

soundcheck

Issue 01 | Sept 2019

Independent live music guide for Reading

This month, featuring...

CODY NOON



Club Velocity presents...

Rising Sun Arts Centre 30 Silver St Reading RG1 2ST	Readipop Studios 35 Milford Rd Reading RG1 8LP
Fri 30th Aug £5 Adv Ocean Ruins	
	Sat 14th Sept £12 Adv The Lurkers
Fri 27th Sept £8.50 Adv Artmagic (Richard Oakes from Suede)	
	Sat 12th Oct £7 Adv Flight Brigade
Fri 25th Oct £9 Adv TV Smith	
	Fri 13th Dec £13.50 Adv 999
Tues 31st Dec £12.50 Mark Morriss	
www.clubvelocityreading.com	

www.wegottickets.com/clubvelocity

Sound-check #1

This is issue #1 of Sound-check – destined to become the monthly live gig guide that Reading's promoters and regular live music crowd have been saying that somebody should make for years.

For any of you that remember Blah Blah from the olden days, I told Marc 'out of' Blah Blah that I was doing this and he had just one word of advice for me: "Don't". But I'm doing it anyway. Because I want there to be one and, apparently you do. So, here's the bargain we're gonna strike...

It's a straight-forward live gig list specially designed to go in your pocket/bag, stuck to your fridge, whatever... for four weeks and then it dies.

Every month, it will have a focus on one local band starting, this month, with **Cody Noon**. Could be anybody, as long as they're from a specific geographical region known as "round 'ere".

There'll be the odd review of anything particularly out of the ordinary or newsworthy and there'll be photos! There are photographers out there every night, ducking out of the way of the front row, and their stuff rarely gets seen beyond a phone screen so let's show some of it off here, just because we can.

Up the back of this issue, I've had a word with **Michael Matthews** about the artwork he's done for **Head Drop's** two releases. Another thing that deserves to be somewhere bigger than an online thumbnail.

And, finally, there's no money behind this – it's not a thinly-veiled advert for anything except Reading's music scene so if there's anything you think should be in it, do it and send it to me. And, in case you're wondering, this is me. Usually seen up the front of **Eat Daddy Eat** and I hereby promise not to fill this thing with pictures of my own band. Honest. – *Rich*

To advertise in Sound-check, all the information you need is at sound-check.co.uk

If you want to get involved, email me: rich@sound-check.co.uk

If you'd like to contribute something, send it to copy@sound-check.co.uk



The Keep Cats Readipop Festival 14.07.2019 ©Victoria Holt



Focus on:

CODY NOON

Instrumental, atmospheric, slow... shifting around from beautiful to bloody uncomfortable and, basically, a bit odd... Charlie and Haydn are **Cody Noon** and I bothered them before they went on at the Are You Listening? Summer Party at the Oakford Social Club in August to ask what the hell it's all about.

I started, predictably enough, by asking how long they've been around doing this?

"About ten years, we've been a band and we've been in Reading for about three years now."

Before Reading, they were gigging round London, starting with their first gig at a friend's practice room/venue in Stourbridge. "There were four years where it was a bit stop/start. Then, from about 2014 onwards, we got our act together."

Why Reading, then?

Charlie has worked round here for years and "always had a strange affection for it."

"We started going out in 2009 and one of our first dates was South Street to see Monotonix which was incredible."

"We kept coming back for the gigs, so it felt natural to settle."

The good people of Doubledotdash!? once described Cody Noon as "Slow motion bangers for the quiet kids in class." We're not likely to get more succinct than that but, for the record, what is it they're doing?

"We started off trying to do something that the two of us could do, as a band, without anyone else. And a drum machine."

"We were very defined by our limitations! But it has evolved organically from there. I think, what we try to do now is try and put emotions into music and to express feelings that we can't put into words."

"And we tried to rip off – sorry, take influence from – a lot of instrumental bands like Mogwai... and Codeine... but, to be honest, now, we listen to a lot of emo and other stuff and try and channel that a bit through our quite limited set-up. You know... you try and sound like some things and end up doing something completely different."

"It means that we don't fit into many areas that well, but on the other hand, we've played with grindcore bands, noise bands, emo bands, indie bands... we're playing with Dana International!"

