

April 2007 - PinkFloydStyle.com (an interview by Veronica Pierini) - Italy

PINKFLOYDSTYLE.COM : AN INTERVIEW WITH DAVE KILMINSTER

By Veronica Pierini, PinkFloydStyle.com | April 2007

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First of all Dave, I would like to thank you for granting this interview with Pink Floyd Style, I am a big fan of yours and I've really appreciated it.

Veronica Pierini: 1- ...during this tour...something about your emotions playing DSOTM with "the genius creator" of the concept

Dave Kilminster: Obviously this is very emotional music... I look out at the reaction in people's faces, especially during certain sections... Carols vocals in 'Great Gig in the Sky'... Ian's sax solo in 'Us and Them'... Roger's introduction to 'Money'... and it's such an amazing rush to see people so... happy!!!

So many people have told me that this concert is the best show that they've EVER seen!!!

And to know that you're contributing in some small way to such a huge event... it's just a wonderful feeling. :O)

Veronica: 2- DSOTM is a masterpiece about universal brain damage and universal mankind dark side. What is your dark side?

Dave: I think everyone has a dark side... everyone has their little devils and demons, these little voices inside their head that they have to deal with... usually on a daily basis. It's OK, as long as it doesn't rule your life. My dark side is ummm... VERY dark... but under control!!

I guess the problem is that society doesn't like to talk about such things, so people on their own who have all these strange thoughts and fears feel like freaks!!! But it's OK, it's normal....

Veronica: 3- The magic sound of PF...what do you think is resting yet?

Dave: I'm not sure I understand the question... But Pink Floyd definitely have their own unique sound. And, as with all great bands, the sound is a combination of their strengths AND weaknesses... David Gilmour has admitted that he can't play fast at all, and so he's adopted a very slow, lazy style to his playing. Nick Mason isn't a technically gifted drummer, so everything he plays is very simple and effective... these are just some of the elements that contribute to the overall sound that people know and love.

Veronica: 4- What do you need about "the golden age" of rock and about people like Jimmy Page, Keith Emerson, Pete Townshend?

Dave: For me it's my roots... it's part of my DNA!!! It's the music I grew up listening to, so obviously it's very important to me... I love classical music, jazz, funk, reggae... all kinds of stuff!!!

But I'll always be a rocker at heart...

Veronica: 5- ...something about your solo and next projects...

Dave: I've just finished my new solo album 'Scarlet', which we are selling at the concerts... And I'm really happy that Pink Floyd fans can finally get a chance to hear what I REALLY sound like, rather than hearing me play like someone else!!

In fact I think they may be surprised by the record. There's a whole bunch of styles and influences in there, but essentially it's me singing and playing guitar on some tunes that I wrote, along with the Pete Riley and Phil Williams, the rhythm section from the Keith Emerson Band. I really wanted it to be a 'song' based record, and so I also played piano and wrote a score for a string quartet!!! It's definitely not just a 'guitarists' album, but there's a solo at the end of 'Rain... (On Another Planet)' that I'm really proud of...

I would really love to go out and gig that stuff when we finish this tour, but there are a couple of other exciting possibilities on the horizon at the moment so I'm keeping everything as flexible as possible... I try not to plan too much anyway, as something usually comes along and mucks everything up!!!

Veronica: 6- ...your mood in the backstage and later on the stage?

Dave: It's important for me to spend a little time on my own before I play... Just to focus, and clear my head of all the usual rubbish!! There's a lot of concentration that goes into playing this show, but it's always fun!!

Veronica: 7- Your ideas and comments about worldwide web, internet music, blogs and chat-lines..

Dave: I find it all a bit scary!!! The World Wide Web has grown like wildfire... And it's almost like people aren't going out anymore!! You can shop on line, order food, listen to music, watch gigs, play games, do your research, meet new people and chat, have sex(!!)... all without leaving your armchair!!!!

For some things it's obviously very, very useful... but the downsides!!! I think it will mess up our civilisation in the long run... People are spending so much time in front of their computers that pretty soon they won't have time for anything else!!!

Maybe in a couple of thousand years we'll evolve into strange little creatures with huge eyes, long fingers, a flat ass and tiny little legs to suit our new, self-contained lifestyle...

Veronica: 8- At last...what do you think about Italian fans?

Dave: I love the Italian fans... In fact I love everything about Italy!! The art, the architecture, the music, the food... the woman!!! It's a very passionate country, and I feel very at home there. In fact my last holiday was in Lake Garda, which is totally beautiful... :O)