

# NUMANME

THE GARY NUMAN FAN SITE

ISSUE EIGHT

FREE

GARY NUMAN

MAGAZINE







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The Numanme Gary Numan Magazine is a glossy, full colour, 20 pages plus, PDF file. This publication comes out 3 to 4 times a year, time willing! The Gary Numan Magazine is packed with fascinating and thoroughly researched articles on all aspects of Gary Numan's career, past and present. We delve into the vaults of Numanme to find old articles and clippings. And give you an insight into Gary's career seen through the eyes of fans all around the world.





# Lyric From The Past

**NEW WALLPAPERS**



**numanme.co.uk**

**I Dream Of Wires**  
(**'Telekon'** album, 1980)

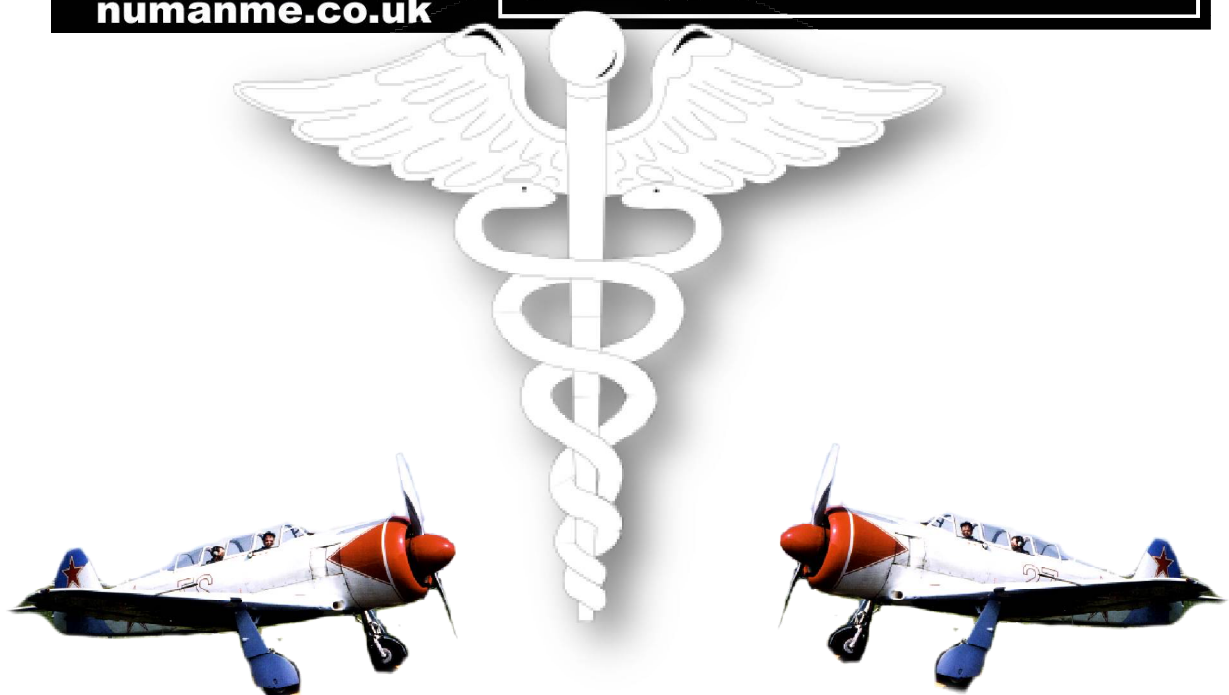
I am the final silence  
The last electrician alive  
And they called me **'The Sparkle'**  
I was the best, I worked them all  
New ways, new ways  
I dream of wires

We opened doors by thinking  
We went to sleep by dialling **'O'**  
We drove to work by proxy  
I plugged my wife in, just for show

New ways, new ways  
I dream of wires

So I press **'C'** for Comfort  
I dream of wires, the old days

New ways, new ways  
I dream of wires









***Here's the rope. Hold this end and take as much as you like...***

## **GARY NUMAN LOOKS AT LIFE**

Gary Numan's conversations with the press are few and far between, so when THE FACE received a call from his record company offering to arrange an interview we came to the conclusion 'Well, why not?' As it transpired, Numan did most of the talking. The interview took place in London just before Gary embarked on his round-the-world flight so that his comments on Indian air traffic controllers and the uniforms of Indian prison guards are unfortunately not available. Shame..