Yes, indeed – Cody Noon feature on the Pride aLive Stage at Reading Pride this year and that whole 'not quite fitting in anywhere' thing is pretty much why they're in issue #1 of whatever this is.

"I personally, like the description *genre queer*."





"Our set-up is very minimal. It exposes both of us and makes playing live quite un-nerving. Making a recording which sounds 'fuller' is quite a challenge and what Phil did is layer our sound sympathetically with just... 'extra'. He really pushed us to get the most 'fullness' out of what we'd written.

"We'd play a song through and he could see what we were trying to do and he'd say, 'How about trying this...?'"

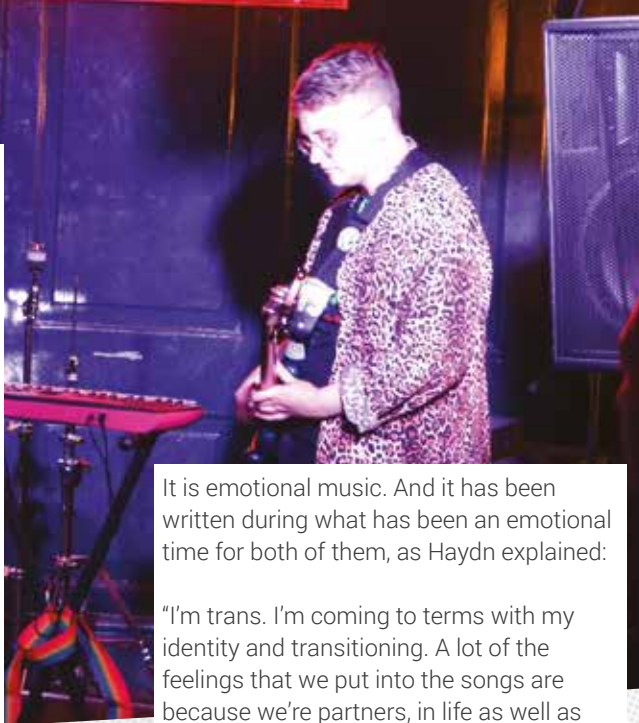
"How about layering some Nashville tuning on top of that...? How about playing around with my Jen synthesizer from the 70s...?' Which was incredible. So we've bought one!"

"Because we knew bands that he'd been in and things that he'd recorded, and he'd seen us play, we kinda knew that we might be on a similar page, and we had a good connection. Had a really nice burger at the end of the first day as well!"

It'll be the first Cody Noon album on vinyl which means, apart from anything else, I want to know what it looks like as well. The artwork for it has been done by "amazing local artist, Yen Tu. She also did the artwork for *Double Dark*, our previous album, which was really great."

Good call. Amongst other things, Yen does a lot of the poster artwork for doubledotdash!? events. If this thing succeeds beyond issue #1, I'll badger her for a bit of a feature in here.

I've had *Double Dark* on in the car for a while now and I can tell you that, where some music makes you inadvertently drive too fast, Cody Noon kind of make you forget where you were going, and why.



It is emotional music. And it has been written during what has been an emotional time for both of them, as Haydn explained:

"I'm trans. I'm coming to terms with my identity and transitioning. A lot of the feelings that we put into the songs are because we're partners, in life as well as in music, and it's part of the journey we're going on together."

There has been a sneak preview – a track called 'Them Fatale'...

"Sophie, from Colours & Fires, who puts together the Pride aLive stage, was going on the RGNewMusic radio show and wanted something to play. So, we thought we'd give her something new and she kindly agreed to play what is a seven-and-a-half minute dirge on the radio! Which we're very grateful for."

The actual release date for the forthcoming album is yet to be nailed down but, apparently, we should all be able to get one for Christmas.

Until then, Cody Noon are going to "try and play some more gigs, write some more music, keep ourselves off the streets."

Sounds like a good plan. ■

There's an album coming! As soon as the last one was out, in June 2017, they started work on this next one. This time, though, they went up to J.T. Soar in Nottingham to work with Phil Booth.

"We played there, and he was a really lovely man, and we're like nerds for a lot of the albums that he's recorded there. Particularly the emo ones."

