

Q&A with Eleni Poulou

Hallo!

Thank you all for your kind words, and having built such a kindhearted community.

I write with friends day and night, to cheer each other up, we send each other music links and, of course, pictures of animals, and so on, and though I cannot read what you write here I get the feeling that you support each other.

Solidarity and kindness is everything.

Hope you are well and have comfort around you in this new lockdown.

Hopefully one day we can all meet again!

Take care.

Speedy recovery dear Barrie, wishing you all the best.

And thank you very much, Sonja, for connecting us.

Michael Farelly:

Q: Most vivid and and lasting memory of Mark?

A: Everything. His cute cheeks.

Nick O'neill:

Q: Which Fall LP you were involved in was your favourite and why?

A: I don't have a favourite really. Check out the re-release of IWS on Cherry Red.

Andy Duncan

Q: Did you ever wish you had been in an earlier version of the band? And which?

A: No, I don't. If there were time machines, I would go to any point in the past just to hold Mark's hand and look into his eyes.

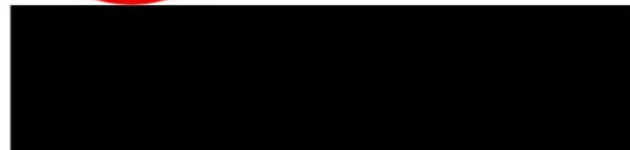
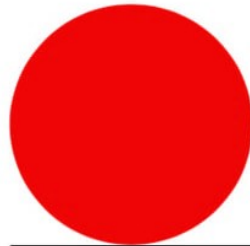
Group wise: The Psycho Mafia, his original gang, of course, Sello 5.

Otherwise, you know, it is/was always about the now, and the next group and album and the one after that..we were going to go to New York to play the four shows, but sadly that didn't happen.

Martin Carter

Q: Does she ever listen to The Fall these days?

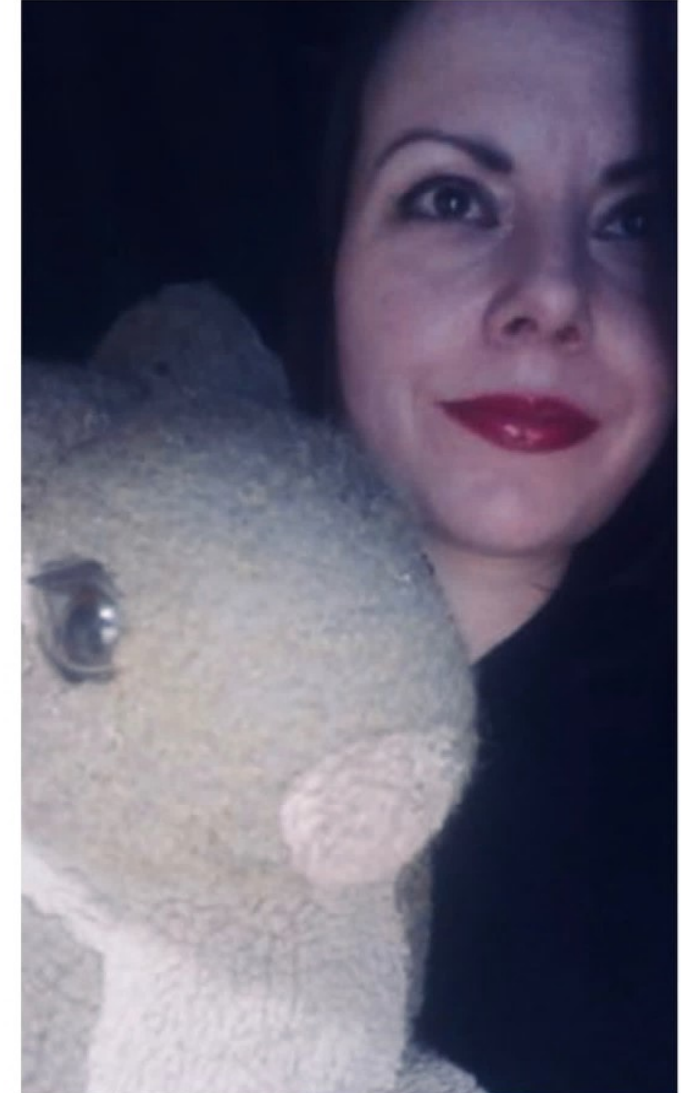
A: Yes, I do. It depends on the occasion. I might have a song on repeat, for example, Mountain Energiei or Molocular Meditation, but mostly I get very sad to hear Mark's voice.



