

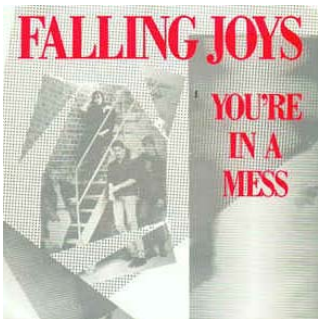
the northern pikes | teenland



from the LP *Big Blue Sky*
c. 1987 Virgin Records

Formed in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in 1983 the Northern Pikes attracted the attention of Virgin Records Canada in 1985, who signed them to a six-album international deal. Their major-label debut *Big Blue Sky*, contained the singles "Teenland" and "The Things I Do for Money." The band's next album, *Secrets of the Alibi*, was ignored by critics and given less than complimentary reviews, but British pop star Robert Palmer saw potential in the band and had them as openers for his 1989 North American tour. Two subsequent albums followed - 1990's *Snow in June* and 1992's *Neptune* before the band officially called it quits in 1993.

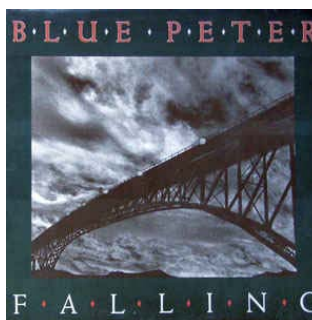
the falling joys | you're in a mess



7" Single
c. 1988 Volition Records

Falling Joys were formed in Canberra, Australia in 1985 by Suzie Higgie (ex-Get Set Go). After a few years of rotating band members and a regular round of live shows in their homeland, the band cut a string of singles including 1988's "You're In a Mess" and eventually a full-length studio album (*Wish List*) in November 1989. By the early 1990s they were rumoured to be "the next big thing" in the Sydney music scene, but larger success eluded them and they remained a well-known "indie" band. The group's second album *Psychohum* was released in 1992 and a follow up LP *Aerial* in 1993. In 1995 the band ultimately called it quits, playing their last gig at Canberra's ANU Bar on 5 October 1995.

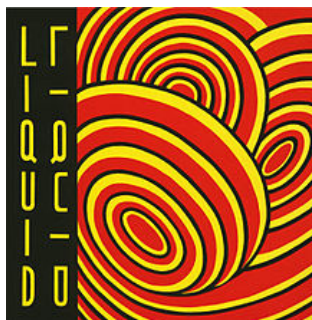
blue peter | don't walk past



from the LP *Falling*
c. 1983 Ready Records

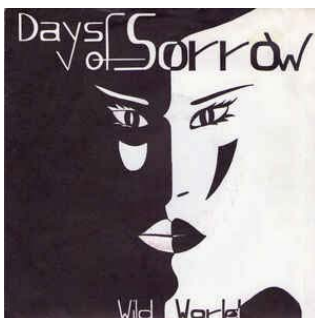
Blue Peter was a Canadian new wave synthpop band founded in 1978 in Markham, Ontario. In their heyday, they opened for major international acts such as the Police and Simple Minds. The video for "Don't Walk Past", reached No. 85 on MuchMusic's top videos of the century list, and was played on MTV despite no U.S. distribution deal for the band. Blue Peter released a total of three full-length albums, all on the Canadian label Ready Records. In 1984, Blue Peter demoed several tracks for a proposed new album (tentatively entitled *Vertigo*), but the band broke up before the tracks were completed or released. In 1997, the band issued the "best-of" compilation *All Through The Night* which featured one newly overdubbed and mixed track from the *Vertigo* demo sessions called "Equalizer".

liquid liquid | cavern



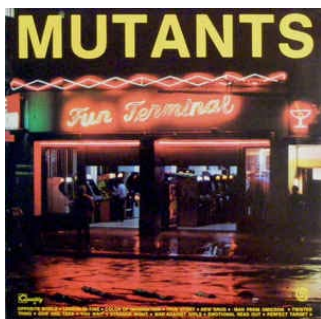
from the EP *Optimo*
c. 1983 99 Records

Liquid Liquid was a New York City no wave/dance band, originally active from 1980 to 1983. The band's early records were pressed in very limited quantities on 99 Records, and can now fetch high prices. The single "Cavern" - originally pressed on the EP *Optimo* - was sampled for Grandmaster + Melle Mel's old school rap classic "White Lines (Don't Do It)". 99 Records took Sugarhill to court over its unauthorized use, and after an expensive court battle, won compensation. The band's first three EPs, plus live material, were reissued in 1997 by Grand Royal (US) and Mo' Wax (UK). In October 2008 the band returned to the UK after a prolonged hiatus, playing at London's Barbican Theatre alongside the Glasgow-based DJ duo Optimo, who named themselves after the eponymous Liquid Liquid EP.

