

Biographies

Below is an exhaustive list of figures associated with the story of The Stone Roses (and their various related projects). Please email me at Paul@Thisisthedaybreak.co.uk if you can think of any further names that should be added to the list:

Atherton, Steve

Stone Roses tour manager.

Baxter, Duncan

Vocalist in what became The Shining.

Birch, Paul

FM Revolver Records founder. Birch was the victim of the Roses' paint-splattering incident.

Bocking, Danny

Lighting tech on Second Coming tour.

Boon, Clint

Played keyboards in The Mill (feat. Mani and Chris Goodwin).

Brown, Ian



Born: Ian George Brown

D.O.B: 20th February 1963

Birthplace: Warrington, Cheshire

Stone Roses member: March 1984 - October 1996

First gig: Hampstead Moonlight (23 / 10 / 84)

Last gig: Reading Festival, England (25 / 08 / 96)

Ian Brown's father, George (from whom Ian got his middle name) was a local joiner and his mother, Jean worked in a paper factory. She also worked as a telephone receptionist at Warrington's BT call centre. Ian was the eldest child, with one brother, David, and one sister, Sharon. He grew up in Warrington until he was six and then moved to Sylvan Avenue, Timperley, South Manchester, with John Squire as his next door but three neighbour. At the age of eight, Ian's interest in music was developed when his aunt gave him a large selection of seven-inch singles by acts such as The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and The Supremes. In 1972, he bought his first record, 'Metal Guru' by T-Rex. Ian became strongly interested in Northern Soul, attending all-night events across the north of England. This style of music, originating in the north of England in the late 1960s, featured athletic dancing with spins, flips, and drops. The music at first consisted of obscure American soul recordings with an uptempo beat but by 1970, British performers were recording numbers for this market. Ian's interest in music was further inspired by the punk scene, specifically The Sex Pistols but also Angelic Upstarts and The Clash (he and original Stone Roses bassist Pete Garner attended the recording of the single 'Bankrobber' in Manchester).

Brown and Squire both went to Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, where they achieved respectable 'O' Levels, and formed The Patrol in the late '70s, a punk band in which Ian played bass; each also joined the Socialist Workers Party, selling papers and collecting money for the miners. After attending South Trafford College of Further Education with Squire, Brown worked in a

variety of different positions: kitchen porter at the Britannia Ringway Hotel in South Manchester - his duties included skinning cows' tongues, for which he was paid £1 per hour; caravan salesman in Poynton; civil servant, getting a job at the DHSS in 1983. In *The Waterfront*, John encouraged Ian to try out on vocals, with a view to him sharing duties with Kaiser.

He did not pursue further formal education but became an autodidact, reading profusely on topics such as colonialism, politics, history and religion. Brown spent five years on the dole before The Stone Roses got a record deal in the late '80s. He was a great admirer of Muhammad Ali, George Best (who would give a young Ian sweets when he and his friends hung around the Manchester United star's boutique in Manchester) and Bruce Lee (initiated in 1974 by his uncle's interest in the martial arts star); Ian learned karate to one level short of the highest possible, training for seven and a half years, but gave up two months before his black belt at the age of 17. In 1983, Ian held a party for his girlfriend's 21st birthday at his flat in Charles Berry Crescent, Hulme. Northern Soul's Geno Washington, one-time leader of The Ram Jam Band (and inspiration for Dexy's Midnight Runners' first number one) turned up, having played a gig that night in Manchester University:

"He told me that I was a star and I should be in a band. It was just a few days after John had asked me if I would sing, and I knew Geno was being honest. When he said it, I thought: I'll go with that. I've got to. I just had to."

Ian was the major lyrical influence in The Stone Roses' earliest work circa Garage Flower, before the classic Squire / Brown partnership that would yield the 1989 debut 'The Stone Roses'. While John brought the artistic element to the band, Ian brought the religious element to their work (see Fall). Ian and John used the Bible in a manner inconsistent with orthodox Christian thinking, often merging it with unorthodox sources such as Gnostic texts. This is a reflection of Brown's unstructured personal belief system:

"He makes no apology for the fact that spirituality is a big part of his life, in quite an amorphous way: he reads the Bible, "for the stories". He believes in a "higher force" and that "all the great people have worshipped one god - Aborigines, American Indians, Muhammad Ali, Bob Marley, Jesus." And he prays. In Japan he'll go to a temple, in Morocco a mosque, in Mexico he'll pray to the Virgin of Guadalupe. And Rastafarianism ? "It's full of joy." (The Guardian February 2, 2002)

Ian turned Muslim in Strangeways jail, the reason for which he outlined in a Guardian Newspaper interview from 4th February 2000:

"It was the only way I could keep alive, food wise. It was all dog-food pies, so I went Muslim and I got lentils, chickpeas, rice and chicken curry on Friday. They told me that half of Manchester's Muslim in Kirkham nick. It's the only way you can be guaranteed chicken."

At the beginning of a live performance on (I think) TFI Friday, Ian can be heard shouting "Muhammad, Muhammad." Muhammad (ca. 570 - 8 June 632) is believed by Muslims to be God's final prophet sent to guide mankind with the message of Islam.

