

About 24 hours after the accident, I removed the website from our servers and replaces all the pages with black...

Date: Sun Nov 14, 2004 8:41:54 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] threshold house

Tribute to ODB?

or hopefully the Dublin download?

anyone know what the black page is about at threshold house?

Pete

Planning on living forever - so far, so good

Date: Sun Nov 14, 2004 8:40:49 PM

Subject: RE: [coil] threshold house

Peter having fun with GoLive ?

"I don't ever want to be alone. With all my darkest dreaming. Hold me close.
The sky is breaking."

At about 9,15am the next day I put up the first announcement....

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:27:57 AM

Subject: [coil] Balance dead? Please say it aint so...

Oh, man if true this really sucks.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:37:21 AM

Subject:

This is a sad day. Learned the bad news coming back from work. I'll just go to bed and pretend it was a dream. All my deepest condolences to Jhonn's family, he was a great individual and i am sure you all know it. Take good care, there will be a lot of people mourning with you.
Sandrine.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:41:51 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

I...

no words...

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:49:00 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

I count among the most miraculous experiences of my life seeing Jhonn Balance perform with COIL in New York City on August 18, 2001, which coincidentally (?) fell on the day of my 23rd birthday. An incredible, inexplicable psychic connection was forged between performer & audience in so strong a way as I have never witnessed before or since. Jhonn Balance was an incredible poet, a singular visionary, a beautiful crystalline soul, a crackling arc of mutant psychotic energy that sparked with an intelligence, passion and fury rarely glimpsed in this world or the next. His madness shone bright. The death of your father, the death of your mother, is something you prepare for all your life, but you can never adequately prepare for the death of an artist who has marked all of his fans so deeply, in such profound and challenging ways.

-Jonathan Dean 11.15.04

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:53:30 AM

Subject: Mourning on a sunny day

I'd like to cross the thresholdhouse to give you my most deep and sincere condolences to you guys and to John's folks. Death's not the end for sure but it'll be a great loss, as an artist of course, but as a human being and a friend for all of you.

To drown a rose won't keep to watch her beauty shine. Honour the dead

From France

Marco

www.gutsofdarkness.com

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:54:05 AM

Subject: although we never met, you knew the part of me that needing knowing most.

After Throbbing Gristle ruined music for me, John Ballanced saved it, he also saved my faith that the world may one day be beautifull and changed as he was. He was proof of fallen angels, fallen so that we may have with us a peice of the sky and the moon.

□

- Justice Michael Emge.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:02:58 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] Balance dead? Please say it aint so...

Hello all

Thiz is a sick joke?
someone hacked the treshold site?

plz let it be something elze.

--

'Nick Cave, Moon in the Gutter, my favourite of his solo songs
Much better then In the Ghetto
The true crooner of his age
The poet man who is almost the male Lydia Lunch
Nick Cave understands the true torture of his soul
A beautiful, beautiful, sad song
IT MOVES ME'

Gavin Friday after listening to The Moon is in the Gutter
Maarten

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:06:40 AM

Subject: Jhonn

I'm so very sorry for your loss.

I would like to contribute to the Book of Condolence, but I don't know how, exactly, at this moment.

I know these are just words from a stranger on the internet, but I wish you all strength, love and security.

-Jairus

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:07:01 AM

For over half of my life, Geff has touched me in one way or another. He was at first a mystery, then an obsession, then an idol, then an inspiration, and finally a friend. The reality of his departure has not set in, but then again, with him, reality was always questionable.

I'll never forget one time while Sleaz was away, Geff called me from the house. He had visions and images and stories about past lives. He had told me that he sees Ireland in me - as if I had a past life there. "Do you have Irish ancestry?" he asked, but alas, I have none. Then he went on to describe past lives of other friends and associates and I forget who went where but when he got to David Tibet he stopped and said, "Tibet has no past life."

Somehow I expect that if anybody figures out how to use a phone from beyond the material world, he will. I am eternally grateful for the years of magick, for opening new worlds and his world to me, and he will remain forever in my heart and memories.

with undying love,

jon whitney

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:09:02 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] Balance dead?

.... I can barely type.... it is true..... balance has died in an accident at home.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:14:54 AM

Subject: for Jhonn...

a fleeting spirit
grazed my face
then touched the sky
flying high
he danced with the sun
resting now in the solar lodge
we'll meet again in other worlds
rest in peace.

thru Coil I discovered that being who and what I am is NORMAL, nay RIGHT. the world is more than what your told it is. the boy in the suitcase follows you from place to place. though we never met you meant something to me in my life- I saw your image and fell in love- music and influences all those years ago helped me to discover for myself who & what I am- that people like myself exist in the world. Coil opened the door ~ I followed the path. Thank you. we love you- gregg

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:17:12 AM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

Hello Peter,

□

I am becoming an older man of 41 years too but since the eighties I always liked your work and your attitude. After 20 years Coil is part of my life: so I will miss him too ...

□

Luc De Boeck

□

□

Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:25:41 AM

Subject:

I heard about that sad new this morning.
It's hard finding words in these moments.
Just thinking to his family, friends and fans.
Listening to Coil's music may now take complete different sense and taste.

PY

>

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:27:01 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted: fuck words impossible

i have been sitting here in a state of that sadness on the waves for quite a while, unbelief but you know that you are now awake and your despair is the end, and yet you feel more alive and free to your choices then ever. i don't know what to say. balance changed my life, and opened everything up for me. i

want to cry, i hope i will. i have been drinking all night, and now i want to drink more. i know i never knew balance personally but from the incredibly real and maplike dreams that first brought me to a copy scatology seven years ago to the myriad changes in me since, there was never a point in existence whence i forgot his, and with him, coil's, effect on me. sadly enough it seems as now I will and can, and surely other's, achieve what we should have could have years ago, if only now because of the empty void, very wide, deep, that balance has left here on earth. now with that emptiness in ourselves as well, myself for sure, the ability to act is so much easier, if only because now i know there is something great missing in this world, something i once knew, and was once there for me, to guide me, enlighten me. balance you changed me, opened me to myself, and for that i can never say or do enough, but you and what you were apart of did this for not only me but so many others, and for, if not all, then many more to come. fucking gravity. mortals of us all, with my head in hands eyes open the closed, joseph marcure. love, abyss, endless, blue and green

On Monday 15 November 2004 01:30 am, Jon Whitney wrote:

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:35:49 AM

Subject: My greatest gratitude.....R.I.P. Eternally.

Dear Peter,

□

□My name is the Distorted Poet, Michael G. Stone. From the San Francisco bay area in California (U.S.A.)□ hope you are doing well in this time. Actually I know youre not doing well. Please dont go anywhere besides in the music. Jhon brought a joy into my life that can never really be described.

I've had many self voyages while listening to coil since I was in highschool. I'm 30 now, and the music seems to never change its goldmine,. I write many poems, short stories, and novels while under the influence of coils music. I just wonder off with each song.

□

□Broccoli makes me fall into tears each time I hear the song. Its very emotional for me, due to my mother passing the day before Thanksgiving in 1999. Its good to have that sort of emotion from a tone, that whisper in your ear giving me the illusion of my life and surrounding horrors that i've been through. Not the the

music, just being music.

□

It is 2:07 am Monday November 15, 2004 A. D. When I write this. I had just recently woken up from being sick all Sunday, and taken Nyquil which made me sleep too long..

□

I wanted to do some spoken word stuff with the band Coil. Doesn't look like I'll be able to do it with Jhon, but hopefully Sleazy will enlighten his direction in mine. I wrote a poem that is published in a book called "Forest Of Caves: The Book Of Dreams"

This is one of the poems:

I
Peter Christopherson
His spirit
Another realm.
And his body lurks in my time
And beautiful it is.
The poet flows
wonderful
Inside musical trance
His eyes adore the vision
His world sees
The musician
Brings the vision, Immaculate.
The four leaf clover
Fall onto the lap now.
Beauty
Eternal passion
-End-
"Seeds in healthy soil"

□

□

.....It's really hard to describe how it feels right now. I was always selfish and had been mad for quite sometime that Coil never made it to San Francisco, where I live now... For a live showing... I don't even get that option of being mad anymore... I can only mourn, and enjoy live performances that friends send my way. The Solar Lodge has lost a cadet, and I hope Sleazy doesn't lose himself in himself, and continues on with music. PLEASE Peter PLEASE, Jhon I'm sure would want it. Keep your head up high. go talk to David Tibet, he seems like a very comforting soul. I hope Genesis will take the time away from his touring and do the same.

□

This email will probably never get a reply, but please do me a favor and give it to Peter. I'd rather it in his hands than in some book to be honest. Take care, and please enjoy the winds outside. They will blow with mourn now.

<http://thedistortedpoet.20m.com>

-Michael G. Stone ~ The Distorted Poet

□

□

te: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:40:27 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

"one day, we're all going to fall..."

he will be so deeply missed on so many levels but his body of work and
psychic trail will blaze for ever

ns

on Nov 15, 2004 10:47:45 AM

Subject: (aucun objet)

What had begun as a normal, typically gloomy Monday morning has now turned
into a very sad one indeed...

I came rather late to Coil and other projects involving Jhonn, and I knew that I
would have to make for the lost time someday, somehow. Now it makes it both
more urgent, before something else happens, and more pointless...

Jhonn, I sincerely hope your "crossing of the Threshold" is not the end, and that
some day we may meet.

Ronan

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:50:42 AM

Subject:

ate: 15 November 2004 10:42:26 GMT

Subject: Re: Geff

Peter

I'm lost for words, but my thoughts are with you, Ian and Geff, wherever he is now.

If there's anything I can do to assist you, however small, at any time, do let me know, and please keep me informed if any memorial is planned, as I'd like to pay my respects.

with love

mark pilkington

Subject: 131104

Dear Peter,

□

this is not kind of news i believe. Jhonn is with us, he will always be.

□

□

yours

sergei

Date: 15 November 2004 10:06:40 GMT

I'm so very sorry for your loss.

I would like to contribute to the Book of Condolence, but I don't know how, exactly, at this moment.

I know these are just words from a stranger on the internet, but I wish you all strength, love and security.

-Jairus

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:51:04 AM

Subject:

Date: 15 November 2004 08:22:28 GMT

Subject: Re: Geff

Dear Ian and Sleazy,

I am very shocked and extremely sorry to hear this news. Although I did not see as much of Geff as I would have preferred, I liked him a great deal, and felt that we had a lot in common. The last time we met, just over a year ago, he came round my flat to look at my collection, and we spent hours in the intense passion for Spare that we shared. I always enjoyed Geff's company in many ways, and would have liked to have known him a great deal better. It is sad beyond words that I shall never see him again. Please accept my heartfelt condolences to you both.

Please do let me know of the funeral arrangements.

Love,

Mick.

Date: 15 November 2004 05:28:36 GMT

Subject: condolences from Thomas Olson in NYC

Peter-

Danny just told me...

I'm so sorry to hear about this. That it sometimes seemed inevitable, and that self-destruction seemed to be something he was sometimes visibly working towards, is really no consolation. Listening to some coil songs now, and they

are all sounding to me now as if they were written for this moment.

For the moment, if there are any kinds of observances that you would like people to take part in from afar, please let me know.

Somehow I expect things have been very hard for you since last we talked. Perhaps they will be hard now for just a little while longer...

My thoughts are with you... please let me know if you need anything or just want to talk...

Date: 15 November 2004 05:28:36 GMT
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For the moment, if there are any kinds of observances that you would like people to take part in from afar, please let me know.

Somehow I expect things have been very hard for you since last we talked. Perhaps they will be hard now for just a little while longer...

My thoughts are with you... please let me know if you need anything or just want to talk...

Date: 14 November 2004 23:49:47 GMT

Subject: Re: Geff

Peter
just to let you know I am thinking of you
and if there is any way i can help you
i will
love

Mark x

Date: 14 November 2004 22:30:46 GMT

Subject: PS

Date: 14 November 2004 21:37:42 GMT

Subject: AW: Geff

Dear Peter

this is a shock and I am very sad; I just spoke w/ Tim 3 days ago and we spoke about Geff

and about him to beeing surprised if you would call him and saying he is dead...

I don't know what to say, I loved him , right now I can't believe he is not there anymore..

he was always walking over the edge...speak tomorrow love sabine

Liber CVI

Concerning Death

AN EPISTLE OF BAPHOMET to the Illustrious Dame Anna Wright, Companion of the

Holy Graal, shining like the moon, concerning Death, that she and her sisters may bring comfort to all them that are nigh death, and unto such as love them.

Beloved Daughter and Sister,

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

Let it be thy will and the will of all them that tend upon the sick, to comfort and to fortify them with these words following.

I

IT IS WRITTEN in The Book of the Law: Every man and every woman is a Star.

It is Our Lady of the Stars that speaketh to thee, O thou that art a star, a member of the Body of Nuith! Listen, for thine ears become dulled to the mean noises of the earth; the infinite silence of the Stars woos thee with subtile musick. Behold her bending down above thee, a flame of blue, all-touching, all-penetrant, her lovely hands upon the black earth, and her lithe body arched for love, and her soft feet not hurting the little flowers, and think that all thy grossness shall presently fall from thee as thou leapest to her embrace, caught up into her love as a dewdrop into the kisses of the sunrise. Is not the ecstasy of Nuit the consciousness of the continuity of existence, the omnipresence of her body? All that hath hurt thee was that thou knewest it not, and as that fadeth from thee thou shalt know as never yet how all is one. Again She saith: I give unimaginable joys upon earth, certainty, not faith, while in life, upon death. This thou hast known. Time that eateth his children hath not power on them that would not be children of Time. To them that think themselves immortal, that dwell alway in eternity, conscious of Nuit, throned upon the chariot of the sun, there is no death that men call death. In all the universe darkness is only to be found in the shadow of a gross and opaque planet, as it were for a moment; the universe itself is a flood of light eternal. So also death is but through accident; thou hast hidden thyself in the shadow of thy gross body, and taking it for reality, thou hast trembled. But the orb revolveth anon; the shadow passeth away from thee. There is the dissolution, and the eternal ecstasy in the kisses of Nu! For inasmuch as thou hast made the Law of Freedom thine, as thou hast lived in Light and Liberty and Love, thou hast become a Free-man of the City of the Stars.

II

LISTEN AGAIN to thine own voice within thee. Is not Hadit the flame that burns in every heart of man, and in the core of every star? Is not He Life, and the giver of Life? And is not therefore the knowledge of Him the knowledge of Death? For it hath been shown unto thee in many other places how Death and Love be twins. Now art thou the hunter, and Death rideth beside thee with his horse and spear as thou chasest thy Will through the forests of Eternity, whose trees are the hair of Nuit thy mistress! Thrill with the joy of life and death! Know, hunter mighty and swift, the quarry turns to bay! Thou hast but to make one sharp thrust, and thou hast won. The Virgin of Eternity lies supine at thy mercy, and thou art Pan! Thy death shall be the seal of the promise of our agelong love. Hast thou not striven to the inmost in thee? Death is the crown of all. Harden! Hold up thyself! Lift thine head! breathe not so deep--die!

III

OR ART THOU STILL ENTANGLED with the thorny plaits of wild briar rose that thou hast woven in thy magick dance on earth? Art not thine eyes strong enough to bear the starlight? Must thou linger yet awhile in the valley? Must thou dally with the shadows in the dusk? Then if it be Thy Will, thou

hast no right but to do Thy Will! Love still these phantoms of the earth;
thou hast made thyself a King; if it please thee to play with toys of
matter, were they not made to serve thy pleasure? Then follow in thy mind
the wondrous word of the Steele of Revealing itself. Return if thou wilt
from the abode of the Stars; dwell with mortality, and feast thereon. For
thou art this day Lord of Heaven and of Earth.

“The dead man Ankh-f-na-Khonsu
Saith with his voice of truth and calm:
O thou that hast a single arm!
O thou that glitterest in the moon!
I weave thee in the spinning charm
I lure thee with the billowy tune.

The dead man Ankh-f-na-Khonsu
Hath parted from the darkling crowds
Hath joined the dwellers of the light
Opening Duant, the star-abodes,
Their keys receiving.

The dead man Ankh-f-na-Khonsu
Hath made his passage into night
His pleasure on the earth to do
Among the living."

Love is the law, love under will.

The Benediction of the All-Begetter, All-Devourer be upon thee.

Baphomet X° O.T.O.

Given under Our hand and seal this day of An XII the Sun our Father being in
Leo, and the Moon in Pisces, from the throne of Ireland, Iona and all the
Britains that is in the Sanctuary of the Gnosis.

Date: 14 November 2004 20:18:58 GMT

Subject: Re: Geff

Dearest Sleazy
we are just dumb struck and we just can't imagine how you and Ian must be
feeling.
All the immediate instincts of wanting to put our arms around you are impossible
with the distance between us but our hearts and souls reach out to you with the
warmth of our love.

We're devastated that the Geff we knew and loved has gone forever. We would phone you but I (Cosey) am in tears and we don't know if you are wanting to talk yet. Please call us if you need anything at all we'll drop everything for you. If you need us to come to Weston just ask.

Love in great sadness

Cosey and Chris x x x x

Date: 14 November 2004 18:43:57 GMT

Subject: Re: Geff

Fuck, Pete, Ian I'm so sorry
My god I have gone terribly cold and I am trying to hold back tears,
That crazy fucking soul will be well and truly missed

God rest his soul

Love

Danny Hyde

Date: 14 November 2004 17:59:53 GMT

Subject: <no subject>

Dear Peter,
I am so sorry.
All my love, to you & Ian and to Geff where he is now.
If there is anything I can do, please call me.
Love,
Geoff.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:51:23 AM

Subject:

Date: 14 November 2004 13:47:39 GMT

Subject: RE: Dearest Sleazy

My dear Sleaz, I am so so sorry to hear the news about Geff, it is so upsetting and my heart is with you on this terrible day.

I just tried to call you but, understandably, you were not available for me to be able to personally send you my love and to say that if there is anything i can do for you, please ask, i am always there for you Mr Sleaz. Anything at all.

I am off to Samet early tomorrow morning so I will not really be available by anything but email. Just as long as you know that I am thinking of you and, like Bee, am by your side during this difficult time.

With love from your friend,

jenx

Date: 14 November 2004 11:43:02 GMT

Subject: Re: silence

i will

i don't know when you're planning on going public this but i don't feel like publishing the brainwashed newsletter this week because of this

On Sun, 14 Nov 2004, Peter Martin Christopherson wrote:

HI JOn

Thanx for that - just numb right now. Please wait till his folks have been informed before going more public,

luvsleaz

On 14 Nov 2004, at 04:43, Jon Whitney wrote:

i don't know what to tell you aside from i'm really sorry things happened like this.

just let me know if you need me to do anything.

all my love,

jon

jonwhitney
TURBID.COM

Date: 14 November 2004 10:57:08 GMT

Subject:

hello babes

sorry about before .. i was sort of all over the place ...not knowing what to do when

u can't do anything

i read yr mail again at home ...

i guess this is the first time that i've ever lost anyone who is so close to my heart

i don't what to say except that ... i really miss him ...

and I love you

Bee

Date: 14 November 2004 04:43:51 GMT

Subject: silence

i don't know what to tell you aside from i'm really sorry things happened like this.

just let me know if you need me to do anything.

all my love,

jon

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:52:37 AM

Subject: a few uneasy words

to whoever should read this:

im not an articulate man, i haven't a great grasp on what i should write to you. i only want you to know that mr balance effected me in an extremely personal manner. he was able to open my mind to the unlimited possibilites of this universe. all the unusual, wonderous, mysterious corners of my mind and spirit were brought to life by his writing, his music, and his art. as it did for everybody, this news came as a great shock to me and i was immediately heartbroken. i feel as though ive lost somebody very close to me, although ive never met him. that was undoubtedly the kind of person he was, a man with an ability to reach beyond physical space and touch souls. before i ramble the purpose out of this message, i want to end it by sending my condolences to his friends and family who knew him intimately. he leaves a void which can never be filled.

hearbroken in seattle, washington
clayton perdue

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:54:17 AM

Subject: geff

I've not been as closed to him as many others but over the last view years I have consider him as a friend, always have been worries about his live style, knowing about him walking over the edge.

Geff was smart, too smart to survive, intelligence is not a gift, he was one of the most

gently and sensitive persons I met.