INTERVIEW BY PAUL TICKELL, THE FACE

THE TAGS ATTACHED TO GARY NUMAN are usually abusive: he's been all sorts, The Star Who Marks The Decline Of The West. . . Ugly Bowie.. . Dumb Blond. . . He's brunette now: natural brown came in between, marking his transition from riches to being richer. He exasperates journalists: they can't quite put their finger on why success should have shone on him so brightly. The reason is: he was all dark, the first man in the history of popular music to sell seriousness and doom to teenyboppers: now they too could pose in a kind of cold agony. Very artistic. "I'd never thought of that," Gary, sitting made up in WEA's offices, tells me. I don't think that he thinks that much at all, but he can certainly look very thoughtful. He can laugh too, his crowded teeth revealed, the flesh under his chin rippling. Do I like him? I hate most of his views, but sometimes find myself humming some of his tunes.

**CARS** Gary has a Corvette, a Range Rover and a Ferrari (max. speed 190 mph), but his three airplanes take pride of place.

**AIRPLANE** "I really like flying, hours and hours every day. I get more out of it than I do from the music business. But I do like the biz: it's like real-life Monopoly. There



are things that drag about it, though, whereas flying has all the good points of the biz and none of the drawbacks—apart from the fact that you can crash. I've wanted to fly since I was a kid, plane-spotting on the top of Queen's Building, Heathrow. Flying isn't a hobby, it's a love. I've started to learn to do aerobatics."

**REMIND ME TO SMILE** "I've stopped taking everything so seriously. Now I don't give a shit. I can sit back and enjoy success, not as an outsider but at least as somebody on the edge. I can read shitty reviews and it doesn't worry me: I'm still selling

so it doesn't justify getting angry. I've got above it, grown up. I enjoy what's going on now. I think Depeche Mode and all those little bands are great, more humorous than I ever was. Maybe I was wrong to be so straightfaced, but I've never claimed to be ~ fucking comedian and it was successful so you can't knock it. I've never worried about who did it first, last or best, as long as people enjoy it and I'm happy and earn lots of money."

***You can have your riots and stick them. I don't care why they started***

**ME! I DISCONNECT FROM YOU** "My songs are autobio-graphical. I don't believe in messages or preaching. I'm not hung up about anything. I'm not politically inclined. I've never been one of these 'Oh, isn't employment terrible' types. And you can have your riots and stick them. I don't care why they started. That'll be offensive to some people but I honestly don't give a shit. If people want to set alight to a policeman, then I think that's terrible and not a nice way of putting your grievances over;, but if that's the only way people have of saying what's wrong, then that's up to them. When that kind of thing happens, I just feel so disconnected. I don't let myself get involved. I'm happy just writing my songs, so I can live a comfortable life and set up my little businesses. I've got interests in a couple of studios and Scratch records which has Denny Lane and Jim Davidson. I sponsor a racing car. My father, who used to be a coach driver for British Airways, helps with the business affairs. We've got an airtaxi firm as well, a little charter business. I'm very conscious of the fact that the more you've got going for you, the less chance there is of you crumbling completely if you ever fall."

***I admire Prince Charles. He's great, he can fly planes—big ones***

**DANCE:** The '40s suit on the album sleeve "Remember the life story of Howard Hughes on TV last year? He looked terrific. I was tired of looking like something out of Battléstar Galactica. This look is more functional. I can go to Budgens and do my shopping, whereas I couldn't in a black leather jumpsuit."

**YOU ARE IN MY VISION** "I admire Howard Hughes. And Bowie. And Prince Charles. He's great, he can fly planes—big ones. I don't see that because he's had everything handed to him on a plate that that's something against him. Lots of people have something handed to them, there are very few who have to struggle for everything. By all accounts Charles is good at a number of things . . . ships. . . I like him but I'm a royalist anyway. I can't explain: I can't think of a good reason why I like chips, I just do, and it's the same with the Queen and the Royal Family. I just like them; it makes me feel good to be English, which isn't often these days. They can



have their rise as far as I'm concerned. The monarchy's great, all pomp and ceremony: I like big occasions."

***Jagger doesn't like me. But that's childish, he's never met me...***

**I DIE, YOU DIE** "I haven't cut myself off from going on stage, it's just that I'm not doing any more concerts. I used to love touring, seeing the fans, chatting to them afterwards at hotels and parties. But the shows got so big I ran out of venues. Because of the type of thing I was doing they had to get more spectacular each time or people would have been unhappy; in a way I got caught in my own trap."

**MORAL:** "These New Romantics are oh so boring". "I like any form of music which involves dressing up. I was against one of the four or five leaders of the New Romantics who is an absolute arsehole. I've no time for him and his God Almighty views of himself and his fashion. He's the epitome of the sort of people I try to avoid. I never say I don't like anybody unless I've met them. Phil Lynott doesn't like me, Bowie doesn't, Jagger doesn't. But that's childish, they've never met me. Jagger said:

'I've never met the guy, but he's one of those people you absolutely loath.' Wanker! I'm just about old enough to remember him. . . Poor old Michael. . ."