Ian influenced a generation of frontmen, notably Oasis' Liam Gallagher, The Charlatans' Tim Burgess, The Bluetones' Mark Morriss and in their early days, Blur's Damon Albarn. Arctic Monkeys frontman Alex Turner cites Ian as the band's musical hero (Ian has been equally complimentary towards the band in return, while being generally dismissive of the merit of others who have obviously taken their lead from himself and the Roses: step forward Tim Burgess, Damon Albarn, Kasabian...). Ian's influence on Bono of U2 is often overlooked. This is Liam Gallagher speaking about the effect that seeing the band at Manchester International 2 (the Anti-Clause 28 gig, 30 May 1988) had on him:

"That was my favourite gig of all time, killed me dead, changed me fuckin' life. If I hadn't gone that night, I'd probably be sitting in some pub in Levenshulme."
(Liam Gallagher)

Ian contributed to only 3 songs on Second Coming (Daybreak, Straight to The Man, Begging You). Ian usually points to John's excessiveness in the Second Coming years as one of the main reasons for the group's downfall. However, his own lethargy in this period contributed just as much. Had John not come up with the goods, the Roses' hiatus would have reached Stereo MC's

proportions. Ian's singing on the Second Coming tour received strong criticism. Having chosen to continue on as The Stone Roses after John's departure, it all finished disastrously at the Reading Festival in 1996. He headlined Sunday night's performance, having been out with former band member Cressa the night before, smoking weed, which ruined his voice for the gig. Ian would argue that he was in a no-win situation concerning that gig though. Speaking to Jo Whiley:

"A girl's told me that she's been at the meeting with the NME on the Friday, and the man's told her: "We bury him this weekend." So it didn't matter to me how I performed. That was how he was going to do the thing".

Describing the music business as "the filthiest business in the universe", he closed the book once and for all on The Stone Roses.

Ian has since had a successful solo project and has worked with many notable musicians, including Oasis' Noel Gallagher and UNKLE. He has also acted as a mentor to British band, South.

Ian and his Mexican wife Fabiola have one son, Emilio. The family currently reside in Bayswater, London and also have a house in Lymm, near Warrington in Cheshire. Ian has two older sons, Frankie and Casey from a previous relationship.

Bullen, Luke

Drums and percussion on John Squire's solo material.

Calder, Hugh

Drum tech on Second Coming tour and Ian Brown solo tour manager.

Clark, Fraser

Bassist in Ian Brown's solo career.

Cousins, Tony

Mastered Crimson Tonight live EP.

Couzens, Andy



D.O.B: 1972

Birthplace: Stockport

Stone Roses member: March 1984 - May 1986

First gig: Hampstead Moonlight (23 / 10 / 84)

Last gig: Dublin McOnagles (31 / 05 / 86)

Rhythm guitarist Andy Couzens was part of The Patrol and in The Stone Roses, he played on the 1985 double A-side So Young /Tell Me debut single, but left in mid-1986 (his last gig was at Dublin McOnagles, 31 / 05 /86). Arguably his most important part in the progression of the Roses was his financing of £1,200 for the recording of So Young.

Couzens's place in the band was undermined by manager Gareth Evans; relations between the pair were not amicable, with Couzens's identifying serious flaws in the contract the manager presented the band. After the guitarist separately flew back from a gig at Dublin McOnagles (31st May 1986), Evans allegedly used this to turn the other members of the band against him and this was to be Couzens's final gig with the band.

He has since enjoyed relative success with The High, who ran from 1989 to 1992.

Cox, Carl

Remixed Begging You.

Cressa, Steve



D.O.B: 1965

Birthplace: Whalley Range, Manchester

Stone Roses member: November 1988 - June 1990

First gig: St Helens Citadel (26 / 11 / 88)

Last gig: Glasgow Green (09 / 06 / 90)

Steve Cressa, brought up in Firwood, was John Squire's on-stage guitar effects technician and sometime dancer between 1989 and 1991, the Stone

Roses equivalent of Happy Mondays' Bez. Cressa had roadied with the Happy Mondays previous to his stint with the Roses and did much to bring the two groups closer together. He knew Ian, John and Mani from their scooter days in the early 1980s.

Cressa went out with Ian Brown before the Reading 1996 performance, when Ian got stoned. Backstage during the performance, Cressa could be heard saying:

"It's a nightmare, it's awful. Tell him ! Just tell him how bad it was. Tell him to finish it, it's a travesty !"

He has since been in Manchester band Bad Man Wagon, who supported The Stone Roses at Wembley in 1995.

Cummins, Kevin

Photographer of Roses' Pollock shoot.

Cummins, Kevin

Business partner of Gareth Evans.

Davidson, Steve

Guitarist in Stone Roses tribute band, Fool's Gold, and in Ian Brown's solo career.

Dawson, Simon

Producer.

Drummond, Toby

Drums and backing vocals with The Seahorses.

Duffy, Martin

Keyboards in Primal Scream.

Dunnery, Francis

Guitarist in Ian Brown's solo career.

Ellis, John

Keyboards on John Squire solo material.

Evans, Gareth

Manager of The Stone Roses. The Stone Roses responded to an ad placed by Gareth in the International, asking for new bands to manage. Rather than send a tape, the band decided to present themselves in person at the club, requesting a meeting with Gareth. Evans 'accidentally' dropped a wad of cash at the band's feet, who were suitably impressed to sign a management contract for Gareth two weeks later. This contract gave him control of the band for ten years. The band were now able to rehearse for free at the International, rather than in the basement at Spirit.

Fletcher, Stuart

Bassist with The Seahorses.

Foster, Damien

Monitors on Second Coming tour.

Gallagher, Noel

Collaborated with Ian Brown on Keep What Ya Got and has performed live with both Squire (with Oasis at Knebworth) and Ian.

Gallagher, Liam

Co-wrote Love Me And Leave Me with John Squire.

