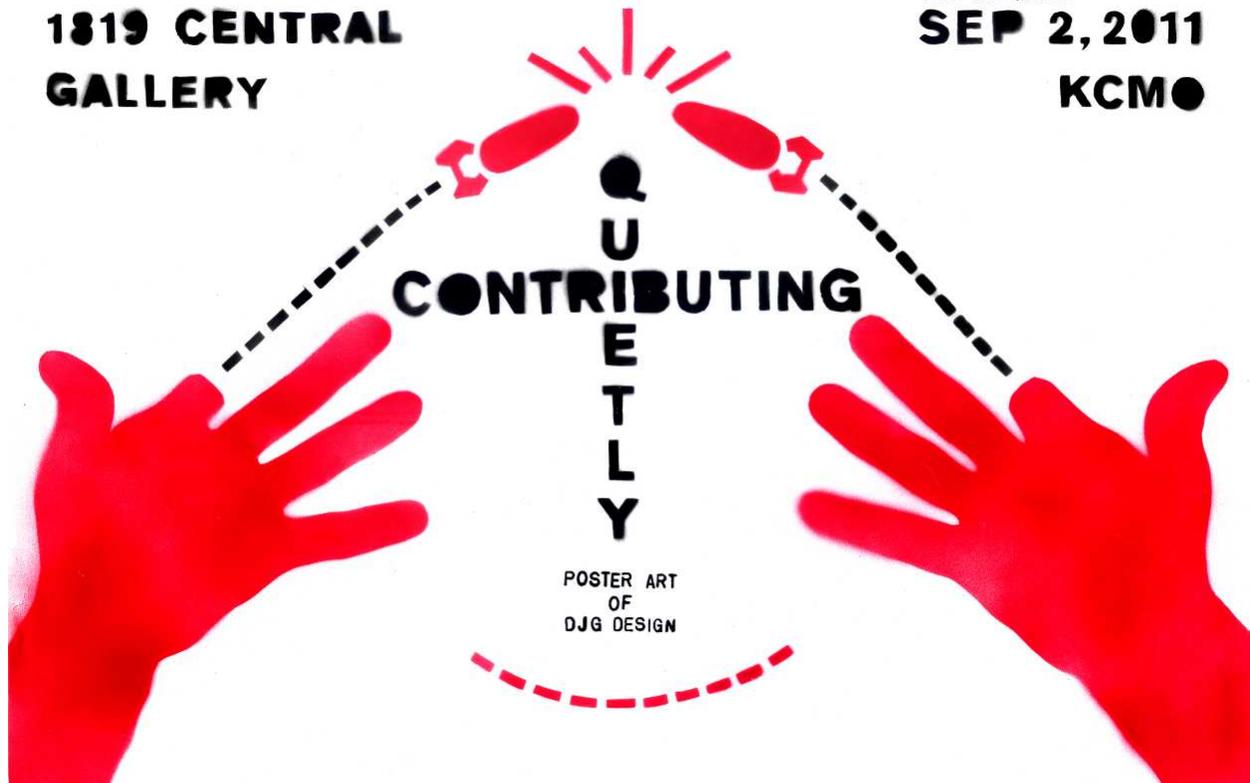


**1819 CENTRAL
GALLERY**

OPEN ALL MONTH
SEP 2, 2011
KCMO



Digital Press Kit

Chad Thomas Johnston

Gorilla/Guerilla Publicist & Project Curator

Site: <http://chadthomasjohnston.com>

Email: chad1978@gmail.com (Phone Number upon Request)

Danny J. Gibson

P. O. Box 5897 / Kansas City, MO USA 64111

Site: <http://cargocollective.com/dannyjoegibson>

Email: dannyjoegibson@gmail.com

Album & Event Details



Album Download Site: <http://noisetrade.com/DJGWasHere>

Visitors, including the media, can embed download widgets on their own Web sites (see below). The album is free, although donations can be made. All money goes directly to Danny J. Gibson.

A screenshot of a web widget. On the left is a poster art image for DJG Design with the text "DJG DESIGN" and "WAS HERE...". Below the image is a form to "enter your email & zip for A FREE DOWNLOAD" with fields for "email" and "postal code" and a "next" button. On the right is a "Leave a tip to support this artist" section with a slider from \$1 to \$100 and a "Tip \$12" button. Below that is a "Help promote this artist by telling your friends via" section with buttons for "facebook", "twitter", and "email". At the bottom right is a "Get the embed code" link. Small text at the bottom left of the form area says "PRIVACY POLICY" and "EMBED THIS".

