

# A Conversation With Carl Palmer

March 29th, 2014 3:11pm EDT |  By: Suzanne Rothberg  Add to My News  Like 0  Tweet 2

Legendary drummer, [Carl Palmer](#) of [ASIA](#) and formerly of [Emerson Lake and Palmer](#) (ELP); has a new CD entitled, 'Carl, Do Ya Wanna Play?' as well as the 120-minute 'Decade' DVD. Carl will be one of the featured performers aboard The Monsters of Rock and The Moody Blues Cruise: Return to the Isle of Wight April 2-7. I had the opportunity to speak with him before he left for Miami about his career, the cruises, and his projects.

"This anthology is a re-release with some updates on it taken from the 'Working Live' selection and the 'Decade' DVD is about 13 years old now; it was a complete summarization of the show, it's got a proper menu on it where you can hear me talk about the tracks or you can just watch the show in its entirety. It features interviews with the band and myself about where we are today and interviewing the public and lots of concert footage. He says of his latest project. "The album was released about 10 years ago only here in the UK, and I decided to do a global release on it and I added some of the material that I recorded on the 'Working Live' Vol. I II and III; those are the albums that I recorded with my band amongst other things, the DVD 'Decade' and there was a Live in Europe DVD before that."

Carl is looking forward to both The Moodies Cruise and Monsters of Rock.

"I'm on the Monsters of Rock Cruise first; where I will play one concert for an hour and a half just trying to cross over and play to some younger people. I think it's a good opportunity for me I played last year on the prog rock 'Cruise to the Edge' and that proved highly successful we got a lot of people from the group YES and fans coming along to my concerts so I thought it was a good move this year to not play the prog rock cruise and play these other two cruises. On the Moodies Cruise I'll play two sets and I'll play an hour and a half each time."



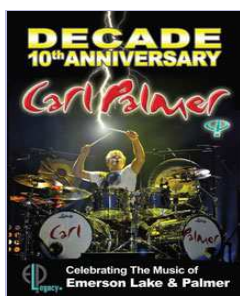
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1 The Moodies Cruise.

Palmer explained. I wanted to just stay on the ship for the

Moodies afterward." He added, "I know Justin (Hayward) we always got along very, very



well it might have been him that requested me but I'm not certain. It's quite significant because ELP was at the original Isle of Wight Festival and Greg Lake was on the Moodies Cruise last year and Roger Daltrey is on the cruise now. I haven't seen him in a while."

Carl confessed that he enjoys networking and interacting with the fans on each of the cruises.

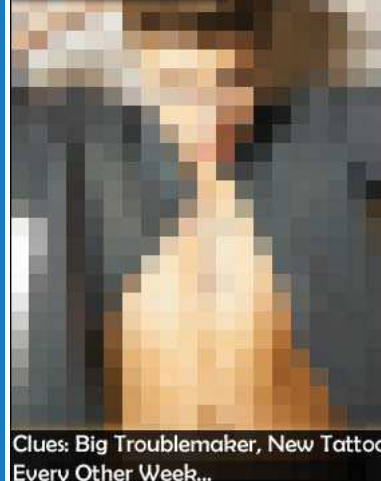
"I use it as a networking tool it's so important because there's so many of us doing the same thing and there's so many places to play that you've got to think out of the box if you can. By the time I get to play with ASIA (let's say, sometime in June when we go to Japan) I would have already gone to places like Portugal, Brazil, Russia, Israel, and so I stay pretty active and to do that you have to network a lot more than you did a few years ago. I won't be staying in my room. I'll also be holding a master class for about 25 drummers on each of the cruises, I'm doing a Q&A, I've also got my artwork on the cruise and an exhibition in Miami."

The Carl Palmer-ELP Legacy Tour is expected to launch at the end of the year in November. "We played a three-week English tour already and there are some summer dates and then I'll concentrate on the ASIA album in June I go to Japan and we'll do some work at the end of September-October in America with ASIA and then in November-December I'll be in America promoting my stuff."

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Carl's art project catalog is selling very successfully.

"The catalog completely sold out—it came out the end of 2012, the last of the canvases sold about three months ago. The Guitar Center bought about 12 of them, it was about 216 altogether. We did remarkably well. We had some great exhibitions, one at Master Music on Sunset Strip and another one in Annapolis outside Washington D.C. so they've sold incredibly well." Some of his pieces are experimenting with LED light sticks in the dark, capturing the images on camera and transferring them to a computer, entitled, *'The Rhythm of Light.'*

Carl says that the most memorable moment of his life was playing Carnegie Hall with an orchestra and his biggest heartbreak was breaking the news to ELP that he was retiring from the band.

"I don't want to be known as an 'nostalgia' act. The biggest heartbreaks were with ELP. I saw Keith Emerson who came to the exhibition on the Sunset Strip last year but I don't keep in touch with Greg Lake because he was rather disappointed with me that I ended my run with the band, I just didn't see taking it any further."

Follow Carl Palmer here:

<http://www.carlpalmer.com>

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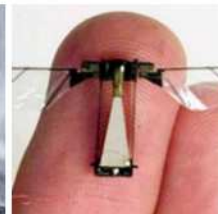
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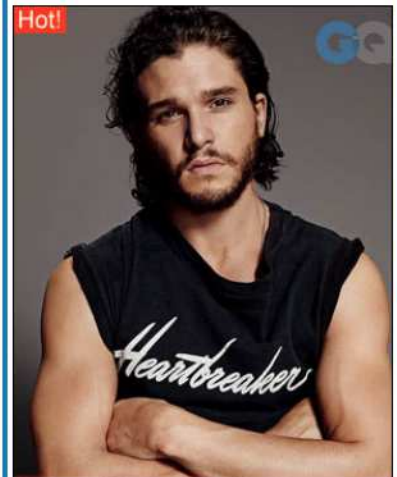
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