But there have been two sides of him; Geff and Jhon, Geff was balanced, Jhon was unbalanced

he was calling the devil more as one`s, he was old enough to know better; all his friends

were trying to help him, he definatly go more support as others in the same position

I spoke w/ him on the phone a few month ago and we talked about more personal stuff, I remember he was saying

" sabine I can`t help it, I can`t shot down my toughts, it`s stronger as me, I am fighting

it, knowing it`s not good for me, for people around, for the band; but it is like it is;

right now I feel fine, but I can`t promise that things woud change quickly, I am not in

the position of making plans to long ahead of time, it`s impossible for me".

I am still under shock, today realising that he`s gone; wereever his soul is now, he

is probably saying to himself; what a fucking ideot have I been; it was too early to go;.

I wish this is a bad dream, I wish to wake up and things were the same, but

I woke up

this morning and it wasn`t.

I will keep you w/me, never will forget about you..in love Sabine

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:55:11 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

"one day, we're all going to fall..."

he will be so deeply missed on so many levels but his body of work and
psychic trail will blaze for ever

hear, hear

forever indeed

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:04:21 AM

Subject: Rest in Peace John

I had been a huge fan of Coil and John Balance in the 80ies and 90ies. Only recently, after a long period of absence from the scene, had I to started listening again to their music, having subscribed to the mailing list only a month ago. Shit, only yesterday I had been listening three or so times in a row to their moving version of 'All The Pretty Little Horsies'. This morning I was even humming 'Love's Secret Domain'. I open my mailbox a few moments later and he's gone. It's very hard to believe. To say I'm shocked is the least. All my condolences to Peter and the people who stood close to John.

Vincent Romain

"defeated love is still a treasure and those who choose lovelessness have
won no victory at all"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:16:15 AM

Subject: The King is dead

The King is dead ...
Philippe.

Date: Sun Nov 14, 2004 11:29:32 PM

Subject: Condolence

Dear Peter,

□

I feel so sad hearing about Geff's death. Last few years I felt there were quite some misunderstandings between Geff and me, but I always believed things would turn out right in the end. In fact, only a few days ago I decided to create a COIL dedication on the internet: www.maldoror.com/artists/coil.

□

God dammit. Will write more later.

□

Tony

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:33:26 AM

Subject: Saddness

Shocked, saddened, words fail me, I hope he finds some peace now.

Jim , Hackney

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:35:43 AM

I was playing a show with John Overall on Saturday - he was saying how he gave the line 'Too much blood in my alcohol' to Jhonn...at around that time Jhonn must have 'departed' ...

The world will be an emptier and darker place without Jhonn's unique vision. Coil have been a profound inspiration to me not only musically but also as mentors, Jhonn was a gate keeper that held the keys to unlock many doors that would have (for me) remained closed. Without his words and imagination the 'creative' world will be forever undernourished.

Andrew Liles

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:33:35 AM

Subject: Goodbye, Jhon!

..and thank you for all your valuable inputs to the world and my life!! You will truly be missed.

Ken Bruheim, Copenhagen

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:40:47 AM

Subject: R.I.P.

No words can describe the influence John's art had on me.
It was an escape from the void which started to surround me.
Therefore, the loss is indescribable, but the heritage as well.

May the light guide you.

Nino

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:40:50 AM

Subject: R.I.P.

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May the light guide you.

Nino

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:42:33 AM

Subject: John Balance

Coil's music has had an ever-growing influence on me for the last ten years, maybe culminating in the concert at the Ocean this summer, which I thought was the best Coil performance in terms of emotional expression. Today, I am extremely sad. Coil truly were the musical exponent of William Burroughs. John Balance was one of the most brutally honest people I have ever seen. I will miss you John.

□

Joe

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:42:51 AM

Subject: Words for the departing

I was privileged to attend the concert in Dublin on the 23rd October, my first time at a Coil show. That magickal evening shall be forever treasured, more so now since Jhonn's passing over. My thoughts are with you all at this time.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:50:56 AM

Subject: ango's

In the giddy Age of Wormwood my love goes to His lovely deadpan voice. I will allways remember His kindness and His warm embrace.
Lord Ganesha put His blessed hand on my head and I clean up the tears from my face.
From the core of my stomach I send my love to Jeff.
Ango / mariaae nascenti

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:59:40 AM

Subject: thank you

Quite simply,

thank you jhonn, i never knew you, but like many people, your work has a profound affect on me, it has and continues to make my life that much richer.

thank you

heartfelt feelings to those left behind

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:59:46 AM

Subject: Whenever you are now Jhon.

I'm really devastated to read, hear, feel, breathe, smell..... such story.

□

frederic Botte.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 12:12:58 PM

Subject: John Balance

I cry,togheter with thee other Children Ov thee Black Sun,thee Death of one of the most great artists and person of our time.

John Balance was Our Spiritual Father,and we'll never forget all his thinks and all his art.

SAinT dANi HA-HA-HA,aka dANi/Alvo Ov Testing Vault

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 12:14:28 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted: fuck words impossible

I can only sign under this - well written, haruki. I couldn't do it better.

.....

Rest in peace, Jhonn. We'll be missing you...

nothing

Sent: Monday, November 15, 2004 11:27 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted: fuck words impossible

i have been sitting here in a state of that sadness on the waves for quite a

while, unbelief but you know that you are now awake and your despair is the

end, and yet you feel more alive and free to your choices then ever. i don't

know what to say. balance changed my life, and opened everything up for me. i

want to cry, i hope i will. i have been drinking all night, and now i want

to

drink more. i know i never knew balance personally but from the incredibly
real and maplike dreams that first brought me to a copy scatology seven
years

ago to the myriad changes in me since, there was never a point in
existence

whence i forgot his, and with him, coil's, effect on me. sadly enough it
seems as now I will and can, and surely other's, achieve what we should
have

could have years ago, if only now because of the empty void, very wide,
deep,

that balance has left here on earth. now with that emptiness in ourselves
as

well, myself for sure, the ability to act is so much easier, if only
because

now i know there is something great missing in this world, something i
once

knew, and was once there for me, to guide me, enlighten me. balance you
changed me, opened me to myself, and for that i can never say or do
enough,

but you and what you were apart of did this for not only me but so many
others, and for, if not all, then many more to come. fucking gravity.

mortals

of us all, with my head in hands eyes open the closed, joseph marcure.
love,

abyss, endless, blue and green

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 12:23:52 PM

Subject: We Love You Geff

Our friend and Maestro, our guide and beacon, the loverboy with whom we shared
countless moments of joy, has crossed over the threshold. Today our Black Sun
shines blacker than ever to salut the most beautiful ghost boy on his way to the
peaceful shores of Anarcadia. Without John Balance's influence and genius we
wouldn't be the persons we are today. We bend in front of the greatest artist of our
generation to whom vision we'll be forever loyal.

We love you Geff.

Thank you for everything you did for us and with us. To celebrate your name and
talent will be now our mission untill the day we'll join you again there where you are
now.

Thank you for coming to meet us in your moment of change by appearing in our

both dreams. Please, visit our dreams again.

Our Love and all the strength of our friendship to Peter and Ian, to Geff's family and friends.

Yours always

Massimo & Pierce

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 12:06:48 PM

Subject: Don't know what to write - but just to express my sadness and sympathy.

Don't know what to write - but just to express my sadness and sympathy.

John was a "never spoken too, unmet friend" from 20 years plus. I was listening to Black Antlers last night still marvelling at the freshness of the music so far into a life [career is not appropriate]. My old copies of Stabmental, bought through the post from a boarding school in Oxford, will seem particularly precious tonight.

Regards

Trevor

□

□

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 12:29:26 PM

Subject:

from the early days as a new Nigerian student in Newcastle, discovering Psychic TV through 23 skidoo and the Nanavesh fanzine. Discovering coil through that and being launched further on a trajectory away from the sugar coated pop and american soul classics that permeate Nigerian airwaves.

Horse rotorvator.

Panic.

The sewage worker's birthday party

LSD

finding myself humming and remembering the words "There are thrones underground and monarchs upon them" more than 6 years after last listening to the album.

2004: finding a long lost cd of Loves Secret Domain and converting the whole thing for my ipod. Inspired to record Horse Rotorvator from vinyl.

Wondered what coil was up to.

Thanks Mr balance for all those years and don't destroy all the angels before we all get across.

KolaOgundipe

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 12:37:15 PM

Subject: [coil] condolences accepted

Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone,
Prevent the dog from barking with a juicy bone,
Silence the pianos and with muffled drum
Bring out the coffin, let the mourners come.

Let aeroplanes circle moaning overhead
Scribbling on the sky the message He Is Dead,
Put crepe bows round the white necks of the public doves,
Let the traffic policemen wear black cotton gloves.

He was my North, my South, my East and West,
My working week and my Sunday rest,
My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song;
I thought that love would last for ever: I was wrong.

The stars are not wanted now: put out every one;
Pack up the moon and dismantle the sun;
Pour away the ocean and sweep up the wood.
For nothing now can ever come to any good.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 12:42:02 PM

Subject: RIP

I wish I had something more intelligent to say, something that would sum up the sense of loss John's passing has created. Instead, I'm just dumbfounded. I never knew the person, but his music spoke deeply, he gave electronic music a human heart. This is without a doubt, the saddest day imaginable for those who love music.

My thoughts are with his friends and family.

Yours,
Dave

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 12:54:09 PM

Subject:

Geff was a dear and close friend of mine. I am forever grateful for the times I had the opportunity to sit with him and listen to his unique thoughts about art, magick and life, as if every thought he shared was emanating from some secret Well in a place only he had access to.

He was here for a greater purpose than what he sometimes was able to perceive. The Torch he carried will forever radiate upon the surface of the earth and in the heavens.

My condolences goes to his family and to you, Peter.

Olav Hagen

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:28:43 AM

Subject: The sadness.

I can't believe it. Sympathies to his family and friends , a great loss indeed. Gavin from Papercop.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 12:57:18 PM

Subject: NO BALANCE

×

I met Geff aka John Balance in May 1997 in Chiswick, London. We spent most of the evening in the kitchen, talking, laughing, drinking tea. He had fennel. Me refusing to be cooked for, we went out for a Thai - there was a good place nearby and everyone in there seemed to know my new friend..

Next day I was back home, surrounded by the echoes of that night. In attempt to capture them I made a piece of music. Today it is known under the title "ISB: part 2". It also had part one, called "no balance"..

At that time my very first album, ISB (In Spaces Between), was about to be released through Sentrax. After meeting Geff I decided to change the "thank you" in the album's liner notes from BALANCE to NOBALANCE. I found his chosen name to be filled with self-irony, as from the very first moment I could sense he was a continuous struggle. That feeling never left me since..

Neither did that record. Years passed, ISB has not been released...

This morning, I was going through my e-mails. First I found the final graphics for the soon forthcoming double COH CD - one of the two being that very album. A retrospective. As is. I have already decided earlier to keep the liner notes as originally intended back in the 1997: "thank you.. nobalance and sleazy".

This morning, Sleazy's was the next e-mail, telling me Geff is no longer. Not here. Elsewhere..

..the absolute elsewhere..

I spoke to Geff on the phone some three weeks ago. He was at the Threshold House, still in the aftershock of Marc's motorcycle accident. Deeply touched, yet sober and concentrated. Full of energy and making many plans. Geff and I had a good conversation. Geff said he was going to write to me. He never did. Now I know he never will.

My friend is dead. THERE IS NO BALANCE.

ivan/COH

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 12:59:57 PM

Subject: <aucun objet>

"mort a jamais, qui peut le dire" marcel proust

From stephane ATHANOR www.arsregia.org

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 1:09:46 PM

Subject: Sic Transit Gloria Mundi

It wasn't two years ago that I bought him a Guinness at the "Sorrow" gig near Finsbury Park. He was a beautiful, sweet guy. I will miss him.

Bobby D

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 1:25:37 PM

Subject: RE: [coil] condolences accepted

Absolutely tragic news. My heart goes out to Ian and Peter whose loss is so much greater than ours.

<http://www.cinestatic.com/sweeteffay/2004/11/jhonn-balance-has-died.asp>

With deepest sympathy

John

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 1:27:08 PM

To Jhonn Balance, who has touched my life in so many ways...

I first became a Coil fan in 1996, whilst completing my A-levels at school. Since that year I have become more and more of a fan, their music touching me in many ways.

It wasn't until 2001, when I first saw Balance on stage, that their real importance sunk in, and I dedicated my first short story "At the Heart of it all" to the enduring power of that vision.

All of my friends were impressed by Coil in some way, even it was just through my rabid devotion to the band.

Balance was a truly unique voice, and, like John Peel, will leave a gaping chasm in the heart of music in the UK.

May he rest peacefully, wherever he may be now.

We are safe only in the knowledge that one day, we will all fall.

Robert Tamlyn

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 1:29:07 PM

Subject: many years

i have too many stories to share.
extensive late night witty phone calls, playing on words constantly.
we invented 'the electronic lounge' title together and i ran this influential club space
at the ica in london for five years.
countless amusing postcards exchanged
bootlegs of music
laughter
i remember mac expo and filling our plastic bags with leaflets and thriving on new
technology
my pop band githead played the last coil shows and i remembering so enjoying our
conversation that evening
i feel broken inside for peter

too many stories

i will share these all one day.

with love and happy memories

robin rimbaud
scanner

xx

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 1:33:57 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

Coil and Jhonn Balance (Geff Rushton) and the music, philosophy, lifestyle and outlook of a number of artists such as PTV, Death in June, Current 93, Test Dept, Laibach etc saw me through the tumultuous time of the early 1980s and through to the present day. They established a truly wonderful mantra of `explore, challenge, create, learn and embrace living' "eCClel". Jhonn's work seems to me to have pushed these elements to their limit. His silver tongue and golden musicality shall be deeply missed by me and I send my deepest sympathies and heartfelt feelings to Peter, Ian and all those who are a part of the Coil family.

□

I hope that Peter and Ian can find new inspiration and meaning in their art and let Jhonn's vision and vitality fuel them form beyond the threshold.

□

Love from Peter Webb.

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 1:37:57 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

I can only write a little right now, and it is hard to do so after much good has already been written. I never know what to say in the face of tragedies like these, for though Jhonn's work had an intimate influence on me, I certainly did not know the man himself. My heart goes out to his friends and family, and I wish that I could do or say more of worth. The man was brilliant, and his words had a depth that few others today possess which could move one's soul into new and splendid direction. We are, in the very least, extremely fortunate to have had his presence with us for any length of time, so rare a man was he.

-Morgan

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 1:41:22 PM

Subject: In great sadness and love

I never thought I would be as affected by the death of someone I never met. Jhonn's passing came as a huge surprise to me. I saw him performing with coil only 3 weeks ago in Dublin's city hall. It is hard to think that it is the end for him. He had a great impact on me and he will be greatly missed.

With all my love,

John

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 1:42:42 PM

Subject:

sadness is our part. we'll miss john alot and hope all turns out well
- the dreamer is still dreaming - maarten h, belgium.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 1:45:13 PM

dear jhonn - i think many of us have been aware there's been so many times when death could have took you and/or you would have embraced it - so this has been a sad cruel cheat - still, don't be bitter, shine on! - i thank you for all the help you

gave me at the infancy of my life's work - i'm indebted to you, forever - love, trevor brown

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 1:45:47 PM

Subject: [coil] ...

the city lights lie strewn accross the hills
like the slumbering embers
of some broken star
that has been cast down from the firmament
the night still swarthy
from the ashes of this great and fallen beast

many a star will break
as the wheels of the future
grind their way through the aeons

dead sun upon dead sun
will pile up in the abyss of the past

but the big sleep
is still only a sleep
and the dreams you know
are only fragments
of the wonders beheld
by these extinguished giants

and one day we shall all be likewise
dead and dreaming
and one day
we shall all rise to a new dawn
each one of us a fresh star
outshining even
the splendours of the fiery phoenix

for Balance
with all my love
T5

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 1:51:23 PM

In the words of the Portuguese poet and visionary, Fernando Pessoa:

"Morrer é apenas não ser visto. Morrer é a curva da estrada."

Jhonn, You'll be greatly missed. Your memory will remain.
You touched my heart in a way that few others did.

God Bless You.

Jose Pacheco

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 1:54:47 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

Can't believe what happens, dont let this be true....

oh

RIP

Goodbye

Always say Thank You!

Robert

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:00:39 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

Jhonn Balance taught me things I never would have learned.

-Jon Daries

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:00:57 PM

Subject:

I first heard of Coil in the mid nineties when i was living in Newcastle. My friends introduced me to some of their records and i thoroughly enjoyed their depth and expanse. In 2001 i saw them perform a knock out gig at the RFH in London and then more recently i saw them at the Ocean in Hackney. Blinding, not just the strobe.

This weekend we had invited them to play at Aldwych disused tube station in London, but, due circumstances beyond our control the event was cancelled by London Underground. It was sure to be the greatest gig that never was.

I wish you all good strength in your time of bereavement. This is just a passing into something more.

Yours sincerely,
Bruce McClure
Seed Records.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:11:06 PM

Subject: condolences

My condolences to all family and friends of Jhonn Balance.

I believe he has effected more people than he would ever have guessed, I know that his work and music had a deep effect on me. Many years ago when I was an 18 year old looking for answers in magick I came across Jhonn and Coil and I was immediately drawn into his world. Over the years Coil have continued to inspire and move me. This year I came to England and final got to see Jhonn and Coil live at Ocean; it was a dream come true.

Jhonn will be greatly missed by those he inspired in this world.

Mary
<http://www.the-magdalene.com>

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:04:42 PM

Subject: [coil] ...

This just can't be true... For me Coil was probably one of most important, beautiful, astonishing, life altering experience ever. No words...

I just can't believe it...

U

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:09:51 PM

Subject: jhonn

hello - i have been a big coil fan since the 80s.
i've collected almost everything you've done.
it has inspired me to create music, to stop using
drugs (seems the opposite for most) and broaden
my spiritual awareness.

□

several years ago i fell deeply ill w/ spinal meningitis.
jhonn took the time to write me several letters hoping
for my well being. when i awoke from my morphine
induced coma i was given the letters.
it was complete kindness on his part. we had never communicated before.
i was very touched, as was my family.

□

hearing of his death i wish he was just sick so i can
say it's going to be ok. but through death i believe everything
will be ok - and i hope he is making the most of it

□

dave wright
notbreathing

□

□

□

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:11:01 PM

Subject: The Transition

RIP... rest in peace... I had never met Jhonn Balance but from what I've read of his spiritual
beliefs I would think that rather than resting he would view this as a transition to new
activity. I suspect that he will continue making music with Sleazy in one way or another.
-Steve Schwarz

From: "Olivier Briart"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:14:27 PM

Subject: John Balance...

A sad day for the history of Music...
Rest in peace my friend...

Coil will always rule !!!

From: "Old Season Info"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:16:19 PM

Subject:

Our condolences from each of the members of Old Season...

From: Charles Terhune

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:17:35 PM

Subject: Sad at Jhon's passing

I am not aa huge Coil fan by any means. I respect their work a great deal and all they have done.

It is a shame that Jhon died too young, though his flame seemed destined to burn out both brightly and quite quickly.

Windowpane and The Snow shall be played today. And Hellraiser will forever be a testament to the great power of their music.

Rest well, Sweet Light. Be free of thy body.

- crt

From: David Bourgoïn

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:19:04 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

Words fail me

RIP

From: "Mark O'Shea"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:20:02 PM

Subject: RE: [coil] ...

i do not know what to say. i'm sat here listening to Broccoli weeping.
i feel so very very sad for peter and ian and send them my deepest wishes at
this very tragic time.
Jhonn thank you so much for everything you gave.

On Behalf Of Uriel93

Sent: Monday, November 15, 2004 2:05 PM

Subject: [coil] ...

This just can't be true... For me Coil was probably one of most important,
beautiful, astonishing, life altering experience ever. No words...
I just can't believe it...

U

From: "Jason"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:21:45 PM

Subject: Lords of State Street

One of my best memories of college had my roommate and I sitting out on the
balcony or our apartment at 2 in the morning, coming down off of a trip and
listening to Coil - Scatology. It was a heady feeling; we felt like lords
of our street, taking homage from all passers by. Coil was a unifying glue
for so many of my friends back in school. We all had different interests,
but shared a love of the music that Balance put so much care and effort
into.

Even today, nearly 14 years later, the music of Coil is a part of my life.
As I enjoyed their vast catalog of work, I dreamed of all the future
projects - albums, soundtracks, something unimaginable but well within John
and Peter's capable hands, that would change how I looked at music forever.
Now, I realize that those dream projects will never be anything more, but
that makes them no less exciting and special. What John has contributed to
the world through his music is immense. What he had left to give in mind
boggling. I thank him for not only what he has left behind physically, but

for leaving behind the idea that more and greater was possible.

