

Matt Mitchell & The Coldhearts : About the album and songs



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I'm aware that sometimes an album is just for the love of rock n roll and I do love that. It's on my agenda. It could be a song about a car, or thunder and lightning. However, the main stories on this album are all about people. The people that have been part of my life, the people that have loved, cared, nurtured, hurt, inspired, broken, stayed strong, lost themselves, found themselves. Family, friends, honesty, dishonesty, music and the music business, integrity and faith. The songs in this self-titled album are inspired by all these things.

The bulk of this record was written in 2017/ 2018. Late night writing sessions that turned quickly into all night demoing. Striking whilst the inspiration was hot and honest instead of a forced and un natural process. It's what I needed it to be. I wanted to tell some stories and put them into song form.

Here is my spin on the songs on this record. And although these songs have meaning to me as a writer, I'm well aware that as soon as they are out into the big wide World, they take on different meaning for different people. And I love that. I believe not every song has to leave the nest with this big prolific meaning. Sometimes it can go find a meaning with someone else. Talking about the songs feels like I'm having to explain myself, or open up about something that has been hard to put into words. But here we go.. here is how each song took form.

Black Diamonds – is about an inevitable ending. 'Black Diamonds' itself is a metaphor for the loss of beauty/light/energy that occurs in the theoretical final stages of some stars life cycle (Black Dwarf) There were a lot of changes occurring around the time of the writing and demoing stages of this song. It started out as a song called 'I hope you find what you're looking for' though after a re write session it morphed into the song we now know, being 'Black Diamonds'.

Home – is a song about making it back. Taking the punches, and getting back onto your feet. Making it to the other side, and taking on the experience whether it be good/bad or ugly. Going the distance and then making it back home again.

On & On - had been hanging around as an idea for a while and came together in a live setting. It was always seen as an album track to me with guitar and Hammond organ solos back to back. Maybe a little

self-indulgent or a guilty pleasure track. The lyric focuses on how someone has unconditional love for you. And, how being able to love back can be a hard thing to do at times.

Dare You To Watch - had actually been penned and demoed some years back and was a song I wrote on acoustic guitar one Christmas eve. It actually touches on mental health issues and in particular OCD. A story about someone feeling stuck and not being able to let go as their held back with their own fears.

Kings & Queens – a romantic scene this one. The moment when two people fall into each other and it's all that matters for that moment in time. A relationship that seems to come and go in the blink of an eye. One that was maybe the wrong place at the wrong time. One that got away perhaps. A story about two creative souls that collide. Saving each other almost, but ending as the two paths just needing to go their different ways.

Unavailable - this is a song about making the right decisions. Although it sets a scene where two people are finding comfort in each other when really, they are totally unavailable. Unavailable because they are lost in the past. Still caught up in the throes of another relationship or just lost in themselves and don't really have anything to give at that time of life. The excitement of the 'in the moment' night out is clearly a wonderful escape from the real world that awaits.

Do You Wanna Be My God – totally inspired by the music business. The doors that open, and the doors that don't. 'We were waiting for a train, I swear I saw you chasing the last thing' is that observation of seeing your peers/yourself morphing into different styles, shapes and sizes to suit. The rat race. The chase. The all or nothing. The passion, the highs and lows and reality of it all. The chorus line being a twist on '**** off **** off .. Do you wanna be my God?' is because we praise it so much, we put blind faith into it. And ... sometimes it gives you nothing but heartache. And sometimes with hard work and faith it gives you something absolutely amazing!! The big machine. One must do it for the love of it.

Old Enough & Ugly Enough - a song about two people moving on. Questioning how many times One can feel that intensity of falling in and out of love. A feeling of giving it all away so there is nothing in reserve. But as life goes on, things can seem to work out. Life's lessons.

Wave Goodbye - Is a song about letting go of the negative. So many of us feel ruled by something that isn't a positive experience. So, you cut it off. So many people are stuck in positions where they cannot seem to move as it could have detrimental effect. Be this a job, or a position within an important group. However, being bullied or abused is not something to tolerate. So, it must go.

Everything To You – This song was written and demoed a little earlier in 2016 and I never thought it would be on an album. It's inspired by a friend that moved country to pursue a dream. Not only this but fleeing from family life and the deep-seated issues that they were entwined in.

Keep Me Safe – This song was a dream. I woke up one morning and had the words and melody going around and around my head. So, I got up, wrote and demoed it and went back to sleep. It was at a time where I felt very let down. However, the love and care of family and friends continued to call be back.

Waiting For The Sun - this song came from watching the news and feeling helpless. A girl tells a story of her loss and prays for change in the World. The stories of the people / families caught up in the middle of the sadness that wars create. Just seeing things unfold before our eyes on the news we are given. It inspired me to write 'Waiting for the sun'. A new day, a hope for change.

Matt Mitchell (January 2019)

Matt Mitchell & The Coldhearts : Album Tracklisting / Credits

1. Black Diamonds
2. Home
3. On & On
4. Dare You To Watch
5. Kings & Queens
6. Unavailable
7. Do You Wanna Be My God
8. Old Enough & Ugly Enough
9. Wave Goodbye
10. Everything To You
11. Keep Me Safe
12. Waiting For The Sun

Vocals & Guitars - Matt Mitchell

Guitars - Mauro Laconi

Bass - Dom Ladd

Drums - Matt Cherry

Keys - Stevie Watts

Additional instruments -

Lidia Alonso - Cello

Rupert Cobb - Trumpet

Francois Deville - Lap steel

Recorded at Rockfield Studios

Engineered by Nick Brine

Additional Engineer - Chris Daniels

Assistant - Jack Boston

Mixed by Sam Miller

Mastered by Chris Daniels

Art & Graphics - Tom Heron

Produced by Matt Mitchell

About Matt Mitchell:

British Singer/songwriter Matt Mitchell (PRIDE / FURYON / COLOUR OF NOISE) has recently had the chance to embark on the journey of recording his long awaited debut solo record.

Matt started out singing and writing songs in his late teens learning his craft in several bands early on, he then found himself as the voice of AOR band PRIDE who released two albums in the mid 2000's on EMI Toshiba / Pointmusic.

FURYON was Matt's next project. Formed out of the demise of PRIDE a heavier style evolved, with much love and praise from the likes of CLASSIC ROCK & METAL HAMMER magazines.

The band had a great run touring UK/Europe and performed at several major festivals including DOWNLOAD, BLOODSTOCK and Poland's gigantic WOODSTOCK festival.

Not long after the release of the second album the band was put on ice so that the band members could spend more time song writing and considering their future. At this point Matt joined former LITTLE ANGELS guitarist Bruce John Dickinson forming the much lighter bluesy sounding COLOUR OF NOISE.

A good two year run was had with the band. An album was released, followed by lots of touring and yet more major festival slots.

COLOUR OF NOISE were to leave things on a high in 2017 and with one door closing another soon opened in the shape of Matt's solo project with guest players - MATT MITCHELL & THE COLDHEARTS.

MATT MITCHELL & THE COLDHEARTS

Press / Media enquiries: Rob Town at Stampede Press

Website:

www.stampedePress.co.uk

Email: rob@stampedePressuk.com



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Lightning in a Bottle