



STEVEN GULLETT

singer-songwriter-acoustic-punk



Steven Gullett has more than a decade's worth of experience playing music, both as the driving songwriter in glam-punk/rock n' roll bands and as a solo performer. As a member of Freakstrobe, Love Lies Bleeding and The Mystery Addicts, Steven has shared the stage with Guided By Voices, Electric Frankenstein, The Dead Kennedys and Hamell On Trial. Based in Dayton, Ohio, his bands have toured from coast to coast, making plenty of new converts along the way. But he has always returned to the brutal honesty of the acoustic stage, where songs live and die on their own merit.

“There’s something so raw & bare about one voice & one guitar that just can’t be beat,” he says.

His debut solo CD, “Cheap Reflections,” was recorded on 4 and 8 track machines, chronicling years of growth as a songwriter and performer. The result is a sparse but immediate sound. Steven’s rough vocals lay down beautifully with the thick sound of a jumbo acoustic guitar and spring electric overdubs.

After leaving The Mystery Addicts to pursue a solo career full time, Steven wrote, recored and released “Sad Like Marilyn” at the end of 2002. A stripped downdeparture from his band releases, this new CD met with praise from critics, fans and fellow musicians alike. With improved production and a tighter sound “Sad Like Marilyn” highlights amazing nuance in Steven’s singing and a new maturity in his playing.

Armed with a catalog of over 200 songs, Steven blurs the genres that try to define him — from Rock to Ballads to Punk to Alt Country and aggressive Antifolk . The constant core among the diversity is solid, honest songwriting, melodic hooks, & intelligent wordplay spiked with a poet’s phrasing.

He’s also received airplay on Ohio radio stations WOXY, WYSO, WXEG & appeared on the nationally televised “Daily Buzz” morning show on the WB network. Steven is busy playing shows around the Midwest, promoting “Sad Like Marilyn” and writing new material.

Thanks for listening.
Star Heartless Records



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"Sometimes (a song) means, 'You wrote this because you have to get something off your chest.' I don't really think about it that much; it's just kind of what I do," Gullett said. " ... (When I started writing lyrics and my friends forced me to be in a band, it all worked out a lot better; I had some emotional release that I couldn't get anywhere else. ... I try to be honest and hopefully that's what comes off."

By DIMITRI MONROE * DETROIT METRO TIMES * AUGUST 21, 2002

Steven Gullett is the apparently tortured blackheart behind Dayton's best punk band, the Mystery Addicts. This solo album (mainly a collection of demos) is hot on the heels of last year's critically acclaimed Mystery Addicts full-length, *Unluck and Shame*. Steven is among the most promisingly literate songwriters amid the wave of subterranean rock 'n' rollers, penning vitriolic lyrics about failure, despair, and self-loathing. Gullett is masterful at detailing his own misery.

With all its nagging portents of gloom and futility, *Cheap Reflections* probably hits me too close to the bone. In "The Payoff," Gullett laments the harrowing disappointment of insanely pursuing an ever-receding, unreasonable dream: "If this is it, it's all you get/have you made your millions yet?/have you made your peace with that?"

Gullett continues to outgrow his once ubiquitous influences to find his own voice as a writer — choosing his own words, recalling his own experiences, conveying his own truth.

By ANGELIQUE CAMPBELL * DAYTON DAILY NEWS * DECEMBER 2002

• Art depends on inspiration, right? The muse, the source of inspiration, is a fickle thing. You can go through a drought of creative thought and then be kept up all night trying to find the right way to get an idea out of your head and into the world.

When genius strikes, you'd better strike back, otherwise whatever it is that inspires you might not find its way back again. With that in mind, here's a look at where some local musicians find inspiration:

• Steven Gullett (singer/songwriter): "Infatuation with women that were horrible for me used to do it. Now I'm in competition with myself. I want to write a better song than the last one I wrote. . . . I tend to write about what's happening or has happened in my life. I find it really hard to take myself out of the song. I'm almost envious at times with people who can write more anonymously. Because at times you hurt someone close to you. . . . Luckily disappointment and self-loathing are fairly common traits to share."

SOLO DISCOGRAPHY

DAYTON AFTER DARK – COMPILATION CD 2003
Includes "My Own Worst Joke" previously unreleased
SAD LIKE MARILYN CD 2002 – 12 songs
CHEAP REFLECTIONS: A Collection of Demos CD 2002 – 15 songs

THE MYSTERY ADDICTS DISCOGRAPHY

4 way split CD 2002 - w/ ELECTRIC FRANKENSTEIN,
THE JACKALOPES & CHERRY VALANCE on Do Tell Records
UNLUCK AND SHAME CD 2001 – 12 songs
DRUNK ON ROCK 2 COMPILATION CD 2000 – on I-94 Records
GOOD BOYS DON'T KILL 7" – 4 songs on Beer City Records 1998

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