"Quietly Contributing - Poster Art of DJG Design"

Open from September 2, 2011 to the end of October.

1819 Central Event Space + Gallery

Crossroads Arts District

1819 Central St.

Kansas City, MO 64108 USA

Phone: [816.200.3417](tel:816.200.3417)

Email: contact@1819central.com

A Taste of DJG

So you want to see Danny's posters before you see his posters at the exhibit? Click [here](#), and be happy you did.

For more design delights, visit Danny's Web site [here](#).



Virtual Rolodex

Contact any of the people below with questions, or for comments about Danny J. Gibson.

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The Record Machine

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Jonathan Smith

Musician & Music Show Host

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What They Said: Quotes about Danny J. Gibson

"Danny J. Gibson is a dude you need to know about. He used to design some really cool album artwork for (mostly) local bands and concert posters (for mostly local shows). You couldn't walk into Recycled Sounds five years ago and miss his work. He created the look of much of the indie rock scene in Kansas City and Lawrence (KS). His work was so cool that I'd buy CDs he designed, even if I didn't really care for the band."

- Jonathon Smith / Musician, Blogger & Radio Show Host / Raytown, MO / November 2010

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"Danny has never reaped a substantial monetary harvest from his labors. He has experienced fame in small, short-lived stints much as a farmer does when he grows a 27-pound turnip and finds the spotlight on him, if only for a second."

- Chad Thomas Johnston / Author of *The Stained Glass Kaleidoscope* / Lawrence, KS / January 2011

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"Gibson, a sought-after graphic designer specializing in band posters and music cover art (He's the "DJG" in "DJG Design"), takes his fun seriously. He isn't just in touch with his inner child; the two of them must hang out on a regular basis, playing with scissors, magazines and construction paper ... Some of his creations ... are meticulously assembled. Others look as though they were fueled by half a box of frosted cereal, washed down with a two-liter bottle of something sugary and caffeinated. At either extreme, and all the points in between, Gibson seasons his work liberally with visual echoes of iconic imagery. That's understandable for someone who writes that his earliest input of what is now understood as design and culture trappings include: farming logos, sports team mascots and the apple on the records by the Beatles ... Nothing ever feels stolen outright, though. This isn't Kid Rock ripping off Warren Zevon and Lynyrd Skynyrd to make a whole far inferior to either of its parts; this is a pinch of one influence here, a dash of another there, and a vigorous stirring in Gibson's mind to produce something entirely original."

- Steve Brisendine / Review Art KC 365 / Kansas City, MO / July 2009

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"Danny Gibson's artwork combines savvy, streamlined design with an intricate handmade look. Gibson relishes in the rough edges and imperfections of the materials he uses, but the final products he churns out always look deliberate and sleek. Currently an office assistant by day, Gibson's still using art materials he collected while working a previous job as a janitor."

- Gina Kaufmann / KCUR, 89.3 / Kansas City, MO / July 2009

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"There is something amazing about what Kansas City designer Danny Gibson of DJG Design is doing. At first glance, his work appears to be outsider art made with found objects, but there is more to it than that. To understand Gibson, you must first know that he is a graphic design expert, having studied under great designers such as Cedomir Kostovich. Yet, when he ditched formal schooling to work a regular job and practice design on his own terms, he made the informed decision to abandon the conventions of design that most of us take for granted.

First, Gibson has abandoned the computer as the primary tool of design creation, instead opting to use his hands first, while the computer is used primarily for duplication and typesetting (when handwriting or arranged materials can't do the job).

Next, Gibson has avoided chasing down big money corporate design gigs, opting instead to maintain sole ownership of his art and abilities. As he writes on his website, he is not opposed to working for someone else, "But, I do not wish for another name to own my name or hand and heart stamps. I do not wish to work for another man's dream. I do that enough at my day job(s)."