Barrie Reilly:

Q: Did you ever meet Brix?

A: Yes, I did in 1995 along with her husband- she was very nice.



Jim Lawrence

Q: What was it like being in Ideal? Any acting ambitions?

A: No acting ambitions.

Graham Duff is a dear friend and a great writer, so we did it because we like him and his work!

I loved Ideal especially the characters Cartoon Head and Psycho Paul.

John Robb was also in my scene, he said that we were playing slightly exaggerated versions of ourselves. I have utmost respect for everybody working on the sets: long hours, but we did have a fun experience thanks to everybody involved and I hope Graham gets a new series soon, because he is so witty. He wrote a great script about British art galleries, but it was probably too niche for most TV channels.

Check out his book Foreground Music and the upcoming script with Mark called The Otherwise.

<https://n.itspress.mit.edu/books/otherwise>

Ricky Leach

Q: How did you feel when Mark would play around with your knobs and amps on your synth?

A: As all our instruments were also his instruments, like I said before the live remix was an integral part of the sound.

Neil A Phillips

Q: Mark's best and worst quality?

A: His tender and affectionate personality.

Simon Mckeown

Q: Do you miss The Fall as much as we do?

A: Of course! And I miss Mark, the human being.



Moray Simpson

Q: What's your favourite tree?

A: Thank you Moray, what is your favourite tree? I like the trees near Bristol that look like a giant broccoli - sadly I don't know their name. All trees are beautiful, but especially the ones that house lots of birds and squirrels and the smell of the pine trees in Greece.

Sheldon Penn

Q: Of the albums made when you were in The Fall, do you have a favourite and why?

A: I love them all!
What is your favourite?

Thank you **Alex Jane Whitley**, for your kind words! Lots of love, hope you are well. Be safe and hope we meet one day.

I used to
believe
everything
I read

Mark Tombs

Q: If you could choose a favourite Fall LP that you didn't appear on, what would it be and why?

A: The next, the next and the next!
I was on all LPs since I joined including the last one, and I think the great records of the 70s, 80s and 90s are good as they are!

Matthew Tempest:

Q: Thing she misses or doesn't about living in Britain. I saw her in the queue for a Manchester-Berlin EasyJet flight last year (before Covid), but didn't want to disturb her as she was eating a packet of crisps, and we were both at the back of the check-in and it was getting a bit stressy.

A: I do remember that flight..at the airport I was able to listen in to the Liverpool match as two guys had a radio with the. Then a performer, I had met before, at the annual Tutenhaus Party (a queer squat, best parties) was sitting next to me stitching rude words and gaining loads of fans during the long, long flight. He actually helped me as the flight was severely delayed and we had to re-route to a different airport, we went to the train together and he offered me cookies. Also on the flight was Fallon, a promoter and a DJ I really like, she had played at The White Hotel the night after our Bomb Sniffing Dogs record release show there, and several other acquaintances.

I hope you got home OK, Matthew! Where do you live?

I miss the British supermarkets.

I miss friends and family, miss seeing their kids grow up..and I consider Manchester my home. I've been going to London more though!

I am always so happy to be back that I get an affliction..of finding EVERY British building beautiful.

I miss the birds, I miss the clouds, the humour, the pubs.

I have walked down certain streets of Manchester so many times...

I can settle into a new place very quickly and develop a routine after three days and feel at home anywhere, therefore I am uniquely suited to tour life but also I have a strong feeling of homesickness for the UK

and I'm very sad that my last visit was in February.. ..and I had to quarantine..and I had to quarantine as my friend got Covid and then they closed the borders..

Therefore, I was very happy to see a video of cars driving through Manchester during a stream by the White Hotel and the videos were projected onto the windows while he was playing video games, wearing a balaclava, to amazing music- it was the first time I used Shazam because I had to, it was that good and it was an accurate description of a lockdown life for many.

When I first moved back to Germany, I would cry even when I saw just a British clothing brand in the shops, it was too much to bear.

But I lived with an old English friend and we basically only had a UK media, so it was very kind of her to give me a home when I did not have one.

People still bring things back from the UK..love hearts..I have enough thanks to Sophie Labrey and her father.

The list of things I miss is endless and very painful, but I have to say politically England is not doing well. That is saddening.

Philip Cartwright

Q: Is The Fall good or bad thing to have on your CV as you continue with your career?

A: Good question.