***I live in the suburbs. . . I don't know if the neighbours know who I am.***

**ARE FRIENDS ELECTRIC?** "I've got lots of friends in the music business but no close ones. There are one or two people who're a bit dodgy but most are ok. Like Adam Ant, he's terrific. And Orchestral Manoeuvres In The Dark who I met the other day. And John Foxx. They're nice and ordinary and don't get involved in all this slagging, like a lot of up-and-coming bands feel they have to."

**SHE'S GOT CLAWS** "I've had a few close calls with girl friends this last year. These things are best left to songs where you can disguise them. I've been seeing someone for about two months."

**SOMETHING'S IN THE HOUSE** "I live out in the west suburbs of London. It's nice and quiet, nothing ever happens. I don't live in a mansion. My girlfriend stays there. A bloke comes round once a week and does the gardening. I don't know if the neighbours know who I am."

**MY LOVE IS A LIQUID** "I don't like alcohol. It doesn't seem sensible to acquire a taste for something which is going to make you forget most of what you're enjoying. I don't smoke either. I can relax or get excited just through me doing something; which is far more control of your body and personality than having to drink to be brave and enjoy yourself or having to smoke to relax. I have a great time—watching the drunks."

***These new riot police we're getting look terrific. . . I like uniforms***



**STORIES** “The ‘Replicas’ album started off as a novel, but I got bored. So I tried stories, and then songs. I can’t remember what triggered it off, but the central character of all of these was very powerful without being macho. He had a sort of latent power which you’d never want to arouse; he was always dressed in black, very cold, never affected by things outside. I think that’s a good way to be, though I sometimes do get carried away.”

**DREAM POLICE** “I’ve always liked the look of American police, and when I wrote stories the police would always look like that, very heavy, souped up a bit.”

**REPLICAS** “Uniforms are for a function; the function is dangerous, not the uniform, though I think the character of the person wearing it can be affected. If people wear a big black uniform and are meant to act heavy, then they will. These new riot police we’re getting look terrific. . . I like uniforms; that’s why I used to love seeing all the lookalikes at my shows. Great.”



**DANCE:** The album. “I didn’t set out consciously to make a dreamier album. I wanted to use a dance backbeat you could at least tap your foot to. People have said you can’t dance to my music but that’s not entirely accurate: people were dancing at Wembley. They’re not exactly disco songs but they’re orientated towards.. . moving. There’s less synth~ I con-centrated more on rhythm and texture. In songs like ‘Slow Car To China’ the drums are in the background, but they’re always there; there’s a rhythm so underlying that you can’t lose it, even if you can hardly hear it; that’s because everything else is working around it. Rhythm’s a very subtle thing.”

**I’M AN AGENT** “The reason you do interviews is for promotion and so that people can hear what you’ve got to say; but what I said was being twisted so I didn’t see the point.

**THE RIGFIT STUFF** While you’re reading this Gary Numn should be preparing to resume his round the world flight. If this second attempt goes to schedule it will take him across four oceans and 27 countries in 44 days. Early autumn is the best weather in both hemispheres for this type of a global fligh. As before, he’ll be flying with an ex-RAF pilot who’s also led the Rothmans aerobatic team. “It’s great because I can promote the album as I fly around the world. I’m nervous, but I really want to do it. It’s the greatest challenge left to man—apart from space travel.” However, Gary won’t be letting his sense of wonderment get the better of him: encouragingly, for someone with so many reactionary opinions, he doesn’t believe in the worship of God or nature.



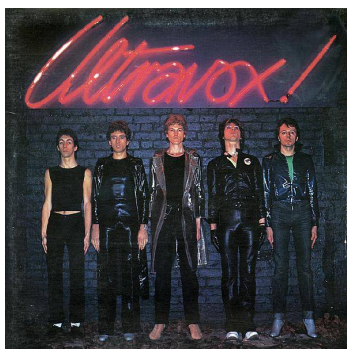
# Numan's Listening pleasure---

What's In My Bag? crew caught up with Gary Numan during a recent visit to Hollywood store. He digs for some choice CDs and has a great story for every album. He recalls discovering Depeche Mode in 1979, almost signing them to a record deal. Picking up Kraftwerk's The Man Machine, some might be surprised to learn that Kraftwerk, according to Numan, was not an influence on him, although he does regard them as "the begining" and says, "I was a weak pretender compared to them." From Marilyn Manson wanting to perform with him to becoming good friends with Trent Reznor and proclaiming Nine Inch Nails, "probably the best band ever".