days of sorrow | **wild world**

7" single
c. 1986 Rough Trade

Days of Sorrow were a minimal synth/post-punk straight from the heart of Germany. According to sleeve information, the band featured a four piece lineup for their first 12", changing drummers and expanding to a five piece for the second, which followed two years later. Not much else is known about the band and no other recorded material exists aside from the single featured here and an earlier 12" from 1984 on Tollhaus Records.

mutants | **opposite world**

from the LP *Fun Terminal*
c. 1982 MSI Quality records

The Mutants were an important band in the history of San Francisco punk rock and new wave music. They were known for their theatrical performances which often included elaborate props, projections, and comical antics. A slew of singles in the early 80s were released on 415 Records with the band's only full-length (1982's *Fun Terminal*) released on MSI Quality Records. Following the album's release The Mutants embarked on a successful national tour, headlining major punk venues such as CBGBs and Hurrah. However, the stress of touring, drug abuse, alcoholism, and family commitments changed the scope of the band. By the mid-eighties many of the original musicians left the band. In 2002, *Fun Terminal* was re-released as a CD on White Noise Records and included three additional tracks of live recordings.

color me gone | **hideaway**

from the EP *Color Me Gone*
c. 1984 A&M Records

This six-song EP did more than just introduce future adult alternative goddess Marti Jones to the world; it's also good enough to make Color Me Gone's breakup shortly after its release seem a bit disappointing. The well-crafted and finely produced jangle pop stands up to what most of the Akron, OH quartet's peers were offering at the time, with a little extra guitar muscle and the group's ability to get credibly rootsy further recommend it. It's Jones who makes the most difference, though; in a genre where great singers were almost nonexistent, hearing one slice through the ringing guitars and harmonies was certainly welcome and occasionally ("Lose Control," "Hideaway") thrilling. (Allmusic.Com)

the sinceros | **disappearing**

from the LP *Pet Rock*
c. 1981 CBS Records

Starting out as a trio called the Strutters, singer/songwriter Mark Kjeldsen along with rhythm section Bobby Irwin and Ron Francois later re-branded themselves as the Sinceros. Epic Records signed the band in the late '70s, but not before Irwin and Francois were tapped to play on Lene Lovich's New Wave classic, *Stateless*. After this brief detour, the Sinceros released their debut, *The Sound Of Sunbathing* in 1979. A single, "Take Me To Your Leader," got a little buzz in the U.K., and the band toured heavily there and in the States with a power-pop dream line-up featuring 20/20 and Paul Collins' Beat. After picking up Don Snow as a keyboardist, the band began work on their second album - 1981's *Pet Rock* - a lost power-pop classic that yielded the lead single "Disappearing" - one of the greatest should've-been hits of the '80s.

w/ Days Of Sorrow

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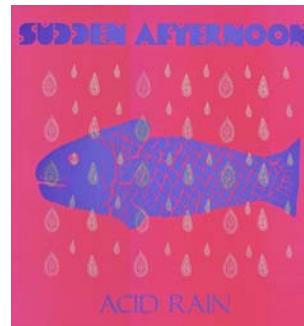
ten ten | when it rains



from the LP *Walk On*
c. 1986 Chrysalis Records

Ten Ten formed in Richmond, VA in 1984 and released their debut album *Ordinary Thinking* that same year on the independent label Generic Records. The band were mostly compared to British bands by the American press, which is why they chose to sign with a UK label Chrysalis for their second LP, 1986's *Walk On* (produced by Stephen Street). The album yielded two singles "When it Rains" and a cover of the Plimsouls hit "A Million Miles Away". Subsequent tours followed with the The Waterboys, Simply Red and Pete Shelley before the group disbanded in 1988.

sudden afternoon | acid rain



12" single
c. 1985 Midnight Music

There is virtually no published information on this UK five-piece anywhere, save for some scant liner notes from Midnight Music's 2002 compilation *Nocturnal: The Best of Midnight Music*. All of the band's material- including this single and the 12" "Industry & Nature" - appear to have been released in 1985. A subsequent full-length LP *Dancing Shadows*, was also released that year on the Midnight Music label.

