



SWANS

EXPANDED EDITION

This is a collection of what I feel
are the best shots that I have
taken between 2010–2016 of rehearsing,
touring and recording with my
life-long friends and family.

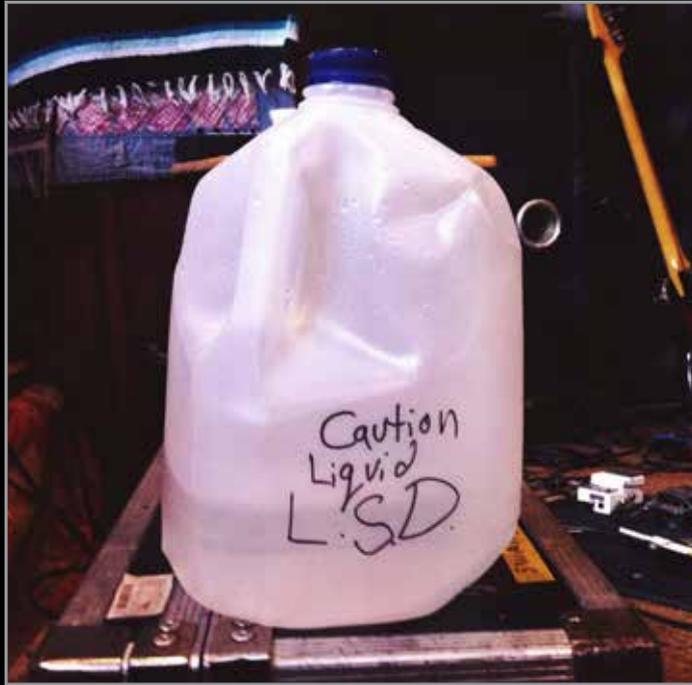
– Phil Puleo



Rehearsals

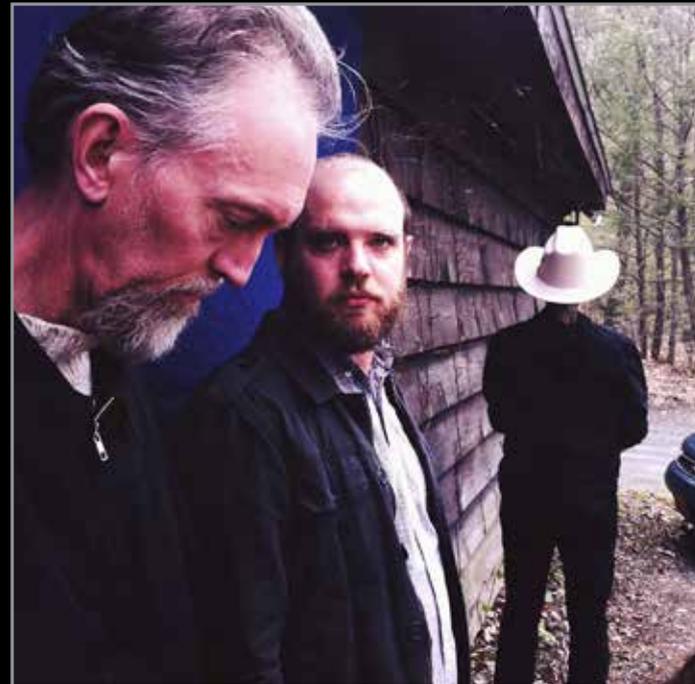


Palenville, NY 2013
The Turning Mill Studio.



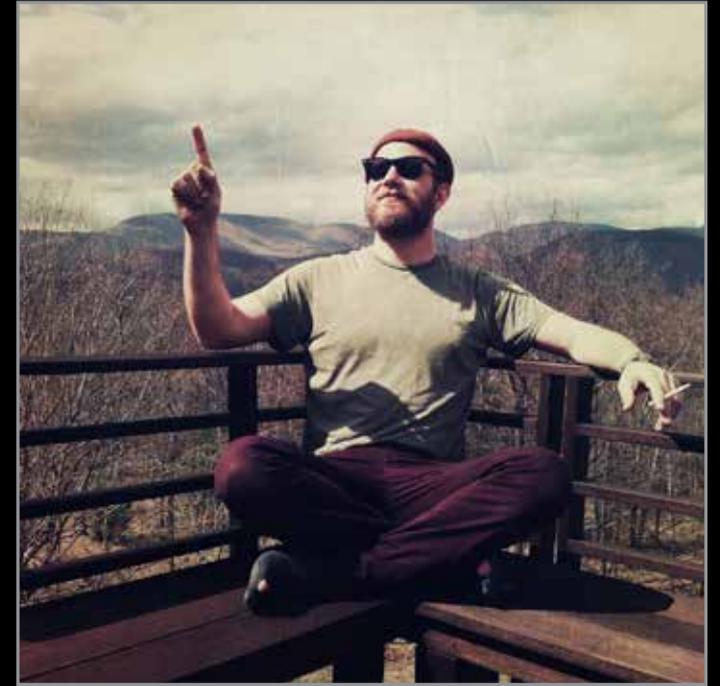
Palenville, NY 2014-16

Thor's way of keeping his water to himself. Lunch break.
Band photo sessions.





