

Mp3 The Passing Strange - Pop: 60's Pop



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Intellectual 60's pop influenced by the 'British invasion.' "She swore in faith t'was strange, t'was passing strange." William Shakespeare, Othello, Act I, iii. 9 MP3 Songs POP: 60's Pop, ROCK: 60's Rock Details: Ah, this CD? Well, hello, this is John. Thanks for stopping by. Had a band in college, Manhattan College back when in the 60's. Three of us were from Manhattan College; two were from Columbia College (our drummer, Woody, used to double at bass jamming with Jimmy Hendrix, and quite experienced he was). I was studying philosophy, government, history, literature, theology, reading practically everything I could find to try to figure out the human race and move the world towards peace and justice, and thought it'd be fun to put together a band with 'mi' friend, Jim Robicsek on guitar and keyboards. That's how the Passing Strange came to be. The name? "She swore in faith t'was strange, t'was passing strange." William Shakespeare, Othello, Act I, iii. We 'was' in college back then, and played some of the college circuit in New York City. I went on to study analytic and moral philosophy, political science and law in Ann Arbor town, also taught some, and fell deeply in love in between. Then we all grew up When I moved to Washington, D.C. to find work, I again started playing and singing a bit on occasion, though working quite hard. Someone I knew said, 'why not record?' Then a few months later he was returning home for Christmas from studying abroad in London, and picked up Pan Am Flight 103 on December 21, 1988. Sadly, he and the other noble Syracuse students and travellers never made it home. His family asked me to sing at the church service. I sang "Tears in Those Eyes" written years before but which took on a new and poignant meaning this time. I recorded the song on 12-string acoustic with harmonica strapped to my neck. So that's how this album meandered to a start. Next, thinking about what a friend had said, with new band members, the refitted Passing Strange recorded some of mi 'ole college tunes at Cue Recording in Falls Church, Virginia. These include "While Shineth the Sun" 1966 (the start of

psychedelic?) "Professor Edwards" 1967 (a song about teaching), "The Girl I Hardly Know" 1965 (written while staring out my Auntie's bay window at a lovely girl strolling by in the Bronx, where I lived freshman year), "Hurray Hurrah" 1965 (a song written in high school while dad had a football game blaring on the tube), and "The Girl I Admire" 1965 (a high school tune I wrote in Staten Island as the returning boyfriend's response to "My Boyfriend's Back and You're Gonna Be Sorry"). Our producer, the extremely talented jazz pianist Tom W. Coppola and composer in his own right, asked for a few new tunes. So that's "Driving Rain" (that's emotional rain, as it were) and "Love Breakdown," featuring lead guitarist John Sterling's searing wild rock guitar at its best. "Driving Me Insane" gave us the chance to bash down hard on electric piano and try to sing at the same time. Tom did virtually all the other keyboard work on the album, Steve Newstedt played bass guitar, and Chris Saylor did the outlandish drummin'. I guess I'm to blame for the singin', rhythm guitar and electric piano on two tunes. 'In the name of Annah the Allmaziful, the Everliving, the Bringer of Plurabilities, haloed be her eve, her singtime sung, her rill be run, unhemmed as it is uneven!' You might let me know if I'm out of time. The Passing Strange CD has aired on CAVE Radio in Eugene, Oregon, on DC 101 and WHFS in Washington, D.C., and on Baltimore's rock station. We do hope you enjoy and are moved by these tunes. Let them brighten your day. Can't we find some way to peace in the world? Can't we do better? God bless one and all! All you really need is love 'n a bit 'a truth-telling I'll say, jus' givus some truth, it can't hurt, love is all ya need. Love is all. Love is all

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