Garner, Pete



Stone Roses member: March 1984 - August 1987

First gig: Hampstead Moonlight (23 / 10 / 84)

Last gig: Liverpool Larks In The Park (11 / 08 / 87)

Pete Garner attended Burnage High School and took over from Ian Brown on bass guitar (when Ian became singer), just prior to their first gigs as The Stone Roses and played on the So Young / Tell Me release as well as their 1987 single Sally Cinnamon. Pete was bassist from March 1984 to August 1987. His last gig was on 11 August 1987 at Liverpool's Sefton Park; he announced that he was to depart, in June of that year, but continued until a replacement could be found. He tried to teach his friend Rob Hampson the basslines, before his place was eventually taken by Mani.

Geffen, David

The Stone Roses signed to Geffen Records in 1992. David Geffen (1943 -) is an American record executive, film and theatrical producer, and philanthropist. Other acts who have signed with Geffen Records include Guns N' Roses, Aerosmith, Nirvana and Neil Young. Geffen were the last - and easily most lucrative - of The Stone Roses' four recording contracts. In order, these were: ThinLine Records (1985), FM Revolver Records (1987), Silvertone Records (1988 - 1992) and Geffen Records (1992 - 1996).

Gersh, Gary

Head of A&R at Geffen Records.

Gillespie, Bobby

Vocalist in Primal Scream.

Goldfinger, Inder

Percussionist in Ian Brown's solo career.

Goodwin, Chris

Drummer Chris Goodwin was recommended by Mani to be in The Waterfront (also sometimes known as Fireside Chaps). Goodwin left after three rehearsals and went on to play with T'Challa Grid, The High and Electronic.

Grant, Mick

Drummer in The Rub.

Griffith, Chris

Production manager on Second Coming tour.

Hale, Simon

British composer and arranger, who worked on 'The World Is Yours.' The first 20,000 copies featured a bonus CD of orchestra-only mixes of Simon's arrangements. I contacted Simon in 2008, and asked him to describe his approach to the album:

I worked on 11 songs and added the string, horn, harp and timpani parts on top of what was in existence at the time, whether finished or not. We then recorded the orchestra at Angel studios on two separate occasions as an overdub on top of the track. I would tend to take the same initial approach for each song - listening to how the song is put together, what elements it comprises of; melodic themes, rhythmic hooks, harmonic progression, tempo, groove, overall colour of sound etc, and then build my ideas around that to try to highlight what's going on, add another dimension and twist and give variation in my writing as the song progresses. Having the orchestra-only mixes means that you can hear everything in complete isolation away from the track so that it's really obvious what's gone on at the orchestra sessions.

Hall, Philip

The Stone Roses' publicist circa Second Coming.

Hall, Terri

Hall or Nothing press agent on Second Coming tour.

Hampson, Rob

Stone Roses member: August 1987 - November 1987

First gig: Never played live with The Stone Roses

Last gig: Never played live with The Stone Roses

Bassist Rob Hampson was a brief replacement for Pete Garner, before being replaced himself by Mani. Hampson's only official appearance with The Stone Roses was for an Ian Tilton photo shoot.

Hannett, Martin

Produced the band's early work.

Head, Steve

Security on Second Coming tour.

Heaney, Mark

Drums and backing vocals with The Seahorses and in the band that became The Shining.

Hedges, Simon

Assistant sound engineer.

Helme, Chris

Vocals and acoustic guitar with The Seahorses.

Herbert, Martin

Guitar tech on Second Coming tour.

Hook, Peter

New Order bassist who produced Elephant Stone and later formed a band with Mani and Andy Rourke, entitled Freebass.

Hutton, Tim

Groove Armada trumpet player on Ian Brown's solo material. He has been part of the Ian Brown live (and studio) line-up since his live return in July 2004 at the Claremont Landscape Garden gig in Esher, Surrey.

Ibrahim, Aziz



Stone Roses member: July 1996 - October 1996

First gig: Benicassim Festival Internacional, Spain (02 / 08 / 96)

Last gig: Reading Festival, England (25 / 08 / 96)

Aziz Ibrahim, the son of Pakistani parents who had migrated from their home country in search of a better life, was brought up on Longsight council estate in Manchester and attended Burnage High School. He spent his teenage years in an array of bands but came to public attention upon joining Simply Red. He also played in The Christians and Asia. In 1996 he took on a position which Noel Gallagher described as "the hardest job in the world", replacing John Squire on guitar in The Stone Roses.

Aziz went on to co-wrote and play on much of Ian Brown's solo work.

Aziz solo gallery:

24th October 2001 - Aziz at The Adelphi:

<http://www.pdmcauley.co.uk/Biographies/Aziz@Adelphi.htm>

Innes, Andrew

Lead guitarist in Primal Scream.

Ipinson, Nigel



Stone Roses member: July 1995 - October 1996

First gig: Stockholm Lollipop Festival, Sweden (30 / 07 / 95)

Last gig: Reading Festival, England (25 / 08 / 96)

Nigel Ipinson, previously a member of Orchestral Manoeuvres In the Dark, was brought in on keyboards during the 1995 world tour to enhance the Roses live sound. His playing suited a couple of songs but in my opinion, turned other established classics into midi versions, almost.

