

Boston Original  
Bands Initiative

50

**PENNY DREADFUL**

JUDGE

HAPP

SINCE 2024

**OLD BOY  
OF THE  
FENS**

**TINY  
FOREHEAD**

**ELECTRIC  
VENDETTA**

**CORAL  
SUN**



**BOBI Gig Number 6:  
Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024**

## BOBI #6: WHO HAVE WE GOT LINED UP FOR YOU THIS TIME?

### OLD BOY OF THE FENS

"*Acoustic Gothic Country*" was how this Spalding duo were first sold to me after bumping in to guitarist/vocalist Adrian for the first time in an age at, of all places, a Comic-Con!

Like if Johnny Cash grew up in Spalding, surrounded by

flatness, fields, flowers and strange happenings going on amongst the Fenfolk of the parish. A two piece (James Campbell and Adrian Hunt) playing acoustic guitars, Old Boy of the Fens take the listener on a maudlin tour of the

wild landscapes and remote locations of Lincolnshire visiting characters with grim tales to tell and eerie places that are best not visited in the dark. In an interview from *Lights Go Out* Fanzine, Adrian described their sound to ... "*Americana, Death Country, Doom Country, Low Fi Pessimism, Roots etc. 'Gothic Country' is a tag I'm ok with. Our songs often have a dark theme; obsession, fear, death and disconnection all make appearances along with elements of dark romance, desire, and the occult.*" Old Boy's melancholy musings explore a range of themes ranging from ghost stories, murder ballads, the murky world of rural debt collecting as well as a love song to a migrant worker and a sense of locality. Very Lincolnshire, well, that is if you dig down in to the dark, underbelly of our county that is hidden from view.

<https://oldboyuk.bandcamp.com/>

### TINY FOREHEAD

Based in Boston/Lincoln Tiny Forehead have been confusing audiences for a good few years now with their peculiar and mysterious "*Weirdo Gloom Garage*" that is somewhat tricky to pin down. If you were to take The Cramps debauchery and the raw garage rock of Iggy and his Stooges as a starting point,

you'd not even be half way there. Chuck in a large dollop of Punk attitude and a cob web strewn Gothic ambience then you'd be getting closer. If you listen really carefully, there's maybe even a hint of castles and cobwebs era

Damned/Death Rock in there too. Fast and loose, a little bit groovy, dark and driven tunes with lyrics that are either deeply personal or fiercely political ... like I said, a tricky one to pigeon hole. The very definition of an "*original band*" I'm sure you'll concur. With a number of self released ear worm-y singles behind them, it's clear to see how The 'Forehead are taking all of these influences and running amok with them. With a striking vocal duo, including the mysterious masked Mr Barnabas and the soaring sounds of Tilly, they are really are quite a confusing, rabble rousing sight to behold in a live setting. Check out their latest single via the Hammer Horror themed video they created at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bKBABf6Ys> and their recent singles at <https://tinyforehead1.bandcamp.com/>



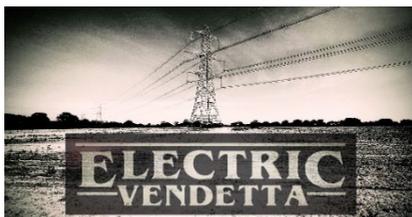
## CORAL SUN

A Nottingham based duo, Coral Sun and their tunes have been around in one form or another for a good twelve years or so. Initially a three piece playing a hybrid of Grungey Alternative Punk Rock, the departure of the original guitarist and vocalist saw



Kim and Peter continue as a twosome and move in to more acoustic Rock and Pop territory.

Although looking to fill out the group to a full band again, Coral Sun are equally happy to take their infectious pop ditties on the road in this stripped down state. With Kim playing a semi-hollow Washburn



HB-50 through an assortment of pedals which give the tunes a full but wistful, dreamy sound, Peter offers percussive accompaniment to give a folksy, camp fire feel but with a pop Punk spikiness hidden in there too. Taking influences from such poppy Punksters as You Me at Six, Green Day and Avril Lavigne plus some classic Rock and Prog (Rush, Pink Floyd) in there too it's an intriguing proposition. See for yourself how all of this is distilled in to the acoustic antics of Coral Sun!