This list first Published on 8 Oct 2013 when Gary Numan goes shopping at Amoeba Music in Hollywood titled "What's In My Bag?" the video can also be fond on YouTube, See full video at <http://youtu.be/cxuI0COLJYY>

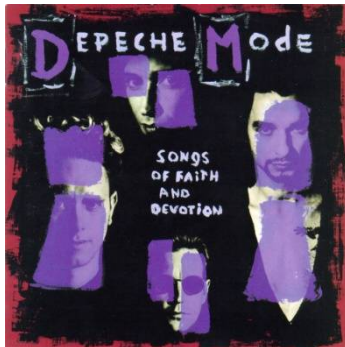


T. Rex: Electric Warrior



Ultravox: Ultravox!

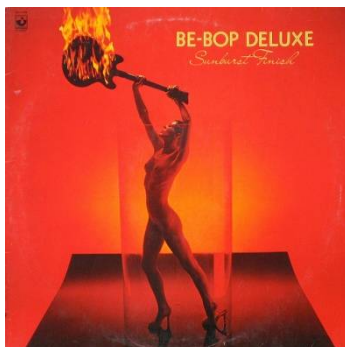




Depeche Mode: Songs of Faith and Devotion



Kraftwerk: The Man Machine

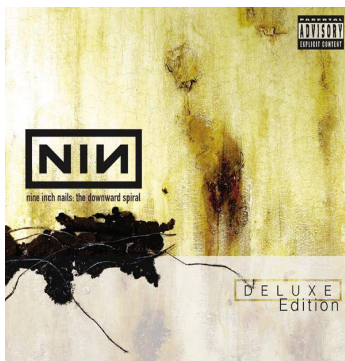


Be Bop Deluxe: Sunburst Finish

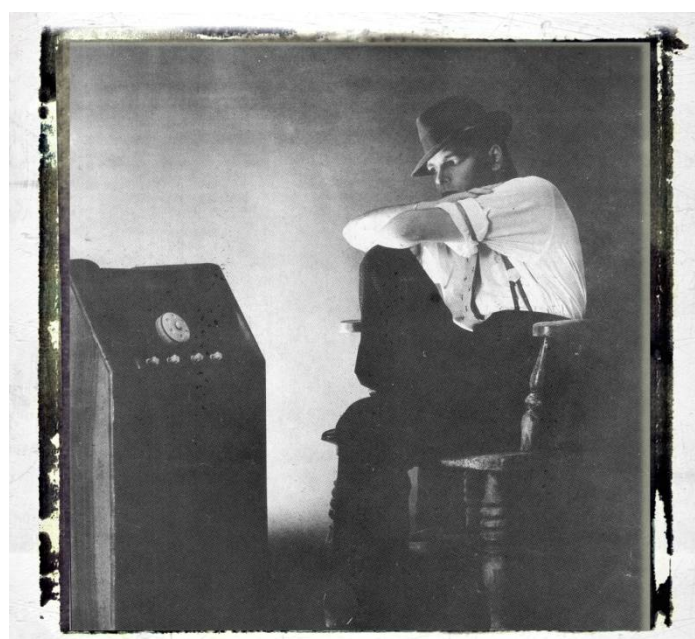




Marilyn Manson: Mechanical Animals



Nine Inch Nails: The Downward Spiral [Deluxe Edition]





**Sash Hits Gritty Documentaries Department present a day in the life of a Gary Numan tour**

# THE JOY CIRCUIT

Our lensman joins Gary on the afternoon of his Bristol Hippodrome show and stays with him through soundcheck, ablutions, autograph session and evening performance.

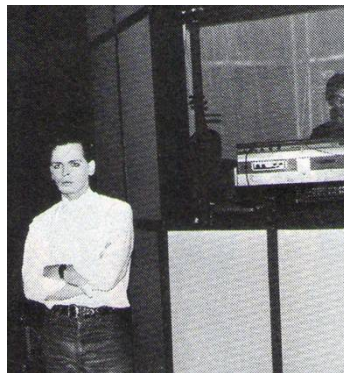
Next morning we rejoin him as he conducts an interview over breakfast in the hotel restaurant and hitch a ride with the coach that conveys the concert party to London and the next string of shows.

We bid farewell to the man outside his London Home as he alights to grab a couple of hours rest before heading for the next soundcheck and the next dressing room. And so the circuit continues.

Each picture has been matched up with a line from one of his songs by Gary himself, who is at pains to point out that life isn't quite as depressing as these captions might imply!



Sing a chorus of On Broadway and deny it all



Isn't it strange how times change?



If you were me what would you do ?