In an interview, Squire once claimed dissatisfaction that he was not consulted about the recruitment of a keyboard player. This gives us two revealing insights: firstly, Squire probably did not rate Nigel Ipinson (I know his dissatisfaction was expressed at the fact that he was not consulted about

recruiting a keyboard player, but he would not have expressed dissatisfaction had Nigel proved himself to be a top quality addition to the band). Secondly, it is testament to a severe breakdown in relations between Squire and the other members, when recruitment of band members isn't even discussed. If the reason behind bringing him in was to inject some creative inspiration into the band and paper over the cracks of relationship breakdowns (a la Billy Preston with the latter day Beatles), it failed miserably.

His recorded material with the Roses was the Love Spreads version for the 'Help!' album and the Crimson Tonight 4 track live EP.

Ipinson played on Ian Brown's solo material as well as writing the majority of the lyrics for Nah Nah.

Johnson, Denise

Singer for Aziz.

Jones, Howard

Manager of The Stone Roses prior to Gareth Evans taking over.

Jones, Phil

Spike Island organizer / promoter.

Jones, Simon

Bassist in what became The Shining.

Joyce, Mike

Drummer for Aziz.

Kartey, Dave

Vocalist Dave Kartey (aka Kaiser) met Ian Brown and John Squire on scooter club runs and was subsequently approached by John Squire to sing in The Waterfront. He shared vocal duties with Ian Brown. The Waterfront featured Kaiser / Ian Brown (vocals), John Squire (guitar), Andy Couzens (rhythm guitar), Mani / Pete Garner (bass) and Chris Goodwin (drums).

Kelsey, Pete

Design on Begging You.

Kennedy, John

Handled the Roses' legal affairs.

Knott, Ben

Keyboard tech on Second Coming tour.

Lauder, Andrew

Former MD of Silvertone Records who released 'The Stone Roses' album.

Lavelle, James

Guest DJ in Ian Brown's solo career.

Leckie, John

Producer.

Lockheart, Jim

Produced Crimson Tonight live EP.

Longdon, Casey

Rhythm guitarist in The Rub.

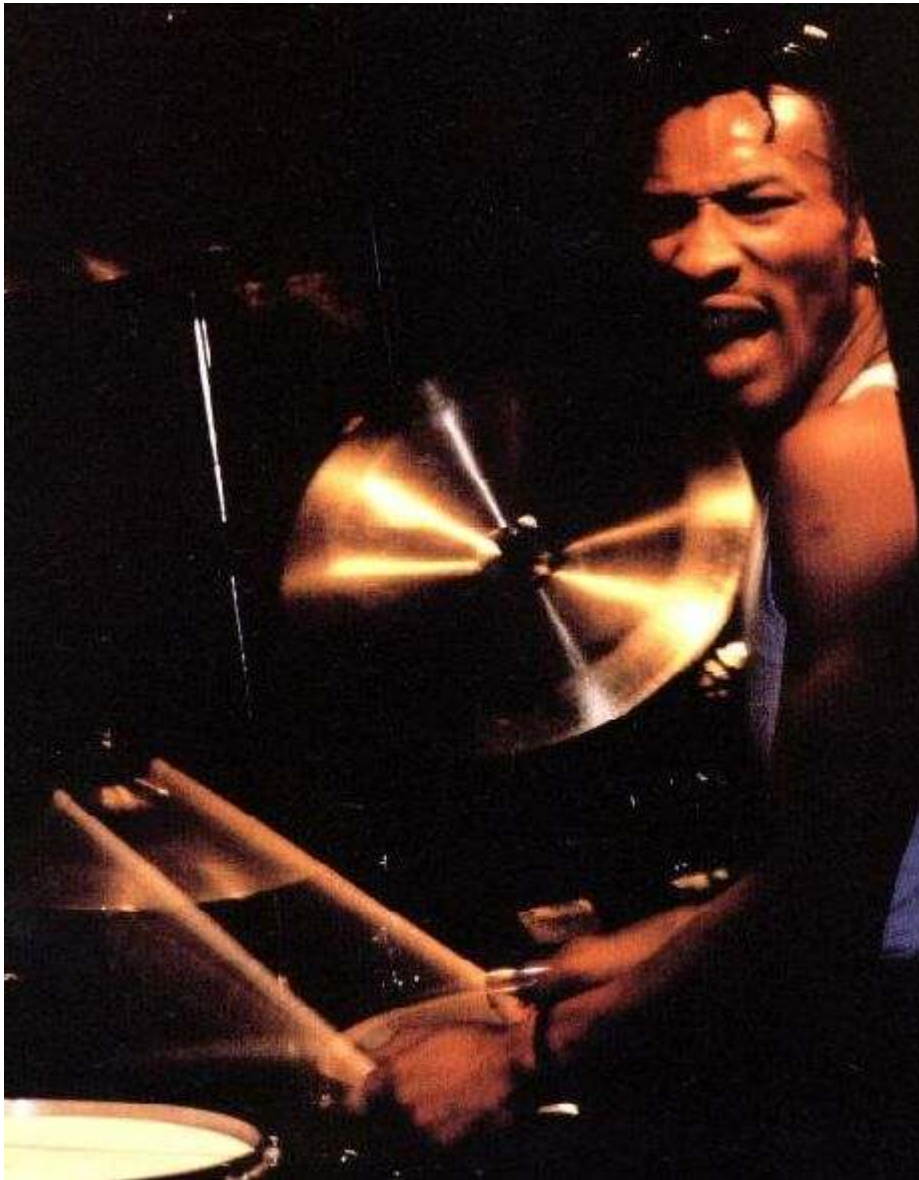
Lowes, Steve

Ian Brown's manager during his solo career.

MacBreen, Paddy

Engineer on Crimson Tonight live EP.

