

My Favorite Martian *Martian Chronicles, Los Angeles 1990's*

Green Monkey is most pleased to continue our History of Al Bloch with the brilliant *Martian Chronicles, Los Angeles 1990's*. Anyone who knows Al Bloch, knows he likes playing in a rock band. Growing up in Seattle in the 1970's and 1980's, Al played in a few really good bands (Cheaters, Wenis, Deans, Bombardiers). In 1988, he joined Concrete Blonde, toured a bunch and appeared on one album ("Free" IRS records, 1989).

Al split that scene and soon met DC hardcore legends Pete and Franz Stahl (Scream), and Pete Moffett (Government Issue) - Wool was born in 1991. Right out of the gate, Wool was working . . . recording multiple singles and albums, and touring up a storm.

The My Favorite Martian story begins here. In the Summer of 1993, Al was hanging out with his brother Kurt Bloch (Fastbacks, Young Fresh Fellows) and they both thought it would be fun to put together a recording session. Kurt called in ex-Fastback Nate Johnson to rock the drums. Al christened the combo "My Favorite Martian", and Bongload Records in Los Angeles released few songs as a single: "When The Anger's Too Strong/Sometimes/Does It Hurt?").

In 1995, the band became a rotating musical collective of Al's extremely talented friends. From these sessions, a couple of singles were released: "Real Fine Girl/More Than This" (1996 Fish of Death Records), and "Shining Down/Snake Charmer" (1996 Meddle Records). Also recorded during this period was, "Sand Point Way, Pt. 2", in which Al reflects on his teen years in Seattle with brother Kurt.

Al left Wool in 1996 to concentrate exclusively on his music. During this time, three songs were recorded at Duff McKagan's (uhhh, Guns and Roses) studio, produced by Sally Browder: "Shining Down", "Snake Charmer", and "Everchanging Day".

By 1997, Al ran into his old guitar playing buddy Mike Dimkitch (Bad Religion, The Cult). Mike was in between bands, so he signed on. Along with wickedly handsome drummer Wade Glenn, they produced what was to be the most stable My Favorite Martian lineup . . . and as it turned out, the last. The MFM "power trio" made its recording debut that May, recording "All My Life" at Cheswick Studios in Laurel Canyon. Many LA club shows followed at venues including the Viper Room, Spaceland, and the Martini Lounge. They pulled in Sally Browder to produce what they hoped to be their first full-length album. Recorded at Doug Messenger's Studio in North Hollywood, these songs feature some great and very loud playing by Mike Dimkitch. including a raging take of the Modern Lovers, "Pablo Picasso".

But then, with 1997 winding down, My Favorite Martian also wound down. Various reasons were given, but the guys just moved on. Soon after, Al left Los Angeles.

Thus ends The Al Bloch Story Part 2. Anyone who knows Al Bloch knows he has buckets of great rock songs still rumbling about inside him. We at GMR intend to squeeze those beauties out and present Part 3 as soon as possible.

Futurum nunc est.

- EPK: <https://greenmonkeyrecords.com/artist-al-bloch-my-favirite-martion/>
- Bandcamp: <https://greenmonkeyrecords.bandcamp.com/album/martian-chronicles-los-angeles-1990s>

Distribution: **Green Monkey Records**



TRACKS

1. Real Fine Girl (1997)
2. Almost Imaginary (1997)
3. More Than This
4. Shining Down (Single Version)
5. Snake Charmer (Single Version)
6. Pumpkin Boy (1997)
7. Everchanging Day
8. Pablo Picasso
9. Fortune Cookie
10. All My Life
11. Open Up Your Eyes
12. Sand Point Way, Pt. 2
13. Does It Hurt?
14. Sometimes (Single Version)
15. When The Anger's Too Strong
16. Career of Evil

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