My reflection is no longer me at all

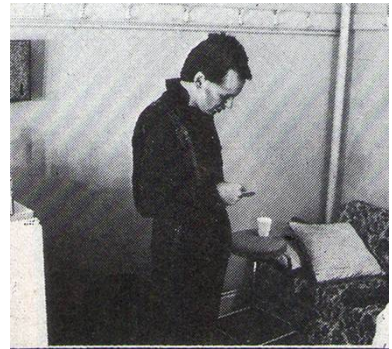




My mirrors tarnished with no  
help



No image in my mirror bye bye



You can be replaced you know

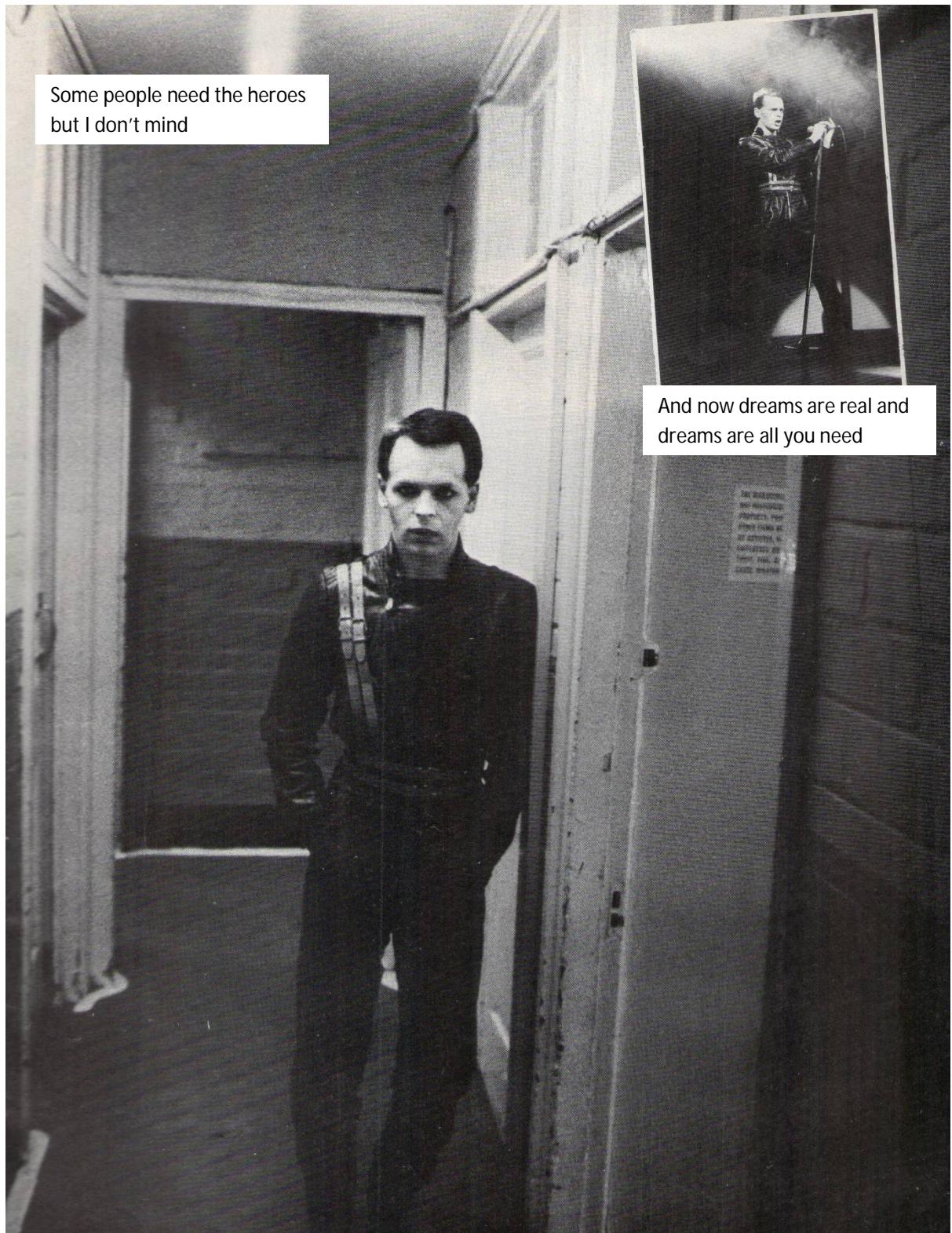


Remember I am human  
Remember I feel just like you



Now that's what I call romance

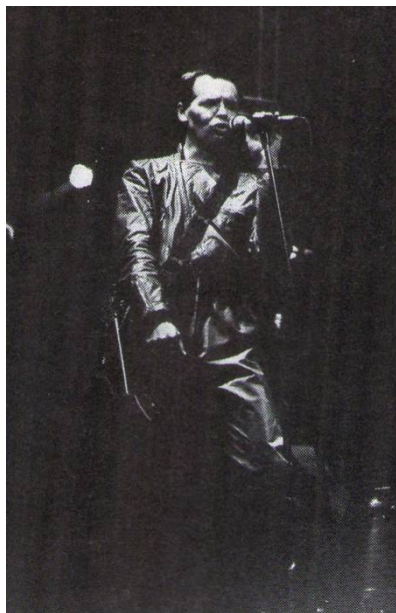




Some people need the heroes  
but I don't mind

And now dreams are real and  
dreams are all you need





I feel the pressure like your  
eyes on me



The time to leave is always  
soon I wonder if I'm lying



Oh it's so easy when parts  
take over



Were so exposed anything can  
happen



We're in formation saying safe  
safe safe



We could remind ourselves that we must laugh



# STAR★CHOICE

THE VERY SPECIAL SONG SPOT

SELECTED  
THIS TIME BY

## GARY NUMAN

"I first heard this at a friend's party in summer '78. Billy Currie was there — he wasn't well-known at the time and I wasn't anything myself then. He'd brought along a copy of the record. I heard it and thought, 'this is it!' — the synths *integrated* with the guitars; they didn't *replace* them. The whole electronic/synthesiser thing started taking shape in my mind. John Foxx seemed very mysterious, very enigmatic. You always felt you'd be really nervous if you met him. I did, years later. And I was."