Jason Smith

From: Matt Simpson

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:22:55 PM

Subject: My deepest condolences

To whomever reaches this message...

In my years, many people of fame have passed on.
Never has the passing of a man affected me so much.

Jhonn and Peter brought more innovative music
and concept into mass consciousness and practice
than any artist that I consider relevant. Jhonn's voice,
words, and writings gave a voice to the ether channelled
by Coil.

I have been a fan for many years, and I will remain a fan
for many more. I consider myself one of the luckiest
people in the world to have received his signature on
a garment.

Words cannot fully express how I feel right now. You
are joined in celebration of Jhonn's life by many people
in America, particularly Atlanta, Georgia.

Take care, and, as always, remain a Star.

yours,
Matt Simpson

~mt
sonic alchemist
eat ! or ! be ! eaten

From: "Niko Skorpio Sirkiä"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:27:17 PM

Subject: Suuri Suru

To All,

I just heard the sad news...

Suddenly, the world seems emptier than it used to be. Jhonn Balance and Coil have been an enormous influence over my life and art for the last 14 years.

I wouldn't be the person I am without his work. My first introduction to Coil was the wonderful track "Contains a Disclaimer" on the Pathological compilation that I got by coincidence. It was a wonderful dark start. Some time after I found the genius opus Horse Rotorvator, and was on my first dark ride, after which the world haven't been the same. I was hooked and kept collecting every release ever since, and they've always met my growing expectations.

Jhonn Balance's art has given me a deeper insight over many things I was deeply interested in, be it musick, chaos magick, Austin Spare etc. If one can act as a spiritual guide through words and musick only, then he was definitely the one for me. I am eternally thankful for that.

I didn't know Jhonn personally yet I miss him dearly; I dare not imagine what those close to him feel. I wish you all in & around Threshold House the strength to carry on with your lives.

Jhonn Balance left a mark in the world, a mark that will be seen, studied and respected by many to come. He will be remembered. We live on with Balance in our hearts. Let's all carry on, stay creative and keep the underground stream ever flowing... the world needs it.

Niko Skorpio Sirkiä

Turku, Finland, November 15th

From: scanner

Date: 15 November 2004 13:38:42 GMT

Subject: Support

Hi Peter

I'm very sad to hear this news today. My heart feels very hollow right now and I'm just proud to have been friends with you both for so many years and to share in your creative experiences.

I just wanted you to know that I'm thinking of you at this darker time. If you ever need any support, even in the most minor way, I'm willing to help you out :-)

With my love

Robin

Date: 15 November 2004 13:29:07 GMT

Subject: mycondolence

to: Peter et al
from: Ian Penman
{or as Jhon would say 'Eon'}

I just received terrible news from Chris/Anne at The Wire.

I know we didn't really meet properly (you were away in States I think when I talked to Jhon in 2000) but maybe you were aware of how much your musick - just your continued PRESENCE - meant to me. This isn't time to go into all those feelings - I don't think I could, even if I wanted to. I feel destroyed by this news; and can only imagine what you and those close to Jhon/Geoff must be going through.

There have been times in the last 4 or 5 years when only your musick could speak to me in some of the dark places I was (I have had some of the same problems with drink/drugs...)

I feel bewildered and strangely angry: Jhon was so singular and I was so looking forward to growing not-old with him and you and Coil.

I'm sure you know everyone's sympathies are with you.

I'll stop now. I wish I could sing like Jhon,
for now I would lament...

love,
I.P.

From: Chris Bohn

Date: 15 November 2004 11:54:21 GMT

Subject: Re: Jhonn Balance

Dear Ian and Sleazy,

this is devastatingly sad and upsetting news. A real shock. It must be terribly

hard for you both, and my goes out to you,=.

love

Chris

<http://www.thewire.co.uk>

From: Longshadows Music Ltd

Date: 15 November 2004 11:36:02 GMT

Subject: condolences

Dear Peter

You don't know me. My name is Mark Logan. I am a friend of Tibet's and have been chatting recently on and of with Jhonn, mainly about Will Oldham and perhaps working together with Coil down the road.

I just wanted to drop you a note and tell you how sorry I am about Jhonn's passing. I'd only begun to get to know him, but in our brief chats he seemed so passionate and enthusiastic. What a tragic waste.

I hope you are surrounded by friends and loved ones and for what it is worth I'm sending a big hug from across the ocean.

take care Peter

mark

From: Mark Pilkington**Date:** 15 November 2004 10:42:26 GMT

Subject: Re: Geff

Peter

I'm lost for words, but my thoughts are with you, Ian and Geff, wherever he is now.

If there's anything I can do to assist you, however small, at any time, do let me know, and please keep me informed if any memorial is planned, as I'd like to pay my respects.

with love

mark pilkington

From: "Hristo Zdravkov"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:41:34 PM

Subject: John Balance

...he knows more Now.

□

I will remember him - not "performing", but LIVING on the stage. Only few manage to do that and, even if few can name it, many feel it...

□

I did, and this is all that matters to me. To become **one with the experience** on his concerts - how can I forget this?!?

□

He knows more Now.

□

Thank you, John!

□

Milenix Loerdi

Mute Lakes

From: Ilia Davidovich

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:44:19 PM

Subject: COIL

My sympathy to Jhonn, the great musician of modern age. His art was and remains the very important part of my life. Coil's musick was and remains the true experiment, the jorney into unknown, the exploration of universe. I wish Jhonn all best on his path.

Tempus Edax Rerum

:ThereiS:

From: michael allenberg

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:44:53 PM

Subject: [coil] oh sad day

words escape me. i just woke to this horrible news...

good luck on your new journey JHONN,
michael

From: "Bret Parks"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:45:00 PM

Subject: re: condolence for Mr. Balance

To Whom it May concern,

I am an English teaching working in Korea and I just read an email from my friend Paul that mentioned Mr.. Balance's death.

Mr.. Balance has long been Paul's musical idol and last summer he invited me to visit Italy and attend a Coil gig (my first). There are no words for the beauty of their performance- it was one of those experiences that puts experimental music into a great perspective because at long last I understood it more- it is something that replaces the words you cannot always conjure and literally reshapes music. I was releived to also learn that the creators of the music were kind and interested in their fans. Coil created a unique enviroment before my very eyes and ears. I am a lucky man for attending the gig and sharing a dinner with Coil afterwards.

I am a new Coil fan and the long-time, true fans as well as the family and friends of Mr. Balance, have my sincere sympathies .

-Bret Parks

From: michael allenberg

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:49:59 PM

Subject: RIP JHONN

JHONN, I HOPE YOUR NEW JOURNEY IS AS INTERESTING FOR YOU AS THIS ONE WAS. I HOPE YOU ARE AT PEACE. YOUR MUSIC WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY A HUGE PART IN MY LIFE AS LONG AS THE SUN RISES (THE BLACK SUN, THAT IS)...

BLESSINGS,
MICHAEL ALLENBERG

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:50:13 PM

Subject: Happy hunting for Jhonn Balance

93

Happy hunting and many great adventures in the afterlife or whatever he's exploring now.

AL II: 44. Aye! feast! rejoice! there is no dread hereafter. There is the dissolution, and eternal ecstasy in the kisses of Nu.

Toast!

fr. Aquilifier
A simple fan.

93 93/93

From: Rónai András

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:51:18 PM

Subject: Condolences

When an artist whom I don't know personally but whose work I like dies, it's for me rather on the cultural level; I'm sad but in my heart I know I'm mourning more for myself (as the artist will not produce more as if more me) than for the passed person.

First I felt somehow the same when I read the news about John's passing, although with more and more remorse. Now, having translated the news for Hungarians, listening to Coil, and thinking about Coil's influence on me, on my taste of music, and as listening to music is one of the most important issues in my life, on their influence on who I am now - I feel the sadness growing on me.

A few months ago, trying to persuade the local British Council for funding a Coil-concert in Budapest, I wrote an "advertising" summary on Coil for them - and while writing, I realized again and more consciously than ever before, that Coil is THE most important music for me. Now I realized and with more acuteness than ever before, that they as persons are - were important to me - the personality that shines through music, and that will be with us for the rest of our lives.

r.a

From: "Lorenzo Macinanti"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:50:22 PM

Subject: [coil] Re: condolences accepted

.....

Pay respect to the Vultures
For they are your Future.

That's it. The Dance of Reality for our beloved Geff ends up right here.
He's not becoming a legend after he's dead. He's always been and always will. He
has now parted his artist status and entered a new life, a better life I guess.
That it means we should remember him partly as a man, a very sensible and
artistic driven mind, partly as the shaman everyone of us have known through his
powerful magickal musick.
His words and musick won't last, so let the Silence flow.

Hush may I ask you all for Silence? The Dreamer is still asleep.

Bon voyage Jhonn, something will remain for those who remain.

From: Alex Brattell

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 2:56:22 PM

Subject: utterly shaken, despondent, bereft.

I have followed Geoff's work for over 20 years, he helped illuminate my path with
his dark lantern.

We only met a few times, he would not have remembered me. But I shall never
forget him and his timeless work will always be with me.

Thank you for so much Jhonn, and so long.

Love is the Law

Alex Brattell

From: "Mag0g"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:02:40 PM

Subject: Forever

Forever Industrial!

Good bye John.

□

From: venetian snares

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:07:02 PM

Subject: Jhonn

Jhonn,

So, after reading the news of your death, I put on Sex with Sun Ra and dragged the seek bar to see what you had to say at this moment. Your voice says, "When I see the great black light, that shines in the eyes of animals, when I find you I will remind you, most accidents occur at home." I suppose you're right Jhonn, as I look at Beverly (a little cat) as she looks at me with those eyes. Haven't had goosebumps like that in I don't know how long. Thank you for giving us your words and music, you inspired me to make music of my own. Whenever asked what it was that made me realize I could create my own music, I think back to the moment I first heard Love's Secret Domain.

Thank you Jhonn, I wish you well out there.

Aaron

From: burningeyes

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:10:41 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] Re: condolences accepted

I am shocked and saddened as most others have said. I hope johns spirit finds a dreamy place. I also hope we may one day all meet again. in that other place.

From: "Lorenzo Macinanti"

.....

Pay respect to the Vultures
For they are your Future.

That's it. The Dance of Reality for our beloved Geff ends up right here.
He's not becoming a legend after he's dead. He's always been and always will.
He
has now parted his artist status and entered a new life, a better life I guess.
That it means we should remember him partly as a man, a very sensible and
artistic driven mind, partly as the shaman everyone of us have known through his
powerful magickal musick.
His words and musick won't last, so let the Silence flow.

Hush may I ask you all for Silence? The Dreamer is still asleep.

Bon voyage Jhonn, something will remain for those who remain.

From: david kerr

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:13:30 PM

Subject: untimely end

a short note to say that jhon has been an inspiration since i first heard coil, and
having only been in the same room as him in dublin last month his aura will live on

From: "Jeffrey Stonehouse"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:11:20 PM

Subject: John's Passing

Goodbye John, Visionary, Prankster, and Genius.

Our correspondence in the 80's was an inspiration to me.

I'll see you on the other side.

Jeff (Organs of Battle)

From: "Eugene Smirnov"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:15:44 PM

Subject: Alive we are!

93!

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law!

□

If that is true, it's a real tragedy for all of us.

Twice I was on COIL concerts in Moscow and help supports COIL concerts by brothers from Brudenia Records in Koenigsberg.

Thank you for all you have done here Johnn.

□

And "...I said there is no death no death..." We will meet again

□

93 93/93

Love is the Law Love under Will

□

From: "Franck MARGUIN"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:20:01 PM

Subject: condelence

coil is my favourite band

john was my favourite singer of all times.

i'm so sad...

all my condolences to his family & friends.

franck marguin (minizza)

From: "Eugene Smirnov"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:20:01 PM

Subject: in a memory...

93!

□

This I painted the next day after last Moscow COIL concert.

<http://www.deviantart.com/deviation/821382/>

With Love to you all !

□

93 93/93

From: Matt Lee

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:20:13 PM

Subject: passings

There's a sense of loss about the death of John Balance, even for someone like me who must be in the position a lot of people are, where we never met the guy in any straight forward sense but were affected by the sound of Coil and John's voice. □ There's also a sense of strange connections - albeit entirely constructed from my own perspectives on the world - where John Balance's death connects to the recent death of Andrew Chumley. □ Both John and Andrew were major magical influences on many of us interested in working magic I think. □ Their work will be all the more valuable for the work we will miss them producing.

condolences

Matt Lee

From: /greg/

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:20:45 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] Re: condolences accepted

i'm not sure what to say that hasn't already been said. i know that i will miss his words and the spirit that created them. he was truly an artist and an inspiration in so many ways. he will truly be missed.

greg

From: "Ophelia's Frenzy"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:36:01 PM

Subject:

Jhon is dead.

Long live Jhon.

I don't think I'll ever know how much he affected me, but I know he lives in every groove of every record he worked on. He comes to life whenever needle meets vinyl, and that can never die.

From: "H.K. Zwart"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:41:57 PM

Subject:

nothing to say really...my deepest condolences.
hans.

From: neboysha rakic

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:45:12 PM

Subject: j.b.

hello,

□

please accept this letter as my condolence for the tragic passing of Jhon Balance.

□

Jhon had a huge influence on my life through COIL (pls. understand you are all

special to me.....always will be), he was one of the few people i felt connected to as a gay man especially. his openness had a profound affect on my respecting myself and accepting myself....and made me aware most of all that the lgbt communittee has the highest incidents of drug/alcohol abuse...if he didn't show me how dangerous this was i am sure i would have not have survived these last years due to his honesty.

□

i feel his words in my dreams and i use to jokingly think he was stealing my dream journals to make me think. so many songs reading my thoughts and fears....

□

i hope in this very tragic time, love from those who you may never know, will fill your hearts, hands, and heads to carry you through this difficult time now and ahead...

□

my thoughts will be with you always,

□

may the great spirit protect you under the glow of northern lights and moon.□bless you for your grace and giving.□

□

□

my love,

□

neboysha rakic

From: "Mark O'Shea"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:49:38 PM

Subject: illuminations

you were my Light Shining Darkly

may you burn brighter still

thank you Jhonn

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 3:50:49 PM

Subject: For Jhonn Balance

Départ

Assez vu. La vision s'est rencontrée à tous les airs.
Assez eu. Rumeurs des villes, le soir, et au soleil, et toujours.
Assez connu. Les arrêts de la vie. - Ô Rumeurs et Visions !
Départ dans l'affection et le bruit neufs !

(Seen enough. The Vision met itself in every kind of air.
Had enough. Noises of cities in the evening, in the sunlight, and forever.
Known enough. The haltings of life. Oh Noises and Visions!
Departure into new affection and sound.)

Arthur Rimbaud

The Essence of your Work and Life will remain in our Hearts and Minds...

Thomas Keenlside

From: "Shepard, Joseph"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:04:10 PM

To:

Subject: Remember all ye that existence is pure joy; that all the sorrows are but as shadows; they pass & are done; but there is that which remains .

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law

□

-█████████ Around the hours of John's Transition, I was viewing a Jack- o - lantern that turned into atomic fire and then into the sun as I Scryed the film of Saul Levine in a Boston Chinatown Loft, a film called "In the Final Hour of the Angels"-

-█████████ To hear of John's death fills me with a humble reverence for him and his work and his sound and words that have guided me and continue to expand my mind.- To quote" Liber Al vel Legis:

-█████████

□

member all ye that existence is pure joy; that all the sorrows are but as **shadows**; they pass & are done; but there is that which remains. "

□

Love, Life, Light andLiberty

Joseph Shepard

□

Azazel

Love is the law, love under will.

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:04:25 PM

Subject: goddbye John

Coil are a part of me

□

I started to play electronic music because of them

□

John represented the part of the world I want to live in

□

this is one of the saddest loss of my entire life

□

John, I love you

□

and I truly know you are alive

□

□

davide

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:04:23 PM

Subject:

I cannot begin to express how sorry I am to hear of Jhon's departure from this life. My thoughts are with all of you and hope that everyone is doing as well as can be expected during this time of transition.

John Griffin

Detroit, MI

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:18:26 PM

Subject: [coil] condolences accepted

speechless...

jhonn has finally arrived in anarcadia ?
or azrael has came too early ?

just a bad dream ?
one of most important people
and the biggest influence
for my music
has gone away...

the magical music trip is over ?

what will happen now ?

'I am the loneliest link in a very strange chain'
-Jhonn Balance

-stlkr-

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:23:00 PM

Subject: tragic transfer

a great loss for this world, a great gain for the next...
Lotus Lo

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:23:50 PM

Subject: JB

Hello,

I feel a lot of grief in my heart, that this happened so suddenly.
I'm speechless.

May he rest in peace.

Christian

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:24:32 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

You made our lives electric, our dreams strobe with colour, your voice within our head. Farewell.

hassni malik
(Brighton)

From: FRED giannelli

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:26:04 PM

Subject: telepathic condolences

Hello all,

Sorry to hear about the unfortunate accident.
Deepest telepathic condolences.

telepathic regards,
f®ed

From: Raquel Jung

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:24:49 PM

Subject: I can't help but cry

I never met John Balance. I've never even seen Coil live, much to my regret. But I was in love with him all the same.

It is the same type of welling love that I felt when I was twelve and saw a self-portrait of a young A.O.Spare. Nothing sexual, but a spark in my soul as if a dark corner had been filled with light. That is the feeling I had when I first heard Coil. Some visceral part of me sighed and said "yes".

Coil has been the soundtrack for my life. I can honestly say that there are some nights when I was alone and confused and broken that he saved me from certain death. He was there for my husband's courtship. He was there for my magical work. He was there as I grew and expanded as an artist, as I fought my fears and wrestled my demons and emerged from my self made cocoon of isolation. I am an artist. I think that I am turning into a great artist...and he was such a huge part of that.

I had tossed around the idea of sending him a drawing along with a note telling him what his work meant to me and my work...how much he inspired me. I didn't expect anything of it. I just wanted to show my appreciation. I wish I had.

God, I wish I had.

I know he is still there. I don't believe in death as the end. I will miss his ability to enrich the world with his creative gifts.

My sincerest condolences go out to his bandmates, his loved ones and everyone else that feels his passing keenly. I think I will send that drawing after all.

I wish I was more eloquent.

I wish I had the words.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:30:21 PM

Subject: Jhonn

Dear Jhonn,

□

Thanks for being the most inspiring person I've ever experienced in my life. That's what you still are, and it's not going to change. Through your words and music, actually just through existing, you changed me for good and for the good.

□

□

Love,

Arjen Grolleman

□

Hilversum

Netherlands

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:30:01 PM

Subject: R.I.P. John Balance

It's a terrible shock to hear of John Balance's tragic death. To me, he was a truly great artist, an exceptionally talented man with an exceptional personality. Someone who was able to turn both his strengths and his weaknesses into great art.

His work with Coil as well as his contributions to other artists' recordings has always been a huge inspiration, delight and comfort for me. It has enriched the good times in my life and helped me pull through bad times. It still does and it always will. John Balance may be dead but his legacy will not die.

The memories of seeing Coil live (Amsterdam 2x, Ghent and The Hague) are very dear to me. John's intense performances on stage were something else in this world of cardboard cutout copycats. I will never forget these concerts. I will never forget John. R.I.P.

Jeroen Visscher

--Extreme Cultural Engineering--
<http://www.blacklodge.tk>

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:34:10 PM

Subject:

Was all in vain? Or did you cry?
No need to ask, my tears have run dry
This is the end of my pity
I await to die
You now the living, me now the dead
To prove that you loved me

Subject:

god bless...yanianyan, the solar lodge.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:41:46 PM

Subject: Message for condolence book

Just like to send my deepest sympathy to Geoff's family and closest friends and collaborators.

I never met him, just followed all the Coil recording project's over the years.
A great loss, too soon. R.I.P.

~Tim Jones

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:41:12 PM

Subject: John gave me reason, family and sanity

I have been trapped in my life as a heterosexual male. Living out a predefined role as bread winner, soldier. I am grateful for the gift of my family and the struggles that have taught me humility. But it was John's music that provided the soundtrack to my meeting my wife and a common interest between myself and my best friend. No demon can touch me when I play his sonic shield. I will do the legwork of being a drone my whole life. John did the work that electrified, galvanized and made it all worth it for me. A high priest of creation. Love and mirth rippled from every one of his finger tips.