I made many records before joining and will continue to make music, so I would say it is a good thing! CV, hmm, financially it brings me nothing. I am a very sociable person and always try to bring people together, before, during and after The Fall, in private, with music and radio, so I see us all who love The Fall

as a part of the The Fall group.

Duncan James Ashton

Q: Were you aware of the work of The Fall before you met Mark, and if so what were your impressions?

A: Yes, of course. Very good impression. What did you think when you first heard The Fall?

Q: Now that Bury FC has been destroyed by stupidity, greed and weak governance, will you be checking for the results the Phoenix club Bury AFC?

A: Thanks for bringing this to my attention, I'll start following the news! I am happy with Klopp, btw. Keep me updated Duncan!

Andy Clarke

Q: Any chance of a guest appearance on the Imperial Wax record?

A: I have so many groups already, and am just recording a track with another UK band, I hope Pete continues to build pedals, he has great ideas!



Gavin Hill

Q: Could you outline how songs were constructed? Did MES arrive with a lyric completed or did he start with one idea and expand on it? At what stage did he stop tinkering with something and declare it finished?

A: Hm, no template here!

As an artist you think about ideas or sounds often, then maybe record a snippet at home. Sometimes I would come up with several melodies in 10 minutes in the studio, e.g. Venice With The Girls.

Every song is different. Many songs we wrote at home by singing or humming at home. Some songs were written on the spot, sometimes Mark asked me to write a lyric five minutes before we went into the studio, for example- Wolf Kidult Man, Can Can Summer and other songs on IWS. Happy Song- Mark called me from the studio and asked me to sing it over the phone, so I made the lyrics up spontaneously (recurring theme: Bad Radio in the UK, this was before NTS, and pirate radio stations playing dancehall and jungle had stopped).

Spencer, Ben and I would all write songs together with Mark. Sometimes the lyrics were changed slightly or significantly, so some songs were fully formed at home and some were finished when we left the studio after mixing.

Alan Tranter

Q: And are there any Fall songs that you feel that you made a significant contribution to, for which weren't credited?

A: All good. We all contributed. Maybe Sparta FC, I wrote the lyrics in Greek and translated them into English and we made a song from it with Ben's great guitar- Mark supported the Greek football team and identified more as a greek, but I did not claim credit, as with many lyrics I wrote.

Song, proud:

Weather Report perhaps, some songs were written like a bass line that defines the melody, other times the syllables of the words define the melody/rhythm.

Desmond Murphy

Q: Did you like The Fall/MES before you were in it?

A: Yes, I did not mean to join in, btw.

Nope Smith

Q: She said in an interview that MES liked to feed birds and talk to them, then relate their conversation to her. If it's not too personal, can she tell us little more about the birds' favourite topics?

A: Thank you Nope, that is very kind of you. The topics were just everyday things, so I truly don't remember exactly..

For example, we had a crazy bird family living a few doors down and acting in an unusual manner and it was feeding upside down. One time a sparrow hovered, like a humming bird, for hours at our window (I still have the video).

It was different every day, so I still think of him every time I see a sparrow. In the Moon Gear song Crows- A Kiss On The Shoulder I sing a bit more about it. I recommend my friend David Callahan's book 'Where To Watch Birds In East Anglia.

Also, our dear friend Rona has a friend in Cambridge that studied crows language.

Out of England, I dream of its creamery

Mark Smith

Q: Best gig you ever played?

A: Every gig is special and Mark always said it doesn't matter if you in front of three or 3000 people you always give your best.

I remember one gig I played with Zen Faschisten (and we played lots of gigs, 3 a week or so) in where I played one note on the bass, over and over and somebody threw a record player but at the same gig (we had the song called Hitchhiker where I would sing in Greek and change the lyrics every time and there was just one person in the audience who spoke Greek but really was happy about the words and that was special. Apart from the feeling of all being together in one room experiencing the same music and often the flow came through extended versions of songs.

I remember vividly playing Brixton Academy and doing a very long version of White Lightning which nearly became psychedelic, every moment with the audience, and the music and everybody become one. Those are my favourite moments.

Also changing lyrics to be topical and listening to Mark's words ,or making up new lyrics in songs live and inventing new melodies while playing were good. So, I have no favourite..Some gigs are different to others of course. There was a fun gig in North Carolina, where everybody was wearing masks with Mark's face on them. Dancing in Newcastle!

Adam Bretherton

Q: Have you ever considered working with Tim Presley again? Best wishes.

