

# The New Roxette

www.theNewRoxette.com

**The New Roxette meets...  
Pete Trewavas, bassist from Marillion.**

*By Gemma Davidson*

**Hi Pete, can you tell us a little bit about what you've been doing today at Global Street Beats in Kingsbury Square?**

*I'm here today with Robin who I grew up with, went to school together, learnt to play guitar together, and we've been sort of best mates ever since, and although we've both had professional careers in the music industry doing other things we've gradually tried to do more work together recently. We do a little duo thing called Pete and Rob's Musical Whimsey and that's what we were doing today.*

**You pay tribute to a lot of other artists in your music, do you think it's important that artists show their appreciation to their peers or people who have gone before and inspired them?**

*We do in this because I suppose what we were trying to do when we were getting back together was kind of re-living a bit of our past really, trying to get our youth I suppose in some kind of way. When you learn to play an instrument you naturally learn by listening to other people you admire, or a style of music you are interested in learning. That's what we did when we were learning to play guitar, we'd play Django Reinhardt songs, and Jeff Beck was a very popular guitarist at the time, along with loads of other people as well. I suppose a lot of musical influences have shaped our careers and shaped our styles of playing. It's a very natural thing what Robin and I are doing, we're just trying to make music that we're interested in, we're not really doing it for any other reasons. Paying a bit of a tribute to a few other musicians is something we're quite comfortable with. If you're trying to make it and conquer the world as a musician, which a lot of people are when they're younger, they're more interested in themselves naturally, and you should be, that's the way to become famous, you need to have that single-mindedness, but we're both a bit older now, and I think there comes a time when it's right and it's good for people to look back and to reflect on other people who have either helped them or made a difference to their style of playing or their careers. John Lennon was one of the first people I remember doing that, he did an album of covers, and at the time I thought 'Oh an album of covers, I want to hear John Lennon songs!', but the reason why he did it was to try and give back something to the people who inspired him. And a lot of the time when people used to do covers in the old days it was because the original blues guitarists that kind of shaped rock'n'roll never really got any money, and so people like John Lennon covering their songs meant that they could actually get some money back, which is a nice thing really.*

**You've had a few side projects aside from Marillion, how is this one different?**

*This one's different because it's just like hanging out with a mate really, it's a lot of fun, very casual, sometimes Robin's out on tour, sometimes I'm on tour, so it's not something that we have to do all the time, or we even feel like we need to do all the time, but when we get time on our hands we like spending time together anyway, so it makes good use of the time we have.*

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**Let's talk about the new Marillion album, it's coming out in September, called 'Sounds That Can't be Made', where did the title come from?**

*It's an interesting title. The title is inspired by one of the songs, the song itself is about people communicating without words, or just communicating through thought and feelings really. But aside from that the album has taken three-odd years to make so it's been a long time in the making and so there's quite an amusing side to the title of the album, because there was a time when I thought it would never get made, there was also a time when I thought the band might be possibly falling apart. We went through various stressful moments during the making of the album, but it's all good now, we finally got the songs together, it's a great bunch of songs.*

**Have you got a favourite?**

*There's a song we've been playing on tour in America, and we were playing a song called Power which was going down really well., It was going down well because it's a new song and a lot of our fans were dying to hear something new from us, so that always helps. That's a very strong song, but it's also a song that's grown on me, I actually thought when we were writing it 'This is ok', it's got a good groove, and it's got a good lyric, it's actually a very good lyric, the lyric has actually been around quite a long time, it was quite difficult for us to put the right kind of music to it, and the lyric was very previous to Steve (Hogarth, singer), and he was like 'I don't want to just throw this lyric away on any old music' and of course we got quite affronted to that, so we had a few moments when we were discussing various things like that, but we managed to marry it with some really good music, so it's a very strong song. We've got a few more traditional, slightly more progressive and slightly more rocky kinds of songs on the album. There's one song called 'Gaza'; which is probably going to polarise people, we're not quite sure how it's going to be accepted.*

**Is it quite a political song?**

*It's trying to be humanitarian about the situation in that region of the world, but people could take offence to it, people could take it the wrong way, you're never going to please everybody. I think it's good sometimes that people care about what they say, think about what they say, and try and say something in their music, you don't want music to just be bland, I don't think there are enough people really out there making the best use of their music really.*

**There's been a bit of a resurgence in prog music recently, it's become cool again.**

*It's strange because we've spent the last 20 years sort of trying to stay away from the subject. We're sort of a prog band, we're not really a prog band, we're just a musical band that are interested in being creative and trying new approaches to music, in the same way Radiohead do, in the same way Blue do, there are lots of bands that make interesting music without the same old format and same old formulas, and that's what we try to do. Sometimes our songs are long because we just like to go through various musical changes and it keeps it interesting for us.*

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**How important do you think events like today are for the local scene?**

*I think it's really important, there's a few people in Kingsbury Square, it'd be nice to be a few more.*

**You drew quite a crowd though!**

*That was nice actually, that was nice to see. I think all the people on here are making good music, they're making good sounds, and that's what's important, it's kind of difficult for local bands because they don't always know the best use of what they're doing or their equipment and everything, but it's important for sounds not to put the local people off. It has to sound good, it has to have a sound that people are drawn to. But it's very important, I think this kind of event is great, and I hope that the more of them there are the more popular this kind of thing will become. There's Towersey music festival going on down the road too which I'm really excited about, it's been going on for years and years. I'm popping in tonight because Robin is playing with another band inside tonight, so even if it's raining I won't get wet so that's great! It's very hard to put something like this on, I think the council are trying to be supportive but there's so much apathy in Aylesbury, and I think the more events that are put on the less apathy there will be and the more excitement there will be. I hope things like this carry on for a long time.*

**Marillion are going on tour in September.**

Check out <http://www.marillion.com> for more information.

**'Sounds That Can't be Made' will be released on September 17<sup>th</sup>.**