

Exclusive interview with Keith on the release of “The Adventures of Keith”



The album was first released in 1969, how long did it take you to write the songs for this LP?

I would say roughly 6 months. I was living back in Pennsylvania with my wife Lynn and our newborn son Jamie and invited my friend and guitar player Dave Jiminez to come down from New York, where he lived, to work on some new tunes I was about to start writing. We worked together for a couple of weeks and "Marstrand", "Elea-Elea", "Alone on the Shore" "China Clipper", and "Charley Cinders" came from that collaboration. He and I had written "Mr. Hyde" a year or so earlier in N.Y. when I lived there and that song had been on "The Cherry People's" first album. "Trixon's Election" and "Melody" were written with another friend and long-time guitar player in a few pre-Keith bands, Joe Coyle, a year or so earlier. "Waiting to Be" I finished wee into the hours the night before the sessions began.

Are there any songs that stand out as your favorite?

I have always considered any song, poem, or painting that I created like my children, and now Grandchildren. You love and enjoy them all.

How did you feel when RPM records approached you about reissuing “The Adventures of Keith”?

I was, as anyone can imagine, overjoyed, as well as appreciative that finally someone had recognized "The Adventures of Keith" as being a valid piece of recorded history and worthy of reissue on CD.

How involved were you in the release of this CD?

RPM contacted me in early '08 letting me know that they had acquired the rights for "The Adventures of Keith" from Sony and if I would be interested in assisting on the insert. I had previous contact with Mark Strafford, RPM's creator and President when they released their first Keith compilation CD, "Ain't Gonna Lie" a couple of years earlier, so I of course said yes knowing how much pride they take in their packaging.

Are there any new photographs in the insert or is the layout exactly the same as the original LP release?

Yes, there are a bunch of new photos, as well as photos of some of the band members and a few others I don't know how or where they were found.

RPM did a fantastic job.

Some on line retailers have the CD listed as “The Adventures of Odd Keith”, is that the original correct title or a misprint?

No. That's most definitely a misprint or someone with a wacky sense of humor or possibly some one who knows me well!!!

How do you hope that the fans will receive the re-release of “The Adventures of Keith”?

I hope they enjoy listening to it as much as I did writing,singing and recording it.

Interview conducted by Cass Kessler. © 2008

“The Adventures of Keith” is available for purchase through the following websites:

www.keith986.com

www.myspace.com/keith986

Send all professional inquiries to: keithlive@keith986.com

All Fan messages should be directed to: keithsfans@yahoo.com