A: Best wishes to you too, Adam. Yes, that would be lovely. Of course, now we cannot tour or visit, we are still friends, also Rob Barbato had sent me a song to sing on a couple of years ago and I was planning to record an EP with Spencer Birtwistle, and also, planning something with Darren Garratt. I saw Tim last year when they played in Berlin. I was there with my dear friend Ulrike and we had a lovely evening going out with Tim and Dylan Hadley, JP- a great band and beloved people.

Steve Jinks

Q: Did you ever get pissed off when Mark messed with your keyboard?

A: No.



Said poster
with a
picture:
Do you work?

Lorenzo Orzari

Q: What did you and Mark like to talk about? Or was he almost always cranking out lyrics while pointing out the cracks, the hacks and the jacks of the universe?

A: That is private, but we always had something to talk about.

A lot of lyrics also came from overheard conversations on the streets and in the pubs, but we will talk around and write funny poems or sing songs and record them like jokes and pastiches.. As he liked a good spoof, for example, we made quite good versions of It's Not Unusual, Move Like Jagger or other crap songs..and many good songs. He would write me a lot of lovely cards and notes.

Mark Clarkson

Q: What are your thoughts on Imperial Wax (the band)?

I spoke to Pete and he wasn't quite happy with the last record, so hopefully he can fulfil his musical ideas on the next one, he is a great guitarist, all the best wishes.

Mark Howard

Q: What was the purpose of the Boss pedal that was always on your keyboard? And do you still have the Korg?

A: I still have the Korg, of course.
I bought it when I was 15 from my school friend's little brother who was 8, for 30 Deutsche Mark and three chocolate bars.
That wasn't a pedal, it was a tuner..sadly it was stolen during a London gig, I think it was in Islington, where we did Werewolves of London, you might remember that, so after that I didn't have a tuner any more..
Now of course, we have apps for that purpose! I also have the Korg Kaossilator on the MS20 from time to time.
Hope you're okay Mark, so what are you up to these days? Hope your family is well. I think I have more live recordings than you, plus loads of videos and photos, as Safy filmed whole tours!
We can swap..Hope you can go fishing during lockdown!

John Rooney

Q: Where's that tenner I lent you?

A: Hahh, good question. Need more jokes and memes.

Matt Melia

Q: In your opinion, what do you think are the things that defined The Fall in the last 10 or so years? What made this period stand apart from other 'eras'?

And what contributed to the relative stability of the band during this period?

Ben Granger

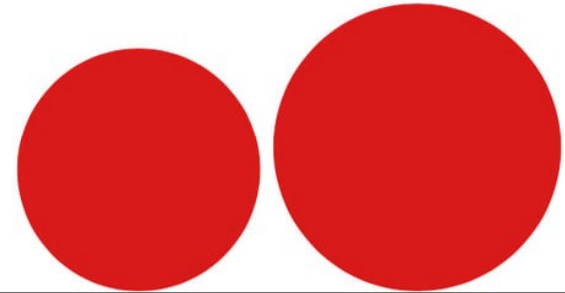
Q: What do you think made the final line up of The Fall last so long compared to others?

A: During this period we had found a home with Narnack, Lawrence and Jonny at Domino, Cherry Red, Steve Hammonds and Andy Pearce always worked with us, as did Minder Music, and also we were touring steadily, so we had space to create.
On all parts of the music process, as I also did a lot paperwork for the group I think it was working with the same people every week, like Dorothy in PR and Serena Parsons, out booking agent at Primary Talent, we were like close colleagues and still are friends and meet up whenever I get to London or they come here, and dear friends Vanessa and Gordon from Action Records, and Simon Taylor our TM, that contributed to this stability.

Stiv Addison

Q: One from all the semiotically obsessed purists here, what socio-cultural determinate were made about which hand bags to take on tour, and which to take on stage?

A: Like Mark, I am a big fan of plastic bags, but sometimes you needed more bags, so which ever bag was big enough was taken.
Sometimes I would buy Mark a new travel bag, his had everything, so did mine, his mum would also get me lovely bags.
In it you never know when you need a plaster, a spare cable- check out the Instagram account Carry A Bag Man.
Nowadays, I don't carry any bags if I don't travel, so I don't ever have a bag with me!
But on tour you need so many different things and you collect stuff as you you go along. Just take everything, because if your coat gets stolen backstage and it's 1 a.m. and cold what are you going to do?



And they hate their allegiance to hip preacher one

David Jordan

Q: What were your earliest musical influences and first records that you purchased?