Random Shots
Upstate, NY





Recording

Previous page: East Berlin. I recorded at least 5 different tracks for my solo bit at the end of The Apostate.



Brooklyn, NY 2010

Bisi Studios/ Seizures Palace is where this iteration of Swans started. I met Thor, Norman and Christopher for the first time. We recorded a song per day for My Father Will Guide Me Up A Rope To The Sky.





New Paltz, NY 2011

Marcata Recording Studio was set in a large wooden barn complete with a silo acting as a reverb chamber. Thor and I were the only ones brave enough to sleep in the very rustic barn.





Tornillo, TX 2013 & 2015

At Sonic Ranch, we lived and rehearsed among pecan trees. We've recorded here twice. It was one of the best experiences of my life. I highly recommend it.



Tornillo, TX 2013 & 15

A ladder in the courtyard pool at the Hacienda where we stayed while recording. A couple shots of the rehearsal studio. We lived in a house for 10 days rehearsing for the To Be Kind and The Glowing Man recordings. Charles Godfrey, hardest working man in Texas. He makes it look easy.





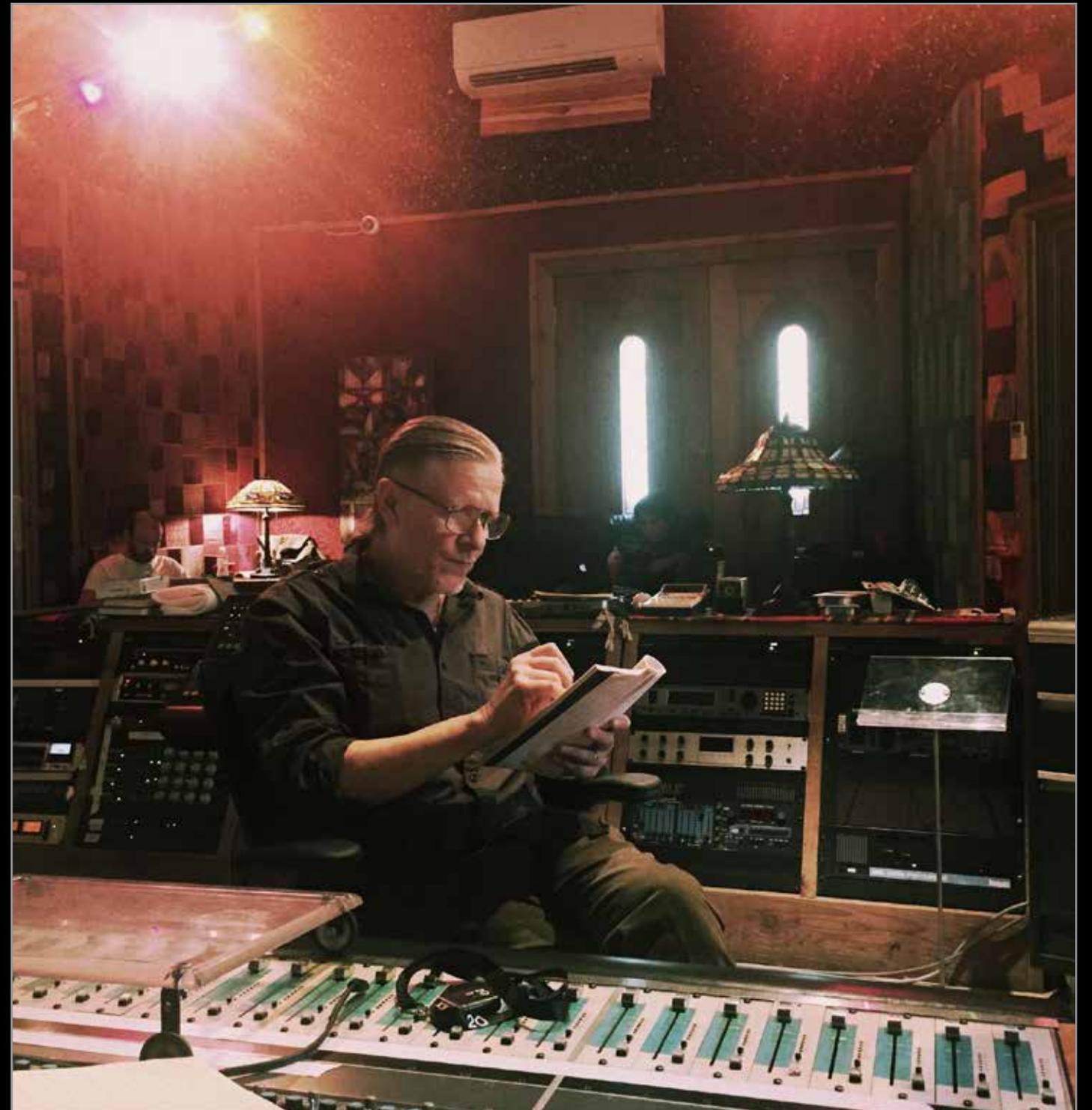
Tornillo, TX 2013 & 15

Yes, that's Michael on a bike. He's on his way to the border to check out the wall. A painting of mine of the local crop of pecans. An outdoor piano. The baked Texas earth. Michael and Kristof in El Paso. Christopher with one of many Sonic Ranch cats. Christopher's eyes through a glass crystal.





