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## OLLO BIOGRAPHY

### OLLO SO FAR...

Since their debut album, 'Sleeper' appeared in late 2002 to rave reviews ollo have been on quite a ride. They have played live in Australasia, the USA and Europe, supported both Ninja Tune's **Neotropic** on tour in the USA, and **Matthew Herbert** at Sydney Festival. Live performances have been broadcast on **ABC Radio National** and **SBS Radio**. They've presented **Extended Play**, a weekly radio show on Sydney's 2SER since 2005, and have created audio collage soundscapes for FBI 94.5's experimental show 'Sunday Night at the Movies', with performances of these by Lars at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, MCA and Cockatoo Island. They've written for Australia's **Cyclic Defrost** magazine.

Ollo's remix of 1978 punk track by John Peel favourites The Dodgems reached **number 8 in BBC Radio 1's** Festive 50 chart in the **UK** in 2005, and was playlisted on FBI. They've also **remixed Groove Armada**, **Dsico**, **R.O.C**, **Neotropic**.

**DJ gigs** include Loose Ends, Frigid, The Gypsy Tea Room, Überlingua, Club Kooky, Popfrenzy, Zero Kelvin, Sydney Esquisse, Speakeasy, The Museum of Contemporary Art and the Sydney Opera House. They've DJ'd in Europe, the UK, the US (including the Sundance Film Festival), and NZ.

A **video clip** for the track "Ping Pong" from the album "Sleeper" was shot in Berlin. Both this and their video for the single The Campaign For Real Bread were shown on Rage. Ollo's own visuals were shown at a **video art** exhibition at Bondi Pavilion in 2004.

**Linda Evangelista** has sashayed down the catwalk to their cover version of "The Lunatics (Have Taken Over the Asylum)", and they've performed this song accompanied by a **costumed tap dancing troupe** and assorted lunatics in political satire mode. They've also been the soundtrack of choice on the European and Australian tours of **the Dissociatives**.

Alex played keyboards, flute and sang backing vocals on the **Astronomy Class** hit "A Bright Tomorrow" (Elefant Traks). He also appears on keyboards on **Neotropic's** album "White Rabbits (Mush)". Ollo released a smouldering Bond theme cover version in a duet with Paul Mac collaborator **Peta Morris**. They provided the music for a film awards show broadcast live on **SBS TV, The IF Awards 2006**.

Currently Alex is working with Steve Cobby from **Fila Brasillia** on his new project The Cutler. And since they began their name has been "stolen" both by a ball with eyes in a kids' video game, and an Australian olive oil brand. Which certainly never happened to The Flaming Lips.

### THE IF IF

Ollo's second album, **The If If**, was made 2SER album of the week and was 'album packet' on FBI Radio in release week and has been featured on the UK's Dandelion Radio. The dingle "The Campaign for Real Bread" was featured on XLR8R magazine's cover mount CD in 2007. The album guest musicians **Peter Hollo** (Fourplay), **Kevin Purdy** (Tooth), **Roger Mills** (UK), and **Dale Harrison** (The Herd). It marks a departure for ollo with more focus on songwriting while retaining their diverse style. It was mixed with **Mike Burnham** at Tardis Studios in Sydney (**Mo Wax**, **Output**, **Def Jux** etc).

### WHAT DO OLLO SOUND LIKE?

Ollo have been compared to Herbert, Fourtet, Prefuse 73, Caribou, The Triffids, Board of Canada, The Flaming Lips, David Sylvian, Jarvis Cocker, Massive Attack, Can, Belle & Sebastian, Beta Band, Department of Eagles, Ultramarine, Errors, Tunng, Air and Basement Jaxx. So... have a listen and see what YOU think.

### WHO ARE OLLO?

An Australian resident for 14 years, **Alex Crowfoot** grew up in the UK and began writing music at age 8. He is the main force behind Ollo and is responsible for writing, playing and production, plus visuals and graphic design.

**Lars Chresta** was raised in Switzerland. He speaks 6 languages fluently (including Mandarin) which is handy on tour. He DJs, presents the radio show, creates sound collages for FBI radio, and works the laptop when ollo play live. He also acts as a 'sounding board' for ollo production and sings backing vocals.



### OTHER INFO

#### TOURS

2002 Australia; 2003 Australia, USA, Europe, UK; 2004 Europe & UK; 2006 London

#### LIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Sydney Festival 2005  
Cockatoo Island Festival 2005  
The Great Escape 2006  
Rough Trade's club RoTA, London 2006

#### TV APPEARANCES

SBS Television; the 2006 IF Awards

#### OLLO RELEASES

2002 Album "Sleeper" (Creative Vibes)  
2004 "The Lunatics [Have Taken Over The Asylum]" (Groovescooter Records)  
2005 "Ripe" (Sauna Sessions)  
2005 "Some Assault" (Cyclic Defrost)  
2005 "Black Elizabeth" (Club Kooky)  
2006 "Rok Energi" (Sauna Sessions)  
2006 "Moosk" (da dAdA)  
2006 "A View to a Kill" (Groovescooter)  
2006 "The Campaign for Real Bread" (Groovescooter/12 Apostles)  
2006 "The If If" (Groovescooter/12 Apostles)  
2007 "The Campaign for Real Bread" Dsico remix (Kooky)  
2007 "C-Sides" (iTunes)