A: I had my first mix tape when I was five, which was a continuous disco DJ mix as my parents had friends that were in gastronomy and hence I was taken into the empty disco of a friend one afternoon when I was five. I remember really being into the songs not stopping and being mixed..

And when I was around eight, my cousin made me a tape with Cabaret Voltaire on it, liked that, and I also liked German music of the time like DAF and Der Plan. Also Greek music. As a toddler of course...

Boney M! My godfather had their LP with a poster..it was unreal! Luckily, Mark loved them too and wanted us to do a cover of Befast.

Then a lot of mixtapes we used to make by taping from the radio. Graffiti and John Peel were important shows.

My schoolfriend's boyfriend went to the USA on a school exchange trip, was thrown out of his host family's home, met some guy playing basketball and stayed with him. He came back with loads of white labels and said: You collect records, you should have them!

It was Derrick May he had stayed with, Transmat the label, and that was before we could go to any underground raves and clubs. First record? Got 3 Deutschmark for my good grade and bought a German single called Taxi.

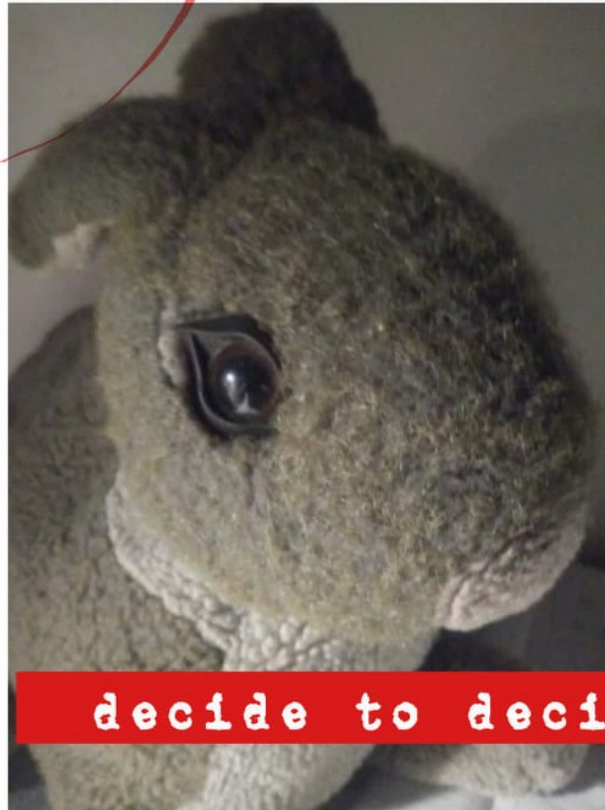
At some point, my father insisted I get a CD player as this was a new thing, but I only wanted vinyl.

My first CD was Eric B and Rakim, Follow The Leader, a masterpiece to this day.

Garry Smith

Q: How much did it piss you off when Mark f'd around with your synth and amp? Did your blood boil? Did you wanna smash it over his head?

A: No, not at all! I never get angry or violent. He multi-tasked! Actually, I wish he would play more synth, he was good, so different. Multi-tasking on stage was essential, for example, if the light guy started strobelights and I had to text them while playing to turn the lights off whilst keeping an eye on the cable situation, so that Mark does not trip over or so..



Jerry Hepburn

Q: What are you up to musically these days?

A: Thank you for asking, what are you doing? How is life?

I played live a lot with Moon Gear and also with FS Blumm and Ansgar Wilken, Thomas Westner/Friends Of Gas.

All in all, I cannot wait to play live with Liam Power and By The Sea, with words from Austin Cowlings and Sophie Sleigh-Johnson.

I have just joined Slurge, a band with Wolfgang Seidel and Burkhard Beins, and we recorded quite a few songs recently, but because of the lockdown will work remotely.

I make tapes with Alan Dunn and often collaborate with Cole Denyer, and play his poems on my radio shows., and the amazing What Come To Mind show by Hannah Marine, Dani Smith and Julius Griffin.

Ruth Angel Edwards and Adam Gallagher organised a great 17 hour show just before the first lockdown at Cashmere, and they kindly invited me, so lots of artists came over from London.

I just looked
round
and my youth,
it was sold

decide to decide

James Lorcan

Q: Who have been your musical influences and when did you first hear The Fall?

A: My cousin Vangelis first played me The Fall when I was a teenager. It was Lie Dream Of A Casino Soul, and he explained that they had two drummers.

I found that very interesting.

