



THE SYN BIOGRAPHY

THE SYN are a band that operate intently in the modern day world. Their focus is on pushing the envelope of modern progressive rock and moving it in new directions. Their current core lineup of Steve Nardelli, Francis Dunnery and Tom Brislin may have only been a musical machine since 2008, but this is a band with a long and storied history of constantly exploring new musical soundscapes. While THE SYN have their eyes firmly focused on the future of progressive rock, their roots go back to the 1960's.

In 1965, in the days of the groovy British modster beat scene, 17-year-old Chris Squire (Yes bassist) and Stephen Nardelli (SYN songwriter/vocalist) met at a local battle of the bands, competing against each other. That meeting was to be the start of THE SYN. Their freak beat-genre songs "Grounded" and "14 Hour Technicolor Dream" were the unforgettable trippy love-generation companions of "Flowerman" and "Created by Clive." By 1966, THE SYN held a permanent booking at the infamous Marquee Club in London. THE SYN's support slots at the Marquee read like a "who's who" of the day -- The Who, Pink Floyd, Cream, Jimi Hendrix, etc. Everyone who was anyone in the British music scene eventually performed at the Marquee Club.

In 2004 Nardelli and Chris Squire brought THE SYN back together and they not only released a 2-CD edition of the highly acclaimed archival recording, *Original Syn*, but also put together a new studio recording entitled, "*Syndestructible*." Both discs received critical acclaim and a tour for *Syndestructible* thrilled fans. The tour was filmed and a live DVD released. But, while Steve Nardelli is proud of the musical legacy of THE SYN, he has a dedication to looking forward musically rather than focusing on the glorious past. That dedication is reflected in 2009 with a new lineup and a new sound—based on the considerable SYN legacy, but reaching towards the future.

Big Sky is the newest SYN CD and it showcases both their belief in the concept of the Progressive Modernist Movement "Mod Prog for Prog Mods," but also their new lineup. The core of the band is now Nardelli (songwriter, vocalist and guitarist) along with Francis Dunnery (guitar and vocals) and Tom Brislin (keyboards and vocals). This lineup is augmented live by Brett Kull (guitar) and Paul Ramsey (drums and percussion).

This is a band who are rightly proud of their roots and history, but not content to live on the strength of that legacy. *Big Sky* proves that they are continuing to push the envelope of musical expression and create new sounds and themes. This is a group with ties to the 1960's but an artistic vision that is firmly set in the 21st Century.



Nardelli's Umbrello Music Entertainment shows another side of this commitment to pushing the envelope of expression. The company is a leader in establishing a new form of internet based video and audio entertainment. With digital portals established all over the Web the company is set to be a driving force in a whole new field of music based visual entertainment.

Individual Biographies:

Steve Nardelli – Steve Nardelli is probably best known for his work with THE SYN. As a founding member of the group he helped to define and create a whole new musical vision. His dedication to that vision has been carried into the 21st Century with the modern incarnation of the band. Through various endeavor Nardelli has brought his futuristic and positive vision into reality.

Francis Dunnery – Francis Dunnery first came into the public eye in 1985 through his membership in the band It Bites. The group were arguably one of the most influential (and first) bands of the neo-prog scene and built quite a following for themselves. They released three studio albums before disbanding and Dunnery launched a solo career from there. Dunnery has also worked extensively with Robert Plant and Carlos Santana.

Tom Brislin – Tom Brislin served as the keyboardist on Yes' symphonic tour and that is probably the first experience most progressive rock fans have with him. The truth is that's just a small footnote in his musical history. He has also served that same role in Meat Loaf and Debbie Harry's bands and formed his own group Spiraling (originally dubbed "You Are Spiraling").

Brett Kull – Brett Kull formed the band Echolyn in 1989. Through that musical outlet he's built quite a name for himself inside and out of the progressive rock community. He's also released two solo albums. He is also well-known producer and engineer with credits including discs by K2 and Pure Reason Revolution.

Paul Ramsey – Paul Ramsey was a co-founder of Echolyn along with Brett Kull and Ray Weston. He has been an integral part of that band along with work (alongside Kull) in Grey Eye Glances.

For more information on THE SYN, point your Web browser to synmusic.net or myspace.com/thesyn. Look to umbrello.tv and umbrellorecords.com for more information on Umbrello Music Entertainment.