army of love | exodus



from the EP *Army Of Love*
c. 1983 Squadron Records

Very little information exists on this short-lived San Diego trio - who released only one self-titled EP in 1983. They received quite a bit of airplay on local station 91X, but sadly did not obtain much notoriety outside of their hometown. Several members later went on to form the band Voices in 1988 - who were signed to MCA for one album, but subsequently dropped after it failed to chart.

corn dollies | nothing of you



from the LP *Wrecked*
c. 1989 Midnight Music

The Corn Dollies were a UK indie band from London, active between 1987 and 1991. After their first Robert Forster-produced release on the Farm label, they released several singles on Medium Cool Records. The debut, "Be Small Again" was an indie hit, reaching No. 28 on the UK Independent Chart. The follow-up, "Forever Steven", originally released on the band's own Farm Label, reached No. 16. The Corn Dollies gained popularity throughout Europe after a tour in 1989, building a strong fanbase in Spain. When Medium Cool collapsed, they moved to Midnight Music, releasing two albums. In support of *Wrecked*, they undertook a national tour supporting Ian McCulloch, but with the album's success being limited, the band split up in 1991.

east vil l age | strawberry window



7' single
c. 1988 Sub Aqua Records

Formed in the mid-1980s by two brothers, Martin and Paul Kelly, East Village were an indie pop band from Princes Risborough, England. In 1986 they recorded the *Strike Up Matches* EP released as a 500-only pressing on the Lenin and McCarthy imprint. The band recorded two more EPs and also toured extensively, playing a support tour with The House of Love in 1988 and two tours with McCarthy. A collection of all the band's early singles (along with unreleased demos), *Hot Rod Hotel*, was released on the Australian label Summershine in 1994, giving the band a posthumous radio hit with "Silver Train".

the weather prophets | almost prayed



from the LP *Mayflower*
c. 1987 Elevation Records / WEA

The Weather Prophets were a British indie band formed in London in 1986. An early incarnation of the band saw Creation Records head-honcho Alan McGee playing bass, but he soon reverted to manager as new members were recruited to complete the line-up. The debut single, "Almost Prayed" garnered critical approval, and a second single was issued on Creation that same year. For the release of their debut album, McGee got the band signed to Elevation Records - the WEA subsidiary with which he was associated. Expectations were high when the Lenny Kaye-produced *Mayflower* appeared in 1987, but the album was greeted with a mixed response and the band was eventually dropped from the label. They returned to Creation for a follow-up album, *Judges, Juries and Horsemen* in 1988, although interest in the band had waned and they officially called it quits later that year.

the wild flowers | take me for a ride



from the LP *Sometime Soon*
c. 1988 Slash Records

The Wild Flowers were a British post-punk band formed in 1983 by guitarists Neal Cook & Dave Newton, bassist Mark Alexander, and drummer Dave Fisher. They released their debut album *The Joy of It All* for the small Relfex label in 1984. Two singles were released from that album, 1983's "Melt Like Ice" and "Things Have Changed". Newton left soon afterwards to form The Mighty Lemon Drops, and new member Dave Atherton was then brought in as guitarist. Follow-up album *Dust* was released in 1987. Choosing to concentrate on breaking in America, the Wild Flowers became the first British band signed to the punk label Slash Records and in 1988 released the album *Sometime Soon*, followed by *Tales Like These* in 1990.

moving targets | the other side



from the LP *Burning in Water*
c. 1986 Taang! Records

Few Boston bands have burst onto the local scene as fully formed and as blisteringly proficient as Moving Targets. Formed in 1981 around the blistering talents of frontman Kenny Chambers, the band released a total of four full-length albums before folding in 1993. Renowned producer Lou Giordano (Hukser Du/Bob Mould) assembled the band for their first full-length LP *Burning Water*. Released in 1986 on Taang! Records, *Burning Water* was indebted to a variety of genres (hardcore punk, classic rock, power pop) yet managed to sound sharp and authentic. *The Boston Phoenix* once described it as "one of the most pop-friendly discs that hardcore kids loved, and vice versa."