Tornillo, TX 2015
Michael and John Congleton discuss an overdub performance.





Thor rests after a strenuous vibe part and playing his hand crafted viola on the Glowing Man. Kitty getting the last drop. John Congleton in action.



Tornillo, TX 2015

On our way to El Paso Thor's car broke down. Luckily he knew what was wrong AND the shop in Tornillo had the part we needed. The guys at Sonic Ranch helped by supplying tools.



Tornillo, TX 2015

The Great Wall of Texas: Keeping Mexico safe.



Tornillo, TX 2013 & 15

A Sonic Ranch native, the Texas Toad (*Anaxyrus speciosus*). Michael donates his hat to Kristof and they share some brotherly love. Thor and Christopher work out overdubs. Kitty by the pool. She was murdered the following day by a rogue male cat.





Touring



Previous page: Providence, Rhode Island

Norman, just after we finished packing the rehearsal space.
Early light in the rental equipment company's building.
Thor having back trouble. Mannequins of Montreal.





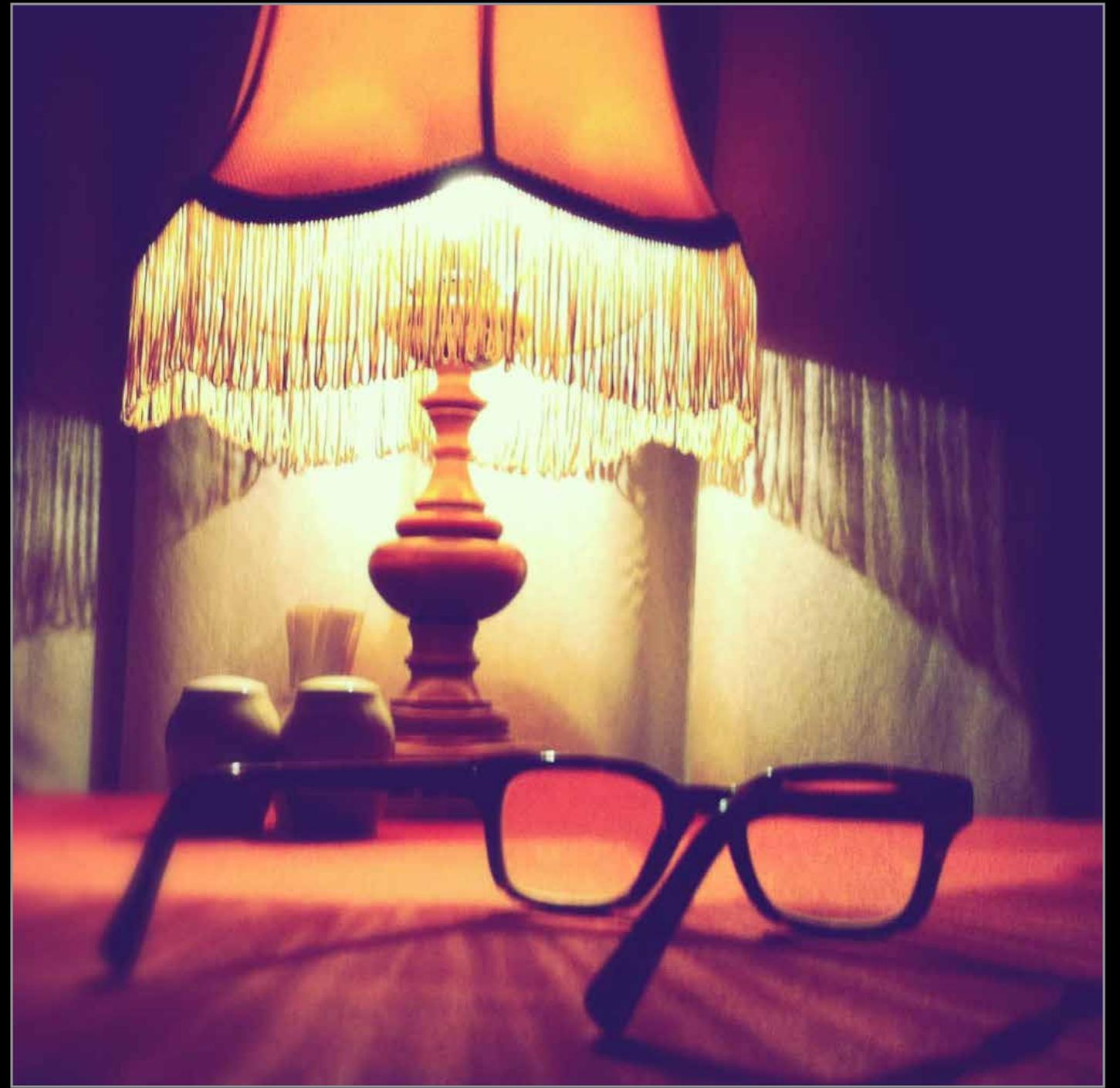
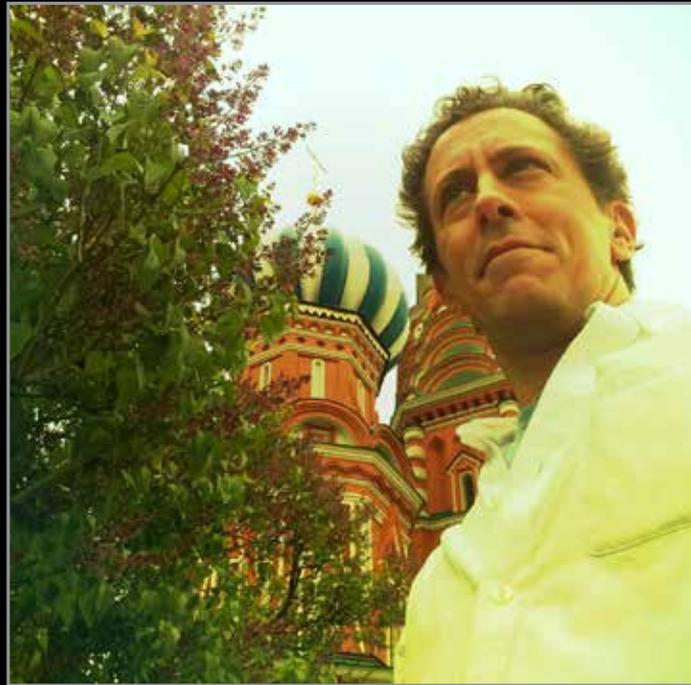
MG in the Netherlands. Norman and Michael backstage in Hong Kong. Capturing Swans in interesting chairs has been a thrill over the years.... (2 of 4)