What is immediately refreshing about Gibson's work is that he has somehow managed, in a world of InDesign, Photoshop, and gigabytes of digital font files, to maintain his child-like sense of art creation. When we were young, most of us loved making art. We did it without concern for how the world would receive it, using whatever materials came to hand. I am reminded of the famous quote by Picasso, "As a child I drew like Raphael, it took the rest of my life to draw like a child." Gibson has found a way to tap this energy without inhibition, and use it to create strikingly original and refreshing design pieces."

- Design Art Culture / Aug. 2008

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"Gibson's mode of creating imagery involves an unorthodox use of materials combined with hand-drawn lettering and handmade artwork applying different techniques. The results indicate the physical work of an artist, individual and idiosyncratic markings that infuse each poster with character. Posted on walls, bulletin boards, windows, and telephone poles on the street, the non-digital look and feel of the art stands out from slick or sloppy design that confronts the viewer hundreds of times each day.

Aside from a modest stamp identifying the work by DJG Design, the ego of the artist is not overtly imprinted on his prolific body of posters. Once familiar with Gibson's diverse visual vernacular, his posters are distinct and recognizable from other material posted on surfaces. However, one does not look at his work and immediately associate it with the artist in the same way that a painting by Picasso is immediately stamped in the mind as a "Picasso." Rather, Gibson's posters employ characters, colors, materials, and lettering that form a visual impression at first glance and suggest a story upon further contemplation. The elements draw the viewer's attention which is what any poster should do as part of its function. The posters invite further study beyond the event details and extend the poster's design into the realm of art. Gibson's work arises from his

innate design aesthetic, but taps references from the canon of art, history, and pop culture without falling into the pattern of post-modern, cut-and-paste, mashup mimicry for an easy score."

- Pete Dulin / *PRESENT Magazine* / Kansas City, MO / March 2008

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"As DJG Design, Danny Gibson has created some of the most striking band posters and music packaging in Kansas City over the past five years ... *PRESENT Magazine* chose Gibson's work as a kickoff to the Art of the Poster series. His designs exemplify how posters can achieve several goals at once without a hefty budget or expensive production. His images and typography engage the audience, communicate information, and create a lasting impression with its originality and form."

- Pete Dulin / *PRESENT Magazine* / Kansas City, MO / Feb. 2007

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"These posters are the most surprising and original work in the show. A budget does not necessarily create a great design project, and these posters are good examples of what can be accomplished with few resources. The statements in the posters allude to real stories and are fascinating and really fun, while the illustration and interesting handmade typography exemplify the strength of the show."

- Judges / 2006 Kansas City AIGA Design Awards

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"One of the hottest new designers working today, Danny Gibson brings fresh perspective to the poster market. 'Experimentations, moods, diversity and inclinations (or something like that)' are his tools. Gibson shows that no matter what the budget – or the media – creativity isn't limited to what is offered by traditional printing."

- Steve Mehallo / 2006 Exhibit Catalogue / Curator "Spoken with Eyes" / Sacramento, CA

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"Janitor by day, design rock star by night, DJG has been cranking out the work these past few years. I find his work to be more Art, with a capital 'A,' than design, but that's just me. Clients? He has 'em, but he doesn't need 'em. He works without them – like a computer. That isn't needed either. Type doesn't have to be set with vectors and lines. An X-Acto knife and spray paint do the job just fine. I find this anti-digital work to be so refreshing. When does he sleep? If he's still like he was back in college, he probably doesn't sleep much. His new site is up with a ton of things to look at."

- Mr. Blank / Blog Artist / 2005

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"I do want to make a note of the truly educational aim from this particular committee of judges. As a team we tended to overlook obvious production elements that may sell in a corporate environment, and instead focused on the craft of design: marrying concept to visual. In the case of the band posters created by DJG Design, the conceptual sincerity, married to the obviously homemade production, made each piece truly unique. Design, after all, is about communicating, and the work of this young designer from Kansas City, Mo., was definitely speaking to each of us – without six colors and two hits of varnish."

- Kevin McConkey / Judge for the 2004 *Step Inside Design Annual 100*

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"In the mythological realm of urban folk art, nothing beats a good band poster. Life in Kansas City, Mo. fuels the engine behind these wholly original posters created by Danny Gibson for local bands. The posters stand out equally for their wonderfully eccentric designs and their beautifully crude, handmade appearance. Gibson seems to find endless inspiration from regular old day-to-day existence ... This guy is a nut, and how fortunate that is for his clients."

