



MANGUNIAN * CANDIDATE

Press/Radio Contact:

Info@MancunianCandidateMusic.com

phone: 415.572.0408

Artist website: MancunianCandidateMusic.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mancunian Candidate's Self-Titled Album Scheduled for Release January 2017

San Francisco, CA (November 26, 2016) — The highly-anticipated album by *Mancunian Candiate* will be available at retailers and online worldwide in January 2017.

Mancunian Candidate is the brainchild of drummer/vocalist **Matthew Swindells** and marks his return to the world of progressive, melodic and symphonic rock. **Mancunian Candidate** is a nine-song conceptual and cathartic set that ranges from vast cinematic and pastoral landscapes to angry, sneering and satirical rock.

Swindells lays down tight, punchy, explosive drumming that outlines the skeletal structure of the music. His vocal melodies soar in the tradition of Northern UK singers such as Eric Stewart, Jon Anderson, Sting, Francis Dunnery and Paul McCartney. Mellotrons, Moogs, organ and electronic sounds (also played by **Swindells**) deftly color the canvas.

Exceptional electric guitar performances by **Matthew Charles Heulitt** (Moetar, Narada Michael Walden Ziggabo Modeliste) and **Johnny Heyes** (Mica Paris, Tito Jackson) are teeming with memorable riffs and sizzling solos.

The low end is covered by a star-studded cast of bass players, with rumblings courtesy of **Matt Bissonette** (Elton John, David Lee Roth, Joe Satriani), **Neil Fairclough** (Queen & Adam Lambert), **Jon Evans** (Tori Amos, Sarah Mclauchlan), **Ollie Collins** (Black Rivers, Alan Parsons, Badly Drawn Boy) and long-time Swindells collaborator **Andy Shepley**. Mandolin is played by **Jasper Wilkinson** (I Am Your Autopilot).

Swindells's lyrics reference current world affairs but were inspired by a collection of short stories from the turn of the 19th century. The album wrestles with age-old issues of class division (Garden Party), abuse of power (Masque of the Red Death), consequences of unchecked corporatism (The Phoenix; Circle Lies Unbroken), the sham of organized religion and cultism (Secret of a Saint), and the perpetuation of war (Mongers Among Us; Too Much to Lose).

The songs echo and empathize with, the desperation and anger in a world that seems to be spinning out of control, regressing rather than progressing.

Swindells, who hails from Manchester, England, now resides in San Francisco. He served as drummer and vocalist in the highly acclaimed progressive rock band **Moth Vellum**. Matthew has also previously collaborated with **Matt Bissonette** singing lead vocals on the bassist's 2004 release **Raising Lazarus**, which featured a Swindells original "**Money in My Tea**." He was live tour drummer for electronic music pioneers **Fila Brazillia** and wrote, drummed and sang on Fila's final opus **Dix** (2004).

Mancunian Candidate has a uniquely "Swindells Sound" but one can detect a lathering of Genesis and Yes; a hint of The Police, Rush and It Bites; a dash of Foo Fighters, The Roots, 10CC, Maceo Parker, Dixie Dregs, Thomas Dolby, Steely Dan, Mahavishnu Orchestra, and the kitchen sink.

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