A Few From Moscow

A pigeon over looking the Moskva River. A security guard naps in Saint Basil's Church. A candid selfie. Norman's glasses at a swanky artists dinner club.



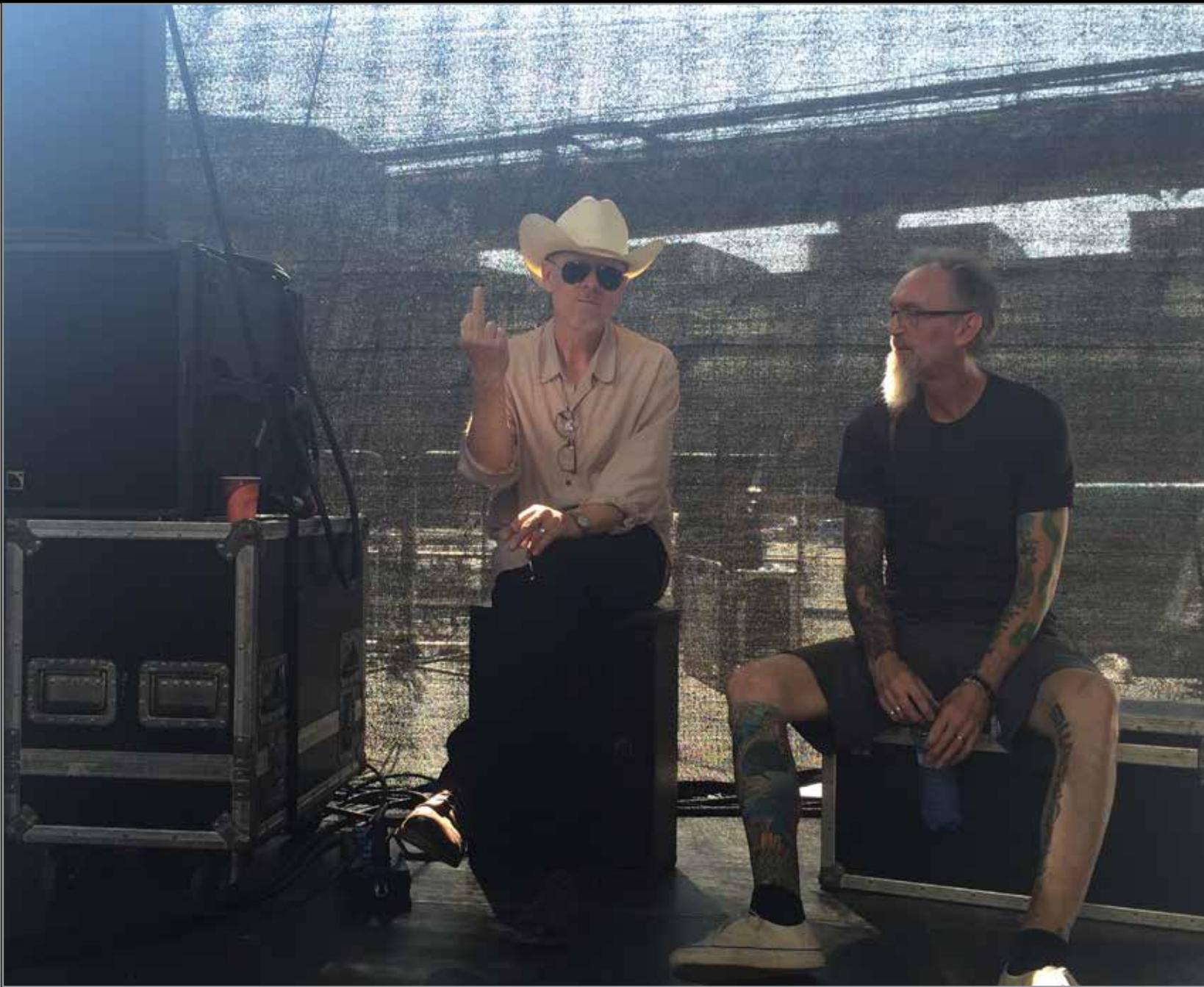


City Museum, St. Louis with Jamie Stewart. Michael with Elvis in El Paso, TX. Kristof shredding a double bass in Rhode Island. During soundcheck my cymbal doubles as a hat stand. Brandon looking for himself on the last day of a grueling year and a half long tour cycle.











Previous pages: A sample of our amazing support talent. Little Annie and Paul Wallfisch, Florida. Margaret Chardiet (Pharmakon), Poland. Thomas Gropp the best bus driver that Europe has to offer, Sweden.

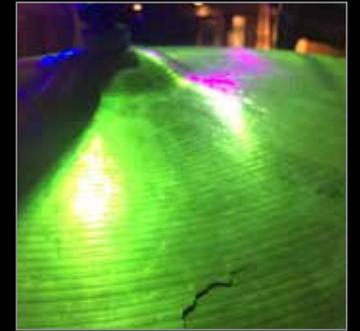
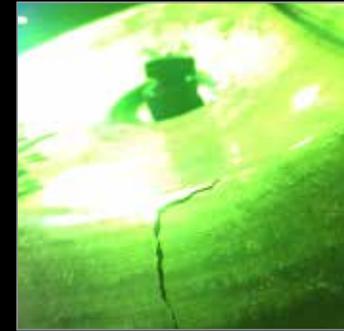
Chris and Thor cool off, Ostrava, Czech Republic.

The Road, US 2015

Michael vigorously explaining an old job he once had. I think it had something to do with moving a very dangerous and heavy object.

