

**press release: band = *moiety* album = *the waves***



*photo: Paul Freestone – the CD launch at the Truck Record Store - Oxford*

If you've seen Jon Spira's rockumentary film "Anyone Can Play Guitar" ([www.acpgthemovie.com](http://www.acpgthemovie.com)) – I appear fleetingly sometime in the first five minutes, earlier even than *Talulah Gosh*, playing drums for *Here Comes Everybody* – the band that supposedly invented the Oxford music scene... but never had any "success".

Here I am thirty years later, still at it – playing the guitar these days (thus verifying the title of the movie). In the meantime I've been in a string of other bands that have resolutely or accidentally avoided doing anything that might lead to "success". One of the other guys in *moiety*, Mark Price, was in one of those bands with me – *the anyways*. Of course, the other members of *moiety* Mark Bosley, Deborah Glass-Woodin and Tony Davison have their own musical histories.

A fair question might be – why on earth are you still at it? I guess, if I were motivated by "success", I should have stopped by now. I'm more motivated by 'making music with my friends' – at the risk of sounding like the fairly appalling Willie Nelson song "On the road again". The whole thing about starting with nothing and creating something. The collaboration. As one-time *blue kite* member, Kate Garrett said – it's not a competition.

And, I guess, because I still have something to say. Songs about love, loss, redemption. Songs with melodies, and lyrics that people who've been around the block will understand.

Also, the pure enjoyment of playing and singing. Dare I use that hackneyed phrase – ‘entertaining people’. Being on stage and seeing people enjoying themselves. Connecting with an audience.

I suppose really I should be putting together a ‘professional’ press release, some glossy photos, I should be well organised enough to tell all about our forthcoming gigs, and so on. But, well, here’s the CD and a rambling letter instead.

I hope you like the album. People always say – what kind of music do you play? Of course, that’s a question I’ve never been able to answer. I know people need to put us into a box to have some frame of reference, to categorise us (and everything else) – it’s hard to talk about otherwise.

I’m not saying our music is so original that it’s impossible to categorise – I’m just saying I don’t know how to do that myself – probably when you’re in a band you naturally think you don’t sound like anyone else. People have told me *moiety* sound like all kinds of things, from *Portishead* to *The Unthanks*, from *Santana* to *Mogwai*, from *the Mamas & the Papas* to *The Sisters of Mercy*. Personally I never hear it that way.

Perhaps you can come up with a label that describes us? I recently tried out “coffee table goth”. Probably time for me to shut up now.

There’s more stuff about us here –

[www.moiety.org.uk](http://www.moiety.org.uk)

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