- Romy Ashby / 2004 *Step Inside Design Annual 100*

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"Preferring a handmade, idiosyncratic aesthetic to a slicker, digital look, Gibson creates promotional materials that look sincere – you can tell that a human being made them. And he isn't doing this on the side to make cash while he waits to get recognized as a painter or sculptor. This is what he wants to do; it's how he combines his love for music with his need to create in a way uniquely his own. None of this would matter if Gibson weren't talented, but he is – abundantly so. We like the fliers for the shows he promotes as much as we enjoy the shows themselves."

- *The Pitch* / 2003 Best of Kansas City, MO

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"Gibson's work first caught my attention back in December at Recycled Sounds on Main. Everything about the flier was unique – the paper it was printed on, the collage style, the illustrations, the non-flashy color scheme (mostly composed of the primaries). Toner from a broken fax machine had given the flier's edges a faded quality reminiscent of old movies on aging celluloid ... Gibson's process comes down to having fun and solving problems, like a kid putting together a jigsaw puzzle."

- Gina Kaufmann / *The Pitch* / Kansas City, MO / 2003

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DJG Was Here: Music Bios

The ACBs “My Face”

Konnor Ervin “Bottled Water” - Exclusive

<http://theacbs.bandcamp.com/album/stona-rosa>

CTJ says, “Konnor Ervin’s ‘Bottled Water’ was the first song we received for *DJG Was Here*, and it made us feel like this compilation was going to be something special right away. It is airy, intimate, lovingly lo-fi, and inescapably melodic. It will chase your brain and roll around inside your skull like clothes in a dryer if you let it.” When Konnor is not drowning his sorrows in bottled water, he is singing for the ACBs.

Of the ACBs, *We Listen for You* (Blog) says, “This is pure indie rock, a wormhole of sound bringing my ears back to the days of Pavement, The Pixies, early Of Montreal, and Portishead. I haven’t heard indie rock sound so uninhibited and planted in the early concepts of the genre like this (in The ACBs) since the wonderful Aqueduct record *I Sold Gold* (2005). The sound on the new ACBs album *Stona Rosa* is raw and driven by the marriage of traditional rock instruments that bounce off each other. It feels weird writing this, but it’s refreshing to have a lead singer’s vocals up front and untouched by layers and layers of effects. Flawlessness is often times boring, and it’s bands like The ACBs that embrace the garage band (not the program) sound without sacrificing any aspect of their final product. Track after track, The ACBs present some of the best music I’ve heard all year.”

Ruairidh Anderson “Here Comes Charlie Brown!”

In a moment of divine inspiration, London-based songwriter Ruairidh Anderson decided that he would start a project: 52 songs over 52 weeks, written, recorded and released every 7 days from June 1st 2010 based on real characters and events from London’s Old East End. All songs are also preceded by a video, providing some background on just what he’s going on about. Material is freely available to download at www.songsfromthehowlingsea.com.

Dan Billen “Let a Dreamer Dream” - Exclusive

<http://danbillen.blogspot.com/>

Dan Billen was one of the founders of the rock band The Billions (1999-2009). Not only a musician, Dan is also an award-winning illustrator and graphic designer. He currently is an art director at Jones Huyett Partners, a full-service ad agency, and serves on the board of directors of the Mulvane Art Museum. Dan and his wife, Rosa, live in Topeka, Kansas, with their three kids: Isaac (7), Flora (4) and Tula (1).

Sam Billen “Seventeen” – Exclusive

Sam Billen is a busy man. Between raising his baby daughter with his wife, working full time at the University of Kansas, teaching ESL at Washburn University, and running a music production business, FourBigWatts (www.fourbigwatts.com), with his friend Christopher Tolle, he somehow finds plenty of time to dedicate to

his passion – making music that moves. Follow Sam on Facebook or keep up with his most recent musical projects at www.sambillen.com.

Lee Bozeman “Mea Culpa”

Lee Bozeman is reluctant to quit making music. Having been the primary singer and songwriter for the band Luxury, which began in 1991, as well as releasing solo records under the names All Things Bright and Beautiful, Orient Is His Name and, most recently as himself, it’s difficult for him to hang it up, so to speak. Waste some time at <http://leebozeman.bandcamp.com/>.