I love John Balance, and look forward to a heady communion with his soul somewhere in the ether.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:42:39 PM

Subject: [coil]

One time many years ago, when I was much angrier than I am these days, I decided the appropriate way to celebrate my 25th birthday was to consume 25 hits of windowpane and spend an evening with a less than trustworthy individual and a loaded shotgun. A friend slipped me a cassette tape as I gave him all my necessary contact info (just in case bad things went down). Having given up on talking me out of it, he just gave me a mixed tape of COIL telling me "you need

protection."

Needless to say, I had a most wonderful and enlightening time. One of my happier birthdays, actually. Never met Mr. Balance, but I will dearly miss him and I'm grateful for all that he shared with us.

-D
feeling shattered

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:46:34 PM

Subject: si sta come d'autunno sugli alberi le foglie

I knew of Balance's accident just today and I get very sad.
Well, I will always remember him with his art, and I'll always miss his art!!!
His music really changed my point of view, my way to look at the world and at life itself...what else can I say, words are not enough.
do trees miss their leaves as we miss our departed friends?
□
the only thing to fear is fear itself
□
+clau+dio+

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:51:14 PM

Subject: condolence

John, we will miss you, but you will still be in my heart and under my skin.

Peter, Rufus and all other people at Threshold House I wish you strength in these sad and difficult times.

Martijn

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:51:52 PM

Subject: Farewell Jhonn

Don't know what to say.
The world was a better place knowing Jhonn was producing the music
Donogh F

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:51:41 PM

Subject: Rest In Peace Jhonn

Jhonn,

Having only just found out about this terrible news, im still numb
So i think all I have to say is
Thank you for making me understand, you are going to be so missed

Andy x

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:52:30 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

My deepest sympathies.

David Bourgoïn wrote:

Words fail me

RIP

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:58:17 PM

Subject: Condolence

I encountered Coil almost by chance when I got to know about a hastily scheduled gig at the Fylkingen venue in Stockholm late 2002. I had heard very little of them before, but I had recently discovered TG, and of course I had to see Sleazy's current band when I got the chance.

I fell instantly in love with Coil. From the stage they radiated something I can only interpret as love. Sleazy at the controls, a greyhaired, reliable old man, and Jhon – a large huggable bear in his insane furry white overall.

After the show I tried to obtain everything I could with Coil. I especially love "Black Light District" and "Musick to Play in the Dark I". When my father passed away some three months later, "Broccoli" came to mean a lot to me.

Goodbye, Jhon!

/Daniel

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:01:18 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

November 13th is a heavy calendar date now...
not much to say, but the sentiment from the list is very sweet.
i hope Peter and the ones closest to him are holding up well.

out of darkness cometh light rings kind of hollow
in times like this, but the body of work Balance has graced is going to last much longer than many of us.

--

stefan_0

From: Jonathan Fletcher

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:02:27 PM

Subject: [coil] rip jhonn balance

i suppose and i hope that grief amongst the many who cannot help but be so totally devastated by this news can maybe be turned into inspiration.
This is the second awesomely beautiful voice to be silenced this month.
love to ian and peter

rip jhonn balance
nothing will ever be the same again

--

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:03:11 PM

this sad event is upsetting and depressing. i'm thankful that i saw the last london show, regretful i missed all the ones that i did. i was also lucky enough to meet jhonn on a couple of occasions and spent one evening in the horse hospital talking a lot. he was a brilliance.
my thoughts and sympathies are with the extended Coil family.

ELpH has another companion on the Other Side.

love - adam leigh

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:00:34 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

Sleazy and Ian,

My heart is as heavy as a boulder. My love is with you both right now.

Jhon will be sorely missed.

Andrew. xx

On 15 Nov 2004, at 4:18 pm, Stalker Sascha wrote:

speechless...

jhonn has finally arrived in anarcadia ?
or azrael has came too early ?

just a bad dream ?
one of most important people
and the biggest influence
for my music
has gone away...

the magical music trip is over ?

what will happen now ?

'I am the loneliest link in a very strange chain'
-Jhonn Balance

-stlkr-

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:03:55 PM

Subject: Jhonn

For 15 years of my life the magickal work Jhonn has produced with Peter and with others has provided a constant source of hope and inspiration; I can't express how much the news of his passing saddens me. Both in the music he made and in interviews Jhonn's absolute honesty and belief shone through. I will miss him for this and thank him for so many things opened to me through his work.

I was fortunate enough to have the experience of seeing Coil in Dublin recently, and found it to be absolutely overwhelming and inspirational. My condolences and best wishes go to Peter and Ian for now and for the future.

Stuart Watson, Belfast

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 4:56:23 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] For Jhonn Balance

I am so sad for this, that i cannot believe.

From the first time i listened to a Coil album, fifteen years ago, i felt in love with their music, i have listen and listen and every time is like listen to something new and different from any other thing.

From the first time i listened to a Coil album, fifteen years ago, i always wanted to see them live, but now this possibility is tragically impossible.

Thank You Jhonn
for all you and your music gave to me
R.I.P.

miky

Sent: Monday, November 15, 2004 4:54 PM
Subject: [coil] For Jhonn Balance

Départ

Assez vu. La vision s'est rencontrée à tous les airs.
Assez eu. Rumeurs des villes, le soir, et au soleil, et toujours.
Assez connu. Les arrêts de la vie. - Ô Rumeurs et Visions !
Départ dans l'affection et le bruit neufs !

(Seen enough. The Vision met itself in every kind of air.
Had enough. Noises of cities in the evening, in the sunlight, and forever.
Known enough. The haltings of life. Oh Noises and Visions!
Departure into new affection and sound.)

Arthur Rimbaud

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:08:19 PM

Subject: love's secret domain

today i have no words

□

goodbye green child...

□

alex from rome, italy

Date: 15 November 2004 16:51:14 GMT

Subject: condolence

John, we will miss you, but you will still be in my heart and under my skin.

Peter, Rufus and all other people at Threshold House I wish you strength in these sad and difficult times.

Martijn

Date: 15 November 2004 16:30:08 GMT

Subject: jhonn +

Dear Peter,

I'm Very Confused and Sad regarding Jhonn's transition. I wish you strength.

This great artist certainly influenced my life through his works.

Take care & Love from Roel.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:16:47 PM

Subject: Thanks for all the strength and inspiration!

My condolences to all members of Coil, friends and relatives.

□

The art, musick of Coil and especially John's lyrics gave me always strength in difficult and chaotic times of confusion and emptiness. In the past this helped me al lot when struggling in quite unpleasant times.

In times of becoming an adult I had a hard time finding my self as a young quite "alternative" homosexual in this terrible world of narrow-mindednes, emptiness and ignorance. When the depression and chaos were at their worst the musick of Coil was a great help and relieve for me. For that I have lots of respect and I'm really grateful for it.

I would like to use this terrible event as an opportunity to say Thanks for doing what you all did.

I think many with me share this feeling.

□

I was so lucky to see Coil performing life for 4 times, these performances were always the most intense, real and true appearances that I've ever experienced. Especially the performance in Amsterdam during the Constant Shallowness Leads to Evil tour I will never ever forget!

□

Again, thanks for all the strength and inspiration. I admire you! (all)

□

John, rest in peace. I will miss your wonderful voice.

□

Sincerely,

□

Marcel de Cocq

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:22:19 PM

Subject: On Jhon

The world will never be quite the same. Thank you for all the inspiration you have given me over nearly 20 years.

Fare well, traveller

xxx

Martin Dodds Education Officer

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:21:26 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

With great sadness we heard the news today.

We will never forget the evening in the Melkweg in Amsterdam last june, where we enjoyd the concert of Johnn with Coil.

Coil music has changed my live forever, therefore I wish to thank Johnn.

Ass a witch, I know death is not the end. One day we will hear Johnn again.

So far, thank him so much for his lyrics and music.

A great artist and spirituel person has past away.

□

Karin and René

Woudbloem

the Netherlands

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:21:51 PM

Subject: Jhonn

The music of Coil and the lyrics of Jhonn Balance has been such a big part of my life for so long I find it hard to imagine how it will be now Jhonn is gone. There was always something extra special about the music and texts of Coil which so often made their music a magickal experience. I have specific memories of falling asleep in the afternoon to Love's Secret Domain and waking up later as if emerging from another world. It is the most potent and evocative music I have ever experienced, and the music of Coil was almost always experienced: that is what made it special.

Only last night I was thinking out loud to myself why I loved Coil so much and how they were such an important band to me. It seems so cruel to learn this morning that Coil can never be the same again (though I do hope you continue on in some way in Jhonn's memory). Furthermore, Jhonn's death is a greater shock in that things were really starting to look up, and the new material was fantastic. The last couple of shows, which I really glad and privileged to have attended were something special and spoke auspiciously of the future. Jhonn himself was particularly fantastic at the recent Dublin show which is something that will stay with me for a long time.

My thoughts and prayers are with all who were close to him, especially Ian & Peter, to whom I cannot imagine how deep their loss is. In his life, Jhonn was living proof of AC's dictum that 'every man & woman is a star' in that his star shone so brightly . In his music, as exemplified by the sidereal experiments, he was always reaching for the stars. The only difference now is that he has broken free and has become one with Nuit.

"The gods have taken alien shapes upon them
Wild peasants driving swine
In a strange country. Through the swarthy faces
The starry faces shine. "

George Russell (AE)

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:23:34 PM

Subject: From the Kugelberg family

We are so sorry to hear about the passing. Our thoughts, love and prayers are with you.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:22:42 PM

Subject:

Johnn Balance and Coil's art opened deep eyes and lightned some dark inside of me, since 20 year ago, when i was much more younger, and until still today, and in the future, forever, because there is not an end, everything changes...

□

... indeed i feel a part of me died today, and a part of Johnn lives in everyone who loved him and his art.

□

francesco

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:27:58 PM

Subject: Balance dead

Jhonn Balance has passed over to another life. He will be more than sadly missed in this one. Sorry for the cliches, but that's what they're there for...

His music has been part of my life since I first heard the Red Weather crickets on the Bethel tape. I cried when I first heard Batwings.

Over the last couple of years Jhonn's voice seemed to be able to magickally convey any human emotion or condition, whether they belonged to this world or to the ones where Jhonn happened to be hiding out at the time.

Play Coil, drink champagne, take the mindexpanding drug of your choice, make love and celebrate the life and works of the most relentless embracer of life, death and everything in between that ever graced the stages of this world.

Et in Arcadia Ego indeed.

Roelof Jan Minneboo

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:28:52 PM

Subject: the passage of balance

it is sad and sobering news which i received early this morning via email from a friend - knowing alcohol was at play, i am yet resisting the tendencies to moralize...

□

i thought of sandy denny, who died a similar death some twenty-odd years ago, falling down a flight of stairs - and i thought of my friend kevin, who sold me his coil cds earlier this year, not long before taking his own life this past valentines day...

□

funny that i never made the connection till today: jhon balance = geoff rushton - i played 'dreams less sweet' in remembrance...

□

"this is the end of being lost -
the little boy, a living ghost
the little boy, alive again
in a world of gentle pain..."

Ferrara Brain Pan

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:28:50 PM

Subject: experimental seafood

Without a shadow of a doubt the music of coil has had the most profound effect on me and has remained a constant thread through my life.

The moving words of Jhon struck a chord in my DNA that somehow mirrored my own thoughts as a teenager who just discovered this wonderful and fantastical band.

Like all mavericks its their fate to be troubled/die young.

I am sure he taken his place along side his fathers fathers.

Take care in the Astral Jhon.

All my love.

lee Howard

experimental seafood records Birmingham

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:37:29 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

that's the worst news of the aeon

wish i weren't so hung over

shit shit shit shit shit

resurrect him or something

i refuse to accept it

i refuse to believe it

fuck

wake me up

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:24:32 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

My heart is heavy with sorrow. It seems you tend to think the ones you admire, respect, love, who inspire you and open your tiny windows to vast lands of wonders would never cease to exist in our world. I try and find relief in the fact that John's soul is probably in a much happier place for him than the one it was in so far. I try and find relief in the fact that there is so much still to discover again and again in the work he has achieved in his passage through our wild dimension. The loss is unmeasurable.

My thoughts go to the ones he leaves behind.

I will light a candle for him tonight.

Cécile

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:38:35 PM

Subject: memories of jhonn

so, balance overbalanced in more ways than one, and is gone.

□

coil have meant a lot to me since discovering unnatural history 1 in a cd shop the day i read a review of it - the sort of shop that wouldn't normally touch that sort of music with a very long bargepole, so serendipity ruled that day.

□

i've seen coil live lots of times, but at megalithomania i actually spoke to him.□ was so tongue tied at meeting this genius that all i could do was ask if i could shake his hand - his response? - "of course you can." (mind you, the fact that i was a bit out of it on some nice chocolate marijuana truffles may have helped with the tongue-tiedness!)

□

every time i saw them live, i was transfixed by balance's act, whether it was just swinging lightbulbs about, or flailing a stuffed toy rabbit, or in his latest phase of a cross between a mummy and an edwardian gentleman. his stage presence was enormous.

□

the world is a worse place without him, and my heart goes out to ian and sleazy in these sad, sad days

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:40:56 PM

Subject: Condolences

I just wanted to say..

Its hard to express feelings when you only knew the person on one level. I don't know what Jhonn was like in person, other than a stolen glimpse or two, or reading about him somewhere. I know that his creativity surpassed most, that he brought a brilliant light to the musick and the art he was involved with. I look at my children, watch them listen to Coil, hear Jhonn's voice, and smile. My daughter, so affected by the version of All The Pretty Little Horses on the live cd that she started drawing pictures to go along with it (she's only just about to turn 6). Her younger brothers, loving every minute of the musick, one even sings along.

It is a strange feeling to become so attached to people you've never even met, to smile when things are going well for them, to worry when they are experiencing problems, to hurt when something like this happens.

So, I just wanted to say..

Thank you.

-Toni Hitchcock, and fiends Julia, Winston, and Vincent.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:44:30 PM

Subject: code of vortex

we want to remember him with a special track ☐ like ☐ the death of John Peel (end 60ies uk-psych band and autor of the BBC sessions) too...

☐

Massimo

☐

☐

<http://stage.vitaminic.it/codeofvortex/>

☐

to fall and see

the Art of first step

is a treasure ☐ for a special World

like you have done and you saw

to pass away

dust to dust

stars to stars

see and laughing

In the Garden of The Treasure Dolls

Untill the Gnomes eated me

for thousands years, for millions years

for thousands millions years ago

You, still Alive!

we are going to embrace you, my friend!

□

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:46:51 PM

Subject: I will miss you, Jhonn

Jhonn Balance was one of the most magnetic, explosive and amazing performers I ever saw on stage. Coil's 2001 concert at the Wave Gotik Treffen in Leipzig will remain as the most incredible live experience I was so lucky to attend. Jhonn jumped, screamed, threw himself into the audience, bashed a gong with his very head. That night he sang "Blood from the Air", how ironic. "The world is in pain, and God is a sadist". These words seem to gain their real, deepest meaning only in this sorrowful moment. God is really a sadist, if he made Jhonn survive all the things he passed through, to let him die in such a way.

Coil are and always will be a very important part of my life. Listening to Jhonn's voice now and thinking he's no more with us is something I'm not yet ready to experience.

My deepest condolences.

□

Simone

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:42:54 PM

Subject: <no subject>

I never forget you,
With love.
S*

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:45:40 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance and the music of Coil

I was turned onto Horse Rotorvator by a friend some years ago.□ was amazed at the vivid imagery it conjured up in the back of my mind.□honn will be sorely missed and was one of the greatest musicians to come out of that movement of music.

□

my condolences to Jhonn's friends, family, and collaborators,

□

Alec A. Head

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:54:18 PM

Subject: Passing of the shaman

To All:

John's vision and actions as a part of Coil were one of the first introductions , for myself and many others, to a world of art/music/philosophy trully outside the debased version of the mainstream. I found him to be a true shaman, following in the footsteps of A.O.S. and those who attempted to bring forth the eternal to the benefit of all who would listen. Quite shocking to hear of his passing, but knowing that the astral is now his playground may bring some comfort.

With love,
A. Glass

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 5:52:05 PM

Subject: boiled owls

thanx for the boiled owls jhonn, they changed my life...

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:08:09 PM

Subject: for Jhonn

it's difficult to find words to express how such an important figure like Jhonn, has influenced our life choices: art, literature, music..... we also believe that this life is only a transition to a different part of existence in which we'll meet one day.....

□

Luciano and Gabriella
from Italy

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:06:26 PM

Subject: devastation

My deep condolences. As a huge fan of Coil I'm shattered at this news. Coil opened my eyes to a whole new world as a teenager in a small town in Norway back in the late 80s and have consistently followed me since. I can't find words to describe this loss.

Anne Hilde Neset

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:04:01 PM

Subject: Words to Read in the Dark

Yesterday, I went to the Threshold House web site to check for any updates. All I found was a black page. I knew something was wrong. This morning, I checked my email and found the announcement in the Nurse With Wound Yahoo group and discover what.

As I sit here with Musik to Play in the Dark (vol. 2) playing, I am struggling to find

the words to express my feelings about this. For me, there is a very specific and special group of people who I count as key sources of inspiration and whom have provided some of the most special experiences with creativity that I have had the privilege to enjoy. Jhon is certainly among that group and I feel a keen sense of loss that one of those fountainheads of sublime expression has now ceased to pour forth his gifts.

Though death is not an end, there is no avoiding the sense of loss those of us still in this plain feel with this passing. Of all those in this special group who chose to use their voice as an instrument of expression, Jhon's voice and words were some of the most beautiful and haunting. I shall always cherish what he has left with us.

Stephen Rosin

November 15, 2004.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:10:43 PM

Subject: [coil]

I hope Gavin Semple doesn't mind:

Dear all,

Balance was indeed a keen collector of Spare's art, having come into contact with it when very young, and he continued to promote the art and ideas of Zos through his own work. More significant for us is the fact that Balance and Hilmar O. Hilmarsson introduced AOS and the ZK current into the TOPY/Psychic TV mix back at the beginning of the 1980s, and thereby created a primary hot-point for Spare's return to prominence in the counter-culture. I think most of us here - myself included - if we trace back how we first became aware of AOS, will find a line that leads back to Jhonn Balance. Remember and thank him for that gift.

One slightly cracked but gentle genius less in the world is a devastating loss for all. Safe journey JB.

Gavin

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:17:17 PM

Subject:

John's words guided me through difficult years.
he will be missed.
dave

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:23:19 PM

Subject: John Balance

My heart goes out to friends and family.
In my deepest* *psychosis , in my deepest fear, in the middle of pain, his work
always gave me the strength to understand that sanity is not the ultimate goal.
To embrace pain and fear has equal value as to embrace love and hope.
This was my lesson from John Balance's work.
Thank you.

Batcheeba - Norway

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:21:53 PM

Subject: For Johnn

"When everything has disappeared - intelligence, memory, people, loves and
memories- music will continue to exist." -Thomas Bernhard

Johnn Balance you'll be missed.

All my love and support goes with you Sleazy and Ian.

VB
Mexico

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:22:53 PM

Subject: Condolence

*Good Bye John,
we will really miss you.*

□

Fabio from Italy.

□

□

From: "Francisco Laborde"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:24:14 PM

Subject: RIP

His music made me the man I am today.□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:26:14 PM

Subject: Fwd: For John. MUTEK

Peter

In the name of MUTEK, I just can add my voice to everyone :

Rest In Peace Mister John Balance.

All our Love and support to friends and family.

Eric for MUTEK

--

Eric Mattson

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:26:20 PM

Subject: Fwd: Geff

Date: 15 November 2004 18:11:49 GMT

Subject: Re: Geff

Dear Peter

I am so shocked I really don't know what to say. So terribly sad. Please let me know if I can do anything or help in any way. I am full of thoughts about Geff.

love

Jame

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:26:24 PM

Subject: [coil] For Johnn Balance

"When everything has disappeared - intelligence, memory, people, loves and memories- music will continue to exist."

Thomas Bernhard

Thank you Johnn Balance. You'll be deeply missed.

--

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:29:57 PM

Subject: see u later john

Bye john ,Hope to meet you in another dimension in another time.
Giorgio e kekko from Italy

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:35:18 PM

Subject: Some thoughts on Jhonn Balance, may he rest in peace

I have always hated questions that were phrased in terms of "what ten albums would you take with you onto a desert island?", because I don't think about music in simplistic terms of "favourite records". Whenever people would ask me for top-ten lists, I'd hem and haw. I'd say that there is a time and place for every piece of art. That no album is perfect for all states of mind and all occasions. That my tastes are always changing anyway, and that everybody's tastes must change or else they'd become stagnant and boring people. And so on.