"Yeah. He has recorded some of the best albums we've listened to. He really understood what we wanted to do with the album, which really helped. And it was a really relaxed recording process."

Having spent two years writing, arranging and meticulously planning the album, the actual recording of it took just two days – "because we don't have a drummer."

With a digital backing track which, presumably, does exactly what you ask it to do every time, and two musicians who know exactly what they're doing, what is it that Phil Booth brings to the party?



Wander through Reading's quirky Harris Arcade to find The Grumpy Goat an independent retailer of craft beer, real ale, cheese, cider, mead and small batch spirits...

BEER: We stock 500 local, national and foreign beers.

CHEESE: Small batch artisan British and European cheeses.

SPIRITS: 40+ Gins and other spirits.

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Harris Arcade, 8-9, Reading RG1 1DN
f t i
thegrumpygoat.co.uk




UP THE JUNCTION
Reading's coolest independent
LATE NIGHT BAR
HAPPY HOUR
9pm - 11pm
BEST JUKEBOX IN TOWN
LIVE MUSIC EVERY WEDNESDAY
DJ EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT
Sunday - Thursday 5pm - 2.30 am
Friday - Saturday 5pm - 3.00 am
231 London Road, Reading, RG1 3NY

THU 5 SEP

GLOBAL CAFE Claire Jones Quartet

8:30pm | Free (donations)
A fine and original jazz voice, with an ear for jazz language and a warm personal style.

HMV READING Eat Daddy Eat

6pm | Free

FRI 6 SEP

SUB89
The MJR Group presents
The Specials Ltd with 2Rude Ska Band
7pm | £10 + booking fee | 14+
eventbrite.co.uk

SAT 7 SEP

GLOBAL CAFE
New Jazz Sextet
8:30pm | Free (donations)

READING ABBEY RUINS
Heavypop presents
**Down at the Abbey:
BC Camplight + Kathryn Joseph
+ The Wave Pictures + Tom
Williams + Rozi Plain
+ more.**
Noon | £30
heavypop.co.uk

READIPOP STUDIOS
Club Velocity presents
Candid Heist + Reliant +

The Kid Dean + Psychopomp
7:30pm | £5 adv, £7 otd | 18+
wegottickets.com/clubvelocity

THE TURKS
Funk Soul Rebels
9pm | Free

SUN 8 SEP

GLOBAL CAFE
Gli Avanzi feat. Ewen Baird
8:30pm | Free (donations)
Modern jazz inspired by the jazz masters, from classic to contemporary.

THE JOLLY ANGLERS
Hubcap Promotions
Acoustic covers every Sunday
6pm | Free entry

WED 11 SEP

PURPLE TURTLE
Embeepie and BBC Introducing present
Deluxe Deluxe + guests
8:00pm | Free
purpleturtlebar.com

UP THE JUNCTION
Hubcap Promotions
8pm | Free
Four acoustic acts every Weds

THU 12 SEP

HMV READING
Harroland
6pm | Free

THE FACE BAR
Guildford Indie Group / R.U.M
**Third Lung + Simple Fiction +
Bought It For The Bottle + DJs**
7:30pm | £4 adv | 16+
eventbrite.co.uk

FRI 13 SEP

THE FACE BAR
Pixee Presents
**The Strays + Oaty Biscuit Cult
+ tbc**
7:00pm | £7 adv, £10 otd
eventbrite.co.uk

GLOBAL CAFE
Limpopo Groove
9:00pm | Free

PURPLE TURTLE
Embeepie presents
The MkII
9pm | Free

RISING SUN ARTS CENTRE
**The Torchlight Book Club:
The Seasons in Shorthand +
Nightjjar + Khamsina + Jamie
Larbaestier**
7:30 | £5
*A one-off gig curated by The
Seasons in Shorthand to mark the
launch of new 7" double A-side
'Kuiper Belt/Zoetrope', on All Will
Be Well records.*

SUB89
The MJR Group presents
China Crisis
7pm | £22 + booking fee | 14+
eventbrite.co.uk



Head Drop The Rising Sun Arts Centre 26.06.2019 ©Victoria Holt

THE TURKS
Rob & the Retros
9pm | Free

SAT 14 SEP

AFTER DARK CLUB
**Lights Of The Night + Handstand
Parade + Horse Rock**
8pm | £6 | 18+
fatsoma.com

