

JESUS JONES PRESS RELEASE FEBRUARY 2002

Having paused for a breather to allow music to catch up with them, digital rock pioneers Jesus Jones are back - and this time the "Second Coming" headlines have been used up. This is no 90s revival, no TV advert-sponsored comeback, this is a band who know what they're doing, doing what they love and who give less than 1kb of interest if you like it or not.

Marginally more selective in their appeal than in their chart-topping, platinum-selling, early '90s days, and with a freedom that comes from having contractual obligations to just about no-one, original members Mike Edwards (vocals & guitar), Jerry de Borg (guitar), XFM DJ Iain Baker (keyboards), Alan Doughty (bass) and new boy Tony Arthy (ex-Miles Hunt) return with "London", an album full of sounds and thoughts instigated by the band's hometown.

True Cockney by birth (if not by accent), Mike Edwards' songs on the album are what most of the quarter of a million Brits who bought 1991's "Doubt" would hope for: big hooks, bigger guitars and an ear for the real underground evinced on the capital's pirate radio stations. Unlike the arrogant, fame-and-fortune-obsessed persona of 1989's "Jesus H Jones" however, the post-fame-mangled Edwards can show a lighter and more personal approach to the writing when it's called for. The pre-September 11th "In The Face Of All Of This", with its mentions of downed aircraft and Afghanistan, and who'd-have-thought-it acoustic guitar, is a case in point, while current single "Nowhere Slow" (which took less than a week to leap into MP3.com's Overall Top 5, alongside Alanis Morissette, Linkin Park and Jimmy Eat World) rages at a traffic-befouled London as bass rumbles through like a fleet of 40-ton nuclear waste trucks.

Jesus Jones have already toured the US and UK to support "London", re-affirming their reputation as a great live band the like of which Britain doesn't often produce. To quote a gnarled and crusty veteran stagehand on their last US tour, "'Right Here, Right Now' did you no favours - you guys are a kick-ass rock'n'roll band." Never a truer word spoken.

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