w/ East Village

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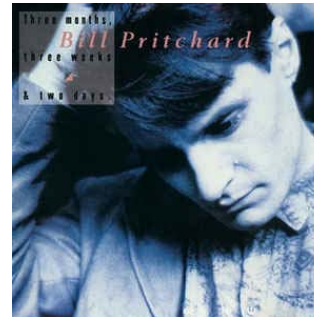
lions and ghosts | love & kisses from the gutter



from the LP *Velvet Kiss, Lick of the Lime*
c. 1987 EMI America

Formed in Los Angeles in 1987 Lions & Ghosts' melodic guitar rock seemed tailor-made for college radio; however, the group was lost in a glut of American bands marketed as the "Next Big Thing". Lions & Ghosts' debut LP, *Velvet Kiss, Lick of the Lime*, was dismissed by critics who didn't feel the group was doing anything revolutionary or ambitious. In contrast, left-of-the-dial programmers feasted on the record's power pop grooves. *Wild Garden*, the band's second album, was released in 1989 to a similar reaction although the group changed their sound a bit, opting for more of a straightforward, roots rock approach. *Wild Garden* didn't sell, and the band split up shortly after its release.

bill pritchard | tommy and co



from the LP
Three Months, Three Weeks & Two Days
c. 1989 Midnight Music (France)

British-born Bill Pritchard released his eponymous debut album in 1987 on the Third Mind label, with a second following in 1988. His third album, 1989's *Three Months, Three Weeks and Two Days*, produced by Étienne Daho, was popular in the U.S. after exposure from MTV for the single "Tommy & Co". His 1991 album *Jolie* was produced by Ian Broudie, and gave him a breakthrough in Japan and Canada. In 1995 he formed the band Beatitude, releasing the single "Baby in Brylcreem". He made his first come-back in 2005 with the album *By Paris, By Taxi, By Accident*, produced and performed by French producer Thomas Deligny.

hurrah! | gloria



from the LP *Tell God I'm Here*
c. 1987 Kitchenware Records

Formed in the early 1980s and originally known as the Green-Eyed Children, Hurrah! were one of the first acts signed to Kitchenware Records who issued the band's first string of singles. In 1986 the band signed to Arista Records via Kitchenware's distribution deal with the major label, and the album *Tell God I'm Here* was released - reaching No. 71 on the UK charts by the end of 1987. In 1989, Hurrah! released their second major-label album, *The Beautiful*, however the band was subsequently dropped by Arista and they officially disbanded by 1991. A retrospective album of demos and live tracks, *The Sound of Philadelphia*, was issued in 1993 on Rev-Ola Records.

a house | i'll always be grateful



from the LP *On Our Big Fat Merry-Go-Round*
c. 1988 Blanco y Negro

Formed in Dublin in the mid 80's, A-House first honed their live skills in the pubs of Dublin, performing in McGonagle's club (best known internationally as the venue where U2 cut their teeth in the late seventies). Following a successful session with John Peel, the band signed with Blanco y Negro who released the singles "Heart Happy" and "Call Me Blue" in Ireland and the UK. These singles were followed by A House's first album *On Our Big Fat Merry-Go-Round* in 1988. The band toured with the Go-Betweens and "Call Me Blue" reached number 3 in the *Billboard* College Charts by early 1989. Four subsequent albums followed into the 90s before the band ultimately called it quits in 1997.

w/ The Northern Pikes

(feed) →

1. the northern pikes | **teenland**
2. falling joys | **you're in a mess**
3. color me gone | **hideaway**
4. the sincerors | **disappearing**
5. ten ten | **when it rains**
6. army of love | **exodus**
7. the wild flowers | **take me for a ride**
8. moving targets | **the other side**
9. lions and ghosts | **love & kisses from the gutter**
10. hurrah | **gloria**
11. bill pritchard | **tommy and co**
12. a house | **ill always be grateful**
13. east village | **strawberry window**
14. the weather prophets | **almost prayed**
15. sudden afternoon | **acid rain**
16. corn dollies | **nothing of you**
17. days of sorrow | **wild world**
18. mutants | **opposite world**
19. blue peter | **don't walk past**
20. liquid liquid | **cavern**

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the 80s underground



deep cuts vol. 6



TRAY CARD
(4 5/8" x 5 15/16")

 **THE 80S UNDERGROUND** deep cuts - vol. 6

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. the northern pikes
teenland | 11. bill pritchard
tommy and co |
| 2. falling joys
you're in a mess | 12. a house
i'll always be grateful |
| 3. color me gone
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