

A track-by-track commentary of *Music Of The Spheres* by Francis Dunnery (27/03/15).

01. **FEAR** - I loved the track FEAR, I thought the chords were extremely haunting and the melodies were killer. Lyrically it was a very interesting track. I didn't want to trample on the melody of the track so I came up with a really complex finger picking part that would sit in the background and not upset the feeling that was being generated by the string chords. You can hear what I was playing at the very end when all the instruments drop out. Killer track.

02. **STARDUST** - The producer Dave McCracken is great to work with because he's really keen on experimental guitar parts. He doesn't want to do the normal guitar stuff and that suits me to the ground. Stardust was way ahead of its time. The main riff was almost bluesy but in a 'space' type way. Space blues. Ha ha. The track is really out there and finishes in an amazing quiet place, almost like an abandoned space ship heading out into the great unknown. This was some new shit! I had never heard tracks like this before. Once again the lyrics are classic Ian Brown. Fantastic stuff.

03. **THE GRAVY TRAIN** – I'm not sure what I played on The Gravy train. It was an insane track. Dave McCracken's insane creative mind in full flow.

04. **BUBBLES** - There was a lot of talk about space around this album. Dave and I would laugh about the 60s being the future. The fast guitar tremolo on this track comes from that angle. We were wanting a 60s feel with the guitar so I guess in some ways it sounds a bit like the Monkees.... only in space. The Monkees in space. Ha ha.

05. **HEAR NO SEE NO SPEAK NO** - I didn't play on Hear No See No unless Dave took some of my guitar and turned it into weird noises.

06. **NORTHERN LIGHTS** - I love this track. Again, it's new. I haven't heard anything like this. The album wasn't about fast guitar or heavy metal guitar, it was more about textures and little musical scenes. I was very conscious to play within the overall castle walls of the album. It was very easy to be inappropriate. Adding guitar that didn't upset the melodies or the weird musical environments that these guys were creating with all these tracks.

07. **WHISPERS** - This is one of my favourites. I love the chords at the front of the song. Ian's vocal melody is fantastic. I think I played bass on this track as well. Again, it was a case of making sure I was appropriate. I think it's at this point in the album that you begin to understand the amount of work that went into it. The sheer intricacy in the construction of the songs is insane.

08. **EL MUNDO PEQUENO** - When I recorded the guitar for this track there wasn't any vocals on it. When I came back Ian had sang it in Spanish. I was laughing my ass off. Brilliant move. I think I wrote some of this song. I can't remember, I'll have to ask Dave. This is like a space acoustic track. I put the guitar tune on it and played some rhythm guitar. It's a very interesting track. Especially if you're Spanish. It's like Spanish Pink Floyd in space.

09. **FOREVER AND A DAY** - Dave was asking me for blues. He slowed down my rhythm part and had me play some blues on the top of it. This is a really great track. Lyrics, melody, composition, it's all killer. Again, the track drifts out into space. You are left on that quiet spaceship on its way to some other galaxy. Deep shit.

10. **SHADOW OF A SAINT** - Beautiful track. This was mostly acoustic guitar. I think if you stand back and have a listen to what's going on you'll really get how original this album was. There are so many unique textures put together in a way that has never been done. Dave was asking for weirdness again so I gave him some at the end. They aren't really guitar parts like a traditional guitar player would play, they are all commitments to a particular moment.

I really, really enjoyed playing on this album. It was both challenging and interesting at the same time. I look back on this time with real fondness. Things were good. Ian was great to work with and Dave is a star. I haven't seen Ian for quite some time, I think since The Stone Roses got back together he's been planning his next move to space. Very cool people and a great, great record.