

R.I.P.

KEVIN DUBROW

Vocalist Kevin DuBrow has been discovered dead in his Las Vegas home. As this issue went to press, the cause of death of the 53-year-old was unknown.

DuBrow formed the band Quiet Riot with guitarist Randy Rhoads in 1975. After Rhoads left to join Ozzy Osbourne, a 1983 cover of Slade's *Cum On Feel The Noize* transformed Quiet Riot into major stars. DuBrow regularly generated headlines for drug-fuelled bitchy put-downs of his rivals, although speaking to *Classic Rock* back in March he declared: "I did no more or less blow [cocaine] than anybody; I just did it at the wrong times – before interviews".

Quiet Riot's most recent release, *Rehab*, also features original Quiet Riot drummer Frankie Banali.

LINDA STEIN

A former co-manager of the Ramones during the New York band's heyday, Linda Stein has been brutally murdered. An ex-wife of Sire Records founder Seymour Stein, the 62-year-old was found dead in her Manhattan apartment on October 30. Linda Stein's assistant Natavia Lowery has since been indicted on murder charges.

Stein brought the Ramones to play in England in 1976. In later years she became famous as 'the realtor to the stars', and sold property to Sting, Billy Joel, Bruce Willis, Steven Spielberg and Madonna.

TAWN MASTREY

Noted American disc jockey and broadcaster Tawn Mastrey died recently at her home in Minneapolis, aged 53. Mastrey had been suffering from the effects of hepatitis C. She left her final job at Sirius Satellite Radio in June after becoming too ill to work.

Hailed as "the voice of late-80s LA heavy metal scene" by the *LA Times*, she began her radio career in 1972. Nicknamed 'the leather nun', Mastrey played herself in the movie *The Blues Brothers* and also appeared in *Heavy Metal Thunder* and *The Decline of Western Civilization, Part II: The Metal Years*, and directing the promotional video for *No One Like You* by the Scorpions.

WITOLD 'VITEK' KIELTYKA

The drummer of the Polish extreme metal group Decapitated, Witold 'Vitek' Kieltyka has succumbed to injuries sustained during a road accident. He was just 23 years old when he died in a Russian hospital last month.

Kieltyka and Decapitated's singer Covan both sustained serious head injuries when the band's tour bus collided with a truck in Gomel, on the border of Russia and Belarus.

NEWS

Meat Loaf cancelled most of last month's UK dates because of a cyst on his vocal chords. The singer curtailed the show on the second night of the tour, reportedly telling the audience: "This is the last show I may ever do in my life". However, he now insists: "Let me dispel any rumours [of my retirement] – I will be back." (See page 50.)

Essex band **Torn Asunder** are donating all proceeds from downloads of their new single *Love To Look At You* to Great Ormond Street Hospital. It's available through iTunes, Napster and Amazon, and you can listen to it at www.torn-asunder.com

Canadian rockers **The Last Supper** have embarked on what they hope will be a record-breaking tour, playing more countries than any other band. They will be filming their adventures for a documentary. You can follow their progress at www.lastsupper.ca



As part of a catalogue expansion campaign that will include all of **UFO's** (pictured) records for Chrysalis, EMI issue the band's *Phenomenon*, *No Heavy Petting* and *Force It* albums on January 28. Each comes with the addition of out-takes and rare tracks, plus a lengthy sleeve essay.



Foo Fighters: Wembley Stadium show in June.

Summer rock sizzler ahead!

Maiden and Foos confirm one-offs; Priest to tour.

With Christmas not even upon us yet, 2008 is already shaping up to have a great summer of rock, with Iron Maiden and the Foo Fighters having each announced one-off open-air specials. At Wembley Stadium on June 7 the Foos will stage their biggest UK headline gig so far. Maiden will play London's 50,000-capacity Twickenham Stadium on July 5, with a stage set based on the Egyptian-themed *Powerslave* tour of the mid-1980s, and will revisit the same era of their history. It will be the band's only British show next year.

Van Halen and Judas Priest are both being linked with appearances at the Sweden Rock festival next June.

Contrary to popular expectation, Van Halen's reunion tour – with singer David Lee Roth back in the band for the first time in 22 years – turned out to be an huge box-

office success, with American promoters now extending the tour's original run into 2008. It would therefore seem logical that the band would want to play the European festival circuit in the summer.

A management spokesperson for Judas Priest has denied as premature reports that the metal legends are ready to mix their concept album based on the life of Nostradamus, and also that Priest will be playing shows based on the album.

"A world tour is being prepared for next year, starting in around June, but at this stage I cannot confirm any dates," the official source tells us. "Contrary to reports, the guys will not be doing any Nostradamus shows; it will be a normal Judas Priest tour – no doubt including one or two tracks from the album, but it won't be a 'special Nostradamus' show."

Sparks on fire

Mael brothers to play 21-date, 21-album London run.

The past few years have seen an upsurge in bands/artists performing album-themed tours, with Iron Maiden, Roger Waters and Uriah Heep among them. But Sparks are about to trump everything that has gone before.

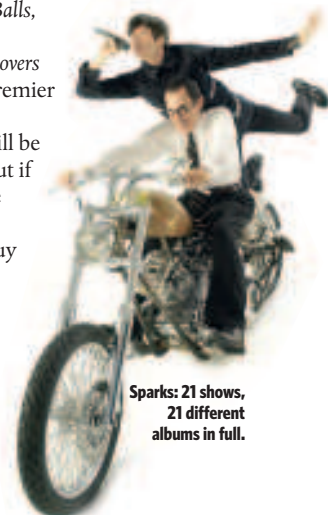
To promote the band's forthcoming 21st album, Ron and Russell Mael have announced a 21-night run at London's Islington Academy, during which they will revisit their entire catalogue in chronological order – one album per night, played in its entirety, starting with 1971's debut *Halfnelson* and concluding with the brand new, as yet untitled album.

"Playing every single song off of every album is approximately 250 songs; or, for you musicians, 4,825,273 notes," the band say.

The shows run from May 16 to June 11, 2007. Here's which albums they'll be playing on each night: May 16: *Halfnelson*, 17: *A Woofer In Tweeter's Clothing*, 18: *Kimono My House*,

20: *Propaganda*, 21: *Indiscreet*, 23: *Big Beat*, 24: *Introducing Sparks*, 25: *No. 1 In Heaven*, 27: *Terminal Jive*, 28: *Whomp That Sucker*, 30: *Angst In My Pants*, 31: *In Outer Space*, June 1: *Pulling Rabbits Out Of A Hat*, 3: *Music That You Can Dance To*, 4: *Interior Design*, 6: *Gratuitous Sax & Senseless Violins*, 7: *Plagiarism*, 8: *Balls*, 10: *Lil' Beethoven*, 11: *Hello Young Lovers* and 13: world premier of new album.

Admission will be £20 per show, but if you attend three there's a £2 reduction. Or buy a Golden Ticket for all 21 dates for £350 and get a signed poster and exclusive Sparks song on CD.



Sparks: 21 shows, 21 different albums in full.