SOUTH STREET ARTS CENTRE
South Street, doubledotdash!?! & Darklands present
**Double Dot Bash! 10!
Housewives, Workin' Man Noise
Unit, Haq123, Head Drop and
loads more.**
2:30pm | £17 adv, £20 otd,
£15 members
*South Street's much-loved festival
is a collaboration with artists'
collective, and record label,
doubledotdash!?! and indie club
Darklands. It returns for its 10th
edition with another pulsating,*

*eclectic tour round the fringes of
the UK's live music scene.*
readingarts.com/south-street

PURPLE TURTLE
Embeepie and BBC Introducing present
The Pale White
8:00pm | Free
purpleturtlebar.com

READIPOP STUDIOS
Club Velocity presents
**The Lurkers UK Punk legends
+ Who Killed Nancy Johnson?
+ Voodoo Radio + Push Button
Gently**
7.30pm | £12 adv, £15 otd | 18+
wegottickets.com/clubvelocity

THE TURKS
4G
9pm | Free

THE VICTORIA
Hubcap Promotions
9pm | Free entry
Live music every Saturday

SUN 15 SEP

THE JOLLY ANGLERS
Hubcap Promotions
6pm | Free
Acoustic covers every Sunday

TUE 17 SEP

GLOBAL CAFE
The Definite Collective
9:00pm | Free
*Explore original, well known
compositions through live
improvisation.*

SOUTH STREET ARTS CENTRE
South Street & doubledotdash!?! present
The Ex - 40th Anniversary Tour
7:30pm | £14, £12 members
*Adventurous, innovative Dutch
band, The Ex, has existed 40 years
this year and is still going strong.
The Ex have defied categorisation
since 1979 and have continued to*

musically explore undiscovered areas right up to the present day.
readingarts.com/south-street

WED 18 SEP

UP THE JUNCTION

Hubcap Promotions

8pm | Free

Four acoustic acts every Weds

THU 19 SEP

GLOBAL CAFE

Silver Heels

8pm | Free

Live Swing and plenty of dancing room.

FRI 20 SEP

AFTER DARK CLUB

The After Dark and Bostin Gigs present

11Paranoias Masters of crushing cosmic doom bring their mind-expanding rites to Reading! New release "Asterismal" available now

+ Nyogtha + Head Drop

8pm | £6 adv, £8 otd | 18+

fatsoma.com

GLOBAL CAFE

Adam & Elvis

8:30pm | Free (donations)

SUB89

The MJR Group presents

Paul Gilbert

7pm | £22 + booking fee | 14+

eventbrite.co.uk

SAT 21 SEP

THE FACE BAR

Crazy Cowboy Live Events

Crazy Cowboy Festival 4

Those Damn Crows, Skam, Dead Man's Whiskey, Baleful

Creed, King Creature, The Swamp Born Assassins, False Hearts, Hell's Gazelles + loads more.

11am | £19.50 + booking fee

All-day! 11am – 11pm.

Two stages, no band overlaps, food on site, a late bar.

wegotickets.com

GLOBAL CAFE

Hugh Turner Heavy Funk Quartet

9pm | £5

PURPLE TURTLE

Heavy Pop presents

Marthagunn + support

8:00pm | Free

THE TURKS

Frankie The Fish

9pm | Free

THE VICTORIA

Hupcap Promotions

Live music every Saturday

9pm | Free entry

SUN 22 SEP

THE JOLLY ANGLERS

Hubcap Promotions

6pm | Free

Acoustic covers every Sunday

TUE 24 SEP

GLOBAL CAFE

Tuesday Night Music Club feat. Mixtape Rock N' Roll

9pm | Free (donations)

The usual mixture of half-learned songs, booze, stand-up comedy, magic, physical education, teleportation, fashion, origami and politics. Mostly the first two with a good dose of the last!

WED 25 SEP

THE FACE BAR

XL Music Promotions

Lagerstein Australian party pirate metal(!) with a new show and a new album

+ Footprints In The Custard + Amalgama - Melodic Rock russia + Atomic Fog...

+ one more tbc!

