



## **GROK**

GROK are a band with no songs. Every time they perform they hit the stage with no lyrical or melodic ideas except for a list of images to sing from and the Wheel of Chordal Destiny, which determines the key the song is to be played in. It is risky and there is the potential for it to all go badly wrong but that is part of the fun – creating something on the spur of the moment. GROK attempt to improvise songs that could be considered ‘pop’.

### **The Brief**

GROK would like a variety of artistic mediums to be the starting point for the songs that will be improvised for the third album. The key points being:

- These need to be visual ideas, which could potentially tell a story.
- The ideas do not need to be a finished work of art. They can be the raw footage that could influence a completed work.
- GROK would like the work to be any sort of medium: textile, sculpture, photography, video, and mixed media.
- The artist would need to be happy for the work to appear in the album artwork in the form of a booklet or inner sleeve.
- GROK may decide to hold an exhibition of the art and the music they inspired. We would like the artists to be open to this idea at a later stage. Additionally the artwork may be promoted as part of a web gallery on <http://www.grokmusic.co.uk>

- The songs inspired by the artwork may be given back to the artist and there is potential for a new work to be created based on the song – hence the process goes full circle. These could also be included in any exhibition.
- It is possible that none of the art that you submit will make it on to the album This is not a reflection on the work itself – simply that the song or songs generated did not make the cut. But there is the potential for these to be B-sides or singles at a later stage.
- GROK are completely self funded but if there were any additional financial rewards GROK would pass these on to the artists.
- GROK must not see the artwork prior to recording. Five minutes before creating a song the members will view a piece and then create a song based on this viewing. The contact details of the curator are at the foot of this brief.

## **Previous Albums**

GROK's first album 'Bubbles and Noises from the Aquarium' was not a completely spontaneous affair as were their live performances at the time. There was always some sort of reference for the majority of the songs performed and recorded but there was the potential for them to be changed and altered on the night and they frequently were. On the album roughly 40% were recorded and written live and 60% of the songs were similar to what had been performed at an earlier date.

The second album 'Ruined Music for Everyone' was completely spontaneous as are GROK's current live performances. GROK went into the studio for two days and came out with 31 songs improvised (10 of which made it on to the final album). For a starting point there were a few images that had had been generated over the preceding weeks and these were what was worked from lyrically but only one image per song. In the names of the songs on the album the central image is given as part of the title.

## Curator

The deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> August 2008. Please contact Ms Anita Bednarek [anita@futronica.com](mailto:anita@futronica.com) if you would like to be involved with this project. If you would like further clarification as to the process please contact us as per the details below. Further GROK information can be found at <http://www.grokmusic.co.uk>