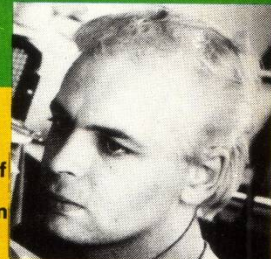


Photo: Virginia Turbett

# U S·L·O·W M·O·T·I·O·N T R A V O X

Ultravox in May '78: (left to right) John Foxx, Billy Currie, Warren Cann, Robin Simon, Chris Cross.



NO REPLY  
I'M TRYING HARD TO SOMEHOW FRAME A REPLY  
PICTURES, I'VE GOT PICTURES, AND I RUN THEM IN MY HEAD  
WHEN I CAN'T SLEEP AT NIGHT

LOOKING OUT AT THE WHITE WORLD AND THE MOON  
I FEEL A SOFT EXCHANGE TAKING PLACE  
MERGING WITH THE PEOPLE ON THE FRAMES  
BLURRING MY FACE, AND CONVERSATION

SLOW MOTION  
SLOW MOTION

HUSH CAN YOU FEEL THE TREE SO FAR AWAY  
HUSH CAN YOU FEEL THE BREEZE OF ANOTHER DAY

WHEN WE HELD EACH OTHER CLOSE IN THE NIGHT  
WHILE WE WHEELED AWAY IN OUR OWN LIGHT

STEPPING SIDEWAYS INTO OUR OWN TIME  
SUCH A SIMPLE WAY

SLOW MOTION  
SLOW MOTION

AND WE HELD EACH OTHER CLOSE IN THE NIGHT  
WHILE WE WHEELED AWAY IN OUR OWN LIGHT  
AND SOME OF US FOUND ANOTHER TIME  
AND DRIFTED AWAY

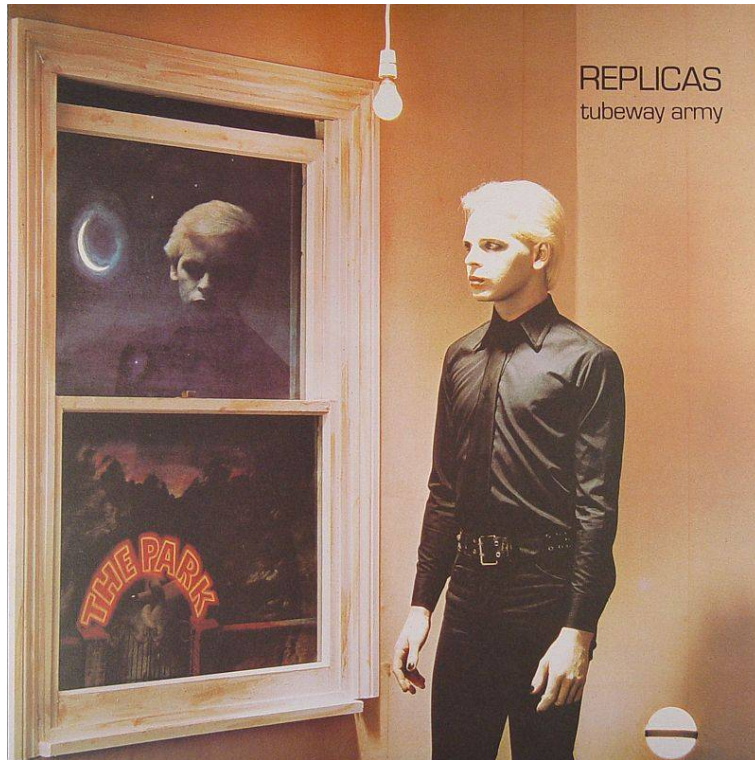
SLOW MOTION  
SLOW MOTION

WORDS AND MUSIC BY ULTRAVOX  
REPRODUCED BY PERMISSION ISLAND MUSIC LTD.  
ON ISLAND RECORDS



## THE ALBUM THAT I STILL LISTEN TO----

Tubeway Army, Replicas (1979)