8pm | £10 + booking fee

wegotickets.com

PURPLE TURTLE

Embeepee and BBC Introducing present

Joe Hicks

Nicole Allan

8:00pm | Free

purpleturtlebar.com

UP THE JUNCTION

Hubcap Promotions

8pm | Free

Four acoustic acts every Weds

THU 26 SEP

SOUTH STREET ARTS CENTRE

Heavy Pop presents

Bill Ryder-Jones (solo piano show)

Lucy Gaffney

7:30pm | £15 adv + booking fee

www.heavypop.co.uk

FRI 27 SEP

AFTER DARK CLUB

Pixee presents...

Metal Night #1

8pm | £8+ | 18+

RIISING SUN ARTS CENTRE

Club Velocity presents

Artmagic (Richard Oakes from Suede) **+ Harroland + Colours & Fires**

8:00pm | £8.50 adv | All ages

wegotickets.com/clubvelocity



doubledotdash!? unpopular music in Reading since '04 gigs + tunes. post-rock. punk-rock. porch-music. drone. beatz. etc.

doubledotdash.org

SOUTH STREET ARTS CENTRE

Doubledotdash!? presents

Sweet Williams Led by the former voice of Charlottefield, with a new album out on Gringo Records

+ Wild Island

8:00 | £6

doubledotdash.org

SUB89

The MJR Group presents

The Family Values Tour:

Spouky Kids (Marilyn Manson tribute) **+ Korn Again + Stiff Bizkit**

7pm | £12.50 + booking fee | 14+

Get ready to party like it's 1999!

www.eventbrite.co.uk

SAT 28 SEP

GLOBAL CAFE

The Fusion 6 +1

9pm | Free (donations)

Six dudes creating a fusion of Acid

Jazz, funk and dance rhythms.

THE TURKS

Syn City Rockers

9pm | Free

THE VICTORIA

Hubcap Promotions

9pm | Free entry

Live music every Saturday

SUN 29 SEP

THE JOLLY ANGLERS

Hubcap Promotions

6pm | Free entry

Acoustic covers every Sunday

TUES 1 OCT

GLOBAL CAFE

Greg Mayston's Folk, Blues and Americana

8:30pm | Free (donations)

SUB89

Heavy Pop presents

The Night Cafe + On Video + Dreamers

7:30pm | £12.50 adv + booking fee

WED 2 OCT

UP THE JUNCTION

Hubcap Promotions

Four acoustic acts every Weds

8pm | Free Entry

THU 3 OCT

GLOBAL CAFE

The Annie Parker Collective

8pm | Free (donations)

HMV READING

The Ady Baker Sound

6pm | Free

SOUTH STREET ARTS CENTRE
Kathryn Williams + support
7:30pm | £18

Kathryn comes with her live band to celebrate the release of new career-spanning Anthology box set (out now on One Little Indian).

FRI 4 OCT

GLOBAL CAFE
Los Dos Gringos Y Un Argentino

10:30pm | Free (donations)
Two wandering Gringos, weary from the burning sun, clinging to a distant dream that one day we will be accepted as honorary Latinos by strumming our tired, beaten guitars in a Spanish fashion.

SAT 5 OCT

AFTER DARK CLUB
GRUB CLUB & DMDT

Burning House *elements of shoegaze and decade-spanning American Indie. Steve Lamacq's a fan and they've even opened for the legendary Wire + Kill Committee + Adam & Elvis + Pink Eye Club
8pm | £6 adv, £8 otd | 18+
Door price includes entry to the Club night afterwards.
fatsoma.com*

SOUTH STREET ARTS CENTRE
Nancy Kerr & Luke Daniels

7:00pm | £14, £12 Members
Two of the British folk scene's top performers have teamed up for some duo/double header shows to perform their own and each other's music.

