

SMOG VEIL RECORDS

550 W. Plumb Ln. #B501
Reno, NV 89509
UNITED STATES
fax: (775) 201.0276
phone: (775) 771.2724
email: franklisa@aol.com
www.SmogVeil.com
www.ClePunk.com

October 1, 2004
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Smog Veil is pleased to announce the October 19th, 2004 release of the new DAVID THOMAS AND TWO PALE BOYS CD "18 Monkeys On A Dead Man's Chest" and United States tour by the band.

BBC ALBUM OF THE WEEK!

Label, release and tour press, and marketing contacts: see end of this Release.

[David Thomas](#): vocals
Andy Diagram: trumpets & electronics
Keith Moliné: guitars, violin & electronics

TRACKS:

New Orleans Fuzz (3:44)
Numbers Man (4:36)
Little Sister (3:09)
Habeas Corpus (4:27)
Brunswick Parking Lot (5:51)
Nebraska Alcohol Abuse (6:17)
Sad Eyed Lowlands (5:19)
Golden Surf (4:30)
Prepare for The End (7:08)

TOUR DATES:

Thu, Oct 14 San Diego, Casbah

Fri, Oct 15 Los Angeles, Spaceland
Sat, Oct 16 San Francisco, Bottom of the Hill
Mon, Oct 18 Portland, Lola's (Crystal Ballroom)
Tue, Oct 19 Seattle, Tractor Tavern
Fri, Oct 22 Minneapolis, 7th Street Entry
Sat, Oct 23 Chicago, Empty Bottle
Sun, Oct 24 Pittsburgh, Brew House Space 101
Mon, Oct 25 Cleveland, Beachland Ballroom
Wed, Oct 27 Cambridge MA, Middle East Upstairs
Thu, Oct 28 New York City, Knitting Factory
Fri, Oct 29 Baltimore, Talking Head
Sat, Oct 30 Chapel Hill NC, Local 506
Sun, Oct 31 Atlanta, The Earl

[David Thomas and the two pale boys](#) generate strange and beautiful new shapes, rolling stories, and sonic panoramas out of spontaneous deconstructions created with brass, guitar and electronics. The simple seesawing of a melodeon gives way to cascading electronica and expressionistic soundscapes-- sometimes pulsating and abrasive, sometimes mysterious and exploratory. Through it all is woven the mordant wit of one of the most distinctive and charismatic singers in modern music, [Pere Ubu](#) founder [David Thomas](#).

18 MONKEYS ON A DEAD MAN'S CHEST, their third studio album, takes the group's extraordinary sonic lexicon, the trademark soundscaping of electronic trumpeter [Andy Diagram](#) and guitar/synthesist [Keith Moliné](#), and injects it with a furious rock urgency. Check the zigzagging riffs and knife-edge angularity of the blistering "Numbers Man." Look, ma, no drums!

As with its predecessors, 18 MONKEYS is a sonic novel stretched across a non-linear, non-narrative compendium of hieroglyphs. The sense of a drama unfolding is a product of the improvisatory nature of the band's approach to recording. At the end of a Chinese-whispers-like chain and a process that reflects the seat-of-the-pants theatricality of their concerts, the songs of 18 MONKEYS ON A DEAD MAN'S CHEST were compiled in the studio from extemporised performances which are, subsequently, deconstructed, reconstructed, re-amped, and reconfigured. The left hand never knows the business of the right hand.

"Habeas Corpus" is a terrifying, coiled mystery, while the explosive "New Orleans Fuzz" rides a groove so oozing and swollen it seems on the point of haemorrhage. "Sad Eyed Lowlands" recasts the "thin, wild mercury sound" that Dylan was chasing on "Blonde on Blonde" with results every bit as mesmeric and compelling.