Maddix, Robbie



Born: Robert Jay Maddix

D.O.B: 1970

Birthplace: Manchester

Stone Roses member: April 1995 - October 1996

First gig: Oslo Rockefeller Music Hall (19 / 04 / 95)

Last gig: Reading Festival, England (25 / 08 / 96)

On April Fools Day 1995, Reni quit the band prior to their first world tour, the beginning of the end for The Stone Roses. Not the most media-friendly band in the world, they gave no real explanation for his departure; a replacement drummer, Robbie Maddix, was found, and the band soldiered on. This piece from an Australian Radio interview in October 1995 details his recruitment:

Michael (Interviewer): How did you get pulled in to join the Stone Roses ?

Robbie: I knew Steve the tour manager from a while back. So when Reni departed he (Steve) asked me to meet the guys. See how it would go. So I met them and it worked.

For the record, this is John Squire's opinion on the recruitment of Robbie:

"I think getting a new drummer (Robbie Maddix) showed me that I was more independent than I thought, but it was quite shocking to play with someone else after all that time as a closed unit, it was a bit of a revelation actually."

Some feel that his drumming had a detrimental effect on the Second Coming shows. It should be remembered, however, that he had just two weeks to learn the set before the start of the tour and that he did put in some good performances in the UK homecoming gigs.

Maddix recorded a remix of Begging You (the chic mix version), a version of Love Spreads for the War Child charity album 'Help!'. His live drumming can be heard on the Crimson Tonight EP.

He has since moved into production work, working on Ian Brown's Unfinished Monkey Business.

Maxfield, Robert

Audioweb drummer, features on Ian Brown's solo material.

McCracken, Dave

Keyboards in Ian Brown's solo career.

McGee, Alan

Founder of Creation Records label.

Middles, Mick

Author of 'Breaking into Heaven: The Rise and Fall of The Stone Roses.'

Minchella, Damon

Bassist in The Players.

Moore, Simon

Drummer in Ian Brown's solo career.

Mounfield, Gary



Born: Gary Mounfield

D.O.B: 16th November, 1962

Birthplace: Crumpsall, near Manchester

Stone Roses member: November 1987 - October 1996

First gig: Manchester International 1 (13 / 11 / 87)

Last gig: Reading Festival, England (25 / 08 / 96)

Mani grew up in Moston, on Manchester's north side, and played bass in a host of punk outfits (such as youth club outfit, Urban Paranoia). He became bassist in The Mill, an early 80s group featuring Clint Boon (keyboards) and Chris Goodwin (drums). Mani was the last of the four to join The Stone Roses, in November 1987, his debut being at Manchester International 1 on the 13th of that month. The scene of the formation of the classic Stone Roses line up was Oxford Street, Manchester, where Mani met Ian, John and Reni, on their way to place an advertisement for a replacement for Pete Garner.

Mani has a distinctive rich playing style that combines a fast moving rock style with a dance rhythm or dub groove. Mani is currently enjoying success as bassist for Primal Scream. He has also played with Dot Allison, Wayne Kramer, MC5, Death in Vegas, Ocean Colour Scene and former bandmates Ian Brown and Aziz Ibrahim. A fan of Purescence, in 1998 he produced the song 'Standing In Your Shadows' which appeared on their 1998 album 'Only Forever'. In 2003 he toured with Ocean Colour Scene, who had sacked their own bassist, in support of the Stereophonics. He had a guest role in the 2002 movie 24 Hour Party People. Mani is an ardent Manchester United fan and he regularly appears on the Sky One programme 'Football Years', giving his views on football seasons gone by. He is also in Freebass, a band consisting of three bass players: himself, Andy Rourke (ex-The Smiths) and Peter Hook (New Order).

Primal Scream released four albums prior to the recruitment of Mani in 1996: Sonic Flower Groove (1987), Primal Scream (1989), Screamedelica (1991), Give Out But Don't Give Up (1994). Here is an alphabetical list of Primal Scream tracks since his arrival:

Accelerator

A Scanner Darkly

Autobahn 66

Badlands

Blood Money

Burning Wheel

City

Darklands

Deep Hit Of Morning Sun

Detroit

Exterminator

Get Duffy

Hammond Connection

How Does It Feel To Belong

If They Move Kill 'em

I'm 5 Years Ahead Of My Time

Insect Royalty

Jesus

Keep Your Dreams

Kill All Hippies

Know Your Rights

Kowalski

Long Life

MBV Arkestra (If They Move Kill 'Em)

Medication

Miss Lucifer

Motorhead

Out Of The Void

Pills

Rebel Dub

Rise

Shoot Speed / Kill Light

Skull X

Some Velvet Morning

Space Blues #2

Star

Stuka

Swastika Eyes

The Lord Is My Shotgun

Trainspotting

96 Tears

Mullen, Lee

Initial member of The Rub who has provided percussion for the Happy Mondays.

Muller, Sophie

Directed Ten Storey Love Song video.

Mulreany, Paul

Drummer in Primal Scream.

Nisbet, Neil

Bassist in The Rub.

Oliver, Tim

In January 1985, The Stone Roses went into Spirit Studios, Manchester, to record a demo, produced by Tim Oliver.

O'Shaughnessy, Pat

Assistant engineer on Chic remix of Begging You.

Pegg, Matt

Bassist in Ian Brown's solo career.

Price, Bill

Mixed Second Coming.

Reade, Lindsay

Business partner of Gareth Evans and ex-wife of Factory records boss, Tony Wilson.