Builder “Summertime Motorik #1”

Mike Crawford has lived in Kansas City since the mid ‘90s. He fronted the band Builder from 2000-2006. During that time, DJG did some show posters for the band. Mike is currently the worship pastor at Jacob’s Well Church in midtown Kansas City. He’s been making music there & recording local artists in his studio for the past 10 years. He also dabbles in electronic music, which is what you’re hearing on this comp. He likes to have a burrito with Mr. Danny J. Gibson once a month.

Micah Buzan “Phantoms” – Exclusive

Micah Buzan is a Kansas City born Artist/Musician. He draws funky, surrealistic animations and writes music inspired by insects, ancient myths, and dreams. He plays and records everything by himself and produces his hand-drawn animations on an almost broken 11-year-old Dell Computer.

Brian Carlstrom / FeedBackarach “The Experts Say You’re Ill”

Brian Carlstrom is a failed musician from Springfield, Missouri who now works as a linguist in Asia. He owes much to DJG: for friendship, for inspiration, for exposure to new sounds, but mostly for stories like the one where the cop pulled up to try and help he and Danny while the two of them were towing Danny’s car to the dump, and then just said, “I see you boys have a chain.”

Brian’s most recent partners in music were Kyleen King, Dave Jones, and Matt Lewis. Together they formed a band called FeedBackarach and opened FeedBackarach Recording Studios, originally in Olympia, Washington, but now located in Portland, Oregon. If you want to know more about the music or the studio, go to: <http://www.myspace.com/feedbackarach>, <http://www.myspace.com/feedbackarachstudio>, and <http://www.myspace.com/blanketfromthemoon>.

The track for this DJG compilation was recorded in Nashville, TN, when FeedBackarach was called Space Plans.

Darling at Sea “Sleepwalk”

<http://www.myspace.com/darlingatsea>

CTJ says, “The members of Darling at Sea did not send me a bio, so I am left to intuit what I can from this song, and from what Danny has said about them. This track is decidedly from the shoegazer camp,

somewhere between Slowdive and Longwave. Skeletal, but drizzled with just the right amount of atmospheric syrup.”

Elevator Division “Ritual” - Exclusive

Elevator Division existed from 1999-2005. During that time they recorded three full-length albums and played with Weezer, Cake, The All-American Rejects, Pete Dinklage, Glen Phillips, The Secret Machines, Embrace, Pedro The Lion, Cursive, Starflyer 59, Rocky Votolato, and many, many others. Elevator Division's last album, "Years" (2004), was released on Second Nature Recordings, to critical acclaim. It can be purchased at <http://itunes.com/elevatordivision>. The song "Ritual" is a previously unreleased B-side from "Years," featuring cousins Sam Hoskins (drums) and lead singer/songwriter James Hoskins (vocals/guitar/bass/keys). James carries on the rich musical legacy of Elevator Division with his new project, Pro & Contra (found elsewhere on *DJG Was Here*).

The Elms “The Towers and the Trains” (Alternate Version) - Exclusive

<http://www.theelms.net/>

Courtesy of Wikipedia: The Elms were an American Christian rock band known for their breed of rootsy, blues-based rock, with the essence of the music of the '60s and '70s. Although the band had been in existence since 2000, 2001 saw the release of their first full-length album, with the first musical contribution from Thomas Daugherty on guitar. Thus, 2001 is widely considered The Elms' first fully functional year in existence. Some members reside in the southern Indiana city of Seymour. The Elms have drawn stylistic comparisons to The Black Crowes, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, The Kinks, and The Beatles.

The Elms released their major-label debut album, *The Chess Hotel*, on May 2, 2006. The band's final album, *The Great American Midrange*, was released on September 15, 2009. It peaked at #18 on the Billboard Heatseekers chart, and was The Elms' highest-charting album to date. The only officially released single from *The Great American Midrange* was the song "Back To Indiana," and the track's music video premiered online in November 2009. On June 1, 2010, the band announced via its Web site that it would disband in July 2010.

