Descending Stares

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All Songs Written and Performed by John T. Wurzer

Front Cover – Grand Rapids Ballet

Inside Cover – Photo by Diane Wurzer

Back Cover - M C Esher – House of stairs

I’ve been trying to figure out what to what to say about this CD. People always want to know “what it’s about” or “what’s its message” or “what does it mean”. Quite frankly, I really just don’t know.

That said, it is as much a part of me as any other CD I’ve done; some of which I didn’t understand until many years after they were recorded. I think it has something to do with grasping for the last glimpses of a rapidly fading songwriting muse. Then again, it may have nothing to with that. Only time will tell.

1. Two More Pages

* Written on Saturday night of the San Diego Comic Con 2013 as I sat alone in a bar waiting for Steve Stoughton to return from the Walking Dead Escape.

1. I Don’t Get High

* In a weird way this song was a reaction to the realization that almost half of the people I work with are on some kind of prescription mood enhancing drug.

1. What’s Next?

* That’s to Ron Richards or someone from Image Comics for the catch phrase. I don’t even remember writing this. It’s like I woke up one day and it was there. Waking up like that; is actually what the song is about.

1. A Mixed Bowl of Nuts

* Written at my hotel’s bar during the C2E2 show in Chicago 2013. I was sitting there struggling to find my muse; and the bartender put a mixed bowl of complimentary nuts in front of me. The bowl of nuts seemed to put things in perspective. Some nice finger picking here.

1. Rat Race On a Train

* Written on the Amtrac train coming back from New York Toy Fair 2013. I couldn’t get the WIFI to work, so I had to pull out my notebook and write a song. I am NOT a MOUSE! Amen. I hope that you aren’t a mouse either.

1. Madam Butterfly Giving Me the Blues

* I have no idea where this came from. Maybe I dreamed it. It was supposed to be a song about picking up a hitchhiker; which by the way is something I’ve never done in my life. I’m still not sure what it is.

1. Hotel Bar

* Also from Chicago, April 2013. Written on my 52nd birthday. I was particularly ponderous that night. I have a good life, a good wife, a nice house, a great job, and I’ve been extraordinarily lucky on the road to getting to where I finally ended up. Still sometimes I convince myself that I made the wrong choices and I should have chased the muse and the dream a little further down the road. Then I realize that I probably ended up right where I’m supposed to be.

1. Time Pauses

* Sometimes it does; and when it does; at least we can be sure that people aren’t killing one another. There is also some nice finger picking here.

1. Tomorrow Comes

* Well, it always does, doesn’t it? I need a road that will not shatter under the weight of living free. Doesn’t everyone?

1. Descending Stares

* People will surely ask me what the line “Three down and one to go…” means. I can’t really tell you. I don’t know what this CD or this song is about. In the greater context of life, the universe and everything; I feel like I’m about 75% of the way through something. I just don’t know if I’ll ever figure out what it is.

And that’s it. I’m not trying to be brief, curt, or terse; but one can overanalyze these things; and I don’t want to do that. I’m still here; I’m still me; and regardless of how it sometimes feels or appears; I’m still free.

Another year, another CD; after listening to it tonight I’m struck with a sense of completeness and eerie satisfaction. That should be enough to get me through another year.

Lots of love,

Pray for peace on earth.

Be nice to somebody today; somebody who probably doesn’t expect it.

You’ll be surprised at how good that feels.

John