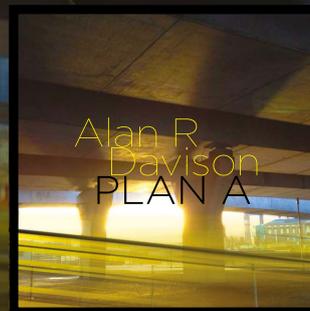


PLAN A

Alan R Davison

A story of leaving and coming back home.

Three-track EP
available now.



"I love it when a plan comes together."

While 80s TV show quotes don't feature in Alan R Davison's three track EP, 'Plan A', the sounds of the 80s, 90s and 00s do.

Plan A is the story of a man reflecting on the impact of the decision to leave home, and an acknowledging nod to the repercussions shaping him into who he is today. The release is the first of two EPs with Plan A focussing on Belfast – living, leaving and returning home. 2019's Plan B will focus on moving to Edinburgh and all life-changes it brought.

The influences on the EP bounce around the grunge peak of the early 90s, whilst incorporating some 80s pop and rock, and even touching on some 90s and 00s heavier rock.

The EP tells a reverse tale, beginning on a lighter note with crunchy country-rock 'Home' and becoming darker with trashy guitar middle track 'Decisions' and lo-fi closer track 'Bones'.

Moving to Edinburgh almost 20 years ago, Davison left a very different Belfast, one amid a flurry of Brit pop and indie ruling the airwaves. A rock, indie, pop and metal fan himself Davison never cared for time and place and while the trends of the charts occasionally peaked his interest, they never influenced his direction.

1996 saw the end of Belfast-based heavy rock band, Demise, which Davison fronted for three years. More bedded in with heavier peers like Iron Maiden and Black Sabbath, Demise managed a decent following, and even picked up interest from DJ and New Wave of British Heavy Metal pioneer Neal Kay, who worked with the band on their second and third studio offerings. Kay is best known for spotting and playlisting Iron Maiden, and holds a place in history as the author of the sleeve notes on Maiden's first recording *The Soundhouse Tapes*,

a gesture he repeated for the first time since then with the Demise boys.

Edinburgh introduced Alan to a completely different musical perspective, forcing him to shelve some ideas and influences from his past and submerge himself in new sounds.

Belfast stayed close to the heart however, as Davison, trained as a graphic designer and illustrator, embarked on a series of detailed pencil studies of Titanic, over 30 of which sold at auction or exhibition from 1998 – 2008. Former head of Guinness, Jean Francois Jamet, owns an original and Davison himself presented one of the works to the Harbour Commissioner at an exclusive dinner in the building in Belfast. The picture now hangs in a room with original furnishings originally meant for Titanic itself.

Exploring a range of new music and old, he didn't wait too long before jumping into the Scottish music scene – firstly solo, then forming *Underbelly*, a rock outfit that very quickly climbed the ladder in Edinburgh. The four piece bagged two T-Break appearances, a lengthy list of shows around Edinburgh and Glasgow's famous venues, some shows in London and Belfast, and a variety of radio plays and performances as well as Northern Irish and Scottish TV exposure.

In 2005 they released the 'Come in to Land' EP which boosted them onto BBC radio playlists both in Scotland and NI. The boys carried off a triumphant Belfast visit to the Empire Music Hall with radio and TV promo coverage, amid interest from a couple of labels. November 2006 saw them return to a very receptive Belfast audience for *Belfast* in the Limelight.

At this point Davison had started Identity Parade, an unsigned showcase in a Jools Holland multi-stage setting. ID Parade became a popular event and ran through a couple of Edinburgh Festivals to great response.

Towards the end of Underbelly, Davison formed collaborative band, *The Elements*, who dabbled in a quieter, more emotive acoustic endeavour with Davison penning a lively pop track called 'Superhero' which made it to ESPN's 2012 FA Cup coverage and earned the band a live performance on ESPN's *Talk of The Terrace* show to about a million people. Quieter offering 'New York City' also peaked the interest of TV shows here and across the pond and landing him an invite to a showcase for 'Polar' - Snow Patrol's publishing label run by veteran musician and writer/producer, Johnny McDaid.

Then came Davison's debut album *The White Eagle Lounge* - a massive collaborative project featuring some 35 musicians including a few recognisable names like Rick McMurray (Ash), Nathan Connolly (Snow Patrol/Little Matador), Tom Simpson (Snow patrol) and Alex Cornish.

The project was a grand undertaking, requiring a unique approach to organising rehearsal and studio time, sometimes even involving online link-ups.

The Plan A EP features Edinburgh favourite Mike Baillie (The Lonely Together) with returning appearances from Snow Patrol/Little Matador guitarist Nathan Connolly and Ash drummer Rick McMurray. While Connolly and McMurray are two very well-known, successful Northern Irish exports and despite probably crossing paths in Belfast many a time with knowing it, Davison and the guys actually all met in Edinburgh.

Plan A is available for digital download on iTunes, Amazon and Amazingtunes and Plan B - is on the way.



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