Richardson, Sylvain

Bassist in Ian Brown's solo career.

Robb, John

Author of 'The Stone Roses and the Resurrection of British Pop'.

Rourke, Andy

Bassist for Aziz.

Ryder, Paul

Happy Mondays bassist who started playing live for Ian Brown on his Winter 2005 tour, and features on The World Is Yours LP.

Schroeder, Paul

Producer.

Shaw, Al

Initial recording on Second Coming.

Sheehan, Tom

Photographed The Stone Roses and in their respective solo projects.

Shields, Kevin

Former My Bloody Valentine frontman who remixed the Primal Scream single, 'If They Move kill 'em.' Shields mixed a few tracks on their 'XTRMNTR' album, at which point he then began to tour with them. He produced several tracks on 'Evil Heat' and toured with them for this album except for the US dates.

Sidi, Simon

Lights on Second Coming tour.

Simon

Produced Sally Cinnamon.

Simpson, Dave

Author of 'Stone Roses: The Illustrated Story.'

Simpson, Gerald

Remixed songs as A Guy Called Gerald.

Singh, Dalbir

Percussionist for Aziz.

Singh, Talvin

Tabla player, guest musician on Aziz's Lahore to Longsight album.

Smith, Allen

Production assistant on Second Coming tour.

Smith, Paul

English fashion designer who designed Ian Brown's 'money shirt'.

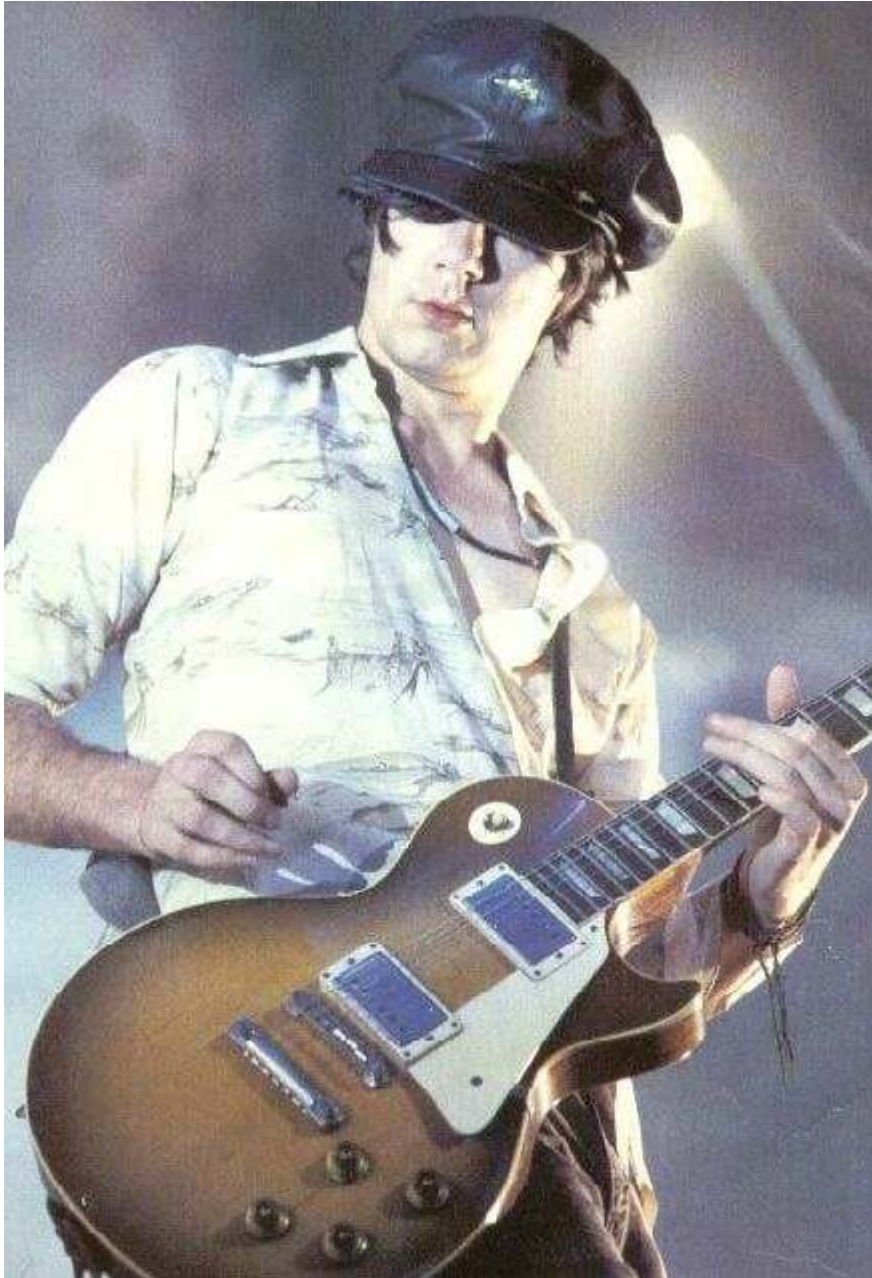
Smith, Pennie

Photographer.

Smith, Phil

Bass tech on Second Coming tour.