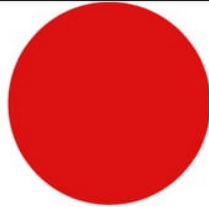
I am a raver who also likes hip-hop and a guitar music, as many in my generation I grew up with all sorts of different music, so my music taste is varied. I want to invent a new sound, so my influences are future, new instruments and right now I am concentrating on describing the present, as I think artists should comment on every day life, their inner life and have visions for the future.

Brian C. Repetto

Q: I wanted to ask if she remembers when The Fall played ATL in 2003 and some guy (me) handed her a stack of CDs..did she and mark listen to any of them? More generally: when given music by fans, what are the chances it will get listened to and not tossed in the trash?

A: I do remember! We usually listened to them, but sometimes they got misplaced on tour. Please send them again digitally, all the best for Georgia. Maybe Whitney O'Keeffe has them? He was on tour with us, he showed me some great late diners in ATL.

there's a silent rumble in the
buildings of the night council



David Tew

Q: If asked would you consider joining Imperial Wax or Brix And The Extricated?

A: I focus more on a spoken word, healing music and collage music at the moment as I always find music and lyrics are equally important, so I guess they are more songs based and they already have a bass player!

Philip Zunzuncito Sequoia

Q: What radio stations do you listen to? Have you tried Transcendental Meditation?

A: I listen to cashmere radio, Nobounds radio, RTM FM and of course the Brian Turner show. I have not tried transcendental meditation, have you? Repetitive music, words, what mantras do you use? Thanks to my dear friend Vanessa who teaches yoga, I started practising yoga during lockdown via zoom and tried Nidra Yoga. I am so grateful to her!

Graeme Rowland

Q: What was Mark's worst habit?

A: Sometimes he would fall asleep around 8 pm, just before a show, so it was important to wake him up!

Tara Anderson

Q: I'd love to know how Eleni got her start on keyboards and if she plays any other instruments.

A: Thank you Tara! What is your favourite instrument? I started on electronic organ when I was 6, as I read when I was 3! The thing about a church organ, that played sounds you cannot hear, but they do evoke emotions. I was too young to learn to learn to play the pipe organ. Then I played piano, then I started teaching myself electric bass, as my mate had one but did not use it. I bought the Korg MS 20 when I was 15. I still try to learn new instruments, go to super booth every year and I am lucky to know some great people who make stuff, like Casperelectronics (Bastl). As I cannot afford new instruments I use free apps and also stuff from my friends.

Scott McKinlay

Q: What was the greatest number of handbags she took on stage and what was actually in them?

A: 4!

David DeShong

Q: What do you think happens to us when we die, if anything?

A: I don't know. Maybe it's like before we were born.

Liam Irlanda Boyle

Q: Did working with The Fall change your taste in music?

A: No. Do you mean because it was always different and always the same? Every day I hear new music, but of course there are old songs one loves. I try to play music made on that day, even on my radio show, it must be of the now! Some groups I did not listen to before I met Mark, I like The Glitter band now, because Mark was always adamant that we needed the drum sound of The Glitter band. Also, I will listen to Jet Boy by The NY Dolls, not my band really, as Mark used to sing that song around the house and when I miss him I listen to it. Once I asked him to play it live, and we did, in Holland I think. We listened to a lot of music together and would dance at home!

Michael Smethurst

Q: What was the mood onstage during the Last Night at the Palais concert?

A: Very good, the dudes were always cheerful! Also good off stage, Vanessa brought her daughter along, we went for coffee, my friend Antigoni was there, it was packed..it must have been quite sad for Londoner to lose the venue, it was my first there..hope enough venues can survive #saveourscene.

Phil Hardy

Q: Do you remember the woman with the peg at Hebden Bridge?

A: Yes.

Ian Wollaston

Q: Is Theme From Sparta FC named after the Greek football club of that Name (Athletic Union of Sparta FC) or something else?

A: It is all about all Greek clubs and all non-Chelsea clubs as well
Mark identified as a Greek.

Trevor Fisher

Q: Where and when did you first meet MES?

A: In Berlin in 1995.

understood the assassin
line is all around



BOMB SNIFFING DOGS



Andy Weizen

Q: I loved watching how happy both Mark and Eleni looked when on stage together- especially when Mark was being mischievous or taking over the synth. I'd like to know what sort of things made Eleni and Mark happy off stage?

