

George1948

NEWS

Note from the Editor

This is the third issue of the George1948 newsletter. None of you have complained about the format, so I have left it as is. As before, I will attach this document to email both as a .pdf file, and a .RTF file.

For now, in order to keep you all updated as to what was happening on all fronts with George, This Newsletter will be coming out once a week, as things simmer down, less frequently. As always - Comments, feedback are welcome.

Updates As of Mar 2, 2002.....

Besonic CD project

To recap - Most of you know that Soundblast of Besonic initiated a compilation CD project which was to be promoted and sold through Besonic.com.

It's great to be able to tell you that the CDs are UP and are available for purchase!

As of today, the project has had 365 total listens, and almost all tracks have been played once on Besonic Radio. Five Besonic artists have included at least some of the tracks from the compilations on their active playlists, and two of those have added ALL of the tracks to their playlists! 8 CD's have been sold which means that 23.30 Euro has been made for George. This is excellent - but - we need to sell a lot more CD's, people

AcidPlanet CD Project

This initiative was undertaken by Helium Gonzalez of AP and continues to progress. Helium has just put out the call for tracks from AcidPlanet artists, and the responses are starting to roll in

Donations WebSite for George

This site is now pretty much complete. There is still a section I want to add in talking about the music, but everything else is working. Pascal Varner create a couple of really nice graphics for the project and I added one of them onto the Sounds section. Last week I added the site to 36 search engines, including Lycos and Google. I have not done Yahoo yet since that one is the most time-consuming and difficult to navigate. As you probably know, listing in the search engines takes a few weeks to take effect and has to be re-submitted every three months or so to guarantee top listings.

The Search for Special Devices

As the search continued for a suitable device or software that could help George regain access to his music software, Francine Varner chased up and sent me a long list of URLs for useful sites. I visited them all and struck gold on several!

One of the contacts made was to the site of a Lou Gehrig's victim who has designed his own special software- Skeleton Keys - and which we were able to download and burn onto a CD for George. This is now winging it's way to George for him to try it out. If it works for him, we can buy it for a reasonable cost - \$200.00 U.S.

There were also two different sites with what appear to be very good hardware devices - The QaudJoy Mouse Controller and the TrackIR Mouse controller and in both cases it appears the companies are willing to send out a unit "on loan/trial". If the unit is suitable it can be purchased. The cost on these devices is \$500 - \$550.00 U.S.

Another REALLY exciting contact made from that list Francine sent was to Professor Les Cory of the Share Foundation at the University of Mass. in the U.S. (<http://www.share.umassd.edu/>). The Share foundation works with and helps people suffering with various spinal cord problems including Lou Gehrig's disease. Prof. Cory not only answered my email, but he sent back a detailed answer and came up with a lot of excellent suggestions and advice. He has offered to continue an active dialogue and is willing to send several support devices to George free of charge.

We are currently in contact and he is trying to come up with something that will work for George in the long term. I will have more on this next week.

Support for the Project

StarPolish.com has offered to give us a plug in their newsletter, as has AcidPlanet.

Jean Luc Vabre, a blues DJ in France is plugging the project on his show. Krunoslav Markutovic, blues DJ for VFM Radio, in Croatia, and D. Cartmer, blues DJ on the Eclectic Blues show, CFBU 103.7 FM, St. Catharines, Ontario are also offering to give us some support. DJ Midnight rider of Bump'N'Grind radio (and internet station) played the two George1948 cuts on our compilation as well as giving the project a huge plug. And last but not least, The Sandman, DJ on Sandman Radio in Florida has offered his help and some great ideas for more publicity (which I am chasing up).

Anthony of Soundblast is busy cooking up some publicity which includes contacting the BBC.

Candace Carnie contacted our very own Canadian National press, the CBC, to try to prod them into some action.

Although all the preceding stuff is great - at the moment publicity is our weakest link. We absolutely need to get some interviews, stories, articles and radio and TV support for this project. If any of you has any ideas, or wants to contact your own local press and try to get something going, please do it.

Other Ideas

I received a great email this past week from an artist at MadeInMusic.com, Georges Medawar. He has a fabulous idea to get someone to make a movie (documentary) about this project, using all those - artists and George1948 - involved with the project. No sooner said than done. Georges is busy trying to get some major support for his plan. We will be hearing more about his project in the near future, I feel sure.

Internet Promotions

Don't forget to go to the ForGeorge station at MP3. Even though not all the tracks are at MP3, all the tracks are mentioned, and it helps if you go and stream the playlist. You can access the station through this url http://stations.mp3s.com/stations/280/for_george.html

Anyone else with ANY ideas for getting more exposure for this project, PLEASE do not be shy. We want your ideas!

Thanks to all of you for your support!

Well, that's it for now...hope I haven't left out anything.....we'll have to wait and see how things go next week.

LP