Elsewhere the group fashion mesmerizing ghost-worlds of shifting perspectives with the splintered micro-drama of "Nebraska Alcohol Abuse," the epochal "Prepare for the End," and the noir-ish tandem of "Little Sister" and "Golden Surf." Everywhere are surprising details and unique textures-- Mr Diagram's shivery brass-vocalese, Mr Moliné's feral violin embellishments, Mr Thomas's wheezing, fragile melodeon.

Mr. Thomas himself is perhaps more lyrically reflective and revealing on 18 MONKEYS, exploring the twin psychologies of personal loss and collective myth, rooting his findings in the specifics of a very personal American geography. Time and again he eschews the obvious in his vocal delivery, adopting an incredible range of unexpected approaches and radical voicings over the course of the album's nine songs. The sparse, yearning highlight, "Brunswick Parking Lot," whose bitter nostalgia manages to be both heart-rending and hilarious, is the still point at the heart of this ravaged and ravaging album.

[SURF'S UP!](#) (2001) was the group's second studio album. The Wire said of it, "Recalls and then surpasses Swordfishtrombones period Tom Waits. Indeed, he shares with the film maker David Lynch the ability to parody a genre while simultaneously unlocking its forgotten power... Amazing" The Wire also raved about [EREWYON](#) (1996), the group's debut, describing it as "red-blooded, haunted and literally fantastic." [MIRROR MAN](#) (1999), a live recording featuring the group expanded to be David Thomas and The Pale Orchestra, was praised widely and enthusiastically. Mojo called it a "tour de force." It is the soundtrack of Mr Thomas' rogue opera that toured in the UK with Linda Thompson, Jackie Leven, Robert Kidney and others. In 2003 it had its US premiere in Los Angeles featuring Syd Straw, Van Dyke Parks, Robert Kidney, Frank Black, George Wendt and others.

[David Thomas](#) is the founder of avant-rock legends [Pere Ubu](#). The two pale boys (2pbs) are Andy Diagram (trumpets & electronics) and Keith Moliné (guitars, violin & electronics). Andy, a member of James in the early 90s, has played in a number of influential groups, including Dislocation Dance, The Diagram Brothers and The Honkies. Currently he plays with the 2pbs and his

own group, Spaceheads. Keith refuses to play in rock (or jazz) bands. His approach to music derives from "a careful diet of high-art electronica and low-art Goth." He is currently playing with They Came From The Stars I Saw Them and has also worked with Infidel and Mesmerist.

The design of the 18 MONKEYS package is the work of John Thompson/[idrome](#). Mr Thompson has designed all but two of the Pere Ubu albums since 1977 and all of the David Thomas albums.

Press Quotes

"Ceaselessly inventive" **The Sunday Times**

"Twisted and inspired, it is like everything and nothing you've ever heard, [they] are now creating a whole new kind of strange and affecting beauty... It is harrowing and haunting, beautiful and haunted stuff in which to both lose and find yourself." **Time Out**

"They deconstruct musical forms and let them flow into strange, beautiful new shapes." **The Scotsman**

"His otherworldly, slightly deranged voice... bears comparison with no other voice: child-like, full of guilt, pitched somewhere around, although not at, falsetto, but - and this is the fulcrum of his appeal, around which his whole oeuvre pivots - it has a serene, mournful quality. Nick Drake and Ian Curtis had that quality too, but Thomas's palette is broader, his inclination more avant-garde." **The Guardian**

ONLINE MATERIALS AVAILABLE AT:

<http://smogveil.com/wow/hush/>

password: anderson username: ernie

Wholesale Inquiries

-Smog Veil Records, 550 W. Plumb Ln. #B501, Reno, NV 89509

- 775.771.2724: phone

- 775.201.0276: fax

- franklisa@aol.com

Marketing

-RocknRetail, 6166 W. 8th Ave., Lakewood, CO 80214

- 303.232.9000: phone

- 303.274.0734: fax

- rocknretail2001@cs.com

Release and Tour Press

- Fly PR, 1864 N. Vermont Avenue, Suite 507, Los Angeles, CA 90027

- 323-667-1344: phone

- 323-667-0038: fax

- flypr@aol.com