

Something for the Weekend

NewMusic
By JIM GELLATLY

COLONEL MUSTARD & THE DIJON 5

WHERE: Glasgow
FOR FANS OF: Chewin' The Fat, Alabama 3, Flight Of The Conchords

JIM SAYS: Musical comedy troupe Colonel Mustard & The Dijon 5 have to be one of the most entertaining acts in Scotland at the moment.

Mind you, they're not the easiest band for a venue to accommodate. Colonel John Thomas Mustard said: "There's a core Dijon 5, usually consisting of between 10 and 20 people, but we love collaborating and giving even our most seasoned fans a shock at gigs."

Colonel Mustard & The Dijon 5 first emerged five years ago, from the ashes of another Glasgow band, The Ping Pong Banana Show.

Debuting with a session on South Lanarkshire community radio station CamGlen Radio, they played their first gig at the Pin Up Nights indie club a few weeks later and released their debut album Party To Make Music To Party To Make Music To Party To 1 (yes, that really is its name!) in the summer.

It's a musical melting pot, but with genuine wit and a smattering of schoolboy humour. Is there any sort of serious message trying to get out though?

The Colonel said: "There are snippets in nearly every song. Most people don't want



politics rammed down their throats. If you listen hard enough you'll get a lyric like 'How many members have too much money, too many vested interests to best serve the country and how many deals have the money men done, to make more money for their merry men'.

"That's in amongst lyrics about hanky panky with Jimmy Krankie and acrophobic aardvarks in multi-storey car parks. I want people to be entertained first and foremost."

Tomorrow night Colonel Mustard & The Dijon 5 co-headline this year's Savifest at the Barrowland along with ska favourites Esperanza. The gig will be raising money for SAVI, a charity which supports young people who've suffered abuse.

Ramones tribute Ramoaners will open the concert. Others acts include The Underground Jam, Big Hogg, Feet Of Clay and an Italian indie band I've been a fan of for ages, Matinée.

I'll be compere, and I've heard there may be a very special guest act on the bill.

Savifest tickets, priced just £10 (plus booking fee) are available from tickets-scotland.com.

MORE: facebook.com/colonelmustardandthedijon5

● Jim presents Drivetime on XFM Scotland, Monday to Friday 4-7pm. www.xfm.co.uk, www.jimgellatly.com

PHOTO: Martin J Windebank

Sun Watch the band at: thescottishsun.co.uk



BY CHRIS SWEENEY

THEY used to get heckled and called Del Boy and Rodders — but rock duo Slaves have proved that he who dares wins.

The Kent lads — guitarist Laurie Vincent and drummer Isaac Holman — are one of the breakout bands of the year.

They're loud, raw, and both sing and perform side by side. And it's caught on big time with punters — finally.

Laurie, 21, said: "We had to learn our craft hard. Everyone talks about our live shows, that comes from playing endless gigs with nobody there and not getting embarrassed."

"We used to get heckled sometimes. It can be intimidating but I'm thankful for it now. We came off a really long tour one time and we had a few people screaming 'Only Fools And Horses' at us because of how we dress."

"But we maintained our calm and just laughed at them."

"We had to put a lot of ground work in. We did a lot of bad tours, not playing to anyone, driving ourselves — as it's not a normal sound. I look back and I enjoyed proving our worth."

Now the critics are jumping onboard too. Slaves are on the BBC Sound of 2015 list.

Laurie admitted: "It's pretty prestigious. I didn't think a band like us would ever be on that."

"When we started out, we made the music we liked — it never seemed to be a commercially viable sound or something the masses would be interested in. But when you see the past winners, it's mind-blowing to be part of it. We're aware we're a heavy band."

Distinctive style is complete accident

The best thing is, their distinctive style is a complete accident.

It only came about as they couldn't get anyone else to join the band. Laurie said: "Being from Kent and a small town, finding like minded musicians is tough."

"We did it out of necessity. 'I had Isaac just playing to give me a beat, like a human drum machine as he wasn't a drummer."

"We wrote our first song in half an hour and it worked. But we never thought we'd play on a stage."

"We thought it would just be small gigs in pubs."

"We'd both been in bands that thought about being big and successful but in this, we never thought that — and it's the one that has ended up being successful."

Next up for the lads is the NME Awards Tour, which features them, Palma Violets, Fat White Family and The Amazing Snakeheads.

They all storm Glasgow's O2 ABC on February 22.

Laurie added: "Playing with them is going to egg us on even further."

"We're all making contemporary guitar music and we'll feed off each other."

"I feel by the end, we'll all be going mental. For us, touring has become a lot harder. We're playing for longer and bigger audiences."

Every single tour this year, I've fallen ill. I've now stopped drinking when we play and we're getting fitter.

"We want to be healthy and give people what they want."

"It's all about the green tea nowadays."

"We're not what people expect us to be — we're focused on giving good performances and making the most of our music. Our first lot of songs were high octane and high impact."

"But we want to bring something new to the table and keep developing."

"We don't want to keep making the same thing and just be labelled as a scrappy punk duo. We're trying to up our game in each area."

● For more, check out: facebook.com/slaves



We had to learn craft hard way



DEFINITELY NOT FOOLS...
Laurie and Isaac, performing as Slaves, left, and, inset far left, their single The Hunter

ONE2HEAR

TEENAGE rockers Pretty Vicious have got a message for everyone.

Don't fear the feedback. They've got the guitars cranked right up and it sounds bloody magic. Raw and fre-

netic single Cave Song is a cracker from the Welsh young guns.

Hear it now on their Facebook page at facebook.com/Prettyviciousuk Top notch.

ONE2SEE

KODALINE have an infectious spirit about them.

They get in about it and have a real fizz.

So it's good to hear new album Coming Up For Air is out in February. And they're start-

ing the tour for it up here, at Glasgow's Barrowlands on February 15.

Definitely not one to be missed.

Get tickets from ticketmaster.com

ONE2WATCH