



naked eyes

"Fumbling With The Covers"

"In my first two videos I wore pajamas, so this title should come as no surprise," **Naked Eyes** front man **Pete Byrne** says of "**Fumbling With The Covers**," the band's long awaited third studio album. "I wanted to record songs from some of my favourite artists, but lesser known songs, not the big hits everyone knows."

In the early days while still performing in the pubs of Bath, England, Byrne, as one half of the synth-pop-pioneers **Naked Eyes**, along with bandmate Rob Fisher, shared a love for the music of Bob Dylan, Cat Stevens, The Beatles and Jimi Hendrix. "It was around 1980 that Rob and I formed a band called Neon, that would later include Curt Smith and Roland Orzabal," says Byrne. "We recorded a few songs, but the band fizzled, and Roland and Curt went on to form Tears For Fears, while Rob and I created **Naked Eyes**."

Almost immediately, the band signed to EMI and began recording at the legendary Abbey Road Studios. "... I've always loved the songs from the great girl singers of the sixties, and one day in the studio we decided to do a cover of one of them; it could easily have been a Dusty Springfield song or a Cilla Black tune, but as fate would have it, we settled on a Sandie Shaw song." That song, was the Burt Bacharach/Hal David tune "**Always Something There To Remind Me**," which immediately exploded into the Top Ten.....followed by the self-penned "**Promises, Promises**" and "**When The Lights Go Out**." The back to back to back hits resulted in massive U.S. radio airplay and an almost constant presence on MTV (even if it was in pajamas.)

Although the band was expecting to tour, the label wanted a follow-up, so Byrne and Fisher went into the studio to record "**Fuel for the Fire**" which produced the hit single "**(What) In The Name of Love**." Soon enough, the duo was asked to begin work on yet another release, but, rather than continuing what was becoming a never-ending cycle, Byrne and Fisher decided to walk away and leave **Naked Eyes** as a project to be continued...

The next few years saw both Byrne and Fisher involved in a number of various activities. Fisher teamed up with vocalist Simon Climie on a couple of albums, one of which spawned the hit single "**Love Changes (Everything)**." Meanwhile, Byrne collaborated with a number of artists including Stevie Wonder (providing vocals on the #1 single "**Part-Time Lover**") and also wrote and produced a number of songs for Mary Kate and Ashley Olsen among others.

By 1999, Byrne and Fisher decided to pick up where **Naked Eyes** had left off and started work on a third album. Sadly, it was tragically interrupted when Fisher passed away from complications of surgery that summer.

Left to carry on solo, Byrne decided that the best course of action was to start where it had all begun all those years ago back in Bath. "I had the title, I went out and got a guitar, then with guitar and title in hand, went looking for the songs that inspired me to be in a band in the first place." That brings us to where we are today, so on **July 31st**, you'll be able to experience "**Fumbling With The Covers**," a ten-song collection that has really been the result of a very long and unpredictable journey...

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