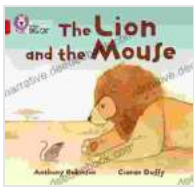


Band 02b: Red Collins Big Cat - A Journey of Music, Intrigue, and Legacy

Emerging from the vibrant and experimental music scene of the late 1970s, Band 02b emerged as a pioneering force in experimental electronic music, blurring the lines between post-punk, industrial, EBM, avant-garde, noise, ambient, and drone. Led by the enigmatic figure of Red Collins, the band's name reflected their unconventional approach, with "02b" representing the binary code for the letter "R" and "Big Cat" alluding to Collins' fascination with the predatory nature of the animal kingdom.



The Lion and the Mouse: Band 02B/Red B (Collins Big Cat) by Lucy Ann Carroll

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 6811 KB

Screen Reader: Supported

Print length : 192 pages

Paperback : 97 pages

Item Weight : 7 ounces

Dimensions : 6 x 0.22 x 9 inches



Early Years and Lineup Changes

Band 02b's origins can be traced back to the formation of a post-punk band named Penetration in 1977. Collins, a member of Penetration, experimented with synthesizers and tape loops, gradually incorporating these elements into the band's sound. However, tensions within the group led to Collins' departure and the eventual disbandment of Penetration.

Collins subsequently teamed up with bassist John Scott and drummer Mike Donnelly to form Band 02b in 1979. The band's lineup underwent frequent changes, with Scott and Donnelly leaving and being replaced by Martin Birkett and Michael Allen, respectively. This ever-evolving lineup contributed to Band 02b's diverse and unpredictable sound.

Experimental Sound and Influential Albums

Band 02b's music was characterized by a relentless experimentation with electronic soundscapes and unconventional song structures. Their unique blend of harsh industrial rhythms, haunting ambient textures, and dissonant noise pushed the boundaries of electronic music.

Their debut album, "02b," released in 1980, showcased the band's experimental approach. The album featured tracks such as "Havoc" and "Cries in the Night," which demonstrated their mastery of electronic noise and manipulation. "02b" became a cult classic and influenced a generation of experimental electronic musicians.

Subsequent albums, including "Get Rid of Your Suit" (1982), "Frede" (1983), and "Infestation" (1984), further explored the band's sonic territories. Each album presented a unique sonic tapestry, combining elements of industrial, ambient, and noise.

Live Performances and Critical Reception

Band 02b's live performances were as intense and unpredictable as their music. The band experimented with visuals, projections, and unconventional stage setups, creating immersive experiences for their audience. Their performances garnered critical acclaim, with critics praising their originality and sonic innovation.

Despite their critical success, Band 02b remained a niche act, appealing to a dedicated following of fans and fellow musicians. Their refusal to conform to mainstream conventions and their relentless experimentation hindered their commercial success.

Controversy and Legacy

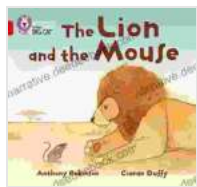
In the mid-1980s, Band 02b became embroiled in controversy surrounding their association with the industrial music scene and its perceived links to far-right ideologies. The band faced accusations of supporting these views, which they vehemently denied. While these allegations never gained widespread acceptance, they nevertheless overshadowed the band's legacy to some extent.

Despite the controversy, Band 02b's influence on experimental electronic music cannot be overstated. Their innovative approach to sound design, their fearless experimentation, and their uncompromising artistic vision paved the way for countless musicians who followed in their footsteps.

Band 02b's music continues to be re-evaluated and rediscovered by new generations of listeners. Their albums have been reissued and their influence is evident in contemporary electronic music. The band's legacy as one of the most groundbreaking and influential experimental electronic groups of all time remains secure.

Band 02b: Red Collins Big Cat's journey through the annals of music is a testament to the power of artistic experimentation, innovation, and resilience. Their uncompromising commitment to pushing the boundaries of electronic music, coupled with their unique sound and enigmatic presence, has left a lasting impact on the scene. Despite the challenges and

controversies they faced, Band 02b's legacy as pioneers of experimental electronic music remains untarnished, inspiring and captivating listeners to this day.



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