Squire, John



Born: John Thomas Squire

D.O.B: 24th November 1962

Birthplace: Timperley, Cheshire

Stone Roses member: March 1984 - April 1996

First gig: Hampstead Moonlight (23 / 10 / 84)

Last gig: Wembley Arena (29 / 12 / 95)

John Squire, a self-taught artist, was the taciturn and introspective mirror to Ian Brown's outspoken bolshiness. He attended Heyes Lane Junior School, and passed his 11+ exam. Squire and Brown grew up on the same street, Sylvan Avenue, in the South Manchester suburb of Timperley and attended Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, where their polar-opposite personalities came together; the introverted Squire and gregarious Brown shared a love of 60's rock and punk music, and an interest in politics. Whereas Brown preferred the nihilistic Pistols, Squire's interest was drawn more towards The Clash, an idealistic band, charged with righteousness and a leftist political ideology. He excelled in art classes at school and was often excused from attending P.E. so that he could develop his artistic talents. Squire obtained his first guitar at the age of 14 and spent many hours in his bedroom practising, at the same time developing a strong interest in modern art:

"I picked up a guitar when I was 14 and I can distinctly remember sitting on the bedroom windowsill playing Three Blind Mice on one string, and thinking 'this is gonna take a long time...'"

(John Squire speaking to Radio 4, 2007)

After attending South Trafford College (which Ian also attended), Squire worked for Cosgrove Hall TV animation company in the early 1980s, his credits including model maker on 'Wind in the Willows'. He retained this position until 1984, the year of the Stone Roses' formation. In Issue 10 of

Aesthetica Magazine (July - September 2005), Squire details his exploits prior to the formation of The Stone Roses:

I was born in 1962 in a town called Altrincham near Manchester, England where I attended the local playgroup, primary and secondary schools and developed an interest in drawing, painting and model making. I did reasonably well academically until leaving for college at 16 and forming a band. I worked hard on the guitar and used the art department after hours to make screen-printed posters and flyers for gigs, but essentially, I suppose I used Further Education as a means of avoiding work.

The band didn't make it and I started working at Tesco stacking shelves, I was a barman at the local, a labourer at a market garden and a grease monkey for a roller shutter maintenance firm, before I landed a perfect job as a model maker for the Manchester based animation company, Cosgrove Hall. Around this time I formed The Stone Roses with Andy Couzens, Ian Brown and Pete Garner.

(John Squire speaking to Aesthetica Magazine, July - September 2005)

The Garage Flower era saw two guitarists (Squire and Couzens) in the band. Following the departure of Couzens, John came into his own as a guitarist and also brought the artistic element to the band. During their songwriting partnership, it can be said that Squire was solely responsible for the Art influences, while Brown was initially responsible for introducing religious themes. However, on 'Second Coming', Squire took songwriting control and

almost single-handedly fused the two. After the band split, each artist reverted back to their primary interests in their respective solo careers without significant traces of the other's influence.

The extent to which John had drifted apart from the rest of the band in the 1990's is best illustrated from an NME interview from 20th April 1996. During this interview, John is asked if he has seen the statement from the Stone Roses, with reference to the recent split of the band. He says that he hasn't, and is then handed the statement. He reads it and says:

"I wasn't aware they were in the middle of recording the LP."

He was unaware that the band had taken steps towards recording a third album ! This correlates with what Aziz said in the interview given to this site:

TITD: Who approached you about becoming a member of The Stone Roses ?

Aziz: It was Robbie Maddix, an old friend of mine, who approached me about joining the Roses. I'd already helped with their demos i.e. Black Sheep, Nah Nah, High Times, when they couldn't get hold of John, so the invite followed the demos.

The second album was written almost completely by Squire and it took on a much more rock-based stance. He should be given credit for actually getting down to writing an album; Ian and Mani have since claimed that they were merely letting John write the second album to 'let him get it out of his system',

before they themselves participated, which is a questionable claim. Squire has also received criticism for his narcissistic playing dominating the group's Second Coming shows. However, it was Squire's performances during those shows that saved the early ones from being a laughing stock - see the Brussels video - and made the latter ones (the homecoming UK shows - see Leicester, Leeds, Brixton, etc) so memorable.

Squire has since achieved commercial, if not critical success with The Seahorses, his equivalent of Hendrix's Band Of Gypsys. Formed in 1996, The Seahorses consisted of Squire and three chosen artists unknown by the music community. First to join was bassist Stuart Fletcher, followed by lead vocalist Chris Helme, whom Squire had spotted busking. The final addition was drummer Andy Watts, who also provided backing vocals. Their first album, *Do it Yourself*, was produced by Tony Visconti, for Geffen Records in June 1997.

During the production of their second album, it was announced that drummer Andy Watts was leaving the group to spend more time with his family. However, in an interview in 2002, he recounted that, rather than leaving, he was fired by the group's accountant at the behest of Squire and was replaced by Mark Heaney. The group disbanded in 1999 due to disagreements between Squire and Helme. The second album has never been officially released, although a bootleg is available. Squire states that the name of the band came to him when he bumped his head against a large fiberglass

seahorse, while leaving a pub on the very day he announced his departure from The Stone Roses.

After the split of The Seahorses, Squire started work on a new project known as 'John Squire's Skunk Works Project' and put an advert in the NME. He worked with and helped form (what was to become) The Shining, which consisted of himself on lead guitar, Duncan Baxter (vocals), Simon Tong (guitar), Simon Jones (bass) and Mark Heaney (drums) before Squire left and was replaced by Dan MacBean. Squire went on to pursue a solo career, releasing two albums: 'Time Changes Everything' (2002) and 'Marshall's House' (2004) and held two well-received art exhibitions in London and Manchester in 2004. In May 2005, Squire told Time Out magazine that he would consider a Stone Roses reunion. In the same month, he, Mani and Reni were spotted together at a Love concert, leading to speculation that a reunion was imminent. Later in May, both Reni and Mani confirmed that they were open to the idea of the Roses reforming, but with Reni saying it would not happen in 2005.

