



Dr Sardonicus Midwinter Nights Dream Psychedelic Festival

Not often I get to do a review, but following a request from Gonzo Jon, I was happy to recall the events of February's Dr Sardonicus Midwinter Nights Dream Psychedelic Festival #2.

So we were really made up that Paradise 9 were to be a part of another Dr Sardonicus Dream Psychedelic Festival. This was a one day event, at the renowned Cellar Bar in Cardigan, West Wales. This is a fabulous little venue, tucked away on the corner of Cardigan High Street, which has a real vibe about the place, in a moody cellar bar downstairs from the café bar, the festival put on by the guvnor Steve Greenhalgh and Pete Bingham from local psyche

band Sendelica.

Opening the festival, were local Pembrokeshire psyche dynamos BROKEN LINES, consisting of David Wellan on guitar and vocals, Jack Jackson on drums, loops and samples, and Mark Briscoe on bass. They describe themselves as upbeat, energetic music with punk, rock, and psychedelia, and their multi-faceted sound crosses the likes of The Clash, New Model Army, The Stranglers, to appropriately the Pink Fairies, to Pink Floyd which certainly came to mind as they kicked their set off with solid psychedelic instrumental rock opener 'Running Free' followed by equally rocking 'Mannequin Heaven'. The set then moved into more psyche-krautrock numbers with 'I Wonder', 'Darkest Hour' and then their 10 minute dark moody track 'Black Space'. Loads of light and shade, dark and moody with dynamics on this epic number. They finished up playing tracks from their newly-released live demo EP: pulsing psyche rock-out number 'Sweet Lips' and then ending with a long teasing ambient track, 'Indian Summer', that finally broke out in full psychedelic jam out, nicely ending their set. This band is new to me and I can draw parallels to my

GREGG McKELLA

THE CELLAR BAR
CARDIGAN
SAT FEB 23RD 2019

DR. SARDONICUS'S
MIDWINTER
NIGHT'S DREAM
PSYCHEDELIC
FESTIVAL #2

Twink

THE MAN OF PINK FAIRIES.
PRETTY THINGS. THE RINGS.
THE FAIRIES AND
THINK PINK FAME

SENDELICA

LOST
TUESDAY
SOCIETY

PARADISE9

BROKEN-
LINES

£15 IN ADVANCE
(£17.50 ON THE DOOR)

12 NOON -
12 MIDNIGHT

Tickets available in person from castle cafe and online at
sendelica.bandcamp.com thecellarcardigan.bandcamp.com



own band Paradise 9. I hope we'll be seeing more of them on the festival circuit.

Next up were folk-psyche-rock outfit LOST TUESDAY SOCIETY, normally a 6 piece band from Swansea but tonight a 5 piece as guitarist/flautist, Alfie Scheinman, was unable to attend. They are Sarah Birch on vocals/guitar, Darran Browning on guitar/vocals, Jay Browning on bass, Simon Jones on drums, and Kate Ronconi on violin and harmonies. It's easy to draw comparisons to Fleetwood Mac, with their lush vocal harmonies and song arrangements, but they also cross over others in that genre such as Pentangle, Fairport Convention, and newer bands on the scene, like the Moulettes, Flutacious, and Bonfire Radicalsand not forgetting their psychedelia moments in many of their songs, brings a wholly rounded sound fusing many styles and genres, while keeping their folk direction as the centre ground..

They immediately displayed their lush vocal harmonies with the toe tapping 'Lights'. They followed with 'Constant State of Happiness', a pulsing number that has a real Stevie Nicks Fleetwood Mac feel about it; I hope I am not stereotyping them here, as the arrangements of this song really move well. Then came a few melancholy songs, with 'Spaniard', and, keeping the moodiness was 'Propane', pulsing with a psyche bassline and Kate Ronconi's sailing violin sweeping across the music. Then 'Gargoyles', and taking things right down for 'Universe'. At this point they took the set back up to the pacey 'Merry Dance', and kept the dancing vibe with 'Fire', 'Spinning Wheels' and ending on their 10 minute Celtic folk rock-out track 'I Love Camping'. Yes, it can be said that Lost Tuesday Society are a firm family festival favourite type band that gets folks up and dancing, at the same time delivering strong thoughtful songs.