Thom Hoskins “Retrospect on Repeat” - Exclusive

<http://www.myspace.com/thommyhoskins>

<http://soundcloud.com/nervous-fingers>

I play locally on and off. I have also toured internationally as well as regionally. Here is a list of bands I have played for: Language, The People (for one show, I also appeared on their debut record. I played the Moog on the title track "The Premise is the Sound"), (the recently retired) Buffalo Saints, The Belles (playing percussion, guitars and backing vocals for Chris Tolle) and The Blackpool Lights as a touring musician playing guitar and backing vocals for Jim Suptic). Last summer as Blackpool Lights' U. S. tour came to an end I decided I wanted to write and record a solo record. But before I started writing I got married to a wonderful woman and we have a brilliant daughter together named Iola. I feel that I have never been more focused on my work. I am happy to have an amount of control. I PLAN ON MAKING MANY MORE RECORDS. Thanks to all who listen. (An acoustic version of this song is available as a free download [here](#).)

Beau Jennings “White Whale of the Plains”

<http://beaujennings.bandcamp.com/album/six-stories-ep>

In the midst of working on follow-up albums to both his 2008 album *Holy Tulsa Thunder* and Cheyenne’s 2007 album *The Whale*, Beau Jennings found himself with a collection of songs that didn’t seem to fit either new project. They weren’t aggressive like the latest Cheyenne material in the works, nor were they part of the conceptual framework of the new solo album. They instead seemed to return to some of the sounds and ideas from Cheyenne’s first album *I Am Haunted, I Am Alive* – in other words they were stories, strummed slowly and sung lowly.

There was “Play Like A Champion,” with the narrator’s inner voice offering something perhaps recognizable as motivation; “Raining Ashes,” based on the events of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake; “Start Swingin’,” the story of a desperate minor league baseball player; “Another Way To Pay,” the imagined ending to the Arrow Trucking saga (you can look it up [here](#)); and “A Suit Never Lies” and “White Whale of The Plains,” where the lines between the weather and religion seem to be blurry at best.

Rather than fleshing out each song in the studio with a full band, these songs were instead performed with just vocals and guitar, over an early October weekend at Beau’s Brooklyn apartment, and were left to stand on their own. The result is Beau’s second official solo release, simply titled *Six Stories*.

Chad Thomas Johnston “Wrecked Ships, Crashed Planes” - Exclusive

<http://chadthomasjohnston.com>

<http://chadthomasjohnston.bandcamp.com/>

Chad Thomas Johnston is an author, sonuva’ precha’ man, PhD-dropout, singer/songwriter, amateur music producer/sonic reducer, daydreaming doodler, guerilla/gorilla publicist, cinemaddict, & pop-culture obsessive. He is represented by Seattle, WA-based literary agent Jenée Arthur, who is currently shopping his manuscript, *The Stained Glass Kaleidoscope: Essays at Play in the Churchyard of the Mind*, to major publishing houses. Chad is happily married to Rebekah Christine, and lives in Lawrence, KS with his wife and five cats. Chad and Rebekah look forward to welcoming Baby Evie into the fracas of their frantic fold in October 2011.

Useless factoid: Chad used public domain recordings of bunker-bomb explosions for accent percussion in “Wrecked Ships, Crashed Planes,” which Chad wrote for DJG in 2002. The leaves in Danny’s soul were changing colors at the time – as Danny himself often says – and Chad wrote a redemptive lullaby for him. Then Chad discovered the EBow and the Jesus and Mary Chain’s *Psychocandy* LP, and he decided the song needed to be a little louder than a lullaby.

Bryan Lamanno “Reckon My Soul” – Exclusive / Tambourine Club “Kansas City” (Demo) – Exclusive

www.tambourineclub.com

The Tambourine Club is an eclectic musical group led by Bryan Lamanno, whose music spans multiple genres including psychedelia, pop, alt-rock, electronica, alt-country, and experimental music, amongst others. The outfit has done pretty well for themselves getting to play shows with some great national/international acts such as Band of Skulls, Deer Tick, The Whigs, Those Darlins, 22-20’s, etc. Bryan Lamanno has been the

band's only constant member and sole songwriter thus far, with lineups usually changing for each string of shows. In August 2011 the Club released an EP titled *Lo-Fi Feeling*.