Finally, amid further noisy expressions of reluctance, I'd provide a list, along with the warning that the list would change from moment to moment, and that one should not assume that one could understand me by looking at it.

But after about a decade of doing this, I realized a strange thing. I realized that Horse Rotorvator was always on the list. Always. For all my talk of musical fashions growing and changing, for all my condemnations of people who could be blissfully happy on a desert island playing the same ten damned records over and over, I still found Horse Rotorvator to be a perfect record. And I believe the reason for this is that it, the record, is always growing and changing. Though it is a beautiful, cohesive work of art, it is fundamentally anxious, filled with urgency, complexity, mood swings. It's a remarkable balance of articulate expression and pure nonsense -- and this allows it to speak to anyone that might be stranded on any desert island anywhere.

I think that Coil's oeuvre as a whole is possessed of that same complexity. Who, before his initiation into the mysteries, could even begin to understand how Scatology, Love's Secret Domain, and Queens of the Circulating Library could be the products of the same imagination? And yet, soon enough, it becomes clear that Coil might be chaotic but it is not random. I have spent nearly twenty years in dialogue with that shifting intelligence and imagination, and still I have much to learn from it.

I only met Jhonn once. It was the year 2001, when Coil played in New York. I had thoroughly resigned myself to never seeing the band live, and I was stunned when I heard they were coming stateside. We went out for sushi the night before the show, and I will never forget Jhonn's explosive humour, his childlike delight at every moment of the conversation with the people at the table. He was just as intense as I expected, but in a very different way. Far from the brooding introvert that I had imagined, I encountered a Dionysian force, spilling over with bizarre, stream-of-consciousness observations that never ceased to be startling and hilarious.

I did not know Jhonn well enough to meet the demons that he wrestled with all his life. I only encountered them through Coil's music (though that encounter, indirect though it was, could be frightening enough). I am sorry that his battle with them took him away from us so soon and so young. All our own struggles will be harder now, without his voice to narrate them for us.

I send my deepest regrets to those who were close to him.

Ayse
hapax legomena

Date: 15 November 2004 15:36:26 GMT

Hello Sleazy
so sorry and saddened to hear about the sudden departure of Jeff.
Don't know what to say really.
Keep your chin up and stay strong.
take it easy
love and best
Sion x

Date: 15 November 2004 15:29:17 GMT

Subject: Re: PS

Dear Peter

Of course.

The quotations from Liber 106 are very appropriate -- they made me cry, this morning, on seeing them, especially "for thine ears become dulled to the mean noises of the earth; the infinite silence of the Stars woos thee with subtile musick."

Yes, I will arrange for memorial Gnostic Masses masses both here in the USA and in the UK -- I'll send details of where it is celebrated. These are done by inserting Geff's name into the relevant collect, which then reads:

"Unto Geoffrey Rushdon, from whose eyes the veil of life hath fallen, may there be granted the accomplishment of his True Will; whether he wills absorption into the Infinite, or to be united with his chosen and preferred, or to be in contemplation, or to be at peace, or to achieve the labour and heroism of incarnation on this planet or another, or in any Star, or aught else, unto him may there be granted the accomplishment of his Will; yea, the accomplishment of his Will."

This may be suitable for his funeral service as well, or I can make other suggestions. I'm sorry I won't be able to be there.

I hope you and Ian are holding up alright.

Love

Bill

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:36:52 PM

Subject: Fwd: memorial link on our side

most I can do...

Sabine Waltz

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:37:02 PM

Subject: Fwd: jhonn +

Subject: jhonn +

Dear Peter,
I'm Very Confused and Sad regarding Jhonn's transition. I wish you strength.
This great artist certainly influenced my life through his works.
Take care & Love from Roel.

Date: 15 November 2004 16:51:14 GMT

Subject: condolence

John, we will miss you, but you will still be in my heart and under my skin.

Peter, Rufus and all other people at Threshold House I wish you strength in these sad and difficult times.

Martijn

Date: 15 November 2004 15:36:26 GMT

Hello Sleazy
so sorry and saddened to hear about the sudden departure of Jeff.
Don't know what to say really.
Keep your chin up and stay strong.
take it easy
love and best
Sion x

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:37:52 PM

Subject: For Coil

'Women could never do half the things coil has done for me.'
-The Distorted Poet ~ Michael G. Stone

From: "Katherine Magdalene"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:37:04 PM

Subject: A Condolence

I never had a chance to meet John Balance or even see Coil live. I have been longing to do so for nearly a decade, now. Alas, of course, now I can not.. I find it very shocking and amazing that this happened, let alone the personal and intimate coincidences immediately surrounding this. Upon hearing the news, I walked down the street to call my friend Ezra (who, by the way has been planning work on a collaborative Coil tribute album) on a pay phone. I woke him up to let him know about what had happened. Floored by utter amazement, he quickly told me he was dreaming about John, when I woke him. Another musician friend of mine from Oregon's current music project is titled "Balance". Perhaps more trivial, as it is non-musical, The photo of me donning my home made Halloween costume, the last photo of my self, I have recently named, was also called Balance.

[a href="http://www.killyouall.com/balance.jpg"]

We will miss you, John.

May your infinite journey be rhapsodic, as the arms of Thanatos enfold you.

(btw, I hope he gets a death mask.)

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:43:39 PM

Subject:

This passing in the wake of John Peel's death has created the oddest sensation...

□

I found Coil by accident, invoking randomness when browsing for music in shops that are no longer there, since I found it 'Astral Disaster' has been a mainstay of my listening. I have spent many hours, days, meditating to Coil - shifting through my own motives and notions of self John's contribution to my consciousness will be revered as long as I remain myself.

□

It is a cause of almost physical discomfort at this moment that I never saw a Coil performance live.

□

There is a vacuum at the centre of the world. □

□

Thanks

Brian

From: "Matei Radu Paun"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:45:12 PM

Subject: RIP

From the moment I began to listen to Coil in my adolescent years until the day that my ears cease to function in this world, John's music and life have always and will continue to always be an inspiration for me. I feel very fortunate to have come into contact with his work at a time when I was myself dealing with many issues of self-exploration and identity. His work has taken me to many great places... With all that being said, may the other side be as welcoming and enjoyable for John as this world has been.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:45:54 PM

Subject: condolence

8008

I am deeply saddened to hear about the death of John Balance. That mind. That voice. What a hurtful loss.

I once read in an interview where he spoke about the way that he considered Austin Spare an "ancestor." If I understand the sense of what he was saying, I believe that is the way that I will always think of John Balance.

The spiritual content of Coil has inspired and informed who I am today. At the deepest levels. More concretely, the music of Coil has played as a literal soundtrack during some of the most meaningful experiences of my life. Man and boy, my soul has been nourished by the works of Coil for all these years as surely as the food that I eat has become my flesh.

All his works have dripped into the Wells of Wyrd, down among the tangled roots.
They will nourish strange, new flesh.

sincerely,

Sobek/ZerO)+
House of Pandemonium

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:46:42 PM

Subject: Jhonn

I am going to miss you so much, I never met you but your work touched me so deeply.

□

Peace

□

Giles Wallwork

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:46:57 PM

Subject: About balance.

Dear Peter:

Some of the first "experimental" recordings I ever heard were Coil's - "Stolen and Contaminated Songs", "Themes for Hellraiser", and "Gold Is The Metal With The Heaviest Shoulders". They made a huge impression on me in more subtle ways that I reuse on a regular basis. When I heard that John had died, my heart sank. He extended various kindnesses to me personally on occasion that I shall treasure for-ever.

I don't know where the energy that was John is right now. I would like to think that it continues to strengthen beyond now.

Sincerely,

David Cotner,

\\

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:49:07 PM

Subject: condolence for john

though i havn't been listening to johns work for more than the most recent years of my life, he has been a great inspiration in creating my own music. he IS one of the forces behind my belief that art is free and that anyone anywhere can create anything. rest in peace, man.

fredrick carlsson from sweden

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:53:25 PM

Subject: from blind eye to blue sky eye

for the last 20 years, coil has been an intriqite part of my life.
aside from the obvious love of the music that was created
it helped me understand the self, as well as nuture the paths and off-paths
i have taken personally, musically and most of all lovingly. it has forced facets
where
facets do not exist, it has brought the "real" out in many people, encouraging
awareness
of the self. i am very saddened by this loss and hope his crossover to the other
side is one
of love, adventure and calm. i will miss you jhonn
thank you for your existence, talents and ingenuity.

peter, i am very sorry for your loss
sph

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:53:05 PM

Subject: Balance

I'm sad.

I love Coil.

i love their experimental music, i love Balance's Voice, his whisper.

May your soul rest in peace.

Thank you for the great emotions that you gave me.

Marco Gariboldi

Italy

□

□

From: "arthur.b.purvis"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:56:15 PM

Subject: condolences

no fear, just inspiration.

many years ago i was contacted by jhon to send him photocopies of rare austin osman spare scripts at my school's library, which i never found time to do. i am going to go get them this weekend or next and i would love to send them to whomever would like to receive them in his stead.

bene bene bene...

From: "andrew peck"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:00:03 PM

Subject: A dream of an embrace

Last night or shall I say this morning, I dreamt of having the wonderful opportunity of seeing Coil live. Something that eluded my grasp for the 15 years I have listened to them/you. In my dream, Jhon walked thru the crowd with his microphone introducing himself and making various greetings to the throngs of excited people. I was far in the back and when it came time for him to come close to me, I reached my hand out to grasp his while I placed a kiss on it. He pulled me closer to him smiled beautifully and return my kiss wetly on my mouth. I woke soon after.....

████████████████████ hope he will continue to remain a gently spectre in my dreams.
████████████████████xxx-andrew

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:02:34 PM

'Pray that the way be long, full of adventures and experiences'

Justinx 

In recent years, I have revisited *LSD* and become slowly, methodically familiar with their other works

and have continued to be bent by their indulgences, their madness, their bliss and their magick. I have wallowed in the Fairlight-drenched depths of *Scatology* and lost myself in the ritualistic droning tones of *Astral Disaster*. With each successive listen, I find my entire perspective of art (in exercise and in ponderance) fucked a little more.

□

And while I could never contemplate knowing Balance on a personal level, I feel an intimate connection with the molted skins of his past expressions and find myself all the more touched by the life he lived. ■■■

□

Om mani padme hum □

□

□

□

Jack Alberson □

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:47:04 AM

Subject: Book of Condolence for Jhonn Balance

I count among the most miraculous experiences of my life seeing Jhonn Balance perform with COIL in New York City on August 18, 2001, which coincidentally (?) fell on the day of my 23rd birthday. An incredible, inexplicable psychic connection was forged between performer & audience in so strong a way as I have never witnessed before or since. Jhonn Balance was an incredible poet, a singular visionary, a beautiful crystalline soul, a crackling arc of mutant psychotic energy that sparked with an intelligence, passion and fury rarely glimpsed in this world or the next. His madness shone bright. The death of your father, the death of your mother, is something you prepare for all your life, but you can never adequately prepare for the death of an artist who has marked all of his fans so deeply, in such profound and challenging ways.

-Jonathan Dean 11.15.04

From: "Matmos/D.D./M. C.S."

Date: Mon Feb 22, 1904 11:11:52 AM

Subject: Remembering Geff

The first Coil record lit a path for me. I was reluctant at first to follow it: Geff's words, his voice and his music had a directness that, at sixteen, in a small minded Kentucky town, cut me to the quick, and left me both spooked and seduced, scandalized and hooked. I was still unprepared for the solar flush and flash of gay sexuality in these words and songs, the esoteric and magickal connections they forged, the spidery network of meanings, associations, and references that opened out from this work; it was both threatening and intoxicating, and I studied the records, and learned to sing the songs, and scoured libraries and record stores to follow the trails and lifelines that they had marked out. Since that first moment of exposure, I have never stopped feeling the gravitational pull of this work, and it remains and will remain, as a monument to a life lived ambitiously and beautifully. Geff's creative and personal connection with Sleazy was an exemplary partnership for me as a young gay man; it provided a kind of standard of lifelong mutuality and support that I will always be inspired by. Together, and with the help of many close friends and associates, they have produced some of the most transformative recordings I have had the privilege to hear, recordings that nurture and sustain, that summon and invoke, that ring true now and will ring true. Though we were not close friends, in our social interactions at music festivals, at bars and parties, and at the homes of mutual friends, Geff was alternately charismatic and shy, but always affectionate. I can still recall swooning and pinching myself when I first began corresponding with him online, and I don't think a true friendship between us could ever have emerged because of my perpetual nervous adulation in his presence, but despite that stumbling block Geff remained gracious, curious, and eager to keep the conversation going. He was also capable of humility, and had his own occasional fits of nerves in the presence of people he admired, as I recall when I watched him inform Karlheinz Stockhausen that he was regarded as an honorary member of Coil. It will take time to recover from the shock of his passing, but his place in a pantheon of uniquely English poet-singers is, to me, assured, and stands at an opposite pole to the shocking newness of his vision when I first encountered it. There is then, at last, between the violent intensity of his musical testimony and its binding to the greenwood of a distinct tradition, a BALANCE in place, as is fitting. My last memory of Geff is of our conversation at the Columbia Hotel in the afterglow of the Throbbing Gristle reunion performance. I remarked to him that his beard seemed to relocate the wildness in his eyes to another century; recasting his face in the mold of a Friedrich Nietzsche or a Walt Whitman. Then we both laughed at my nonstop pretentious adulation and joked about the transhistorical threeways that might have been. We talked about his boyfriend Ian, about Gerhard Richter and Sun Ra, about the incredible generosity of the TG concert, about his recording plans. He was celebratory, and seemed rekindled and revived, both creatively and personally. I am not someone who was close enough to Geff to have had to confront his darker moments, the deep troughs of depression and unhappiness that can be the inevitable consequence of rare flashes of deeply inspired living and creation. I am glad that my last memory of Geff is simply of him shining, joyous, impish, and aglow.

As is fitting, a Coil lyric comes to mind when I think of my wishes for Geff:

"There are thrones underground
With monarchs upon them
They walk serene
In spaces between"

May you walk serene.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:11:53 PM

Subject: [coil] Re: condolences accepted

Thank you for what we fans heard and saw from/of YOU
and may your spirits go now where they want to go.....
Here we will miss you

Andre

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:12:51 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

It saddens me to read that **Jhonn Balance**, one of the most interesting and talented musicians who ever graced this world, has died. Coil received critical acclaim for their masterpiece albums 'Scatology' and '**Horse Rotorvator**', but for me personally, as a musician and music enthusiast, it were some of the more recent outings of Coil, like 'Musick to Play in the Dark Volume 1 & 2', 'Astral Disaster' and 'Black Antlers', that fully established Jhonn's superb abilities as a singer. I still find 'The Sea Priestess' and 'The Dreamer is Still Asleep', which take a heavenly shape because of Jhonn Balance's haunting and intense voice, the most beautiful songs ever conceived, and they are an enormous comfort, especially in dark times like these. It is a great loss that he is no longer with us to enrich our lives with his brilliant music, and he will be badly missed. My condolences go out to Jhonn's family and friends, and I wish them all the strength they need.

□

Best wishes, David.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:19:06 PM

Subject: Jhonn and on and on

Hi,

I'm saddened to hear of Jhon's passing, though his transition is something to be comforted in. He will persist and embark on new adventures that we can only guess at. My initial reaction was to enter in my LiveJournal (which I have fallen away from keeping up to date) but it's an outlet. Here is my post:

Black is the new black

Another random blip in my LJ, life is simply too complicated right now. I just heard the news about John Balance of Coil, and while tragic, in some ways, I think he's got one up on us...he knows all now.

In the meantime, I am currently dealing with my partner Nick, who's health is declining steadily. If I had to capsulize the past few months: wasting, weight loss, dysentery, nausea, vomiting, hospitals, tests, parasite, tincture of opium, HMO's (more specifically fucking Kaiser), project open hand (thank you to them), relatives and family, fuck the government and George Hitler Bush.

Regards,
Jon Levy

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:12:57 PM

Subject: a deep sadness

bereft and lost

alasdair robertson

From: David Sticher

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:16:19 PM

Subject: Jhonn's passing

The art and music of Coil carried me through my youth, with its arcane and frequently harsh beauty.

Jhonn's work touched other worlds, and through his work we could catch sidelong glances into those worlds.

Today he has left this world to explore more fully other and more peaceful worlds. There sounds the music beyond all imagination.

And even there he will conduct revolution.

As for us, he'll see him in the sky that is all horizon.

God rest his restless soul.

- Dave

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:20:27 PM

Saw him in Jesi, this summer. Was my first time Coil live.
Love is the law

see u next time, Jhon-

Francesco

From: "marco rubens"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:19:31 PM

Subject: dear JB

Sleep Sleep Sleep
thx

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:29:35 PM

Subject: A Wizard, A True Star.

The first time I saw Jhonn Balance was at the seminal Cornucopia Coil gig at the Festival Hall in 2000. By smoke and mirrors I found myself backstage and talking to the man himself about the performance, The Anal Staircase flooring me as a teenager and various other concerns, fears and turn-ons and was pleasantly surprised to find that instead of the mad-eyed fuck-up I was expecting, I was talking to a wonderfully inquisitive and intelligent shamanic presence who was interested in what I was saying and listened and responded generously. I had at this point become disillusioned with the music I was making myself and had all but given up the ghost. I left the Festival Hall that night with a spring in my step and inspired to continue on sonic explorations with renewed vigour and rigour. In short, he was an inspiration.

The last time I saw Jhonn Balance he was on stage with Coil at the Ocean in Hackney, being a true star. His ebullience spilled off that stage into the audience, making the glimpses of torment that came through in the performance all the more powerful. I just hope he felt the love and admiration that was there in the audience that night.

Whilst writing this I have been listening to 'Black Antlers' and experienced a jaw-dropping nape-hair-rigid moment at the line: 'Most accidents occur in the home', repeated so as to really ram it home. He could do that like no one else, and will continue to do so. Like too many people being snatched from us in recent weeks Jhonn Balance was and still is a one-off.

I just hope he's now on Saturn consummating with Sun Ra.

Paul King.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:30:21 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] For Jhonn Balance

grief

his person - expressed through his vocals and lyrics - has been a guiding star through years of darkness.

may he see the light.

I cherish every small memory and memorabilia and am thankful for what he had to

give.

carsten s.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:35:40 PM

Subject: Jhonn.

I was deeply saddened to read about Jhonn's passing. Coil have influenced and inspired me over the last 10 years, both in attitude and in their music. Jhonn's words, in particular, mean a great deal. My condolences and sympathies to his family and friends.
Kenny.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:35:39 PM

Subject: (no subject)

To jhonn, you were and always will be one of the most amazing and inspiring artists that have coloured my life.
thank you. the dreamer is still asleep.

From: "Phil Legard"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:35:19 PM

Subject:

Dear friends,

I was listening to The Incredible String Band at the moment I read this tragic news. They sang:

"There stands the chief with gold on his hair,

Two fingers thick each link of Coiled ore."

I am deeply saddened by Jhon's exit from this world - he was truly an inspiration when I saw Coil at the Ocean earlier this year.

When I first became interested in the subject of chaos magick people in that scene would always murmur about the music of Coil. It's a tribute to Jhon's vision that since moving on from that scene the music of Coil has stillly stayed with me and stayed current.

So long.

P

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:38:25 PM

Subject: jhon

Jhon words and music for me means a lot of thing , and means a lot of memory
Meet him in Jesi was a very important moment in my life .
Coil are very important for me.
Thank you Jhon ,
you have paid your respect to the voltures

Cecco , Italy

From: Michael Tang

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:45:26 PM

Subject:

John has been a constant inspiration to me through his music since the latter half of the eighties to the present day when i first came across the unreleased themes for Hellraiser, and i remember how hard it was to try and track down the earlier work. Imagine my surprise when i found out also that Coil were interested in Austin Osman Spare whose books i had been after for years earlier, i have always felt an affinity towards him and he will be very sadly missed. I am glad that i had the

opportunity to meet with him on one occasion at megalithamania and show and give him some of my own work which he appreciated, he was very approachable and enthusiastic, and was a genuine person.

" He says, "Death, he is my friend , He's promised me a quick end" The world is in pain , And should be put down ,
And God is a sadist , And that he knows it We all must be shown, we must realise , That everyone changes and everything dies. "

(Blood from the Air) John Balance

LOVE

Michael

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:51:40 PM

Subject: in memoriam

the message of jhonns death was and still is a shock to me. he was so far and now he is still further...

in memoriam

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:54:35 PM

Subject: Book Of Condolence

I was shocked and greatly upset to hear of the passing of John Balance, though as with all great artists, he is never truly gone, as the body of work he leaves us through Coil's workings is a testament to his vision and endeavours, and long may they exist.