<https://www.facebook.com/coralsunband.uk>

## ELECTRIC VENDETTA

Another duo, this time playing piano, drums, guitar and making what they describe as "*Indie Folktronica*". The Boston based pair have been performing together for nigh on three years after becoming disillusioned with the idea of wrangling a whole band. Stripping things back to

a simplified version of the "full band sound", Electric Vendetta set out to create all the music lives with no backing tracks. Across the aforementioned drums, guitar, piano and

the odd guest vocalist, they come up with a sound based around a strong sense of rhythm and the singer songwriter-y ends of indie but with a slice of

electronica thrown in to the mix. Hauntingly maudlin at times or up beat and catchy at others, you may hear elements that have you considering electro indie not unlike early records from New Order or The Smiths catchy kitchen sink jangling, not to mention more recent takes on the singer songwriter by the likes of Damien Rice and David Gray. Top quality song writing and performing and it's right on our doorstep in Boston!

[https://soundcloud.com/dale\\_simpson](https://soundcloud.com/dale_simpson)

## **INTERVIEW: SLAVA B**

*You were at BOBI 5, weren't you?  
Of course you were. Like everyone  
else you were probably mesmerised  
by the one man (and a creepy doll)  
mayhem that was SLAVA B's  
performance. We figured we'd best  
get the Wisbech based musician to  
explain himself!*

**Thanks for joining us Slava B! You  
made your Boston debut at the  
recent BOBI gig. How do you think  
it went?**

*I think it went generally okay, due to  
me being in this area for the first time  
it felt like during the performance  
people has been intimidated lol. I  
personally love to engage with the  
crowd during my set and I believe  
that I have got that at my first Boston  
gig.*



Photo credit: *Graham Campling*

**What's your background? How did  
you end up in Wisbech? What  
made you take up playing music  
and performing? Why do you  
perform as a solo artist rather than  
a band? Is this by choice?**

*I was born in Russia and then moved  
to King's Lynn when I was 17  
together with my parents and after  
settling down I moved to Wisbech for  
the last six years or so. When I was  
around 13, I heard one band's record  
("Mutter" by Rammstein) and I was  
truly inspired to do something similar  
to create, but in light of tight  
financial situation in a family I was  
never able to have any instrument.  
However, once I moved to the UK I  
started to work and earned my first  
wage, I then started to buy guitars  
and spend hours, days, weeks and  
months watching YouTube and  
learning how to play guitar and all  
about chords. I then purchased some  
studio equipment and recorded my  
first album at home. As things began  
growing and I saw some progress I  
started to show up in public and play  
with a guitar my tracks I composed.  
What you see and hear today, is the  
evolution of over 17 years. Bands  
involve too many people that you  
need to get along with. I classify  
myself a demanding personality and  
it may be difficult for people within a  
band to get along with myself in the  
long term, because I'm a fairly  
straight person with own*

*expectations from commitment of others.*

**How would you describe your music to someone thinking of coming to see you? Who are your influences? Any musical or non-musical influences?**

*I struggle to name specific genre when it comes to Slava B. Because I compose in different genres starting from ska and ending up industrial metal. When people ask what genre? I prefer to say a "Slava B. Genre". Lol. My biggest musical influences are Rammstein and couple of Russian ska punk bands known as "Leningrad" and the other one that doesn't exist anymore "Korol I Shut". I have no non-musical influences.*

**Your performance was quite a unique show. Who is the doll you interact with? You have some theatrical elements involved, where does this come from?**

*The doll was an idea after I wrote song "Vandal" where I mention the story of mother locking me in a dark room with a doll and over the time I eat that doll. This doll is a one off and accidental find within Facebook marketplace ha ha! I called this doll Suzan as it says in "Vandal". I also plan to obtain more for on stage decoration so stay tuned. The theatrical elements I came up myself as I wanted to give crowd a little bit more than just decent music and Russian accent especially when it comes to performing solo on my own.*

*I wanted to make a show and what you see today is definitely not a final version of it.*

**What are your lyrics about? I remember a song about "Ants" ... give us some background to your lyrics.**

*Translation in this song being Ants-Humans if you think of humans how they made to be working day and night, with no days off and no sick pay in some places so the song itself is about domination over ants, where ants are being humans. Due to nature of the track I have a full EP that is based on domination and called "Ants".*