A: Inventing stories for Gunther, eating, talking all day to each other, cuddling, dancing together at home. He liked prosciutto, steak, Greek food, Mexican food, cauliflower cheese I made. I used to make him Yorkshire pudding from scratch or pie. Sometimes when we were v. poor, we would buy some 69p fish cakes, he liked those. Daal, Tarka daal, Steak and kidney, Wigan butter pie, Greek lamb, Greek fish soup- his fave, cheddar crackers, Seabrooks crisps, Battenberg cakes He would sing to the tune of Zabadac: Shy, shy Caramac. Starburst! He would sing the tune from the old commercial: Strawberry—lime! Weisswurst, all German dumplings, Bavarian beer. I tried to make some bone marrow dumplings, but back then it was illegal to buy them in the UK, so my mate Rosa would send them from Germany (vacuumed) He was always making every day fun and special, writing notes and letters, being kind. ..talking all day to each other, cuddling, dancing together.

John Pavlakis

Q: What Greek, German and English music recommendations would you give lost Fall fans?

A: I am sorry that we are all feeling the painful loss of not being able to see The Fall or any live music due to the pandemic. You can listen to Elope, where I always play your music by dear friends for Rembetika. Please see the YouTube channel I recommended above.

UK music- I recommend the label Laura Lies In, and the band Jetstream Pony!

The list is so long, please check my playlist, thank you for asking.

Nicola Brookes

Q: What's the story of Gunther the rabbit, and is it true he's the rabbit in What About Us?

A: Yes, he is the rabbit in What About Us! Only a rabbit could comment on something like this and the inequality between humans and animals and species that is prevalent to this day. :) We found him in Leipzig in 2002, but he is actually from North-West Germany (via Australia). He is still active and is now in a relationship. Many more songs are about him, for example, Happi Song is an ode to him. Mark and I made many drawings, scripts, cartoons from his point of view. A vessel for love and free creativity.

signed photos, blind faces
try to affect me

Sonja Delibasic

Q: I know you are into print- what do you recommend during these lockdowns?

A: I always try to illustrate the importance of zines and self publishing in general and my love for self publishing fairs.

When we had our 25 years retrospective at the ICA last year, I discovered a CLOD magazine and was so happy to read such an interesting and witty publication.

Like you and me, me and Andy met through the Artist Self Publishing Fair at the ICA, organised by Dan Mitchell, whom I met at another fair, as well as Sara MacKillop.

When we performed at the ICA with RPI for last year's ASP 5, I was very lucky to have a stand near CLOD and we have a lovely time. Cannot wait to read the current issue.

I also recommend: Philipa Horan, Emily Pope, Adam Gallagher, Ruth Angel Edwards, Intellitrash, Alao.



Michael Leahy

Q: Where was MES on a continuum of misogyny and do you think his attitude and beliefs towards women compromised your identity as an artist, in any way?

A: He wasn't a misogynist at all and he was a feminist! He enjoyed being around people. And no, my artistic identity wasn't compromised at all. He would often say: you are more of a man than the whole group put together.

Scott Coursey

Q: Did any early Fall records provide an influence for you on the latter material, i.e. were you listening to Dragnet during the recording of Ersatz GB for example?

A: No.

I can't reach a decision on this

Can I come back to you on this?

Michael Kunkel

Q: από πού είσαι? (Where are you from?)

A: Born in Germany, in the Sauerland area.

Eddie Wadsworth

Q: What songs did she like to play most and conversely the ones she hated (if any)?

A: I don't hate any Fall songs or anything, positive energy and kindness and solidarity- even for songs. Reformation is fun to play, and dedication, as they are hypnotic, so is Blindness, but also love the quieter songs like Early Days Channel Fuhrer with more space for Mark's voice and soft drums and Ben's beautiful guitar work. I listen to a lot of 90s Fall, such an underrated era for sure. We sometimes played behind the counter. Not playing myself, but was at the shows and danced to Von Sudenfed of course, I am the Great MES is a magnificent track.

John Oswick

Q: What are your favourite tracks you played on?

A: I enjoyed playing on all of them and many more that are still unreleased, especially spoken word recordings we did together.
What is your favourite track?

Peter Gurney

Q: Aldi or Lidl?

A: Very good question. Which one do you prefer? Please bear in mind that they are different in different areas of Germany and different countries :) So Lidl in Spain even has a fresh fish counter while in Greece even the cheapest olive oil is better than the expensive stuff over here..
I love all supermarkets and low prices are essential.

Thomas Conway

Q: Do you still get royalties from the Fall back catalogue?