Boy George

I was always dismissive of anyone who sounded like Bowie. But I forgave Gary Numan. I bought this album when I was living in Birmingham. Me and Jeremy Healy, my mate who went on to be a successful DJ [and a member of Haysi Fantayzee], sat and listened to Replicas and loved it, even though we thought he [Numan] was a bit of a Bowie clone. But it was a brilliant record, and he looked brilliant as well, which was very important then. It wasn't enough to be a good musician, you had to have a good look too! It was around that point that I was discovering early Human League, bands like Cabaret Voltaire, I was already a massive fan of Fad Gadget, who, for me, was the king of electro – the unsung hero. Even now, when you hear Are Friends Electric, it still sounds good. You're very lucky if you make a record that doesn't age – his album has aged brilliantly because it's so different, it's so electro. I always think you have to invest something of yourself in everything you do to be good, which is why I love Replicas. I can still put it on and get that feeling that I had when I first heard it.

Interview by Corinne Jones

The Observer, Sunday 26 January 2014



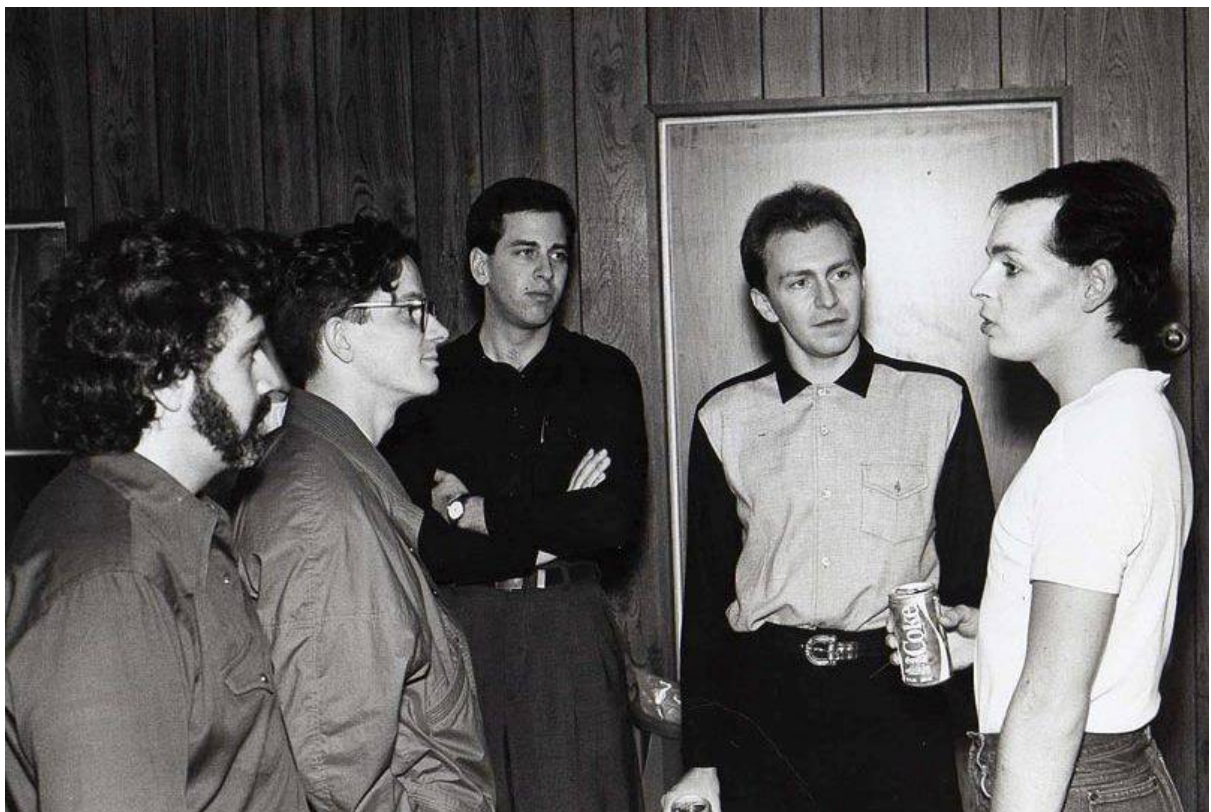
# Change---

Taken from Tears For Fears 'The Hurting (deluxe edition) sleeve notes



Roland, speaking about leaving their first band ( ska type band Graduate) to form Tears For Fears

"We were acutely aware of the new electronic movement. I remember listening to the Radio One Chart Rundown with Curt and they announced that Tubeway Army was number one with 'Are Friends Electric?', we both looked at each other and knew we had to change"



When Devo met Gary Numan



# PERSONAL FILE

*No.1 Magazine, 1984*

Name:

Gary Anthony James Webb.

