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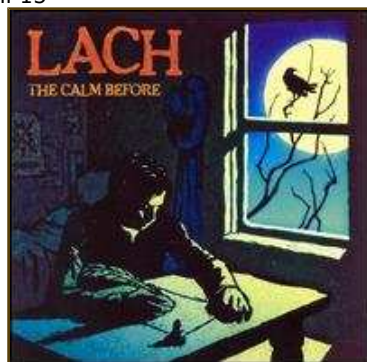
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LACH - The Calm Before

Posted on Tuesday, April 15



www.lachtoday.com

Every now and then something arrives in the Incendiary shed that just blows me sideways. Lach's *The Calm Before* has just done that. He sounds like Bob Dylan used to when he had a bee in his bonnet (only not as whiny) and is every bit as entertaining as that suggests. What I love about this is that there's obviously an ego of IMMENSE size at work here. "This ain't a song, it's my life!" he sings at one point and that's him only getting started. Let's face it, you don't come up with the kind of ridiculously overwrought shouting vocal parts of *Oh Well* if you aren't completely in love with yourself as a musician. Self importance oozes out of this record and I absolutely adore it. Of course it helps that its produced by a guy from Pere Ubu and the drums (on most of the album) are having their skins whacked by a guy that used to be in Television no less, but there's only one real star at work here.

Apparently Lach's a bit of a staple on the NY club scene. He's been running a famous open mic show for the past couple of decades at a place called The Fort or The Sidewalk, depending on what web site you read, but seems as I live in the Flat Lands that's of no bloody use to me is it? I'll tell you this though, I'm desperate to go. If there's a place in the world where somebody with this kind of talent plays for next to nothing on a weekly basis, I want to be a regular. As it is, I'll just have to settle for having this little gem of an album in my house.

Jesus this is good. There's your nutshell review right there. Stick it on a poster, you can quote me if you like.

I want move to New York.

Words: Damian Leslie

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