□

I was a gawky and uncomfortable 18 year old when i first heard Coil back in 1987. I didn't feel like i fitted in, and even though i live in a large midland town with all the freaks and geeks that that enfolds, John and Peter helped me to feel that i was not alone when i felt that i was. John's lyrics and ideas helped me to understand that other people shared my off kilter approach to life, and that there were other 'paths' open to me.

□

The lyrics of the my first Coil record, Horse Rotorvator egged me on to search out new ideas and philosophies, as well as opening my ears to new musical ideas and directions. The record contained dark matter as well as strange and eldritch ideas that i was aware existed, but was unaware of, if that makes sense. For me, it was like a opening a pandora's box of the unconscious, a compass pointing the way to a new and undiscovered continent of weird shapes, twisted sounds and shimmering spirits.

□

I sought out all of Coil's recordings from then on, and have continued to ever since.

I became aware over the years that Jhon was a troubled soul, and was prone to bouts of dark and destructive behaviour. These moods could not have been easy to live with, but often the true artist suffers for their belief, and it seems John suffered more than most. But what he committed to performance and record cannot be underestimated. He was an explorer, albeit in those 'psychic & Psychedelic' realms that many of us fear to tread. And what he discovered, always turned out to be a fascinating subject, which he transmitted into wonderful lyrical ideas and poetry. ■■■

□

I was so overjoyed when Coil decided to start touring, and the performance at the Royal Festival Hall back in 2000 fulfilled all of my wishes for how they would be live. The constant Shallowness Leads To Evil set was like an invocation in progress, a psychically shattering performance that drove me on to finally attempt to make my own recordings of the weird and warped sounds that often kept me awake at night. The physical cacophany of that evening still stays with me, and when asked about favourite live shows, that's always the one cited...it was an uplifting and elevating evening, and one i didn't want to stop.

□

I've seen Coil on several occasions since then, and they, and especially Jhon, have never been less than wonderful apparitions.

□

□

With Much Love

□

David Thomas

□

□

□

□

□

From: Samuel Macklin

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:54:14 PM

in the last few years, nobody in the world of music made me more glad to be alive than jhon balance

□

bye bye

SAM

From: John Kealy

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 7:59:11 PM

Subject: I'm so sorry

Such a loss. The man was a gent.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:00:20 PM

Subject: [coil] What shall we do with the drunken sailor?

I just wanted to reach out to you all on the coil list. We are all tied together by invisible bonds in a net cast out into the world by this person who is not quite here anymore. Any friendships or pleasures, any discoveries or communities we have made from this Coil List, these are gifts no less important than his music. Remember to say thank you for this.

I propose a new thread, and I propose we put as much creative energy and imaginative passion into this as Jhonn put into his own kinds of explorations. Here it is:

What would Jhonn like us to do, right now, to honor his life and commemorate his departure? This is a question for us individually, for small groups of us who may know each other, and for this whole community as a group.

We should also ask Peter if there are outstanding financial issues - emergency hospitalization and funeral is astronomically expensive. I'm not sure if this is needed, but if necessary perhaps the list could address this and collectively contribute a few hundred dollars towards the cost.

In honor of his voice, I have been sending mp3s of a few of his songs to everyone I know who doesn't know him or COIL (which is pretty much everyone I know).

In honor of his creative mind I've made two images of Balance out of recycled old photos and posted them on my fotolog:

<http://www.fotolog.net/anomalous/?pid=9036876>

<http://www.fotolog.net/anomalous/?pid=9040968>

Please feel free to come by and say hello or leave messages there, for me, for Balance?

In honor of his kindness to me I recited prayers last night for guiding him through the in-between world.

In honor of his more carnal side, I've plastered some pictures of Jhonn's face just above the urinals of several notoriously cruisy public toilets in Manhattan. I'm sure

my perverse offering will be very perplexing to some folks who are trying to get laid, but it made me happy to imagine someone having an assisted orgasm a few inches from his face.

And in honor of this community he created, I come back to stand around with you all. I send my thanks to Jhonn for the friends I have made here. I think it would be nice for people who are in the same city to come together.

If anyone in New York City would like to meet-up tonight for a few drinks, perhaps we could arrange something? Unless someone has a better idea, how about Benny's Burritos, Avenue A @ 6th St., at 9? Nothing too grim or ritualistic - just an affirmation of the friendships and communities that Balance set in motion and that will survive in his physical absence. Jhonn's started off ahead of us off on a voyage - we should drink a toast to his safe arrival.

Thomas Olson

From: "dom.france"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:01:55 PM

Subject: xxx.

thanks for all the pleasure you told us since all these years.
may you can cross the path.
peace.

From: "Eric Krause"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:06:23 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

I reflect stefan's sentiments pretty much exactly. I feel deep sorrow for all of those who were close to Jhonn and knew him best.

November 13th is a heavy calendar date now...
not much to say, but the sentiment from the list is very sweet.

i hope Peter and the ones closest to him are holding up well.

out of darkness cometh light rings kind of hollow
in times like this, but the body of work Balance
has graced is going to last much longer than many of us.

--

stefan_0

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:03:08 PM

Subject:

my name is frank stanley, I live in california.and have been a fan for the last 5 years.my dearest
condolences,to sleazy,ian, and all others close to jhon.and to all the fans and musicians alike. i am
saddened beyond words.☹.fearradio stanley.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:13:40 PM

Subject: [coil] johnn

****grief****

at work. Overwhelmed. More later.

jim

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:06:35 PM

Subject: r.i.p. jhon

my dearest condolences to sleazy,ian,and all others close to jhon.☹. fearradio stanley.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:16:46 PM

what can i say? he was a true visionary, he restored my faith in music. i am in a state of shock. my thoughts go out to his family and friends. sometimes words just aren't enough
jonathan thornton

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:17:20 PM

Subject: Onward and forward to the next time

been on this road a million times before
backward forward rewind
hear the thosand angels sing
like a flower unfolding in the sun on a new day
twilight dreams unfold
as stars collide we are but just dust from them.

Managing Director
David M Hughes

From: Alpin César

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:17:45 PM

Subject: (pas de sujet)

Coil have played a great part in the soundtrack of my life for over 15 years....
He'll be fondly remembered.

A.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:21:55 PM

Subject: Balance

COIL inspired us like nothing else on Earth.

-GVOON

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:20:18 PM

Subject: Condolence

Dear Jhonn & Peter

□

This is a very sad day for all of us who have followed you both for many years.

I had the privilege to see your fantastic concert inJesi,Italythis summer.

It was a burst of positive energy and vitality.

A cascade of all the emotions of anger, desperation, hope and love that made me fall in love with Coil 20 years ago.

It is very hard to accept the fact that Jhonn is gone.

□

Dear Peter – We are all with you.

□

Love

HalvardHaldorsen

Oslo

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:22:41 PM

Subject: Total eclipse of the moon!

Dear Sleazy et al,

□

I can't adequately convey my sense of sorrow at discovering the message on your website about Jhon's sudden passing, and can only imagine what his closest friends and associates must be feeling.

□

As a relatively recent admirer of Coil's music, I can't say that I knew very much about Jhon as a person, but from what I've gathered from interviews, reviews and articles, as well as live recordings, I feel that he was someone I should have liked to have met.□

□

Sincere Condolences.

□

Alan Bell.

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:24:09 PM

Subject: condolence

The music of Coil touched me in a way no music has ever touched me before. Although I never met Jhon or saw Coil live, I feel as if knew him. The music was so real. My thoughts go out to the people close to him.

Jonas Hannestad

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:19:39 PM

Subject: condolence

Balance,

It is with great sadness that we learn of your departure.□Your phenomena has helped keep us going with our own artistic, intellectual & emotional states.□ in fact have pondered over your material (including interviews) in times of happiness, sadness & anger and found some tranquility and release through you when I needed it.□Thanks to you for being.□A warm farewell to the earthly presence of one of the greatest artists of our time.

□

Yours,

Robert Douglas

HFK

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:25:56 PM

Subject: Thank you Jhonn

I simply can not find the words to express my feelings, I have searched for the right words but there simply are none. I wish I could find comfort in Jhonn's work but instead it makes me sad. I was not ready for Jhonn's departure I hope Jhonn was.

Thank you Jhonn!

May you find in death all you wished for, all my love.

□

Hans van Leeuwen

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:28:50 PM

Subject: from Bee - slight update pls use this version

Geff was always there first I met him on the opening night of Skin Two. When the only people there were a bunch of hardcore deviants that had traveled from all over England. Bound by a common desire to experiment with various taboo's.

□

Years later When the acid house scene was so small it could be contained in a tiny club of loved-up sweaty bodies, I ran into Geff and Sleaze at the bar who told me they had been going there for a few weeks already.

□

Years later.... When he came to visit me in Thailand I was surprised to hear an unknown guitar band on his walkman who he said were probably going to do really well. The band was Nirvana.

□

Years later He came over again and on a drunken afternoon demanded that I shaved chunks out his hair which he then smeared with glitter. A year later I saw the exact same image on the front cover of the first Fisherspooner Single.

□

Years later at 5.30 pm on Saturday Nov 13th, he made a drunken fall and was first

again. The first of my soulmates to cross over. I am engrossed by grief, my only consolation is knowing that one day we will meet again for the next big adventure'.

□

I miss U Geff. Mer-gan mai na jaa..... Bee

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:30:24 PM

Subject: R.I.P.

John was a huge influence on my personality - though I never met him in physical form. There was no one like him. A true visionary. See you on the other side John.

--

Dave Adelson

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:30:41 PM

Subject: tears from berkeley

friends.....

I got the phone call last night at 3:30am like I was waiting for something to be delivered all that day.

Many times over the years I couldn't help but be drowned in the beauty and the somber tones of Jhonn Balances work. I felt like he was a kindred spirit in a odd way that I could never put my finger on. I would dare say that the influence was felt even at this moment in typing this message. It's weird to say but I feel like I have lost a family member. Yet he is a total stranger who will never grace my doorstep and drink my tea. I'm crying for his friends and family. The work will always be there in my heart as a listener and that he helped others discover what a gentle and sweet man he was by being so open to the audience and I hope Coil continues as a music journey for those around the threshold house arena. Although it may be difficult with this passing. I can only smile upon your way with love.

all the best-

Charles S. Names

berkeley C

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:31:39 PM

Subject: A New Star Is Born In The Body Of Nuit

Thank you Jhonn.

Thank you for your kindness, for your inspiration and your art and magick.
I can't explain what i feel. I will miss you.

Bon voyage my GhostBoy

draZen

ps

i embrace you, peter

From: Shane Espana

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:34:59 PM

Subject: On behalf of the Illustrious Mr. John Balance~

I am greatly saddend by the death of John Balance.
Upon hearing such news I started to shed tears. I have
not been a fan of coil for a very long time but I am
glad to accept the fact that they are my favorite band
and Johns work is greatly admired by me, Hes my idol.
And I will surely miss him. With all my blessings to
him.

~shane

From: "Philippe Landry"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:34:03 PM

Subject: For Jhonn

Jhonn Blanace illuminated spaces I never knew existed. For that I am gracious. He led me deeper into myself thru his words, written and unwritten. His voice was there when I wasn't. He was a teacher to me. He personified the glow worm that both Blake and Crowley mentioned. Coming from the middle of nowhere in south Louisiana, being different, i could relate to the tiny light shining in the dim abyss. for me, Jhonn was that. He truly showed me the light in the darkness.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:39:54 PM

Subject:

I met Geoff only once, but we stayed in touch off and on since then. I had something he wanted, so we traded a bit. We also had mutual friends. His art has been central to my world for many years, and it will continue to be so.

Sincerely,

Arild Stromsvag
Norway

[i]

Enjoying life, I
look forward to
death with the
eagerness of a

lover. The stars
will be mine! --
and the final depths
of poetry --

[ii]

Bathed in this crucible of supernova
shifting light vast
blanks and shots
and sheets wave
upon death & storm
I live & feed and
thank the bliss

Even the clouds
are worn out, with
ragged edges, over
Freak Street!

LAST POEMS, Shanta Bawan Hospital, Katmandu, Nepal. June 1979 [from Angus Maclise, "The Collected Writings 1959-1979," ed. Gerard Malanga (New York: Angus Maclise Archive/Dia Art Foundation, 1981)]

From: David Sticher

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:45:04 PM

Subject: [coil] RIP Johnn.

He now travels to even stranger worlds and surprises even them.

He shall be missed, and seen again...

Rest in peace, Jhonn.

- Dave

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:51:38 PM

Subject: [coil] Sleep peacefully, Jhon...

May love and light shine down upon Peter, friends, family, and fans in this time of sorrow...

Love,
Vanessa

From: richard chartier

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:57:51 PM

Subject: for the book of condolence

i am deeply saddened to hear of jhonn's death. his haunting voice and words have presented many moments of solace, beauty, fury and passion to me since i began to listen to coil in the mid 80s. he will be missed artistically and personally by many. - richard chartier

From: martin jansson

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:54:52 PM

Subject: book of condolence

I'll always remember to say thank you for the things I never had.
I'll always remember to eat my greens, especially broccoli.

This is truly a death of a mother and father.

Love
/martin

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 8:57:27 PM

Subject: cut UP

right before i found out about johns death i came across this cut up of
marcus aerilius i did a couple of years back and thought it was
appropriate..

Let that part of your soul which leads and governs be undisturbed by
motions of the flesh.

Soon you will be ashes or a skeleton
a name or not even a name,
and what is a name but sound & echo?

What then is there now to detain you here,
if the objects of sense are changeable & never stand still,
and our organs of perception
are dull & easily recieve
false impressions, and the poor soul itself is
an exhalation from the blood

thank you fro all the great music and being Johns friend, theres a lot
more to say but you already know

luv

~ kirill

From: Erik Knifström

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:00:31 PM

Subject:

My condolences. It's so sad.
/Erik

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:04:16 PM

Subject: my condolences

To Peter and all of Geff's friends and family,

I knew him mostly through his music, but we met a couple of times in the late '80s after the US release of the "Themes for Hellraiser" cassette, and learned then what a wonderful, kind and loving man he was. I'll miss his inspired, chaotic genius, his curiosity and his passion, his inventiveness, his wit. He's gone now, but his gifts stay in my heart always. So long, John Balance. You were one of a kind, and it was a pleasure knowing you.

Charles Powne

From: "alan g"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:04:29 PM

Subject: ...center does not hold...

Dear Peter Chirstophersen,

my condolences on your loss...it has been 20 years since i first picked up "How to..." at WaxTrax in Chicago...though a fan of TG and PTV your music touched and continues to touch me especially in that it flowed from an alternative queer stream...growing up in midwest America the only routes for a queer youth seemed to be a truckstop restroom or fleeing to the Castro in SF...i am very thankful for the life affirming nature of the music that the two of you made...it offered a safe escape velocity between the alternatives of the "closet" and "clonism"...it offered the possibility of a queer life filled with music, magick and love!

Jhonn personally was very kind and forthright in an exchange of letters we had on queer magick...

[t]his earthly manifestation will be greatly missed...

may all be happy...

love,
alan

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:08:11 PM

Subject: RIP

□
□

I just want to say how deeply saddened i was to learn this terrible news. Although i did not know him personally i feel almost as though i did know him if that makes sense. I believe we will not see his like again and i cannot see how Coil can possibly exist without him. My sympathy goes out to his family, Sleazy and anyone else that knew him.

□

Paul Dunne.

From: "Richard Molyneux"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:08:15 PM

Subject: Geoff

I just feel grateful that we even had him at all.

Love to you all

Richard M

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:09:43 PM

Subject: Condoleances

Dear Sirs,

It is a great grief to me to be informed of the fact that John Balance is no longer with us. Coils music has always greatly inspired me, as I came familiar with it in a difficult period in my life. Rest In Peace, John.

Regards,
Jeroen Bijl

From: Ochressandro Rettinger

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:10:45 PM

Subject: Crossing over

Nothing particularly eloquent, just an acknowledgement that Jhonn and Coil have had possibly greater single influence on my music, art, spirituality and outlook than any other entity.

I'm sad that I won't be hearing any new work from him for a while. I suppose that's selfish. I can't think of anyone else who better knows, at least, where he's going next.

Goodbye, Jhonn, and thanks.

-Ogre

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:15:39 PM

Subject: Deeply saddened

Shiny shiny, shiny words of reflection.
Whiplash musickfriend, go beyond the dark

□

Please keep rambling my dreams
please kee haunting my nights
please keep filling my ether with your ghost.

□

Thank you so much
Thank you deeply

□

□

In honour of you the candles will never be blown out again.

□

□

□

Love,

□

AtematicA

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:15:19 PM

Subject: RE: [coil] What shall we do with the drunken sailor?

An excellent thought Thomas, produce something positive out of this

devastating news.

I have also sent mp3's to people who may have heard of the name but not been familiar with the music. I sent a cd of software to a friend today and put a note inside requesting that he plays the mp3's also burnt on the disc. if i could i would join you for a drink or two this evening but london is a bit far away. however i bought a bottle of very fine wine and am enjoying that listening to some of my favourite coil tunes.

great idea about approaching Peter regarding financial issues. maybe we should start a collection anyways. seems a small gesture but one that can be put to good use. we have been lucky enough to have been given so much, would only be right to offer something ourselves.

kind regards to all

Mark O'Shea

From: Justin Stabler

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:17:21 PM

Subject: [coil] RIP John

'He said he was leaving last tide
in a spaceship powered by natural sounds
Smiled, agreed and we left for the place'...

'most accidents occur at home'...

Sex With Sun Ra (2004)

x

From: "Sid Redlin"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:40:03 PM

Subject: Love to the traveler into the next world

John Balance was the composer and performer who most inspired me in this world. He inspired my artistic endeavours and helped me to feel there were others who felt as I feel. His contributions to our plane of existence shall be sorely missed.

I can only hope that he is happier now that he has passed through the gates of death. And I find great consolation in the works he left behind to those of us who loved his music.

May you be as accomplished and well loved in the next phase of your experiences as you were in this one!
Sid Redlin
Kalamazoo, Michigan, USA

From: carl schmitz
Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:21:40 PM
Subject: on balance

i love him. his shine will radiate in all directions
beyond the point where two parallel lines intersect, i
know it. i vow to embrace life. everything is one
thing which is nothing.

- carl in san francisco

From: "Fernando Poo"
Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:29:01 PM
Subject: Jhonn

this feels extraordinarily surreal... i discovered
COIL fairly late in the game and was always amazed at
the emotion in his voice as he sang. i am saddened
that i never got to see his majesty live in concert.
Sorry for your loss Peter.

From: Cosmic Egg

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:30:52 PM

Subject: Condolence

Dear John,

Your art is one of the most inspiring of all my life.

Never forget.

Luca

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:34:00 PM

Subject: pure sadness

I FELL HORRIBLE SADNESS. WHEN I LISTEN TO COIL I SEE OLD CASTLES
,ANCIENT
RIVERS ,BEAUTY OF NEW PLANETS . NOW I FELL ITS ALL DESTROYED LIKE
WALL OF
DREAMS AND BEAUTY IS COLLAPSED. MY SOUL SLATHERED .
I HAVE TO CONTINUE LISTEN TO COIL THAT THE DREAM WILL COME BACK.
REST IN PEACE- I CANT EVEN WRIGHT YOUR NAME BECAUSE THEN IWILL
BELIEVE THAT
YOU ARE GONE
GOOD BUY TO YOU MAN OF THE FROZEN RIVERS!!!
FULL OF ADMIRE I SAY GOOD BUY
KORDOVA

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:33:20 PM

To:

Subject:

We will all miss Jhon Balance's Vision and His Voice.

□

DHarney

Boston, MA

From: Erik Almgren

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:35:07 PM

Subject: Missed beyond words...

Quite shocked at the moment... this was just too soon... write us poems from the other side... you will never be forgotten... Love, Erik A from Sweden

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:39:25 PM

Subject: [coil] thankyouforall

i am deeply saddened by the loss of geff rushton.

i met him as an interested, open, warm and very friendly person through doing interviews with coil for aufabwegen magazine or occasionally bumping into each other.

his work has meant a great deal to my life and it helped shape my view of things, as i'm sure it did for most people on this list. through his chosen subject matters he gave clues to investigating themes and artists and open up a totally new and fascinating world for me (ie. i found out about jarman through coil).

my hope is, that as honest and as straight as he outspoke his belief in and experiences with the other world, his soul may now find a place in that sphere exactly as he dreamed of.

i wish everyone personally connected to john balance the strength to somehow come to terms with this tragic event.

death is not the end.

love,
till

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:40:30 PM

Subject: Comment

It is sad to hear the passing of Jhon Balance. He left behind many great works for all to enjoy. Coil has influenced my work greatly and gave me many mind opening experiences. May the light always shine brightly wherever he is.