**How can we listen to more of your work? Websites? Streaming? Records/CSDs? Gigs coming up?**

*Available on Facebook as Slava B., Soundcloud, YouTube and Spotify as Slava'B. Usually, I suggest people to Google Slava B., and I would come up right away as the top result.*



Photo credit: Marv Gadgie

**Asking the folk of BOBI ...  
what was the first record  
you ever bought?**

**Terry**

I don't suppose many of you remember sound booths in record shops. You'd choose the record you wanted to hear, and the shop assistant would put it on for you. So, you and maybe a couple of mates would squeeze into what



was essentially a telephone box and wait with apprehension for your chosen track to be played. Don't laugh, but it was quite magical.

Anyway. What was my first record? Pretty sure it was a Beatles single, and I still have my copy of their "Rubber Soul" LP, but the one that sticks in my mind most is "Unequalled" by The Equals (The Equals being Eddie Grant and his brother's band). Checking on Google, that was 1967, but I bought it on the strength of "Baby Come Back" which wasn't released as a single until 1968 after I'd left school, so I probably paid for it with my meagre £5-a-week apprentice wages.

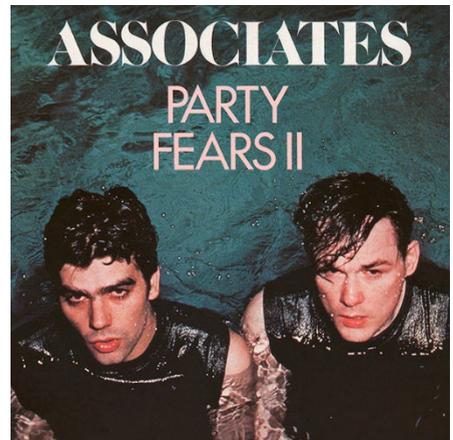
On 5 October, 1968 (what would I do without the internet?) I saw The Equals play at the Birdcage in Harlow where, as my hair grew and my tastes

changed, I saw the likes of Argent and Stackridge. How times have changed.

**Simon Forehead**

My first record that I bought myself was possibly "Party Fears Two" by The Associates. I had watched them on Top of the Pops and was mesmerised by their female keyboard player who was only using one hand and looked bored - I now realise she was miming. It was a great record and at the "alt"

end of the keyboard bands at the time - and was probably one of the entry points into harder music about complex lives rather than pop "I love you" stuff. Within six months I was into The Jesus and Mary Chain, The Icicle Works, Echo and the Bunnymen and the Bolshoi. Never looked back.

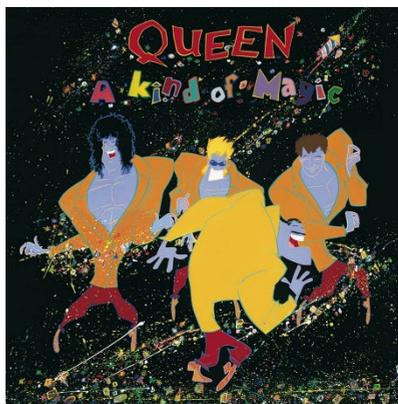


Back in my teens there were a lot of hardware shops doubling as record shops. Don't know why, just seems then Vinyl complimented nails and hammers and floral foam. One in particular where I lived had newish singles and lots of older punk ones. Always seemed weird buying The Dead Kennedy off a bloke in a brown coverall who looked like he was from Open All Hours (*sigh ... Google it*) but there it was. Woolworths (the easiest place to buy limited amounts of vinyl) was too unpredictable - it only had the Top 40 and already by then the town Punks would have bought any of the decent songs which they had smaller stocks of, leaving you with crap like Black Lace and Five Star. So, when I finally could buy a copy of "Party Fears Two", I was chuffed. I guess digging deeper into the song, I never really understood or knew the lyrics. It was driving blue eyed alt funk with a bright, clanging key's riff, and increasingly hysterical singing from the late great Billy McKenzie. Have a listen and watch on YouTube. Yes, the keys player is one of the coolest humans to have ever lived.

### **Paul Initonit Zine**

Was this the first album I bought? Queen: "A Kind Of Magic"? I can't remember to be honest. Before punk, metal and indie I was buying Madonna and Queen records.