Talbot, Mick

Keyboards in The Players.

Tilton, Ian

Photographer.

Tolle, Mark

Initial recording on Second Coming.

Tong, Simon

Guitarist in what became The Shining.

Treacey, Andy

Faithless drummer who worked with John Squire for initial sessions in John Squire's garage at his home in the Peak District (along with Jonathan White and John Ellis). He worked on 'Time Changes Everything' and played live with John throughout 2003, before being replaced by Luke Bullen.

Vjestica, George

Guitar and backing vocals on John Squire solo material.

Walters, Noel

Security on Second Coming tour.

Watts, Andy

Drums and backing vocals with The Seahorses.

Weller, Paul

Guitarist for Aziz.

White, Jonathan

Groove Armada bassist on John Squire solo material. He has worked with Squire through the entire life-span of his solo career, participating in the initial sessions of 'Time Changes Everything' through to the 2004 gigs, and is credited on both studio albums.

White, Steve

Drummer for Aziz.

Wills, Tim

Keyboards in Ian Brown's solo career.

Wilson, Tony

Founder of Factory Records label and Hacienda nightclub.

Wolstencroft, Simon

Stone Roses member: March 1984 - August 1984

First gig: Never played live with The Stone Roses

Last gig: Never played live with The Stone Roses

Drummer Simon Wolstencroft was in the same year as John Squire and Ian Brown at South Trafford College. He was a member of The Patrol, which featured Ian Brown (bass), John Squire (guitar), and Andy Couzens (vocals). The Patrol, whose first session took place in Wolstencroft's house, ran from 1979 - 1980, playing about five youth clubs with Corrosive Youth, a punk

group from Stretford (The Patrol played the Lockstock there). Squire later went on to form The Waterfront (also known as Fireside Chaps, who ran from 1982 - winter 1983. A previous incarnation of the band was briefly known as The Angry Young Teddy Bears) while Brown took to scootering, later joining Squire's band. Simon Wolstencroft also drummed for The Smiths, Colourfield, The Fall and The Ark. He later reunited with Ian Brown, playing drums on Golden Greats (Gettin' High, Love Like A Fountain, Golden Gaze and First World), as well as co-writing Golden Gaze. He also formed part of Ian's solo band.

Wren, Alan



Born: Alan John Wren

D.O.B: 10th April 1964

Birthplace: Wythenshaw, Greater Manchester

Stone Roses member: August 1984 - April 1995

First gig: Hampstead Moonlight (23 / 10 / 84)

Last gig: Glasgow Green (09 / 06 / 90)

"We had a drummer with soul, so we always had a beat. That's what made the Roses."

(Ian Brown, Uncut magazine, February 1998)

Reni joined The Stone Roses in August 1984, after reading an advertisement the band had placed in Manchester's A1 Music store, now the Academy of Sound. He ripped it off the wall in order to ensure that no-one subsequently would know of the audition, which took place in what was at the time, Decibel Studios, to the north of the city centre. This rehearsal studio required the band to carry Reni's drum kit up three flights of stairs, before running through some songs. The band were immediately impressed. Reni is considered by many to be the finest drummer of his generation. He taught himself drums in his youth and his musical development benefited from nearly always being around musical instruments in a pub environment (his parents ran a pub). His playing style was characterized by his use of a 3-piece kit; however, his use of a smaller kit did not limit the range of sounds he could produce. He was soulful, funky, dynamic and inventive, the perfect complement to John and Mani.

Incredibly, the band - encouraged by Howard Jones - in a Reni-less meeting acquiesced to the sacking Reni at one point, but soon came to their senses.

His departure in April 1995 was the first nail in the coffin of The Stone Roses. Rumours of heroin addiction and fall-outs with both Ian Brown and John Squire (depending on which of the two is commenting) are unproven. He stayed out of the music scene for several years before forming The Rub in 1999, which he fronted (vocals, lead guitar), along with Casey Longdon (rhythm guitar), Neil Nisbet (bass), and Mick Grant (drums). Sometime Happy Mondays percussionist Lee Mullen was in the initial line-up. The Rub released no official material but here is an alphabetical list of live tracks performed by the band:

Clay

Collider

Immigrant Song (Led Zeppelin cover performed as an intro)

Interloper

Juris Prudence

Savvy

Shut Up And Play

Soul Fool

The Gulf

TV Babies

Wild Strawberry

The Rub have performed only four gigs to date, all in 2001:

Leeds Rocket (March 18)

Glasgow King Tuts (March 19)

Manchester University (March 20)

Birmingham Little Academy - CANCELLED (March 21)

London Camden Underworld (March 23)

At the Manchester University gig, the band were introduced by Mani (former Rose Pete Garner was also present). Nothing has been heard of The Rub since that tour, although in early 2004 John Squire claimed that Reni had recorded an "interesting" solo album. Reni gave his first broadcast interview in 10 years in May 2005 to the Manchester Music show on BBC GMR, along with ex-Roses bassist Mani, whilst attending a concert by The Coral. Reni revealed that he was writing material for himself and Mani to perform and the pair revealed that they would be willing to reform the Roses.

Young, Robert

Lead guitarist in Primal Scream.

Zebby

Sound engineer.

Zutaut, Tom

A&R at Geffen Records, who took over the reigns from Gary Gersh.