A: Not much, as I'm not credited on all songs I wrote. I get around £300 a year, sometimes less.
How are you coping financially now with Covid?
Wishing you all the best!

Mark Winson

Q: Thanx for your great contribution to the Fall. What you doing now and how can we access your new work?

I sent some links, please see them underneath.
Thank you Mark, very kind of you, where are you from? How are you doing? Hope you're well!

Marco Sabatini

Q: What is your relationship with Manchester nowadays and is your remembrance of this town bad or good?

A: Very good. I have found a new home in The White Hotel and our group, Bomb Sniffing Dogs, and I visit friends whenever we can.
Sadly, this year we couldn't all meet in real life, so we talk on the phone and make music by sending files back and forth.
New vinyl is out now.
I miss Manchester very much. I see Sophie Sleigh-Johnson and Natalie Curtis when I am in London, hope we can all meet up and play live very soon.

Richard John Walker

Q: How good was that performance at Glastonbury? One of the best? One of the worst?

A: Not being the biggest fan of Glastonbury, we got there from the Premier Inn hotel nearby, and performing in the daytime as a feat, considering we did our best and had a good time. Mark sings HAZOS ANGLOS (stupid English man) at the beginning of Sparta. That was one of the few Greek expressions he used, as well as Pantalón (trousers).
There are some interesting lyrics in that performance so if you can listen to it without watching, you can find out more about the day. Daren was also particularly good.

Arbogast King

Q: How did you go about making such a masterpiece as Das Boat? It's deadly!

A: We were in Gracie Fields studio and used Henry, which is one of Gunther's friends, as an inspiration. Henry had a in-built sound voice (the song of the American red-winged black bird) sounding like: EE EE!

We made a new soundtrack to the (not that bad) movie Das Boot and not because being in the studio is a bit like being underwater.

Mark loved historical movies. I like electronic music. They actually made a TV series recently, but..did not use that track! :)

Mark Desrosiers

Q: What Hellenic music have we Fall fans been missing out on?

A: Please check this wonderful YouTube account that still teaches me Rembetika songs that I don't know yet.

My favourite singer is Marika Papagika! Also, Ioannis Ioannidis, A. Kostis.

We did a cover version of this song by Giorgos Batis with Mark singing, but the files are lost.

Also, I met Christos Davidopoulos from Optimal Records in Munich this summer, and he made a compilation that is very good-Rembetika Songs Of The Greek Underground.

Also, I like this new label from Athens.

Mark Hex

Q: What are you up to musically now?

A: Thanks for asking, Mark! What are you doing/ listening to nowadays?

I have many groups and projects, with old and new friends, now we cannot play live any longer, but last year I played a lot in museums with NOHE NOSHE and we had a retrospective at the ICA in London.

We are planning a show in Athens next March, making new music for that!

Also played at the ICA and participated at the ASP fair last year with RecyclePlasticInevitable and this year with Abel Auer.

The Pyrolator and his daughter Lene kindly did this song with me (we made lyrics on the spot).

Had just started a new event series called Mask Off in February, it was great and brought many people together, then concerts were, understandably, stopped for the foreseeable future.

Jubilee Dunbar

Q: What was in the bag?

A: Clothes, passports, money, batteries..stuff you need on tour, had to take on stage as there was a lot of theft backstage.

the mixer sweats

Simon Holmes

Q: Who are the two hairy men digging up Scotland?

A: Very good question..surprise..it was a TV show about history- those long haired guys, I will send you the link.

Chris Lindsay

Q: How did she feel when Mark over and started playing with her keys? Did she ever feel exasperated?

A: Very good, he played them so full of intent and power.

Austin Kendrick

Q: Did you use to read reviews and articles on The Fall and MES and if so, what was the most inaccurate thing you recall reading?

A: Squirrel gate..it was just a reply to a journalist, who had probably driven over a seagull in Brighton with his father or something like that?

And it got misreported..he loved squirrels, besides there are no red squirrels in Manchester.



Dear friends,

I really did everything I could to keep The Fall going. When I came to Manchester Mark was bankrupt, I worked in a restaurant cleaning the toilets, etc., to put food on the table, we built the group up again.

Mark worked so hard all his life. It would be a shame for him not to be remembered properly, as a writer.

Thanking you all for your contribution to The Fall group and spirit, take care of each other.

All the very best,

E1

photos and drawings - Eleni's own
fantastic life colouring book photo - mine
<https://www.instagram.com/eleni.poulou/>