet idyll of *Beautiful Corpse*, the hazards of parental misguidance are explored with *FuktUp*. *God for the Day* sardonically undermines the case for the necessity of the supreme being's existence. *The Bolan Tree* provides a poetic and haunting homage to the shrine where the ultimate popstar met his end. It contrasts starkly with what follows, the funky swagger of *Louis*, a send-up of TV's well known chronicler of life's grim underbelly. There's an unsettling melancholy pervading *Traffic Light Man*, a tension which continues to hold up for the psychotic survivalist madness of *BBC Bunker*. The mood changes with *Cherry Tree*, a dreamy gothic fairy-tale of love, greed and betrayal, before concluding with the epic *Waiting Game*, the writer removing any final barrier between his darker emotions and the listener.

At a time of music industry turmoil, with the mainstream becoming increasingly sanitised and predictable, **The Disturbance** aims to serve as a reminder that there are independent artists doing some very interesting things, to great effect.



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Web: www.glynbailey.com
Email: info@glynbailey.net
MySpace: www.myspace.com/glynbailey
Facebook: www.facebook.com/glynbaileyandthemanysplendidthings
Cover Image: Stuart Hampton 'Join the Dots'

The Disturbance Live dates...



- 13/11/10 – Blackpool – The Blue Room**
- 20/11/10 – Preston – Mad Ferret (*TBC*)**
- 23/11/10 – Manchester – Night & Day (*TBC*)**
- 25/11/10 – Barnsley – Pulse**
- 03/12/10 – Leeds – The Northern Monkey**
- 17/12/10 – Manchester – Liberal Club**

Please visit the website for full reviews and latest news of live dates.