#### REMIXES BY OLLO

2004 Stewart & Melville: Scenes  
2005 The Dodgems: Lord Lucan is Missing  
2005 Dsico: Hungover Again  
2005 R.O.C.: Journey to the Centre of Brixton  
2007 Neotropic: If We Were Trees  
2007 Groove Armada: The Things That We Could Share

#### OLLO HAVE PLAYED ON THE SAME BILL AS...

Matthew Herbert(UK), Biosphere(N), Mike Paradinas(UK), Miwon(D), Lawrence English, Tooth, Neotropic(UK), LakeLustre(CH), Planktonman(USA), Qua, Pretty Boy Crossover, Minimum Chips, Velure, Sub Bass Snarl, Sir Robbo, Bec Paton, Purdy, Mochipet(USA), Kid Hops(USA), Love of Diagrams, The Bird, Symbiotic, Curse ov Dialect, ROC (UK), Streaky Jake, Liz Martin, Telemetry Orchestra, and many more...

#### OLLO HAVE ALSO...

- Created a set of 4 "Elements" soundscape/ audio collages, each an hour long, for FBI
- Collaborated with UK artist Neotropic on 6 improvised pieces called "time + place"



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## SELECTED PRESS

### For "THE IF IF"

"it's rare that a duo blends the heavily layered jamming of Can with the downtempo groove of Massive Attack but ollo succeeds with flying colours. On their 2nd full length these Australian multi-instrumentalists serve up a handful of Kraut Jams incorporating spastic live drums, wah-pedaled guitars and funk bass from space. If it's not the trippy guitar solos on "summer salt" that weave you into the boys interplanetary web it'll be the always shifting synth pads that reel you in and take you under" **[XLR8R :: USA]**

*\* ollo also appear on the cover mount CD for the April 2007 issue of XLR8R, with 200,000 copies being distributed at Miami Music Conference and SXSW*

"...The second album from Sydney's Ollo, The If If, doesn't disappoint; it's a strange and imaginative collection of anti-pop songs that uses simple, melodic electronica to create trance-like soundscapes. ...an eerie and well crafted musical excursion where you never quite know where you're heading, or where you've just been." **[Rolling Stone :: 3.5 stars]**

"...an electro downbeat tour de force... has to be one of the best albums I have heard this year." **[FurtherNoise :: UK]**

"Like an Aussie Beta Band with a touch of the kind of playful sound of acts like Department of Eagles, Errors and Tunng. Very promising." **[Pure Groove :: UK]**

"Intimate and affecting" **[Cyclic Defrost Mag]**

"...a headphone treat... impressive" **[3D World]**

"A sweaty and heaving carnival of hip jerking exotica... Classy stuff" **[Losing Today :: UK]**

"ESSENTIAL STUFF..." **[Rough Trade :: UK]**

"Ollo... focus much more on pop, with more vocals and catchy melodies, on the follow-up to their 2002 debut Sleeper... enticing cover of Fun Boy Three's The Lunatics (Have Taken Over The Asylum)... Summer Salt explores the funky side of electronic instrumentals, while Gordian Knotted combines female lounge with unexpectedly crunchy electronica." **[Sydney Morning Herald]**

### For "SLEEPER"

"An aural alchemist. This album is diverse and compelling while delivering something that is whole and complete." **[Tim Ritchie :: Sound Quality :: Radio National]**

"Sleeper is atmospheric, with a slight pop sensibility and a heady dose of jazz - a bit of moonless night with a touch of sun glinting off snow...perhaps I should take Ollo to the next party, they're much more clever and fun than I." **[XLR8R :: USA]**

"Sleeper is nothing short of great, great record... in a just world Sleeper's qualities would elevate the boys to the cultural heights currently ridden by kids like Manitoba, Fourtet & Prefuse 73" **[VIBEWIRE.NET]**

"...sublime and satisfying." A strong debut, and great artwork" **[3D World]**

"Addictive Summer listening." "A mesmerising journey" "Serious(ly) beautiful music and a carefree sense of humour" **[inthemix.com.au :: Editor's pick]**

"An amazing sonic journey" "Musically arresting and clever... perfectly plotted, yet never restrictive." "An Australian dance album to get excited about" **[SX magazine]**

"A delightfully light and breezy album of laidback grooves." **[TRM :: Australian Summer Listening Guide]**

### For "The Lunatics (Have Taken Over the Asylum)"

"The reworking of Fun Boy Three's The Lunatics (Have Taken Over The Asylum) by Sydney duo Ollo is simply the best song on the album. It has the rare spark of inspiration for a perfect piece of off-kilter pop music. Picked up by Triple J, it will be big." **[Canberra Times]**