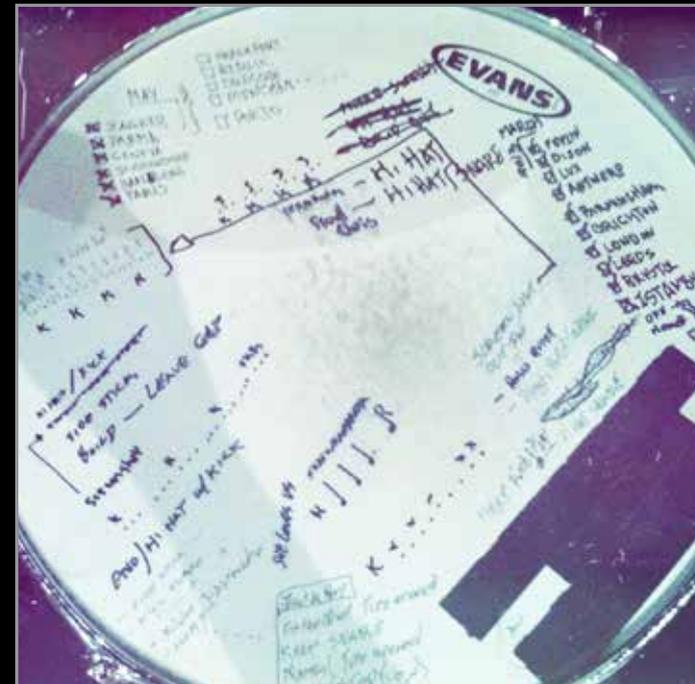






Previous pages: Norman and Thor bask in the spot light of a deluxe backstage in Florida.

Stage lights from hell. 2 broken cymbals, mounted kick drumhead casualty (Sorry S.I.R.). Drum notes on my snare drum, and tour count downs. My wrist band collection. I reached 15 or so before the sweat created a funk. A funk which overpowered the accumulated bus funk of 4 weeks of touring.





Christopher in front of a window treatment for "The Seer", Toronto, Ontario. Tired, sweating and for the bus to be repaired, Somewhere, USA. "But we never talk anymore." Chris reading a fresh paper, Phil in fresh bamboo socks, Birmingham, UK. The guys enjoying something lovely on Reddit. The look on their faces tell all.





Tel Aviv

Michael Gira before the gig. Students take a traditional dip on the last day of school.





Random shots, Europe 2014

Christopher in a music shop, Kiev. A few stray dolls.
Backstage toilet, Italy. Norman and Christopher at a
summer festival outside of Rome.