Robert

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:43:06 PM

Subject: Jhon's Passing...

Hello...

I have just been told that Jhon Balance has fallen and died.

I am truly and honestly grieved to hear this news!!

Jhon has been a great influence on me and my music as well as on my everyday life and practices.

He will surely be missed by many many folks and will in my mind always live on where ever Sleazy is at any given moment in time!!

I send my deepest sympathy to Sleazy, Ian and all those that were lucky enough to be a part of his life on a more direct scale.

This is truly a sad sad day for us all!!

Glenn Grau - IDX1274

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:41:46 PM

Subject: ::thank_you::

I was deeply touched by the news of Johnn's departure...
yes we all know that it's only a passage, nevertheless sadness comes to my heart

remembering all what Johnn and Peter's musik has always meant to me. I can say now, as I've always said to my best friends, without any hesitation that Coil have changed my life since the very first moment I've listened to the (just released) Scatology album.

It was such a shock that I immediately decided to write a letter, first of a series in those years, trying to explain the violent lovely feelings and emotions coming from such musik, and asking for more informations about the project and similar musik.

Johnn (and later also Peter and Otto) answered to my letters many times and introduced me to an amazing circle, a network of wonderful human beings who helped me to better understand and live my own life thru musik. I'll be always grateful to him and to Peter for such a gift and I only regret that during their last gig in the Melkweg/Amsterdam I didn't take the chance to express it by person... our common friend R.R. (with whom I was enjoying that concert) went to greet Peter and I felt so embarassed and run away like a child instead of offering the homage of the "presence". I sicerely wish Johnn's soul a wonderful voyage over the threshold and beyond, where darkness becomes light. For ever.. thank you.
::TeZ::

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:46:07 PM

Subject: Contribution

For the last 10 years Coil has been a part of my life, and one of the greatest influences upon my creative life. Jhonn Balance was at the center of this, with words and insight that affected me deeply. One of my strongest memories is listening to "Broccoli" again for the first time after my mother's death. So much depth and texture... I hope that he changes the next world as much as he has changed our own.

Nathan

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:45:17 PM

Subject: ...

"In dreams, I walk with you"

Optical Sound
Pierre Belouin

From: "Rebecca Avery"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:55:03 PM

Subject:

i was introduced to coil through being a nine inch nails fan, and i have to say that the music put out by coil is innovative to say the least, i looked foward to new material and tours to follow. i am saddened.

□

Becky Avery
Frankfort, KY

From: "Einsatzleitung"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:57:50 PM

Subject: Jhonn

It was definitely THIS highlight in my musical live to meet Jhonn at WGT 2004 in Leipzig/Germany. I had the opportunity to talk to him relaxed and in a fine mood about an hour and catch a tiny piece of his great aura.

It is a irrecoverable loss to not have him in this world anymore -good to know him save in other spheres...

□

Oliver for Sonne Hagal

From: "Theo Leenders"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:59:46 PM

Subject: Unbelievable

When I saw Coil at the concert in Amsterdam the 3-th of June of this year and I saw Jonh Working out.....this voice.....his voice.....unbelievable.

When I pas the treshold I will again enjoy and eat, drink, breath,.....your voice.....I can not wait

Have a good journey.....master.....your voice.. .-)) unbelievable

No more John Balance in this life, this sucks.

□

From: "Patricia"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 9:54:51 PM

Subject: RE: [coil] oh sad day

I have no words...i'm still astonishing.

My soul is so sad...

Thank you Jhonn for everything you gave us.

Love to ian and peter.

patricia

From: "Uriel93"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:04:30 PM

Subject: [coil]

You all probalby know this text, "The Golden Section", from Horse Rotorvator... but it helped me today, so perhaps it could also help some of you...

The Golden Section

The angel of death stands between heaven and earth, holding a poison-dripping sword. Identified with Satan, he is full of powers, a diligent reaper, an old fugitive and wanderer like Cain, a beggar, a pedlar, an Arab nomad, a skeleton, capering with sinners and misers in a jugglers' dance. But the nightmarish angel presents a different face to the one who has died before death, who has attained some measure of the apatheia of a saint. We are told that Azrael, Death, appears to our spirit in a form determined by our beliefs, actions, and dispositions during life. He may even manifest invisibly so the man may die of a rose, a rheumatic pain, or of a rotting stench. When the soul sees Azrael, it falls in love, and its gaze is thus withdrawn from the body as if by a seduction. Great prophets and saints may even be politely invited by Death, who appears to them in corporeal form. Thus it was with Moses and with Mohammed. When the Persian poet Rumi lay on his deathbed, Azrael appeared as a beautiful youth and said, "I am come by divine command to enquire what commission the Master may have to entrust in you." In fact, a strange connection becomes apparent between mors and amor, love and death. The moment of extinction in the pleasure of love resembles that of death, and thus, that of the mystical. In mythic terms, Eros and Thanatos are almost twins, for in some cases Death appears as a lovely youth and Eros as a withered starveling. Both love and death are gateways, hence their eternal adolescence and their fixation in the midst of the rite of passage.

Also, it's good to hear the "interview 5 [horse rotorvator] from "Dutch radio supplement". The way Christopherson speaks of death makes me calmer.

u.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:06:17 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance, RIP

All,

For me, Coil were a beginning that still hasn't finished. Listening to Horse Rotorvator (still their finest work, for me) opened up new roads that I didn't even know were there and Jhonn - or at least his voice - was a comforting guide in these travels.

Jhonn is forever gone, but he is still forever present.

"And who by brave assent, who by accident,"

Love,

--

Dan H

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:08:14 PM

Subject: my condolences

I've been a huge fan for many years of Coil and other works John Balance was directly involved in or related to. I received the devastating news today from a friend of mine who I used to play experimental shows with here in Texas. We regularly covered Coil songs in our sets during the year or so that we played together [songs such as Broccoli, Ravenous, Something, A White Rainbow, Amethyst Deceivers, Titan Arch, and Solar Lodge]. As an artist and a musician I've been greatly inspired by and learned so much from John and Peter's full spectrum of art and music. I've admired the seemingly

humble do-it-yourself attitude that Coil has presented over the years.
No other experimental/electronic artist has touched me the way Coil has.

I wish those of you who were close to John strength in this difficult time and I thank you for your willingness to reach out to the fans with this book of condolences.

All the best,
Adrian.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:07:11 PM

Subject: from Chris Connelly

I am so sad, I always loved his work, his humour, his aesthetic, such a talented and singular artist-I remember the first time I met him when I was 19 and I bumped into him & sleazy in a cafe in Ladbroke Grove. It's always nice to know there is an amazing legacy of a very creative genius

love

chris

From: "P Tolenaars"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:10:19 PM

Subject: .;.,

well i have never met you anyway But it's your voice that i'll always hear in my head
□
p.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:14:39 PM

Subject: Jhonn RIP

I was totally shocked when the news spread this morning.
Neither am I good in condolences nor am I good enough in the English language to express my feelings, now but probably never.
I first came across Coil in 1986, I was 15 years old by then, it's been nearly twenty years and I got so much from you! I am so glad I was able to see you perform live (only once).

May you RIP and enjoy the afterlife at the bifrost bridge with people you had not have the chance to meet during your time in this dimension, you are in another now, may it be a better one.

Tears are flooding, while stolen and contaminated is flooding my room.

Jan Bauer, Karlsruhe, Germany

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:15:03 PM

Subject: so I say

" ...thank you for the musick...."

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:18:01 PM

Subject: condolence

I saw Jhonn in Dublin last month. It was at the city hall that I saw what he really was, his spirit, his demons, his performance moved me because I knew it was not a performance, but his soul on show for all to see. This news is deeply shocking, for the short time I have known the musick of Coil I have never known anyone to push the envelope to such extremes, to connect with me and to send my mind to those other places.

The fact is that Jhonn to me was everything I could be, as if he was searching for those things I might be too afraid to see, and I'm sure many other people feel the same.

This is a deep loss and my thoughts are with all of you and the extended Coil family.

David Kerr

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:22:08 PM

Subject: Sweet dreams Jhonn

I was very saddened indeed to hear of Jhonn's passing and I would like to pass my condolences and good wishes to all of his friends and family.

We have lost a splendid man in Jhonn - he was a bright and shining star and I'm sure he will be sorely missed by many.

His physical form may be no more but his soul undoubtedly flourishes and I sincerely hope that our paths will cross in the future as they, sadly, haven't in this material existence.

Jhonn's musickal works were a real inspiration to me. As soon as I discovered Coil I was instantly captivated. I fell in love with the lush soundscapes, poetic lyrics, fascinating concepts, dark imagery, and esoteric themes. On many nights Jhonn's voice has soothed my lover and I to sleep as we lay flushed and short of breath in our bed.

Jhonn and Coil renewed my interest in matters of an occult and esoteric nature. I have learnt many new things. I expanded my intellectual and spiritual horizons and was constantly fascinated by the new things I learnt about the universe and myself.

So thank you so very much, Jhonn, for your amazing contribution to my life and the lives of all the others you have touched.

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law
Love is the law, love under will

Every man and every woman is a Star

Yours sincerely,

Alastair Parkkali
Zen Gardener

From: "om sivaya"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:25:32 PM

Subject: [coil] re: what shall we do with the drunken sailor

well said.

It would be nice if we could some sort of gathering to honor jhonn and all he has meant to so many of us; tonight would be so hard - too last minute - but perhaps this weekend? anywhere, something simple, someplace out of the way, quiet, where us stuck here on this side of the world can meet and share. Any ideas? Any takers?

as for any financial contributions I think that's also a great idea; I think many of us here would be happy to assist in any way possible if necessary.

As an aside, honestly, it feels so awkward in so many ways to feel such grief for the passing of an individual i never met in person but who's work and art touched my heart and changed my soul. I feel such an absence in the world - having jhonn here with us was knowing that at least something was good, was right, was well in the world.

From: Eric Mattson

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:27:18 PM

Subject: RIP, a story

RIP John

I was once John Balance.

the story :

In 2000, I was invited to take part in Ars Electronica, Linz. That year, Raster Noton won the first prize in music for the serie 20' to 2000. 12 Cds to celebarte the venue of the Millenium, one of them by COIL.

A night of celebration. As Coil could't or didn't want to perform, and as Carsten Nicolai from Raster Noton wanted everyone to be present that night, it was decided that the COIL 20' piece would be played. As everyone else was performing Live a new 20' piece, afraid it could be too dry, Carsten and me went shopping. The time the piece was diffused, I was on stage dressed as a Supergalactic Monk, walking

slowly from one light spot slowly, dramatically to another one the other side of the stage. Unbelievable but true, suddenly an austrian journalist went crazy on stage stepping at me, yelling and arguing this was a rip-off. 'You are not not JB'. I was not and and never was. This was a theater act Coil from England knew about it to happen, but never had we thought fans would come so numerous expecting COIL to be there (never was it said in Ars communications they would be !). I did my walk, and went out of stage, taking care as Thomas Brinkmann did ask me holding some cardboard on which were written the words 'Don'T go under the light', not to go under the lights, the ennemies trying to capture this unique moment. May I say we had all of us so much fun the next hours. A year later, I met John and Sleazy in Nantes, at the IDEAL festival. Talking together about this great moment of replacement, we laughed together. I met Sleazy again 2 years ago at MUTEK, but this was the first and only time I had the pleasure to share laughs with John. So long.

...

--

Eric Mattson

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:31:20 PM

Subject: What can be said?

Wow. I've only known of Coil for a few years, but you've already become one of my favourite bands, to the point where I'm frustrated no one else sounds (or thinks) like you. To hear that the founder of the group is dead so prematurely is extremely sad. I can only hope that Coil and/or its members keep on making music that means something.

Roger Fingas
Ottawa, ON, Canada

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:34:42 PM

Subject: what are you gonna do when they don't believe you

Sorry for the pain about John. I'm crying inside of me for of the emotion your song gave to me. I saw you *live* three times in the last three years in Italy, in Fano, from i am from, i saw you one time, in jesi and in bologna, in april, before Fano, i saw your performance at "Teatro delle Celebrazioni". Coil songs are part of my life, your lyrics and your music, your imagine and your attitude are something that will remain inside of me. I'm

sad now. *☐Rome falls falls for the world...Br strong, be wrong.*
Francesco Battisti - FANO - ITALY

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:36:07 PM

Subject: Remembering Balance

An excerpt from one of my rare blog entries
(<http://jroller.com/page/nwinkler/20041115>):

After weeping for Jhonn, memories connected to him and his work float up:

- A wonderful weekend with my wife in Amsterdam. We stayed in a small hotel and went to see Coil play at the fantastic Paradiso. Balance howled like a wolf and ran into a sheet of metal head first during the magical show. My wife somehow managed to fall asleep during all that.
- Playing Stolen And Contaminated Songs during an alcohol fueled month in 1999, where I worked so much that I could hardly sleep at night. Coil's music was one of the few things that helped me to stay sane at that time.
- Relaxing under the mosquito net with my heavily pregnant wife in the summer heat in MacLean, VA, listening to Musick To Play In The Dark, Vol. 2, which had arrived that very day.
- Listening to ANS or The Remote Viewer while sleeping on the train during my weekly commute from Frankfurt to Munich.

My thoughts go out to all the people who have been close to Jhonn. I'm sure you'll meet with him again one day.

Dream on, traveller...

Nils

--

From: "Craig Joyce"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:36:08 PM

Subject: Thoughts....

My path and the path of Coil were never really destined to cross.

My living in Australia put us worlds and seasons apart, though the music and art of Coil was never far from my reach at any time.

Briefly living in the UK in 2000, I always seemed to miss seeing Coil by a day here or there, I even made the trek to London to see Coil live during the now aborted Barbican gigs in 2001 but to no avail.

I feel as though a great opportunity to see something unique has been taken away from me, though this thought has given me clarity and insight.

Jhon Balance was out there every day pushing the boundaries of himself and what is possible. He did so to further our own lives and to extend his artistic vision, and no amount of physical distance can dissipate the impact that he has had on my life.

I want us all to remember Jhon as a pioneer and an unabashed light in the tunnel of our contemporary society. His demons were suffered so that the rest of us could see more clearly that which is around us, and he wanted each of us to do something unique, for the good of us all.

Musically you could call me constipated, perhaps lazy or undisciplined. I have always found an excuse for not following my muse.

Having the gift of someone so great taken from him before his time should be seen as motivation for us all.

Every minute could be your last.

Do something with every spare second of your life and don't allow the legacy that Jhon has created go to waste.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:38:04 PM

Subject: what can I say?

Jhonn -

We've had a short relationship, you and I.

I first heard your legacy through hackneyed speakers, nervously drinking gin and tonics while two old but new friends

clumsily fished for conversation and compliments. As further recordings lazily wound their way through my eager ears, it

so matched the wonder as the two friends saw each other through new eyes. Shackles and burdens and insecurities - all were

lost and it was all to your soundtrack. It remains a tattoo throughout the facets of my life - my business, my lover, my zen.

Thankyou for so many moments.

- Hayley

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:44:05 PM

Subject: jhonn

you brought inspiration and magic into our lives, go on doing that here and everywhere.....we saw you playing with the movement of your voice in the round above in the city hall.....

ronald and cinthy, haarlem, the netherlands

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:45:19 PM

Subject:

Dear Treshold House

I just learned that John Balance has died.

I can only say that I owe this man so much. Listening to Coil, the music, the words, the attitude has been very important for me. John Balance was the voice of the black sun, a gay man who showed it was possible to be just that and make good, interesting, intellectually challenging music. His work is often troubled, dark, violent and never false or boring. I'll remember the visions he wrote down every time I see the full moon. John Balance and Peter Christopherson have given me directions to so many things that were of great value in my education. It was an honour to share the same time on earth with John.

My deepest sympathy to friends and family, especially Peter

Kind greetings

Paul Mennes

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:45:30 PM

Subject: The passing of Jhonn Balance

I listened to Coil a great deal from 1987-1994 and was particularly struck by the 'Horse Rotorvator' album and the way that 'Horse Rotorvator' made the listener directly question their own mortality. I also interviewed the group around 1987: I can't claim to have really known Jhonn Balance or to have been familiar with the later work of Coil, but still want to register my respect for the great contribution that he made to the group, and to express my sympathies to the people who were close to him. □
Michael Shankland

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:47:09 PM

Subject: Balance

I would like to give my condolences to the loss of John Balance. I can't tell you what Coil's music has meant to me. I first got into the group because I was a huge fanatic of Throbbing Gristle and went and searched out every side project that was associated with the group. I was also very fascinated with Coil because of the magickal subject matter that was always so prevalent in their music. As an artist myself, Coil has always inspired me and I can only hope that others will feel that for some time to come.

I

Gustin

I

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:47:39 PM

Subject: An Empty Space

Words cannot do justice to the space left in the absence of Jhonn Balance, a soul which had much to learn and give in this life.

His search and struggle in life was never in vain, and I hope he felt some comfort in the knowledge that many had the honour of sharing and basking in his visions. These were visions that were already beyond this earthly plane.

I owe much to the inspiration from Jhonn over the ten years I have been listening to Coil, and this legacy will I know live far beyond. I feel privileged to have witnessed Coil in Live performance, an experience which truly moved me, and honoured that he took the time to write to me on one occasion.

Listening to Coil and Jhonns intimate visions will probably never sound the same again, and in a sense they may well be enriched, but one cannot help feel denied by what was still to come from such a prolific artist.

One cannot put a finger on the mystic qualities that defined Jhonns life's work, and one need not try, but if it can be defined it was as if something from within (or without) desperately sought a channel through which to apply itself. I hope now that force can be released.

Jhonn, may your soul continue to travel above and beyond as it did in life.

Ryan Teague, 15 November 04.

From: "Selway, Mark"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:53:18 PM

Subject: goodbye Jhon

Jhon provided us with a unique vision of this world, and others beyond, no other artist has inspired me in quite such a personal way, dark waters run deep and true.

□

M.

From: "justin headrick"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 10:52:51 PM

Subject: [coil] all that shall never be

i really like that poem by Auden...

i've been holding off on my comments, words really are failing me.
John and Coil have meant so much to me for so long...i think now of how i will never meet him in person. to shake his hands and say thank you....

where ever you are right now....you have my undying gratitude for all you done for a stranger you never knew in Denver....Peter you have my undying gratitude as well...all my love to those who loved Balance as well

and on that note...i would also like those who have words to share, to let me see them. i would like to include as many as i can in the Coil tribute, which will know be delayed a bit...i think we'll try to include written tribute as well...

justin

(also know for many years in Denver as The Coil Boy...now long since outgrown the boy part)

Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone,
Prevent the dog from barking with a juicy bone,
Silence the pianos and with muffled drum
Bring out the coffin, let the mourners come.

Let aeroplanes circle moaning overhead
Scribbling on the sky the message He Is Dead,
Put crepe bows round the white necks of the public doves,
Let the traffic policemen wear black cotton gloves.

He was my North, my South, my East and West,
My working week and my Sunday rest,
My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song;
I thought that love would last for ever: I was wrong.

The stars are not wanted now: put out every one;
Pack up the moon and dismantle the sun;
Pour away the ocean and sweep up the wood.
For nothing now can ever come to any good.