Up next was my own band PARADISE9. Hard to do a review of ourselves, really, but myself, with ex local boy Tyrone Thomas on lead guitar, Neil Matthars on bass, and Wayne Collyer on drums, loops and samples thoroughly enjoyed our set. We opened with 'Nothing For Tomorrow' from our 'Take Me To The Future' album, then glided to our psyche-ethereal number 'Into The Ethers' from our debut



album 'Showtime'. Then back to 'Crystalized Moments' from 'Futures'. We then fleshed out some newer tracks that we'll be recording in April, 'Deconstruct, Divide and Rule', (our topical political numero), then the title track of our forthcoming album 'Science Fiction Reality' and 'Shine On'. We then returned to more familiar tracks from our

'Take Me to the Future' album, when we invited living legend Nik Turner, playing flute on 'Distant Dreams', and sax on our closing number 'Points of View'. This was our first show of 2019 and a great way to start our gigging year. We had a great sound from Steve on the desk, plus Dimlo Sighs providing some outstanding psychedelic lights and a fabulous response from the audience.







Following us, were the irrepressible Welsh psychedelic rockers SENDELICA. With Pete Bingham on guitar, Glenda Pescado on bass, Lee Relfe on sax and debuting Mark Smart on drums. Sendelica have been mainstay stalwarts on the festival scene since their inception in 2006, and they have carved their way and honed their art in their world of psychedelic, prog, spacerock and krautrock soundscapes. They began their set with 'Lightstar' a somewhat interesting opener, jaggedly jazzy yet with a reggae feel, a nod to Grateful Dead's 'Dark Star'.

Next came a heavy rock groove track called 'BS' that can be found on their 'Cromlech Chronicles III' album with Lee's fabulous sax winding in and out of Pete's lead guitar and heavy chord riffs. This was followed by the moody and atmospheric '12 Shades' from their 'Entering the Rainbow Light' album, and then an equally moody cover of Funkadelic's 'Maggot Brain', displaying Pete's subtle slowhand lead guitar riffs and more of Lee's soaring sweeps on sax, all held together with new drummer Mark, and Glenda's bass. They closed the set with the upbeat 'Nine Miles High', a homage to The Byrds '8 Miles

High' with Lee opening the lead on sax then Pete following the lead then rocking out playing twin leads.

Heading the night, was former Tomorrow, Pretty Things, Pink Fairies, Stars with Syd Barrett and Pinkwind legend TWINK. I originally thought Twink would appear with a band, but for this gig he was to give us an intimate acoustic set, interspersed with nuggets of his past from those early days in London.

He kicked off with the rocking 'Psychedelic Punkeroo' dedicated to his friend Syd Barrett. He then played two tracks from his 2018 album, 'Think Pink III', with the bouncy 60s psyche sounding 'Lydia Ladybird', and followed with the heartfelt song about the homeless 'You Can't Fool An Angel'. Following that was a lovely rendition of 'Heavenly Man' from the Pink Fairies' first album 'Neverneverland'. Next was 'Black Queen', dedicated to his late actress and model friend Anita Pallenberg (the Black Queen in 60's cult film 'Barbarella'), followed by 'Gandalf's Garden', and 'Ya Mamma' from his 'Think Pink II' album, then the



melancholy 'Suicide' from the original 'Think Pink'.

Between each song, Twink recounted his early days (daze) in the Ladbroke Groove scene, where he hung out with Hawkwind, Pretty Things, Syd Barrett and of course the Pink Fairies. I loved his story where he recounted how the Pink Fairies and friends had spent a nice summer afternoon getting stoned in the park that unfortunately was filled with undercover police, where they promptly got busted! And this was how the legendary psychedelic jam of 'Uncle Harry's Last Freak Out' came about. He suitably ended the set with the last track on 'Neverneverland', 'The Dream is just Beginning'.

It was lovely to hear these songs played acoustically, and with Twink's anecdotes between numbers. In the audience listening attentively was Nik Turner, who with Twink, formed Pinkwind. After the gig it was great to see Twink and Nik catching up on those heady times.

The next Dr Sardonicus Dream Festival

will be the 17th Dream Of Dr. Sardonicus Psyche Festival on 2 – 4 August with another cool psyche feast with line-up is now confirmed - Ken Pustelnik's Groundhogs will be headlining on the Saturday night, plus The Bevis Frond, Sendelica, a rare UK appearance by Nick Nicely, an even rarer one by The Chemistry Set, Alain Pire, Elfin Bow, Mark McDowell, I Am Voyager 1 and Babal, Red Sun plus flying in from Italy and new bands Moon Goose, Three Dimensional Tanx and The Ego Ritual plus legendary muso journo and DJ Kris Needs.

https://sendelica.bandcamp.com/merch/early-bird-ticket-for-fruits-de-mer-sendelica-17th-dream-of-dr-sardonicus-psychedelic-festival?fbclid=IwAR001R0O_x1BoFPJx4tqkRRIg6PXJWxmk_NHzO-G8ksQaEG5hyOYOECjkc

PICS: Lyn Paul