Melbourne, Australia
Number Thirteen

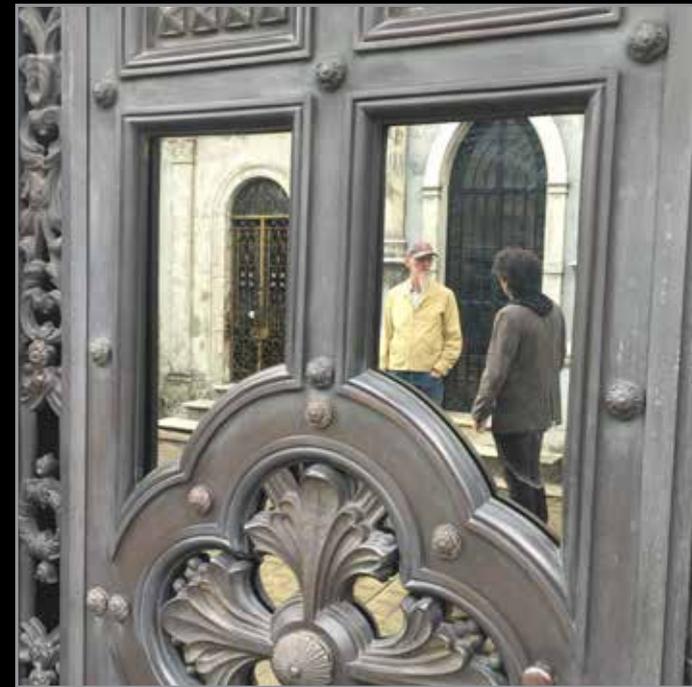




Buenos Aires, Argentina 2016

Our luggage went missing. Keith wonders what he's gotten himself into. Paul brings good news, luggage found.





Buenos Aires, Argentina 2016
Norman, Paul and Phil at the Recoleta Cemetery.
Eva Perón is buried there.



South America

Man with briefcase and children with pigeons, Bolivar Square, Bogotá, Columbia. The band is faithfully playing Another Brick in the Wall. Norman in Bogotá. Michael waves in Medellin, Columbia.





Christopher tells a tale backstage.



Phil in blue.





Taipei, Taiwan 2016

Another country another chair. Paul striking a pose in front of Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall. Che Guevara and kittens. Mosaic outside of a dentist office.





Philadelphia, 2016

Union Transfer, first gig of the US/Canada tour 2016.
The indispensable, Mr. Evan Low, Roadie Excelente.
Paul's first gig with Swans.



EATS

Introducing Sarah Sandusky or "Tour Mom", also doubles as our merch person, has a swell dessert in Budapest, at the A38 restaurant. Seattle gum wall, A view from Tomas' plate; Anna Van Housswolff's photo session. A home cooked buffet (possibly the best meal of the tour) in Vevey, Switzerland, Not much to see here..., Pizza in Nashville.





Various Lands 2016

Okkyung Lee: an incredible musician, composer and a pure delight to tour with. Buenos Aires, "Do not disturb", The Great Wall of China, and Philadelphia.

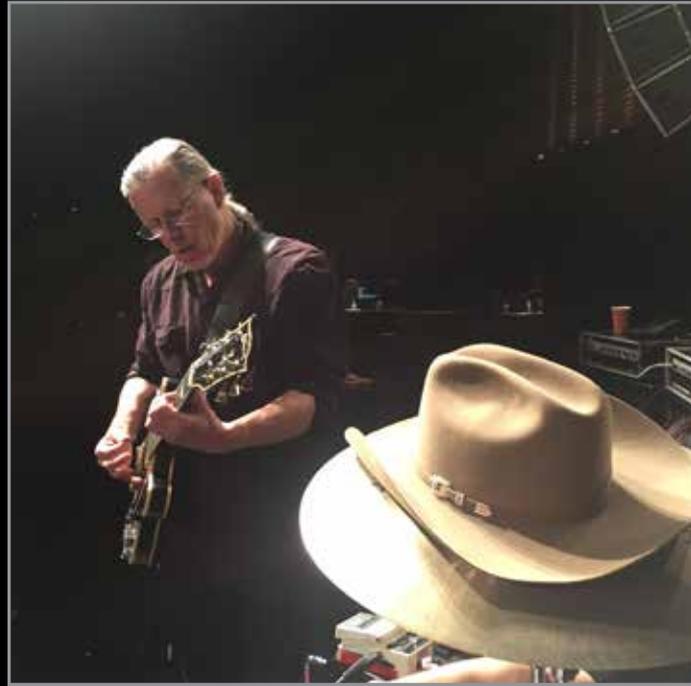




Buenos Aires, Argentina 2016

Santiago rolls up a poster. 1 of 2 Santiago's who hosted us in South America. We couldn't have thanked them enough.





Europe, 2016

MG checking his stage sound. Norman in seat #13, Hamburg. Halloween in Orleans, France.

Following pages: Out for a stroll by Lake Geneva, Vevey, Switzerland. The boys gas themselves in a smoking booth.







Bogotá, Columbia 2016

Norman smiles amongst the weaponry at the Columbia Military Museum.