Born:

Hammersmith, West London on March 8th, 1958.

Favourite Phrase:

"It's 'appening, Mum."

Least Favourite Expression:

"Man". It always sounds like people are trying to be very hip when they're 10 years out of date. My Dad says it.

How Do You Relax?:

I don't, I don't like it. I'm very restless and have a very big hang-up about time passing me by. If I'm sitting down and not doing anything, I get very annoyed with myself. I get very irritable and I'm really not very friendly to people.

What Do You Spend Your Money On?

Aeroplanes. All of it. Everything on aeroplanes and tools. At one point I had four planes but now I've just got one. I eventually managed to sell two and and I had an accident with one of the others.

Will You Be Getting A Copy Of The New Frankie LP?

Yeah! I liked the two singles. But 1.6 million? I don't think I liked it that much... But I've got to get the album anyway to keep up with the latest production techniques...

Are You Watching The New Series Of Dallas?

Has it started? I must be honest, if I was ever around when it was on, I used to love it and would never turn it off. But I don't stay at home to watch it.

Do You Fancy Any Of The Women?

All of 'em, except Miss Ellie. But she ain't bad...

What's All This About You Wearing Blue Lipstick?

It's not lipstick, it's colour pigment. just pur colour. ou virtually dab it on with a very thin brush. I get it from me make-up lady and she keeps very quiet about where she gets it from. The idea for the image came from a character in a song I wrote called 'The Iceman Comes'. At that time I had already gone into the Warrior image and couldn't change it. So I did it this time around.

Do You Ever worry About Your Weight?

The funny thing is, everyone always thinks I'm fat. nd I'm not - I'm actually quite skinny. I've read things... I was called 'The Fat White Grub' once and 'Porky' and all these things but I've never been fat. The heaviest I've ever been is about 10 stone 10 and I'm 10 stone 7 now. I don't worry about weight at all.

Do You Ever Worry That You're Down The Dumper?



Not really. Those sort of things rarely happen overnight. It tends to be a gradual slide and you can see when it's coming. For me, especially now that I've got the record company, I think it'd be very easy and in some ways quite nice to just slip underneath now and go behind things more. I've had a good run - I've been around six years now.

How Successful Was The Hair Transplant?

That was perfect. It hurt a bit but it was well worth it. I had 96 implants and only one of them turned out a little bit dodgy. It should have had 10 - 15 strands and only has about six. But I'd strongly recommend it for anyone although it does hurt a bit. It hurts a bloody lot, in fact.

How Do You See Yourself In 10 Years Time?

This is going to sound ever so morbid but, ever since I was young, I haven't really thought I was going to live much longer than 30. And this year more than ever I had the feeling death was very close, probably because of the flying. In the air displays this year, I've pushed my luck quite a bit, but sometimes it feels so close and so real you could almost touch it. You literally can feel death around the corner. But it does give you a new perspective on life. I realise that being famous and being successful, although pleasurable, isn't the be-all-and-end-all of life anymore and I wouldn't kill myself in despair because my records didn't sell anymore. Which may have been the case at one time.

How Have Your Fans Changed?

The hard core of fans, who would buy every record and go to every show, have become very hardened and have been forced into becoming a cult, because of the press not liking me too much. That's made them very hardened on my side and that's a shame in a way, because it means they won't listen to other people's records. Blind following isn't a good thing.

Last Record Bought:

'Absolute' by Scritti Politti but he gave me a bad time on the radio last week so I don't think I should mention it. I was really upset about that. It's a shame when it's somebody you really like and admire, and you find out they don't like you and are nasty, even though they don't know you. There's no need for it.







**GARY NUMAN TRIBUTE**

# **NUWAY ARMY**

**Performing at The Star Inn**

**SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> MARCH**

**DOORS OPEN 7:30pm £7.50 Adv £10 Door**

Performing Classic Gary Numan Tracks from his early career, with their range of synths and full line up Nuway Army replicate the exact sound from the eighties.

**The Asahi Back Room, 2 Quarry Street, Guildford, GU1 3TY**

**Support by**

**SATURN CREATURES**

**[www.wegottickets.com](http://www.wegottickets.com)**