It was either this or one of the first three Madonna records and this is the most "rock" of those albums. The video to It's a Kind of Magic was really cool in the days when pop videos were on Top of the Pops (ask your Grandad), plus this made up the Highlander soundtrack which is a cool film in anyone's book!



#### **Wanna get in touch?**

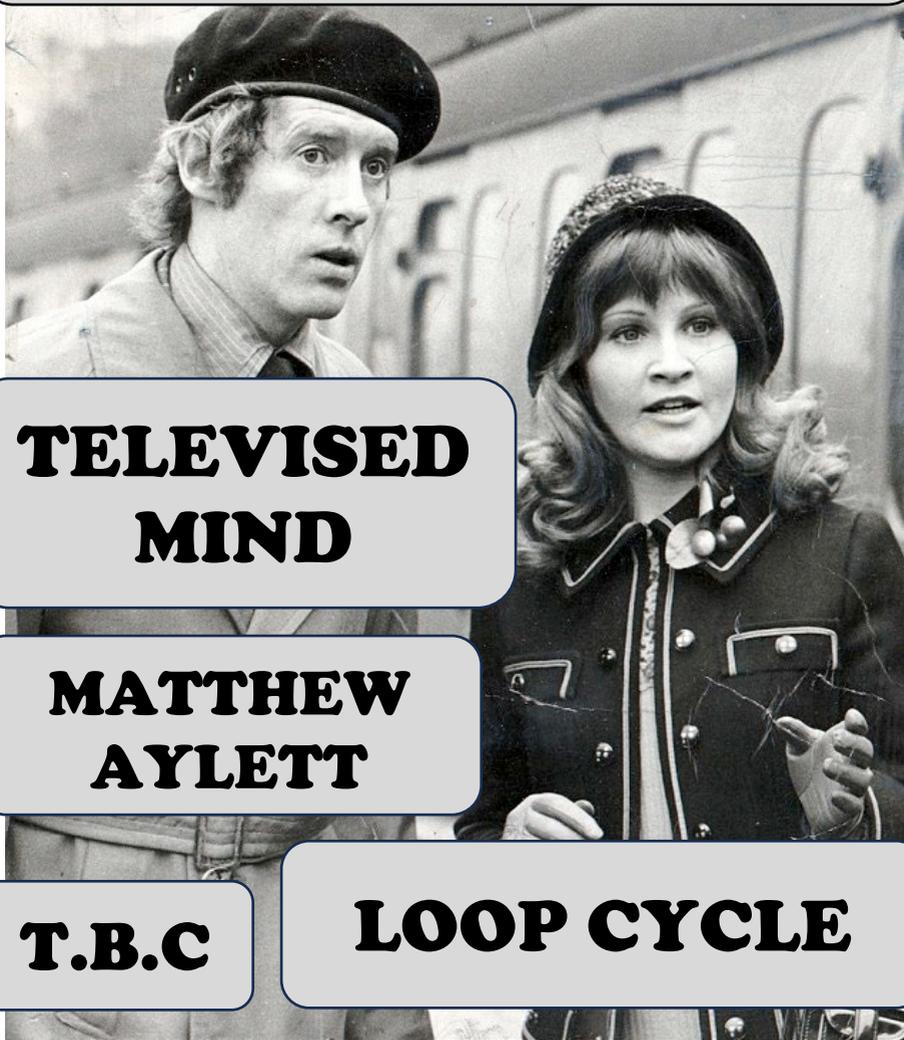
The **BOBI** website is where you can check out future gigs – one on the last Saturday (or so) every month at the Queen of Spades – read back issues of Penny Dreadful, and of course, buy tickets online.

<https://bobi.boston/>

**Gadgie Fanzine** is the Punk Rock zine that Marv has been writing since the 90s covering the DIY Punk scene and various other tales of misadventure and mayhem. Read reviews, interviews and articles, then order paper copies at the Gadgie Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/Nowthengadgie>

**Coming up next month:  
BOBI Gig Number 7**



**TELEVISED  
MIND**

**MATTHEW  
AYLETT**

**T.B.C**

**LOOP CYCLE**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September  
Queen of Spades, Boston**