

From The Jam:  
David, Russell,  
Bruce and Rick



## <Book to the future>

### Shows coming up in the next few months

Jan 30-Feb 7

#### Othello

Kathryn Hunter directs Patrice Naiambana in the RSC's production Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry 024 7652 4524

Feb 2

#### Michel Legrand

Jazz pianist and triple Oscar-winning composer, with vocal accompaniment from Alison Moyet Symphony Hall, Bham 0121 780 3333

Feb 17-22

#### Strictly Come Dancing: The Live Tour

A cast that includes Tom Chambers, Jodie Kidd, Cherie Lunghi, Rachel Stevens, Jill Halfpenny, Julian Clary and Kenny Logan prepare to dance their way through eight live shows over six days. LG Arena, The NEC, Bham 0844 338 800

Feb 22

#### David O'Doherty

Acclaimed Irish comedian returns to the region after a storming appearance at the Glee back in October. Genius. Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry 024 7652 4524

Feb 26-27

#### The Killers

The biggest thing out of Vegas since gambling and CSI return with new album Day And Age. LG Arena, The NEC, Bham 0844 338 800

Feb 27

#### This Is Soul!

With 60s stars Geno Washington, Jimmy James and PP Arnold. Bham Town Hall 0121 780 3333

Mar 23

#### Lily Allen

The singer reminds us she's more than just gossip column fodder with her first UK tour in two years and a new album, It's Not Me, It's You (out Feb 9). Carling Academy, Bham 08444 999 990

Apr 23

#### Basement Jaxx

Re-scheduled date for the dance combo. Carling Academy, Bham 08444 77 2000

Send your listings to: [whatson@mrn.co.uk](mailto:whatson@mrn.co.uk) and [listings@mrn.co.uk](mailto:listings@mrn.co.uk). Please remember to include full dates, ticket prices and venue details along with the section you wish the listing to be submitted to. We advise you send to us your listings at least 3-4 weeks in advance.

## <Answering Back Bruce Foxtan>

Dec 20, Carling Academy, Bham [www.fromthejam.net](http://www.fromthejam.net)

Earning his rock'n'roll stripes alongside Rick Buckler and Paul Weller as The Jam, bassist Bruce Foxtan went solo in 1982, later spending 15 years with Stiff Little Fingers, and forming The Casbah Club with members of The Who and Big Country in 2006. But a one-off guest appearance with Rick's new band, The Gift, was met enthusiastically, leading to the tentative formation of From The Jam in spring 2007. Aided by Russell Hastings and David Moore, they've since completed a string of sold out shows both in the UK and abroad, and recently released a live DVD, A First Class Return.

#### Last album you bought?

Springsteen's last, Magic, which I'm still playing a lot. Other than that I'm still playing all the faves, a lot of Motown stuff, the Elbow album [The Seldom Seen Kid], which I like, The Felice Brothers – who are a bit like The Pogues – and the Mark Ronson album, Version, although I've heard that too much now.

#### Last concert you went to?

Ours! We were fantastic! You should come [laughs]. I haven't been to a concert for a while. Probably the last one was Springsteen, who I keep coming back to. I've been a fan of his for years, since the Badlands period [1982's Nebraska].

#### Last book you read?

Michael Dobb's The Lord's Day. I'd read Churchill's Hour, and liked that. It's about a siege in the House Of Lords – the Prime Minister's there and so is the Queen, and they're taken hostage.

It's not a complex plot, but quite gripping. I'm not a big reader, I think I started this when I went on holiday in June. I get easily sidetracked, easily distracted, and I don't like anything too heavy

#### Last film you saw?

Rick [Buckler] loaned me his DVD of Pulp Fiction, which I never saw first time, and I thought it was a great movie. I'd say I normally like action movies as I'm really a big kid – I'm looking forward to seeing the latest Bond movie, although I might wait to see that on DVD too as I'm not a big cinema fan.

#### Last time you went to the theatre?

I go fairly regularly to the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre in Guildford. The last thing I saw was The Lady Vanishes, which was awful! I wondered how they were going to do it and it just didn't work. It was miserable, but I always enjoy the theatre experience.

#### Last time you lost your temper?

Yesterday. I couldn't find a file to do with my accounts. I only had myself to blame as I'd put it somewhere safe and couldn't remember where somewhere safe was, and I needed it. I'm normally quite methodical ... although if you look at my office now, with sheet music all over the place, it looks like a bomb's hit it.

#### What's always in your fridge?

Milk, usually a tin of beer, and enough to make a sandwich at lunchtime.

#### Best piece of advice you've been given?

Stick to fact, not theatre, which is something a psychologist said to me.

#### Describe yourself in five words:

Organised (normally); generous; perfectionist; volatile; a worrier – that's a big one.

#### From The Jam have been going for 18 months – is this your main job now?

It is and it's just great! We've having a ball and we've done so much in such a short space of time. We've toured the States, Canada and been to Australia, which is something The Jam never did. I don't know how long it'll last, and it's something I just stumbled into, but I'm really enjoying it.

#### Do you wish you'd done it sooner?

Not really. I've been lucky since The Jam split in '82. Obviously I'd been asked over the years of a possibility, and we all know Paul [Weller]'s stance on that, but now ... it was the right time, it felt right.

#### This is your second winter UK tour – any surprises?

Yes, but I won't divulge. It's a radical change of set-list, with some album tracks, and we thought we'd stick in a couple of new songs to see what the reaction is. Myself and Russell have been taking acoustic guitars to radio station interviews and, through the power of the internet, fans have heard some new songs already – and the response has been quite favourable. I'd like to see a new album next year... but we'll see what Mr Public says...