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## House Of Love Review

The story of The House Of Love is a common one. A run of thrilling independent singles, a wondrous debut album, a huge fanbase and garlands from the media. Then an inevitable leap to a major label and a group sliding gracelessly off the rails in the face of spiralling drug use, infighting and pressure for a hit. In 1988, The House Of Love were top of the world (or top of the Indie Chart, which was pretty much the same thing in those pre-Britpop days) and the only way they were going was down.

So tied up were the band with our teenage fandom, it's a jolt to realise that they've been back together 10 years now, far longer than they originally managed. This isn't a diminished revival act either: it's as near as dammit the classic House Of Love line-up, including original, early to bail-out guitar genius Terry Bickers (now a Brighton resident and music tutor) and low-profile drummer Pete Evans. Their second post-reformation album 'She Paints Words In Red' is due out in days.

The capacity crowd (Bickers, for one, has a lot of hometown support) have to wait though, as recurring technical problems delay the start. The clock ticks painfully on as the band battle crackling leads and malfunctioning pedals, eating into their timeslot by an excruciating 20 minutes. It's the sort of fuck up that once would've stressed the frazzled, fractious House Of Love to breaking point, but these days they deal with it, switching gear around, making repeated attempts until things are fixed.

Once we're finally underway, the band are atypically bunched together, feeling their way tautly through current single 'A Baby Got Back On Its Feet'. It takes a few songs for them to acknowledge the hiccups are fixed, the tension dissipating as Bickers scissor-kicks enthusiastically through first album favourite 'Road'. It's not all songs from the bookends of The House Of Love's career though – the spacious likes of 'Crush Me', 'Se Dest' and beloved lost single 'The Beatles And The Stones' prove that, while their commercial decline was unarrestable, Chadwick's songwriting skills remained superlative.

It's a point reiterated by the resurrection of 'Purple Killer Rose' for their new album: once a late, neglected B-side, now back as a heart-stopping inclusion in their set. Bickers, absent from the recordings the first time round, plays with generous enthusiasm, while those songs he already knows inside out ('Love In A Car', 'Christine') make the hairs on our neck stand on end.

REVIEWS 2 weeks old

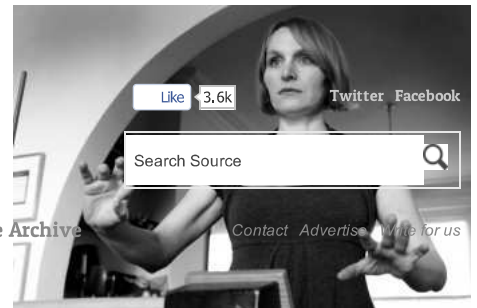


Stuart Huggett

Stuart Huggett grew up in Hastings, publishing fanzines and writing blogs about the town's underground music scene. He is a regular contributor to SOURCE, Latest 7, The Quietus, Bowlegs and more. His huge archive of magazines, flyers and vinyl is either an invaluable research tool or a bloody pain. He occasionally runs tinpot record label Dizzy Tiger, DJs sporadically and plays live even less.

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### Brighton Fringe Reviews - Part 1

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REVIEWS 2 days old



### Skint Vs Coalition, Sat 11th May

Check out our exclusive Wideboys stream ahead of the Skint Records showcase this Saturday.

PREVIEWS 3 days old



### Hatebreed Review

Is it metal? Is it punk? Either way it's a bloody glorious racket, writes John Mclean.

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### While She Sleeps Photos

The Sheffield hardcore band play Brighton for the first time to a slightly mad crowd in a packed out venue.

REVIEWS 1 week old



### Noisia Review

Heavy. Grimy. Sweaty. Crazy. That about sums up Noisia at Concorde2.

REVIEWS 1 week old

Tonight's diminished slot means this wasn't quite the perfect show (what, no 'Destroy The Heart'?) but, as the final notes of a vibrant 'Shine On' die away and the jubilant band leave the stage, we're grinning regardless.

Haunt, Wednesday 10th April 2013

Words by Stuart Huggett

Photos by [Jon Southcoasting](#)

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REVIEWS 2 weeks old

## WHAT'S HOT RIGHT NOW



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REVIEWS 2 days old



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REVIEWS 1 week old



### Street Style, Johana

What a dreary winter. So thank god for Johana, a ray of sunshine, a girl not afraid to embrace a dash of colour.

FASHION 1 week old



### Peace Review

Two great songs and some retro clothes do not maketh the band, writes Nisha Bhakoo.

REVIEWS 1 week old



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PREVIEWS 3 days old



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REVIEWS 1 week old



### Needles & Nails

It's part tattoo parlour, part beauty salon, but what makes N&N exciting is what happens with that second N.

FASHION 1 week old



### Anushka Interview

Bleeding edge dance music meets bleeding heart neo-soul, Anushka are representing Brighton at TGE in style.

FEATURES 1 week old



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REVIEWS 1 week old



### March For England Photos

The English Defence League came to town to spend a lovely sunny day surrounded by police and anti-fascist demonstrators. Who won? It's hard to say.

REVIEWS 1 week old



### Six Of The Best Brighton Vegetarian Eateries

We pick out six of the city's finest vegetarian and vegan eating out specialists.

FOOD 1 week old



### Win A £540 Create Shoot

Win your band a photo shoot with the new genius that is SOURCE cover photographer Kenny McCracken.

NEWS 1 week old

## NEWS



### Win A £540 Create Shoot

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1 week old

Win An iPad With HitMeUp  
OMG LOL  
Brighton Bands At Takedown  
BIMM Win At BRITs  
Meadowlands Bill Announced

## FEATURES



### Anushka Interview

Bleeding edge dance music meets bleeding heart neo-soul, Anushka are representing Brighton at TGE in style.

43 years old

Anthony Prior, Unsung Hero  
No.39  
MC Cashback Interview  
Unsung Hero, Colin  
Wakefield  
Late Night Lingerie Interview  
Six Of The Best Afrobeat  
Tracks

## PREVIEWS



### Skint Vs Coalition, Sat 11th May

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3 days old

The Great Escape Preview  
Fringe Café Special  
Festival Guide 2013  
Alternative Escape Preview  
Brighton Festival Preview

## FOOD



### Six Of The Best Brighton Vegetarian Eateries

We pick out six of the city's finest vegetarian and vegan eating out specialists.

1 week old

Brighton's Best Tea & Cake  
Food & Drink Festival  
Interview  
SOURCE Foodies Competition  
Street Diner Launch  
Troll's Pantry at Hobgoblin

## REVIEWS



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Rain, binge-drinking, depression and nuclear war. The Fringe Festival kicks off to a cheery start.

2 days old

Hatebreed Review  
While She Sleeps Photos  
Noisia Review  
March For England Photos  
Peace Review

## FASHION



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What a dreary winter. So thank god for Johana, a ray of sunshine, a girl not afraid to embrace a dash of colour.

1 week old

Needles & Nails  
Street Style, Luke  
Street Style, Jenna  
Pear Shaped Apparel  
Street Style, Nicola