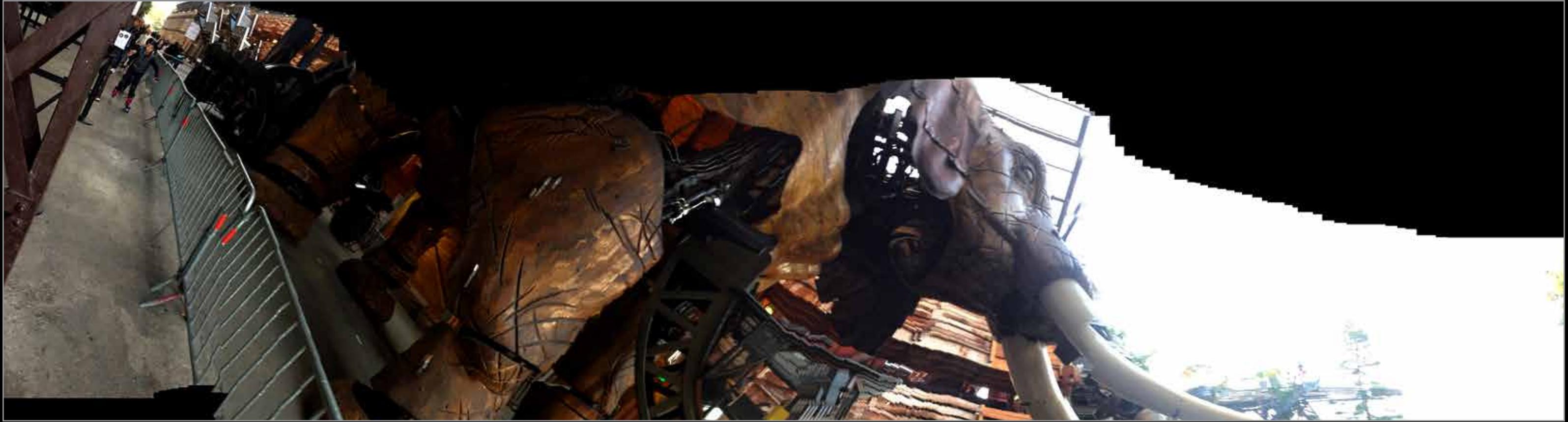
Kenosha, Wisconsin 2016
Bus family.



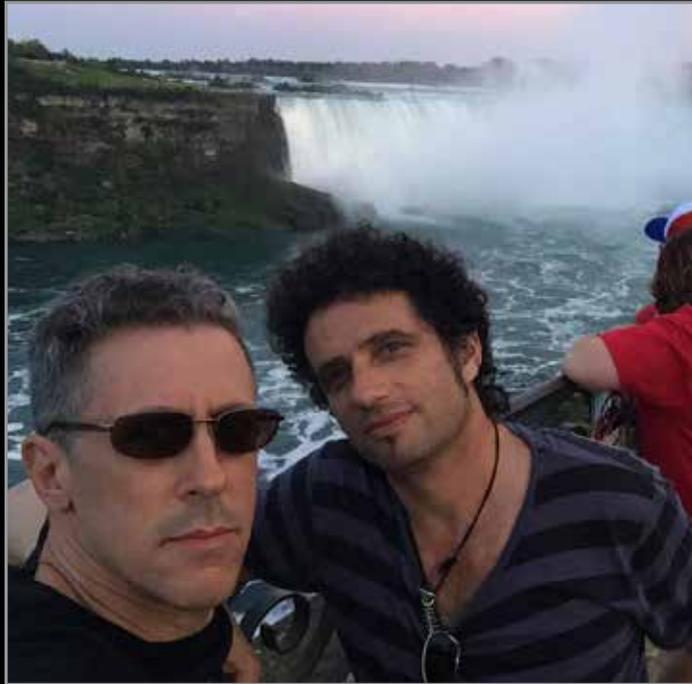
Budapest, Hungary 2016
View from the Danubius Hotel Gellért.



Brighton, U.K. 2016
Kristof in front of the Concorde 2.



Nantes, France 2016
Mechanical elephant.



Various lands 2016

Paul's honeymoon phase with Phil in Niagara Falls. "BREXIT", Graz, Switzerland. Another country another chair (4 of 4). Tokyo, Bullet train Tokyo to Osaka, about to enter car 13. Coincidence? ... I don't think so.





Randoms, 2016

Norman guarding the exit in Vancouver, Canada. Ferry to the Continent. The amazingly talented and funny Baby Dee post gig, Seattle, Washington. Garage door and archway, Manchester. Kristof stands before the first pack of the tour, Brussels, Belgium. 2 shots of pitcher plants at the Glasgow Botanica gardens.





Budapest, Hungry 2016

On the Danube, A38 Club. We walking distance from the Gellért Thermal Baths.

From inside the ship: Keith Yancsurak, the ultimate in "cool" tour managing style. From Anna von Hausswolff, Karl Vento.



