

**Alex Crowfoot**, the core member of ollo, began writing music at age 8. Years of shyness and bedroom musicianship followed, until he met partner in crime **Lars Chresta**. They began DJing together in the late 90s, gained a residency at legendary Sydney club Frigid, a venue that also saw ollo's live debut in 2000.

#### 2002 :: "SLEEPER" AWAKES

**ollo's debut "Sleeper"** was an upbeat instrumental electronic album that melded a myriad of styles and sound sources. It was compared favourably to Caribou and Fourtet and prompted Tim Ritchie (Radio National) to call ollo "aural alchemists." The album was acclaimed by the USA's XLR8R magazine, Vibewire, 3D World and inthemix among others.

Following "Sleeper" ollo played live and DJd across Europe and the US. Live performances were broadcast by ABC Radio National and SBS Radio. They began creating experimental audio collages for FBI Radio's Sunday Night at the Movies and in 2004 were offered their own music-based radio show 'Extended Play' on 2SER, which continues today. In 2005 they played live at Sydney Festival supporting Matthew Herbert.

#### 2006 :: "THE IF IF" GETS THE NOD NOD

**ollo's second album, "The If If"** gained 2SER Album of the Week with significant airplay on FBI and other Australian radio, and like "Sleeper", it received a swag of good reviews. That same year ollo created the music for SBS TV's live broadcast of the appropriately named the IF (Independent Film) Awards. Meanwhile "The If If" erased further genre boundaries, with hints of Krautrock rubbing up against glitch, hop hop and funk. Also present were ollo's first public excursions into full blown songs, and esteemed guest musicians such as Peter Hollo (Fourplay), Kevin Purdy (Tooth), and Dale Harrison (The Herd).

#### SIX YEAR GAP YEAR

Such a long break between albums was never intended, but ollo were far from idle, with collaborations with Fila Brasillia's Steve Cobby (The Cutler), Aussie hip-hoppers Astronomy Class, and the UK's Neotropic. They remixed many artists, reaching Number 8 in BBC Radio 1's listener-voted Festive 50 with a remix of John Peel's favourite punks The Dodgems, and: released several new tracks on compilations; wrote sleeve reviews for Cyclic Defrost; appeared on panels and in workshops at Australia's Sound Summit; had art shown at festivals and exhibitions; released an album of rarities and out-takes called "C-Sides"; and produced and played on Perth singer songwriter Swoop Swoop. In 2008 they played live in Saigon and at the Hanoi International Music Festival. In 2011 Alex appeared on Sydney psych-folk godfather Purdy's album "Deviant Nature" and joined his live band. Alex also had a three week Underbelly Arts residency on Cockatoo Island leading ollo's collaborative project "EG1/EXT" with Sofie Loizou, Rhyece O'Neill, Bec Paton and Lars Chresta.

#### 2012 :: DONE WITH DELAY

**"Ape Delay"** is a deliberate step sideways. Here, ollo explore songwriting and a unique sonic palette. On "Ape Delay" you will hear songs about sexism and the Delphic Oracle; a device to collect time from the world's bored people; sexual awakening; change being hampered by old ideas; the moment you realise you could change your life with one decision; and a true story of deceit in the Wasatch mountains, Utah. Sonically, "Ape Delay" was produced with strict parameters and a specific sonic intent. This was a no-compromise attempt to create a unique sound that has nothing to do with the latest plugins or production tics. It included exclusive use of vintage analogue synths, old drums machines or live drums, and effects recorded at cult studio **Tardis**. The album features drums by **Rory Toomey**, was mixed by **Mike Burnham** and was mastered in London by Björk's favourite and UK Mastering Engineer of the Year, **Mandy Parnell**. The album has been acclaimed by media as diverse as Sydney Morning Herald and Cyclic Defrost, and is an official selection for the **Coopers Australian Music Prize**.

**2012 also saw ollo play in London** in June and at the **"Sometimes a Great Notion" festival in Portland Oregon** in July, alongside Ed Keupper, Peaking Lights and Felice Brothers among many others. Alex is currently composing and producing music for **American choreographer Charlotte Boyle-Christensen**, to be performed at Salt Lake City's old Masonic Temple mid-2013.

ollo have formed a band to play "Ape Delay" live, with **Dale Harrison** from The Herd, Sydney producer **Sofie Loizou (Anomie)** on keys and The Aerial Maps' drummer **Pere Chiara**.

#### WHO DOES WHAT?

It's often asked who does what in ollo and that's tricky as they aren't a traditional band. Alex writes, performs, and produces, as well as filming the majority of their visuals and designing all the artwork. Lars Chresta forms half of ollo as DJs and presents ollo's radio show Extended Play. In the past he sourced samples and currently acts as a sounding board as well as VJing ollo's visuals live.