Little Birds of Los Angeles “Transhumanism” – Exclusive

Mammal Moon “Mushroom Song” – Exclusive

<http://www.myspace.com/littlebirdsoflosangeles>

<http://www.myspace.com/mammalmoon>

Rob Strong of the Little Birds of Los Angeles and Mammal Moon introduced me (CTJ) to Radiohead's *OK Computer* and Jeff Buckley's *Grace* LPs. Not long afterward, I met Danny and found out he was already digesting *OK Computer* on his own, but I got to help introduce him to *Grace*. So Danny and I both owe a great musical debt to Rob. Of Danny, Rob once said, “The Boy! I miss the Boy! He has the most infinite poetic soul!”

Mail-Order Midgets “Trolley” - Exclusive

“I was young and I needed the money.” – Nathan Reusch, Mail-Order Midget & [Record Machine](#) Mogul.

Mannequin Skywalker “Pages of My Mind” - Exclusive

<http://www.myspace.com/mannequinskywalker1>

Mannequin Skywalker is the brainchild - playmate - alter ego of former Elevator Division guitarist (Second Nature) / Lovers In Transit front man, Jeremiah James. A mysterious entity, with a revolving cast of all-star KC members to help make it live, Mannequin Skywalker takes dark repetitive rhythm with sparse vocals into a familiar place not so familiar to some. Where does your mind go? James currently moonlights as multi-instrumentalist/vocalist in KC prog outfit Be/Non (Unipegadong Records) as well as drummer for synth heavy hauntlords Umberto (Not Not Fun).

Max Justus “Please Please Please”

<http://therecordmachine.net/blog/artists/max-justus/>

Since age fifteen Max has been working on various projects in his hometown of Madison, Wisconsin when he released his first album and opened for illustrious artists Tortoise, Daniel Lanois (solo artist and producer of bands ranging from U2 to Bob Dylan), and Bob Mould of Hüsker Dü. At nineteen he moved to Kansas City, Missouri where he now resides, completing two albums, *Ophelia* and *Talk to Strangers*, which are only available digitally on MySpace. At twenty-one, Max released his first record with Kansas City-based label The Record Machine, titled *Five Leaping Leopards*, to much critical success. He has also completed remixes of Kanye West, C & C Music Factory, and Rainbow Arabia.

namelessnumberheadman “Opposable Thumb – DJG in the Place to Be Remix” - Exclusive

<http://www.namelessnumberheadman.com/>

namelessnumberheadman is 3 people is 10 years. Despite being continually mauled by circus bears and eaten by pre-charmed snakes, they yet find avenues to build lively and entertaining art that is consumed by deliciously expectant ears. Kansas City welcomed them with detuned radios and low bit-rate downloads,

and/but/so they built a breathless empire out of the candied skeletons of tattered synthesizers. Along this crocheted path of electrical resistance, they have habitually melded minds with DJG for the creation of fine artifacts and artificions to inflate the greatest stretches of their nose army through volatile propaganda. namelessnumberheadman are alive and well and are in the process of patenting fresh methods for melting wax cylinders of classic rock hymns and magnetizing charm bracelets with flat wound strings. They can surely be found on the Internet.

Neatly Knotted “A Hopeful Pause” – Exclusive

www.neversleeping.com

Neatly Knotted is comprised of one solitary member – Ben Chlapek. The songs are somewhat minimal, warm, and the result of an old electric organ and drum machine recorded onto a 4-track cassette. His EP, *Sore Throat City*, is available as a free download [here](#), or can be purchased from Ben’s Web site in cassette form as well.

Primary Structures “Jet Set” (Demo) - Exclusive

<http://www.gold-robot.com/records>

Primary Structures is a San Francisco four-piece described by the stalwarts at Amoeba Records as memorable & almost-over-the-top intelligent pop in the realm of the Magnetic Fields and the New Pornographers. Previous incarnations of the band have released music under the monikers of Lady Genius and Volunteer Pioneer. A 12" LP will be released in late summer 2011 on the venerable Gold Robot Records.

Pro & Contra “Blood to Blue”

Pro & Contra formed spontaneously in 2009 when James Hoskins, former lead singer of Elevator Division, asked friends Chris Stewart (former member of Elevator Division) and Dan Cogan to join him on a road trip to record songs together in a vacant country estate in La Cygne, Kansas. The result was the *La Cygne* EP and the birth of Pro & Contra. You can download the EP for free at <http://proandcontramusic.com>. James is currently writing and recording material for a new Pro & Contra release.