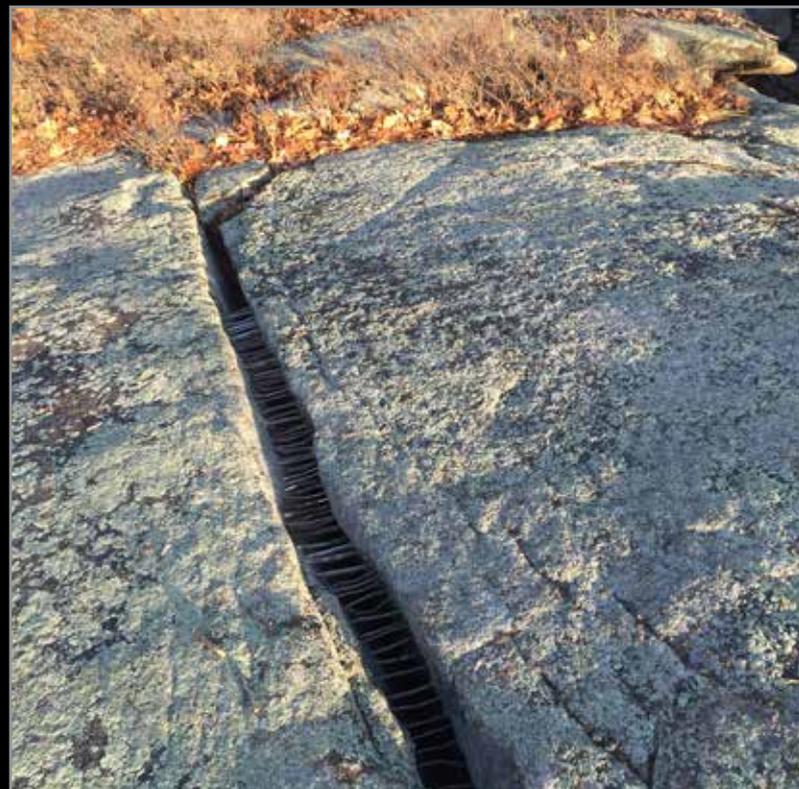
New Mexico 23 miles north of Las Cruces, 2016
The MG "Hi" sign.



Random Natural Art

Making little things and organizing natural objects is a hobby of mine. In between tours I'll go off in the woods. It helps with post-tour depression.

Leaf frame around beech tree sapling. Cocktail umbrella shading fox scat. Leaf bridge. Snow people. Yellow and brown acorns. Twig raft in the Lehigh River, Pennsylvania. Twigs in between a crevasse #2.





The Band



Previous page: Norman and Kristof, Bristol, UK.

Michael Gira

Taking a break in Budapest, Hungary.
Coachella festival. From his window in
an Istanbul hotel. Auckland, New Zealand.





Norman Westberg

Asbury Park, New Jersey. Waiting for pizza in
Dijon. The beach, the beer, Tel Aviv. Stringing
MG's guitar, Poland.





Kristof Hahn

Smoking all over the world.... Shanghai, Bucharest,
Brooklyn and Asbury Park, New Jersey.





Thor Harris

Sitting in a wooden chair that he himself could've built, Tokyo. Repairing a bike, Texas. Washing the bus window in Germany. Thor & Thor the dog give each other huggies in Zürich.





Christopher Provdica

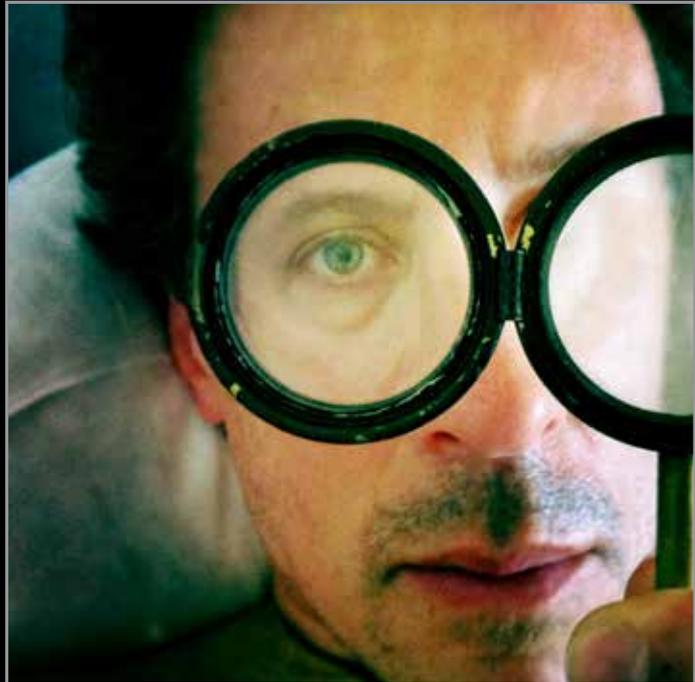
Istanbul ferry ride. In Kiev we all fell for the old bear head hustle. If you show any interest at all, the bear expects money. Working out in Oklahoma. Having an after gig cigarette, Montreal, Quebec.





Philip Puleo

Distortion in a Globe, Tokyo. Getting tattooed by the my good friend, Marco Il Bue Schiavo at Void Tattoo, Torino, Italy. With magnifier from an antique market, Austria. My reflection in an abandoned bathroom mirror, Tornillo, Texas.





Paul Wallfisch

Is looking for his place in rehearsals. On a train. In an airport. Waiting to go on, stage left, Vienna.