THE TURKS
Golden Eye
9pm | Free

THE VICTORIA
Hubcap Promotions
9pm | Free entry
Live music every Saturday

SUN 6 OCT

SUB89
Crosstown Concerts presents
The Wildhearts + The Professionals
7pm | £25 + booking fee | 14+
www.eventbrite.co.uk

THE JOLLY ANGLERS
Hubcap Promotions
6pm | Free
Acoustic covers every Sunday

WED 9 OCT

UP THE JUNCTION
Hubcap Promotions
8pm | Free
Four acoustic acts every Weds

THU 10 OCT

SUB89
Dancingman Promotions presents
RXPTRS + Kill the Ideal + Lady Jane's Revenge + Fear Me December
7:30pm | £5.50 + booking fee | 14+
www.eventbrite.co.uk

FRI 11 OCT

SOUTH STREET ARTS CENTRE
Kris Drever
8:00pm | £17
Kris Drever has won multiple awards including seven(!) BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, two shortlist nominations for Scottish Album of The Year (with his trio Lau) and much acclaim for his solo work.

This show is a chance to hear him up close and personal as he performs solo.

SAT 12 OCT

THE FACE BAR
Crazy Cowboy Live Events
Crazy Cowboy Blues Rock Special!
7:30pm | £4 adv | 16+
eventbrite.co.uk

READIPOP STUDIOS
Club Velocity presents
Flight Brigade *All over the festivals this summer and a Time Out 'Rising Star'. Chris Porter-produced second album due this autumn, so get a look quick.*
+ Harroland+ Nearly Unsociable
7:30pm | £7 adv, £10 otd | 18+
wegottickets.com/clubvelocity

THE TURKS
The Corsairs
9pm | Free

SUN 13 OCT

THE JOLLY ANGLERS
Hubcap Promotions
6pm | Free
Acoustic covers every Sunday

To get your gig listed here, go to www.sound-check.co.uk/submissions and just paste the info into the box.

Info is correct at time of going to press.

Websites on these pages refer to where to get tickets.

hmv

LIVE

Thursday September 5th 6pm
Eat Daddy Eat

Thursday September 12th 6pm
Harroland

Thursday October 3rd 6pm
The Ady Baker Sound

Thursday October 24th 6pm
The Keep Cats

13 Holy Brook Walk
The Oracle, Reading RG1 2AQ



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Steve Ignorant
The Rising Sun Arts Centre 26.07.2019
©Victoria Holt

Colouring in...

The artwork! The unsung hero of most releases. I spoke to Michael at Hypergraphic Design about the artwork he has done for Head Drop's two releases and asked three simple questions: What is it? What did the band actually ask for? How did you make it?



“ Head Drop came to me in October 2018 looking for some artwork for their first ep. They wanted something based around a planet. In my head, I immediately saw how it could look and set about putting it together. Turns out what I saw in my head was, basically, the artwork for Tangerine Dream's terrible (but pretty) 1972 album *Zeit*. But, hey ho.

Around May this year they, again, asked for artwork for their new ep.

This time they left it up to me to decide how it would look. I had the feeling they wanted some kind of connection to the first, so I kept the same basic shapes, essentially a big circle in a square, and made a little Photoshop collage of textures that, to me at least, resembled a top down macro photograph of a burning match; the idea being, a planet from far away and a match up close, kind of look similar. Dunno... made sense to me at the time. They seemed happy enough.

I look forward to getting the call for ep3! ”

You can contact Michael, if you like, at: design@hypergraphic.co.uk

VENUES

After Dark

112 London Street
Reading RG1 4SJ
afterdarkreading.co.uk

Face Bar

Ambrose Place, Chatham St
Reading RG1 7JE
thefacebar.moonfruit.com

Purple Turtle

9 Gun Street
Reading RG1 2JR
purpleturtlebar.com/reading

Readipop

35 Milford Road
Reading RG1 8LG
readipop.co.uk

Rising Sun Arts Centre

30 Silver Street
Reading RG1 2ST
risingsunartscentre.org

South St Arts Centre

21 South Street
Reading RG1 4QU
readingarts.com/south-street

Sub89

110-117 Friar Street
Reading RG1 1EP
sub89.com

The Turks

31 London Road
Reading RG1 5BJ
facebook.com/TheTurksReading

The Victoria

1 Norcot Road
Tilehurst RG30 6BP
facebook.com/thevictoriatilehurst

Reasonable efforts are made to ensure that all info in Sound-check is correct at time of going to press. If you're worried, though, please check with the relevant venue,online.