#### APE DELAY PARAMETERS

- concentrate on songs
- use analogue synths made before 1985
- use live drums or vintage drum machines
- listen to a defined set of records while writing and recording
- play live in one take or use arpeggiators
- Mix and add FX at a vintage analogue studio: no plugins

## OLLO RELEASES

### ALBUMS

**Sleeper** [2002, CREATIVE VIBES]

**The If If** [2006, 12 APOSTLES/GROOVESCOOTER]

**C-Sides** [2007, TORA DIGITAL]

**Ape Delay** [2012, METAL POSTCARD]

### SELECTED COMPILATION TRACKS

**Summer Salt** :: INTERESTING MUSIC FROM AUSTRALIA

[2005, CYCLIC DEFROST]

**Black Elizabeth** :: CLUB KOOKY 10 [2005, KOOKYBURRA]

**Moosk** :: ART GROUPIE [2006, GROOVESCOOTER]

**Rok Energi** :: HORIZONTAL MANTHEMS [2006, SAUNA SESSIONS]

**A View to a Kill** :: RE-FASHIONED 007 [2006, GROOVESCOOTER]

**The Lunatics...** :: SPACE TRANQUIL [2007, AZULI RECORDS]

**Campaign for Real Bread** :: INCITE 50 [2007, XLR8R]

**Full Stop Blue** :: ART GROUPIE III [2012, GROOVESCOOTER]

### PRODUCER

**Somewhere in the Shadows (album)** :: Swoop Swoop

[2009, METAL POSTCARD]

### SELECTED REMIXES

**Scenes Stewart & Melville** [2004, VICIOUS]

**Journey to Brixton R.O.C** [2005, 12 APOSTLES]

**Lord Lucan is Missing The Dodgems** [2005, 12 APOSTLES]

**Hungover Again** Dsico [2005, SPASTICATED]

**Knotted** Inga Liljeström [2006, GROOVESCOOTER]

**If we were trees** Neotropic [2007, SQUIDS EYE/COUNCIL FOLK]

**Things that we could share** Groove Armada [2008, SONY]

**You've Changed your Tune** FourPlay String Quartet

**Dance a Little, Live a Little** Liz Martin [2011, VITAMIN]

**The Wonder of Falling in Love** Scott Matthew [2012, GROOVESCOOTER]

**Mastery** Empty Music [2012, MAGNEOTON]

### COLLABORATOR/GUEST

**Cleaver; Unagisaki Hocho** The Cutler (Fila Brasillia)

[2008, UK, STEEL TIGER]

**Shoplifter** LakeLustre [2010, METAL POSTCARD]

**A Bright Tomorrow** Astronomy Class

[2006, ELEFANT TRAKS]

**If We Were Trees** Neotropic [2004, MUSH]

**Inheritance (Astronomy Class remix)** The Tongue

[2007, ELEFANT TRAKS]

**The Signal (Astronomy Class remix)** Urthboy

[2006, ELEFANT TRAKS]

**Deviant Nature (album)** Purdy [2010, SOFT RECORDS]

### TV & FILM

**pingpong** [2004, WEIMAR GERMANY, DIR DÖRTE KUBILLUS]

**Headcleaner** [2005, SBS TELEVISION, DIR DARREN DAVIES]

**Inside Film Awards** [2006, SBS TELEVISION, ]

**Cinema For Peace Awards** trailers [2008, GERMANY]

### OLLO LIVE

Overseas: NZ & USA 2003; Europe 2003; Europe 2004

UK 2006; Vietnam 2008 ; UK & USA 2012

### NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

**Sydney Festival** 2005

**Cockatoo Island Festival** SYDNEY 2005

**The Great Escape Festival,** SYDNEY 2006

**Rough Trade club 'RoTA'** LONDON 2006

**Hanoi International Music Festival** 2008

**Underbelly Arts** SYDNEY 2011

**Sometimes A Great Notion Festival** PORTLAND OR, 2012

DJ sets AT **Sydney Opera House, Art Gallery of**

**New South Wales, Museum of Contemporary Art**

**Sydney,** AND NUMEROUS CLUBS IN AUSTRALIA AND OVERSEAS, 1998-PRESENT

## MEDIA QUOTES

### APE DELAY (2012)

★ ★ ★ ★ [BERNARD ZUEL :: SYDNEY MORNING HERALD]

"It's almost as if ollo have discovered the way to have the best of both the modernist and post-modernist cakes, and are eating everything in sight... Searching, electronic-based music, which evokes old and new possibilities, combines accessibility with stark exploration. This album will be right up there on my end of year list."

[ADRIAN ELMER :: CYCLIC DEFROST]

"Bloody compelling... slinky and seductive"

★ ★ ★ ★ [GARRETT BITHELL :: CULT MAGAZINE]

"When a new album from the much-loved-at-SER Sydney duo ollo lands, you realise how long it's been since the last one... easy deadpan cool the likes of Bowie would kill for, not to mention a laidback and unforced wit"

[ANDREW KHEDOORI, SER MUSIC DIRECTOR]

"A superb album that sounds as if you've stepped back to the cool end of 1981. Featuring a myriad of vintage synthesiser wizardry, it's well worth tracking down."

[SCOUT.COM.AU]

### 7" SINGLE 'TRANSISTOR RESISTOR'

SINGLE OF THE WEEK 18th April 2012

[CHRIS YATES :: TIME OFF MAGAZINE - 7" SINGLE]

"A welcome return that's been worth the wait"

[CHRIS DOWNTON :: CYCLIC DEFROST]

"A gorgeous and slow growing jam. Absolutely blissful"

[DUBLAB :: USA - RE: B-SIDE FULL STOP BLUE]

### THE IF IF (2006)

"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]

"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]

"An electro downbeat tour de force that 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]

"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]

### SLEEPER (2002)

"Diverse and compelling" [TIM RITCHIE :: RADIO NATIONAL]

"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 Caribou, Fourtet & Prefuse 73" [VIBEWIRE.NET]

"sublime and satisfying... a strong debut" [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... perfectly plotted, yet never restrictive... an Australian album to get excited about"

[SX MAGAZINE]