



B I O G R A P H Y

RICHARD MAZDA

Hands Of Fate, Richard Mazda's debut album, has been a very long and complicated time in the making. Nine months, six studios, and three continents later, one man's vision of "Amphetamine Soul" is ready to hit the streets.

Here's the story of how it finally happened.

1979 saw the formation of TOURS, an idea that Mazda, Ronnie Mayor, Mark Spiers, and Steven Jeff had which featured them as "chroniclers of beachfront wildlife." They released "Language School" b/w "Foreign Girls," signed with Virgin Records, released "Tourist Information" b/w "You Know," then promptly disbanded.

Mazda assembled another collection of musicians: Steve Laurie, Ebo, and Furter, to record under the name of COSMETICS, this time directly under Mazda's direction. The group made an album, Infradig, which Mazda produced, wrote, and financed, but was never released due to a series of misadventures. However, Miles Copeland was sent a tape of the record and was impressed enough with Mazda's production to suggest he try this as a possible career.

Mazda took up the challenge, producing ALTERNATIVE TV, THE FLESH TONES, THE FALL (Hex Enduction Hour, their most successful LP), and TOM ROBINSON. ROBINSON returned the favor by having the COSMETICS as his support band when he toured England, Scotland, Portugal, and Japan, and used Mazda and Laurie on his album, North By Northwest.

More production assignments rolled in following the COSMETICS' finished tour, including projects with BIRTHDAY PARTY and SUBURBAN LAWNS.

In May '82, work was begun on the COSMETICS 12" dance record, "The Crack" b/w "Caligraphy." "The Crack" did very well on the club circuit and appeared on Billboard's Dance Chart.

As his own record was beginning to take off, Mazda began work on what was to become one of his best known production projects, WALL OF VODOO's Call Of The West, which went on to chart in the U.S., U.K., Australia, and various European countries. "Mexican Radio," the hit single from the album, cracked the Billboard Top 40 in the U.S., and did extremely well in several foreign territories.

It was during Mazda's stay in the U.S. while working with VODOO that he began laying down tracks for Hands Of Fate. He continued this work in August 1982 while simultaneously taking on the INEBURG THOMSEN project in Hamburg, West Germany, YELLO in Switzerland, and CROWN OF THORNS in England, which kept him busy until Christmas of '82.

Mazda flew to New York City in February of 1983 to work with the FLESH TONES again, this time on their Hexbreaker album. It was during this time that the FLESH TONES added their touches to Mazda's album ("Big Sound" track).

Los Angeles was the next stop for Mazda, where he recruited Billy Pittman (bass/ex-JOHNNY GUITAR WATSON), Peter Doyle (trumpet/Australia's LAUGHING CLOWNS), Yolanda Goodwin (backing vocals/ex-IKETTE), Latino madman Louis Rivera (percussion), and various members of WALL OF VODOO who assisted on the track "Snakebites."

Finally, nine months later, dark rumblings in London, New York, Los Angeles, and Tokyo can be heard as we all await the laying on of the "Hands Of Fate."

INTERNATIONAL RECORD SYNDICATE

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PRODUCED BY RICHARD MAZDA:

4/81 Alternative TV LP Strange Kicks London, England I.R.S.
6/81 Fleshtones LP Roman Gods New York, NY I.R.S.
9/81 The Fall LP Hex Enduction London, England Kamera Records
2/82 Tom Robinson LP North By Northwest Hamburg, W. Germany Phonogram Deutschland/I.R.S.
3/82 Birthday Party 4 tracks on LP Junkyard London, England 4 A.D./Missing Link Records
4/82 Suburban Lawns EP Baby Los Angeles, CA I.R.S.
5/82 Cosmetics 12" single "The Crack" b/w "Caligraphy" Los Angeles, CA I.R.S.
6/82 Wall Of Voodoo LP Call Of The West Los Angeles, CA I.R.S.
8/82 Ingeburg Thomsen LP Weisse Sklavin Hamburg, W. Germany Mercury Records
9/82 Yello 4 tracks on LP You Gotta Say Yes To Another Excess Zurich, Switzerland Stiff
11/82 Crown Of Thorns 1 song on 12" single "Gone Are The Days" London, England I.R.S.
2/83 Fleshtones LP Hexbreaker New York, NY I.R.S.
6/83 Richard Mazda LP Hands Of Fate Hamburg, London, New York, Los Angeles, Zurich I.R.S.

OTHER PRODUCTIONS INCLUDE:

Automatic Dmini
Brian James
Cava Cava
Extra Breit
Outsiders
Sector 27

RADIO:

Session for Mike Read Radio I - scripting and performance of two-part radio series, BBC Radio Solent - "Robert Fripp Story."

FILM/TV:

Documentary - "Frippstronics" - story of Robert Fripp
Two-part series for I.R.S.' "The Cutting Edge" - "How To Make A Record" - MTV

VIDEO:

"Last Week, This Week" promotional video