Quarry House “(Liquified Men) Caving In” - Exclusive

<http://quarryhouse.bandcamp.com>

As Quarry House, Jonathan James and siblings Joseph and Meg Kramer make haunting avant-pop music. Using traditional rock instruments and electronics along with homemade and modified instruments, their songs are improvisational, collaborative, and accidental. The band began in December 2008 as a studio collaboration between the members, who were based in Springfield, Missouri; Chicago, Illinois; and Brooklyn, New York. Quarry House’s first EP will be released in fall 2011. The band is planning to tour in October, along with other members of the Close/Far Family (close-far.com). The track “(Liquified Men) Caving In” also features Kyle Jeffries on electric guitar.

The Roman Numerals “Go No Go” - Exclusive

www.theromannumerals.com

The men of Roman Numerals were in a bunch of other bands that some people really cared about but most never even got a chance to hear. Looking to try something new, Roman Numerals bonded over an idea to start a band with no rules and no particular style or sound. What developed was a hodge-podge of the '80s post-punk and new wave sounds they grew up on and the '90s post-rock sounds they helped invent. They toured around the country off and on – in a van – for about six years. Now, they are just waiting it out. Just ... waiting it out.

Seume “Apple Tree”

<http://www.davidseume.com/blog/>

David Seume released his debut album, *It Is What It Is*, in December 2008. Seume (pronounced “sue me”) wrote and arranged its 11 tracks, recording them in his bare-bones bedroom studio. The release show received media recognition as one of the year’s highlights in Kansas City music, and the album quickly garnered praise from the press – earning him a Best Singer-Songwriter nomination in 2009 from *The Pitch*. Since making a splash on the local scene, Seume has journeyed many miles in his '82 VW van, playing venues in Austin, Los Angeles, and living rooms across the country. Currently, he is looking for a little piece of land where he can live the good life – working with his hands and making music.

Danny J. Gibson, collaborating with Philip J. Cheaney under the moniker Mur Mur Man, created an award-winning animated video for Seume’s single, “Will Ya Be My Friend.” See it [here](#).

Jonathan Smith “Perceptions, Etc.”

<http://jonandkaty.wordpress.com/>

<http://twitter.com/#!/rfraytown>

Jonathon Smith is a member of My Science Fiction Twin, and has self-released eighty-six zillion solo albums since he picked up a guitar in 1996. Katy calls him her husband. The boy in Katy’s belly will soon call him Dad. His students call him Mr. Smith. Everyone else just calls him the Bob Pollard of Raytown.

State Bird “Good Vibes”

<http://therecordmachine.net/blog/artists/statebird/>

Healin’ the Pain is State Bird’s fourth release, third full-length album, second studio collaboration with Ian Pellecci engineering, second release as a four piece, and it’s a huge departure from the pop folk of their earlier work. It’s also State Bird’s most adventurous to date. Somewhere along the way, State Bird became a rock ‘n’ roll band, Heaven sent and Hell bent.

Forged in the belly of Ohio, recorded live to tape with minimal overdubs at The Bunker Studio in Brooklyn, NY, and mixed at Tiny Telephone in San Francisco, *Healin’* presents a loud and raucous sound totally its own, angry and confident and crass and cocksure, with guitars that snarl and scream like big black alley cats doing unmentionable things to each other ... This is the death rattle of the band that came before, and what a sound it makes! *Healin’ the Pain* is a lone black wolf howling in the night, ready to die.

Kris Wolfe “(Be Bop) I’m Bored and Buried Alive”

<http://noisetrade.com/kriswolfe>

Kris Wolfe’s debut LP, *From Brown to Blonde to Black* (downloadable in full for free at the address above), is a record that looks in popular music’s rearview mirror while driving forward. It is inspired by ‘60s acts like the Zombies, the Beach Boys, and the Association, but also feels at home alongside artists like Of Montreal and Apples in Stereo. Co-written with, produced by, and featuring the multi-instrumentalist talents of Chad Thomas Johnston, “(Be Bop) I’m Bored and Buried Alive” is a tribute to Bobby “Boris” Pickett & the Crypt-Kickers’ immortal “Monster Mash.” Read about the creative process behind the song [here](#).