PROMOTERS

Bostin Gigs

facebook.com/bostingigsreading

Club Velocity

clubvelocityreading.com

Doubledotdash!?

doubledotdash.org

Embeepee

facebook.com/embeepee

Heavy Pop

heavypop.co.uk

Hupcap Promotions

facebook.com/hubcappromotions

sound-check

To advertise in Sound-check, there's an spec sheet at **sound-check.co.uk** and it's as cheap as I can possibly make it. Please email me at **rich@sound-check.co.uk**.

If you want to get involved, email: **rich@sound-check.co.uk**

If you'd like to contribute something, just send it to **copy@sound-check.co.uk**

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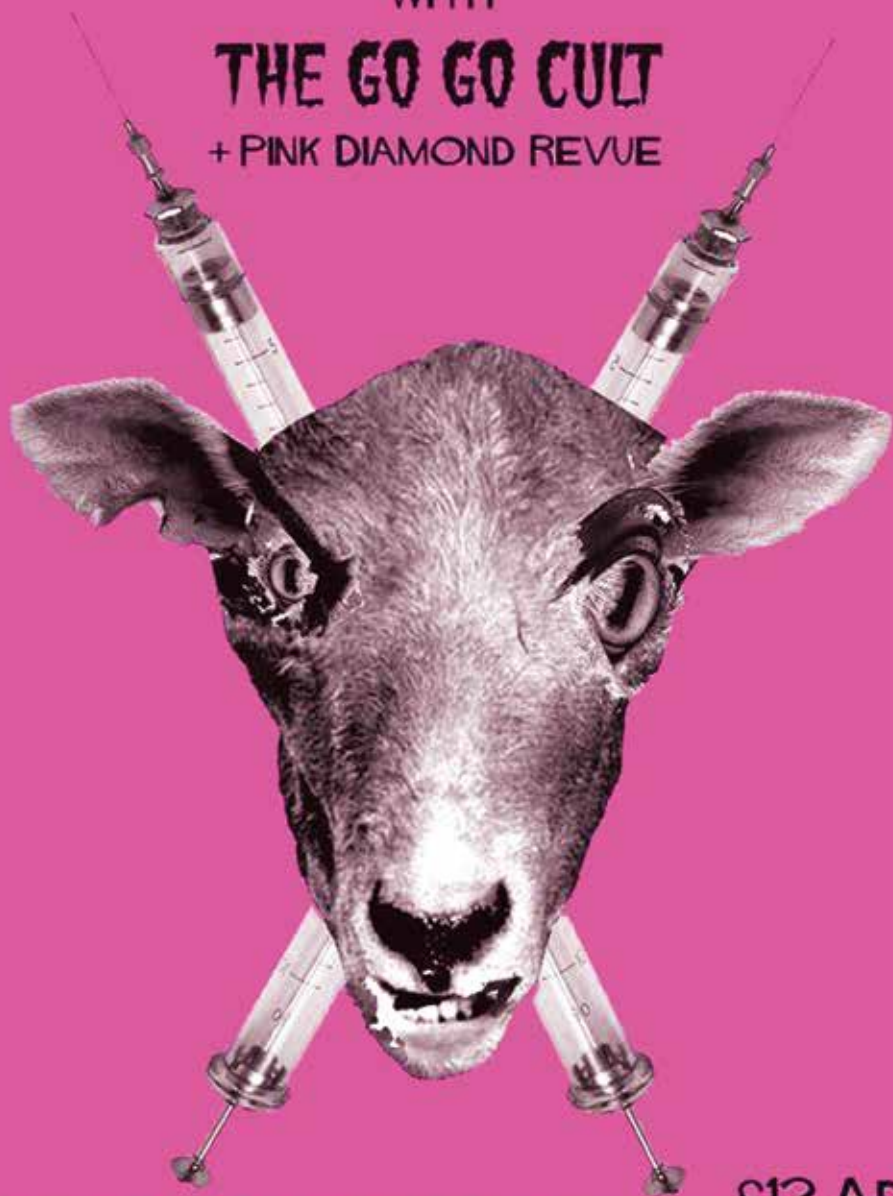
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Sheep on Drugs

WITH

THE GO GO CULT

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POSTER - FLINTWORKS 2019

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FACE BAR, READING

£12 ADV
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