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'FROM STRAIGHT TO BIZARRE' DVD DOCUMENTS HISTORY OF FRANK ZAPPA'S EARLY RECORD LABELS

by: [Chris M. Junior](#) January 25, 2012



MVD Entertainment Group

When [Frank Zappa](#) parted ways with Verve Records in 1968, he knew what was best for his career moving forward, and that was starting his own label.

Actually, Zappa co-founded *two* labels — the Straight and Bizarre imprints (which were distributed by Warner Brothers). And not only was Zappa's then-band, the Mothers of Invention, part of the collective roster, but so were some other now-legendary artists, including Captain Beefheart and [Alice Cooper](#).

The behind-the-scenes story of how everything came together [has been documented in the new DVD](#) 'From Straight to Bizarre: Zappa, Beefheart, Alice Cooper and LA's Lunatic Fringe,' which is scheduled for a Feb. 21 release.

The Straight label played a key role in the career of Alice Cooper, releasing his pre-fame studio albums 'Pretties for You' (1969) and 'Easy Action' (1970). Other Straight artists included Beefheart (who as Don Van Vliet was a teenage friend of Zappa's) and fellow singer/songwriter Tim Buckley (who, like son Jeff Buckley years later, would see his life and music career cut short by an accidental death).

'From Straight to Bizarre,' produced by Sexy Intellectual and distributed by MVD Entertainment Group, includes interviews with Pamela Des Barres (a member of the Zappa-assembled group the GTO's, which recorded for Bizarre) and musician/producer Kim Fowley (whose credits include the first Mothers of Invention album, 'Freak Out!').

Watch a Trailer for 'From Straight to Bizarre'



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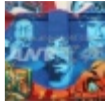
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F Zappa Did It, It's Got 2 B OutPhuckinStandin.

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Marlon Bundy · Coach at Independent Team Beachbody Coach

Frank did so much but he was so much more! I'll never forget my first listen. "Overnite Sensation". I was amazed at what I was hearing. Wacky lyrics with killer musicianship. I've been amazed ever since. Thanks to Dweezil for keeping the flame burning.

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Grady Gentry · Jacksonville High School

I love Frank Zappa and Captain Beefheart, I got to see them live in Austin, Texas in 1972.What a great show! R.I.P. Frank.

Reply · 1 · Like · January 25 at 6:09pm



Steven Patrick Lee · Top Commenter · LPN at North Village Park, LLC

I got the priveledge of seeing Frank back in '81, and have loved his music since the heady days of the Mothers Of Invention. His was one of the most talented and unique minds ever to grace a stage and recording studio. And I still miss him!

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Chris Bassett · Top Commenter · Drums at Yello Echo

Always found it interesting that guys like Zappa and Ian Anderson looked down on people using drugs but every time you saw either of them they'd be smoking a cigarette.

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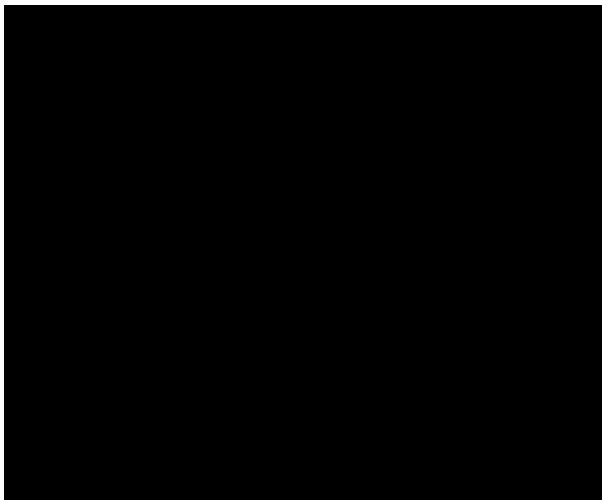


Peter Olsen · Director of Sales and Marketing at Guaranteed Auto Glass

Tobacco was FZ's favorite vegetable.

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ROCKERS THEN AND NOW



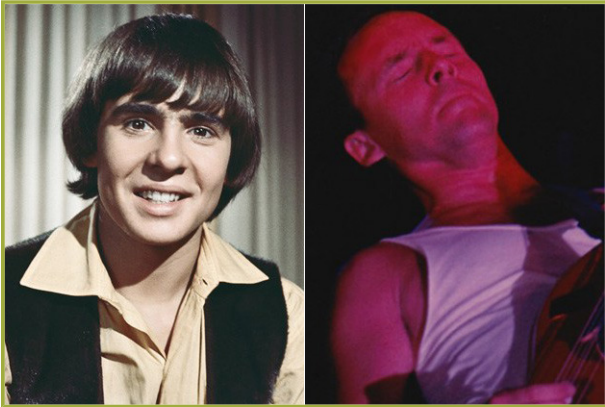
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2012 has already seen several influential and beloved rockers pass away.
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