

~ Our Top 20 Hit List for 2010 ~

by Brian M. Owens

Every year around this time, we take a look back at the things that moved, shaken, shocked and quaked us from the previous year. It's always music related, but there's something a little extra special that catches your eye, tickles your ears and makes you stand up and notice that makes us choose the bands, artists and acts that we do. That's not to say, of course, that we didn't like the other music we heard. We did. Our picks just stood out a bit more than the rest.



• **Bees Deluxe**-Fronted by London born, singer-songwriter-guitarist, Conrad Wiern, Bees Deluxe, named after a pub in Islington, No. London and the famed Fender Deluxe amp, released an inventive album entitled *Those Chords and The Truth*, that landed them on our January 2010 cover. Wiern, along with bandmates Jamie Lonto on bass and Patrick Sanders on drums continue to rock stages throughout the Northeast with their power trio sounds.



• **Mascara**-Chris Mascara has led the kind of life that could have been torn from the pages of an overly imaginative fiction writer's book. From his early days as a child prodigy on piano to his physical image being watched by gamer's in Harmonix's "Flock Band" video game, to being a patient at McClean Hospital to playing Jesus in *The Boston Rock Opera's* rendition of Jesus Christ Superstar, Chris has led a very interesting life indeed. Mascara along with bassist Bo Baminger and drummer Matt Graber unleashed an incendiary body of work called *Fountain of Tears* that rightly landed them on our April 2010 cover.



• **Scott Beddia/IndepenDRUM**-Growing up in a musical family, Scott Beddia has always had a love for music. As early as five years old, Beddia was playing the drums. Thirty years later, Scott has created a dynamic one man show cleverly called *IndepenDRUM*. His debut CD *IndepenDRUM* caught our ears which led to having him on our May 2010 cover. Make sure to check him out at www.independrum.com for all things percussive.

Dickie & The Desired, touring and recording with that act, Roy and Macy reconnected in the new millennium and reformed Fox Pass along with veteran bassist/singer Steve Gilligan and drummer Tom Landers. Their outstanding album, *Intermittent*, couldn't be denied and Fox Pass wound up on our June 2010. Their inspirational story proved that the power of music can overcome all obstacles.



• **Ashley Joelle Jordan**-Barely out of her mid-teens, singer-songwriter-guitarist Ashley Joelle Jordan has done more with her life than most folks twice her age. This focused, poised young lady captured our attention with her debut CD, *Simple Love*, and we proudly featured her on our July 2010 cover. This talented upstart is so determined she's even managed to create her own radio station, www.radiolicious.com. Make sure to check her out.



• **Kim Jennings**-Jennings proved in 2010 that you can do it all. A wife, mother, career woman and musician, Kim's beautifully crafted debut album *My Carl*, *True North* featured her gorgeous vocals and heartfelt songwriting. We couldn't let her slip in to oblivion, so on the strength of that CD, she graced our May 2010 cover. But Jennings work didn't stop there. She, along with fellow musician Dan Cloutier formed the Birch Bear Records label to give talented artists.



• **Carl Kamp**-Remember Carl's phone call to us.

February, 2011 - Metronome Magazine's Top Twenty Hit List for 2010:

1. Bees Deluxe, 2. John Gerard, 3. Mascara, 4. Carl Kamp, 5. Scot Beddia/IndepenDRUM, 6. Kim Jennings, 7. Fox Pass, 8. Ashley Joelle Jordan, 9. Blackstone Valley Bluegrass, 10. Tinsley Ellis, 11. Ronnie James Dio (In Memoriam), 12. John Cate & The Van Gogh Brothers, 13. Stevie Ray Vaughan (In Memoriam), 14. Bill "Des" Desmond, 15. Highway Ghosts, 16. Jimi Hendrix (In Memoriam), 17. Robin Rogers, 18. Kristen Miller, 19. Jimmie Vaughan, 20. John Lennon (In Memoriam)

Brian Owens, Editor of Metronome Magazine writes:

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