From: "Loren"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:11:11 PM

Subject: Jhonn's passing

I was deeply saddened to hear of John's death today. I am an artist, and if anyone finds affinity with my artwork, it is thanks in large part to the music of COIL. Growing up is hard. Growing up gay is even harder, and growing up as a gay artist is even harder still. I'm not going to say that John and Peter saved my life, although in some part I'm sure they did, but they did inspire my artwork, especially at the crucial early stages of it's development, and for that, I am grateful...and all the more darkened by John's passing. I first heard COIL in 1987. I had had (yet another) dream set in Ancient Greece, and one of the images that remained after waking was that of a field with cypress trees...and a 'gazebo' type thing which was very large. I was told that this was a 'shrine of the wind' by someone...who might not have been there. Later, I saw the cassette for 'Horse Rotovator' for sale, and when I saw the cover, I had to buy it. I had not heard of COIL before that, but THAT WAS THE SCENE in my DREAM! When I played the tape, I couldn't believe it...it was one of the most amazing experiences of my life. No one had EVER touched the chords within me that resonated with this music. I can never go back and remove the input of John's poetry and Peter's Schizophonía (thankfully), to compare the differences in my life and artwork with and without COIL's influence, but one only has to look at my artwork to see the inspiration for themselves. (www.dirgart.com/loren). In either case I'm sure that I'd still be who I am today...mostly. It is true what they say: "No artist creates in a vacuum"...and COIL did MORE than their fair part to fill up that void. I can't tell you how comforting it was to know that someone else out there appreciated the beautiful catharsis of subversion...whose heart was an aching torrent, like mine. I was raised in a small town in north Georgia, USA...so, as you might imagine, that revelation was all the more welcome. Hell, I can even thank COIL for helping to bring together myself and my good friend of the last 10-or-so years, Tim. I was walking around with a COIL shirt on, and because of that, he stopped and

talked to me...we've been friends ever since. In short, John helped to make my life easier...more productive, when EVERYTHING else seemed to be set up to make my life worse...to KILL my art. While there were MANY to thank for filling these roles (everyone from Dali to Whitman), John and Peter were the only 2 that were alive. Now...that's not altogether true anymore...and it makes me very, very sad. One thing that gives me solace, though, is that John was a dreamer...who lived his dreams. I'm sure that he's built quite a world for himself...to dream in forever.

□

In sincere condolence,
Loren Hall

From: "wm.Rage"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:11:33 PM

Subject: A Star

Sometimes a star shines from the darkness illuminating and warming more than just those closest. John Balance was one such star. His artistic expressions have provided multitudes with true warmth and light and he without any doubt was an inspiration to countless many. His passing from this to that is notable as he has left us with so much that we shall never really feel without him. Life is Death is Life is the Adventure.

□

Our condolences to the family, friends, fans of Mssr. Jhon Balance.

□

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:11:59 PM

Subject: Praise the Fallen

image.tiff "

From: "Mark"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:13:30 AM

Subject:

Rest In Peace.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:13:44 PM

This feels very strange... Suddenly it feels like winter (it hadn't up till I heard the

news). The snow isn't falling, and it's not horribly cold... But Astral Disaster is filling the air in my small apartment and the death shrine is glowing with the two candles that are burning.

Astral Disaster is one of my favorite albums of all time. No one that I've ever played it for has disliked it (this includes my parents). It has been the soundtrack to moments in my life where things have been extreme (good or bad). Moments where I cringed at thoughts and moments that I lay half awake watching the moon on winding roads in the mountains. Moments where I was pumped full of numbing agents and had flesh and bone removed from my mouth. Moments when I needed a total escape. Moments when I couldn't sleep. Moments when I just needed to feel clean again. I listen to it now to honor Jhonn and his work. Thank you Jhonn for staying here as long as you did and for producing the things you did. I hope your travels in the next will be wonderful.

Love to all affected,
-Rainer Isle

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:12:45 AM

Subject: dolor

soy jaime de argentina y la noticia arruinó mi día ya que amaba el trabajo de john.
mis condolencias

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:18:07 PM

Subject: Darkness Visible

I have just read the terrible news of Jhon's accident. The world seems to have become an even darker place again...

No other music has ever suggested so much to me that I can't be put into words. Each time I listen to a Coil album there are new details that emerge as if previously buried. Dredged up memories and associations are continually created through the layered textures of this singular, and very queer musick.

Musick to play in the dark 1 was my belated introduction to Coil. Since then it's been a journey into space and time and the "other" worlds. Listening to Astral Disaster in the extraordinary landscape of Iceland this year, under an endless

twilight sky was a perfect threshold moment...

My condolences & my eternal thanks

Ray

From: Jhonn Balance

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:18:33 PM

Subject: [coil] regarding a gesture

Hi all

Just a brief note at this difficult time - Ian and I both, and I'm sure John also, feel about financial donations, flowers etc this:

Rather than send us anything - we have too much already - do one of the following:

1. Write the words "Jhonn Balance" on a small piece of paper, put it in a hole in the ground or a pot, and plant a vegetable or tree over it. Some people might want to anoint the paper with their own seed as well. When you see the plant grow or even better when you eat the resulting vegetable, know you have him beside (or inside) you.

OR

2. If you see someone that needs some kind of small help or kindness, do so, but say "there you are Jhonn Balance", if only for the pleasure of seeing the startled look on their face.

(It was a running joke between us that Jhonn (like Blanche Dubois from Streetcar Named Desire) "often relied on the kindness of strangers")

And to everyone that has sent messages so soon - thank you SO so much - They are a massive comfort and help and mean a lot, even though sometimes it IS hard to read emails through the tears!!!! B^) What is the emoticon for that I wonder?

We will try to write back to everyone personally when Jhonn's Dust has settled...

Love to all

Sleazy and Ian

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:22:44 PM

Subject: The recent passing of Jhonn..

I'm not sure what I could say that wouldn't be selfish, in that I've missed the few chances to have seen him perform. However, I'm sure the fact I've wanted to for a long time, that I appreciated his work greatly and that I'm not alone in saying that, as his life and work has touched many and that he will be missed is all that needs to be said, beyond that I'm sorry to hear of the tragic loss for his loved ones.

-Blake

From: Robert Dee

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:20:46 PM

Subject: For Peter

I am in shock.

I never met John/Jhonn or yourself but I feel it important to say - and I wish I had said it to him earlier - that you have and will have an important influence on my life. I have been listening to Coil since 1984 when a friend at school encouraged me to get interested in the Some Bizarre Label.

Coil and Foetus have been the only bands whose music I have followed consistently (without peers) throughout my life. To provide a soundtrack to someone's existence is an incredibly potent thing.

It is not a one way current. It's connecting with people you admire, who seem on the same wavelength - whose ideas match your own experience. I have such a deep respect for Coil that, to a certain degree, I cannot separate your music from my own identity. That seems quite a strong claim but, I feel it is true. It is not so much that my identity is dependent on Coil but that my identity is bolstered by

uncompromising individuals who created art like yourselves without looking for recognition; individuals for whom the immediate reward of their artwork in wider society is considered less important than listening to the voice that comes through. It seeps through, anyway. It is the force that moves humanity forward. It Will.

I am devastated that without John I will not get those unexpected aural interpretations of the uncomfortable sides of psychological human experience again. All I can hope is that his love of the uncanny - the other, the unseen - will continue in some form. It Will.

My greatest sympathies for you Peter. For you, it must be hardest of all.

One last note, a small poem I wrote some years ago that I think might sum up John in my own mind (if you don't mind).

Come with me
We can drink to Eternity
May we never need cross
That threshold again

Eternal are we
When we close our eyes
And kiss the night
Again.

with love
Bobby
x

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:28:19 PM

Subject:

Such a beautiful voice, I only wish I'd discovered it earlier ☐ and how I wish I'd got off my backside to see Coil live.

☐

Much Missed. Goodnight Jhonn.

☐

Scott McKeating

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:30:38 PM

Subject:

It's so sad. The only lesson to be learned is: Enjoy every single moment as if it were your last. I met Jhonn at the Melkweg in Amsterdam/NL in June when a friend and I were attending the COIL show there (thanks, Tim!). When I first met Jhonn two years ago at The Hague he made a desparate and disjointed impression on me but now he seemed a lot happier as if he had found new meaning in life.

□

Take good care of yourself out there, Jhonn. Nobody else will.

□

Stephen Parsick

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:41:16 PM

Subject: Thoughts of Jhonn

It was his vision. It was his voice.

Jhonn's voice seemed to embody much of what I felt--be it blinding rage or the limpid streams of consciousness. Equal parts beauty and defilement, deviance and beatitude, it was and is the musick of Jhonn and Peter that still captures an essence that lasts beyond this life, beyond this death, and beyond all of us.

I will miss him. I will miss his voice.

Dr. John Silence

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:51:00 PM

Subject: ...condolences...

i don't know what to say
except that i know a pain of
loosing someone close someone special
and i feel it the same now

i didn't knew jhon personally but he
along with peter...
as coil they changed my life
thanks to you i started making music
and opened my young mind
changed my view for world

now when jhon has died

my world won't be the same
peter will be around
but it will be incomplete for me
somehow...

peter i wish you a lot of strenght
in this hard times...
same for rest of crew and friends...
plz be strong...

-stalker sascha-

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:53:15 PM

Subject: may i ask you all for silence...

May I ask you all for silence...

I'm very saddened to hear about Johns' departure,
the world is losing one of its most remarkable characters and artists.

Doing an interview with John some years ago and the experience of seeing
Coil live on two occasions I will always bear in special remembrance.

Walk on in peace.

Jan Hagemann
15.11.04

Date: 15 November 2004 23:43:15 GMT

Subject: I'm so sorry

Peter,
I'm so sorry to hear about what has happened. The music you both created over
the years has been an enormous source of inspiration and joy for me. I took the
day off work today, and have been listening to album after album and just
generally wandering about the house. I hope you and all of the people close to
John pull through this in time.
take care,
deepest sympathies from Seattle.
-matt carthum-

From: "Miguel Nobre Alexandre"

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:58:20 PM

I first came across Coil because of Marc Almond, being a fan I discovered their work through the collaborations. Since day one I found that Coil were a very distinctive and talented band. I always felt that John was a charismatic person, his vision was quite unique and gave many wonderful moments in my life. He'll be sadly missed.

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:59:16 PM

Subject:

I am immeasurably saddened by news of John's passing. A singular genius he was indeed and I shared his reverence for Spare.

Works by Spare I have from his collection were further charged by the fact they came under the purview of his very voluptuous eye. He will be missed. James Campbell

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:58:19 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] re: what shall we do with the drunken sailor

This may sound corny BUT:

For everyone on the list: How about a single candle vigil with Time Machines (If I remember reading correctly, this musick was very important him) playing for 1:11 of song 1, Telepathine, with everything else silenced (radio, TV, your mind) but with good thoughts directed to Jhon, Peter, Ian and all of Coil?

We could all agree on a date and time through the list?

Jason

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:00:37 AM

Subject: Goodbye, John

Thank you for everything. Wherever you are now, I hope you can feel the emotion that's being poured out. We are going to miss you hideously.

--

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:38:40 PM

Subject: Mes condoléances

À ceux qui sont dans la tribulation:
nous naviguons à rebours
dans un monde jamais né
de l'absinthe au thé vert
afin de moudre la voix
vers des rivages sans nombre

il y avait trop de sang
dans ton alcool
c'est ta dernière fenêtre
une amertume trop brève
à déguster

à bientôt, balance brisée

Thierry Dimanche

From: ross carew

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:04:06 AM

Subject: condolences

i had the pleasure of spending a day with coil when we had them over here in dublin last month. i hope john (as i kept calling him) enjoyed his first visit here as much as we enjoyed having him. i can't believe he's gone and i only knew him for one day... my heart goes out to ian, sleazy and the rest of the coil family.

-ross.

From: "the deliverator"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:03:19 AM

Subject: [coil] For Jhonn. For Sleazy. For myself.

I woke up this morning early, about 6 A.M., to the news that we all found in our inbox: Jhonn Balance had died. At first, I figured that this must be some elaborate joke. That Balance was just fucking with us all in some way. After checking out Thresholdhouse.com, I knew it was true. The feeling I had at that exact instance is best described as a psychic kick to the stomach. I was reeling. I went downstairs and told my partner Steve about the news. His reaction was much the same as mine. He didn't believe it until I showed him the web page.

I then had to leave for work. The news sat in the back of my skull all day. It colored everything I did today, but I had no time to sit and think about it. Not even for a moment.

I found that time on the drive home, at dusk this evening. It became very clear to me how much this man Jhonn had affected (infected?) my life, and yet I hardly knew him. One meeting back in the spring of 2000- a handful of emails. He was in all actuality simply an acquaintance in my life. A stranger that I didn't really know. So I suppose that what I'm writing here is really not so much about Jhonn himself, but more about how his work, art, and musick changed me as an individual. So much of who I am, and how I think today was influenced by Coil and Jhonn. So I find myself here at home, grieving for this profound stranger.

I first stumbled upon the work of Coil when I was 14. A friend loaned me a mix tape with a copy of Coil's version of "tainted love "on it. I

immediately fell in love with it. It took me months to find a copy of the 12" containing it. I couldn't get enough of it. Not long after, I found a copy of Horse Rotorvator. It scared me to no end. That CD revealed a world that I had no idea even existed. Deviant sexuality. Homosexuality. Things that shine darkly in the night. My Mother in particular was horrified that I could listen to such things, but nonetheless never turned off the tape when I played it in the car on the way to school in the morning.

I listened to Horse Rotorvator nonstop for over a year, but was never able to find anything else by Coil again.

Until I was 23. I was in Akron, Ohio. In some random used CD shop, and found a copy of Love's Secret Domain. Those were my LSD, and coming out of the closet days. I couldn't believe my ears.

Soon, I was searching the ends of the earth to find everything Coil. I found most of the back catalog, and listened to little else during that period. I started noticing themes in the musick. Things I wanted to learn about. Aleister Crowley. Austin Osman Spare. The Black Sun. Jhonn's influence spurred me into seeking out alternative philosophies, and eventually led me to the Book of the Law. From there, it was a short road to finding the O.T.O. My local Lodge (now Oasis) was called "Black Sun." I knew then that I had found something that I was looking for. I left a message on their website: "See the Black Sun rise on the solar lodge. It was all downhill (or uphill?- No matter) after that. I verified later that Black Sun Oasis, O.T.O. claimed its' name based on the influence of Coil, and Jhonn.

Jhonn's influence spread into other areas in my life. I began fiddling around with creating my own musick, my own style. All, or most, of it with large nods to one of my largest influences.

I sent off fanmail, and a couple of gifts. These always met with thanks, and there was rarely an email that went unanswered to Threshold house.

When I heard that Coil was playing live in the spring of 2000, the decision was immediate. Within a day the travel plans were made, and tickets were purchased in short order. After that concert, I finally had a chance to meet Jhonn. I went up and introduced myself, and was met with a blank stare. This somehow seemed very apropos, and was exactly what I was hoping for. I dropped my handle/motto "Deliverator" and got a very warm welcome from both Sleazy and Jhonn. I was such a fanboy that night. I couldn't have been happier. I had the chance to thank both Jhonn and Sleazy for the wonderful things they had given me in person.

Over the years, my love for Coil has never really gone away. I'm not as active on the e-list as I used to be, but all of the CD's are still in regular rotation. I haven't dropped a line to say hello, but Balance and his exploits were often the topic of conversation among me and my friends.

So I find myself here. Tonight, at my computer. Weeping for a man I barely know. Mourning the loss of some crazy shamanic genius that I will never have. Crying for this amazing stranger that had such an impact of my life. I wish that I could have known him. Yet strangely, I feel as though I did.

There's little left for me to say. Sleazy, Ian, and the rest of the Coil family, my thoughts, and my heart are with you.

Nobly-born Jhonn Balance, listen: Now thou art experiencing the Radiance of the Clear Light of Pure Reality. Recognize it: Shine Darkly.

Lovelovelove

□

Jim

□

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:10:19 AM

Subject: still alive

MERCI JOHN. NOUS TE PORTONS EN NOUS. ERIC
Thank you, John. You're a part of everyone of us. Eric

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 11:04:25 PM

Subject: Star

I have two Coil births. The one with the first songs I heard from Scatology, that I and other friend aficcionado to good music managed to get from Sao Paulo to our smaller town, Porto Alegre in South Brazil. Back there I was a teenager, that sound for those rituals of young passion. Years passed,

I came to live in Denmark, and since Foxtrot - the Blood and its fate/face - I had another birth to Coil. Here in Copenhagen Coil by a coincidence came to play in a theatre a few steps from our house. My partner, Poul Erik, talked to John then and we still rejoice in his sweetness and vigour, and the many CDs that he with sweet irony and tenderness autographed to our home. The Remote Viewer that I played so loud over the endless bay in Salvador, north Brazil, aware of all that energy flowing, the circulation of an alphabet made of stars, a pact with life. Now John is one more star for us to revere. And our home on earth will go on rejoicing in your sound. Thank you. And thanks to the Flow.

Sincerely,
René Antônio

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:26:04 AM

Subject: How Jhon affected my life

My first encounter with Jhon and Coil was in 1992. The magazine was Propaganda issue 18. I was living in the state of North Dakota and had never seen a magazine like this before. Out of the whole magazine, Coil was the article that jumped out at me the most. It was here that I first heard of Crowley and the O.T.O., things that would alter my life forever.

I would escape to Florida a few months later and literally the first thing I did when I got there was to buy the Tainted Love single and Love's Secret Domain. I'd NEVER heard music like this before and damn was it hot!

90% of Coil for me was Jhon's vocals. I was always craving the vocals. They wrapped me up and made me feel good. When Music to Play in the Dark came out I jumped up and down cuz it was a return to the vocals that I so dearly missed. My first acid trip was even done to Love's Secret Domain. My ceiling became a thousand people all having sex with each other. I wrapped myself in a blanket and became one with the universe for awhile. It IS amazing.

Jhon also introduced me to Austin Osman Spare and Chaos magick. My first tattoo was a chaosphere because of Coil.

I was wrecked to learn of his death. This was my Lennon. There will never be another.
I will deeply miss him.

93,
Martti Hill

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:26:44 AM

Subject: To John Balance

Thank you John, for all the wonderful moments you made me experience with your music.
You really changed my life and will be sadly missed.
Although you are no longer of this earth, your music and spirit will continue to live on for ever, inspiring new generations.

□

"Forever comes closer, the world is in pain
we all must be shown, we must realise
that everyone changes and everything dies. "

□

Geert Struyve

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:27:51 AM

Subject: [coil] Out of Balance

All my voices are silent and numb. Jhonn is with me in his music, and everytime he makes me smile, the tears stream all the harder.

Ridiculous.

Jhonn's gone.

This weekend I hope I can recover my perspective on this situation, and am able to truly celebrate his life. If Jhonn gave me anything, it was an affirmation of life, and tears seem perversely inappropriate.

My love and thoughts are with Ian, Peter, and all who loved him.

riley

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:31:58 AM

Subject: [coil] Jhonn Balance

Coil's music has always made me feel right in a world that's wrong.

Thank you Johnn

Peter & Ian, my heart goes out to you

Hasan

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:32:06 AM

Subject: time for tea

my love for jhon. my love for peter. my love for immediate COIL. my love for all affected.

my world has become smaller and larger.

my world has become darker and brighter.

jhon as a paradox. as everything and nothing.

geff, we will meet again. [for the first time.]

ever since finding a bargain basement deal on the CD "how to destroy angels", i knew coil was something unique. and i knew, that even though i did not understand its meaning and could not feel its power, it was a square peg in my music collection. it was not until i discovered throbbing gristle and more coil, that i learned how bizarre music could be.

musically, coil will always be a uniqueness. a continent unto itself. physically, coil could comfort me and kill me in one records time. visually, coil looked to be an odd set of ducks, making irrational noise for their own enjoyment. the occasional use of "astralmagickoccult" [mishmash of terms used lightly] symbols, conveyed a message that the performance of music, should be more than playing music. it should mean something, to you, and it should mean something to the audience.

There can be no ritual without community and perhaps there is no community without ritual. Joyce Carol Oates

music, yours and mine and their and ours, has enriched my life. not a moment goes by that i do not think about ways to help others feel music, the way i feel it. through my music, or through art, or through the power of voice.

i feel greatly privileged to know COIL, and have known john for this time in my life, and his.

the music of coil has always sounded timeless to me. and till the end of my life,

the music of COIL, and the memory of sir balance, shall grace my life. and just for good measure, i will try to grow some broccoli in memoriam. such a good source of calcium, and magnesium to make he calcium useful. :P

adam marcus batley
gainesville, florida, USA

From: "Peter Windle"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:40:08 AM

Subject: there is nothing i can say...

it just is.

good luck, mr balance. x

--

pete

"..."

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:44:48 AM

Subject: Rest in Infinity

"Don't believe AE, see for yourself the summer field"

No one, not even the great beast himself, communicated magick to me as strongly as Jhonn. He has cleared himself, so full of his magickal strength that every word rings energy, gnosis from the stars. With that one line and the beautiful sounds beneath I left my cloistered room, mid-song, with it still undulating in my mind, and did exactly that, walked the fields of a firefly-imbued New England summer. He had initiated my journey to peace with myself, when it was necessary above all else. It is rare that we find such a great poet along with such dynamic and mind-expanding musick. He is truly one of the greatest sorcerers of word and sound the universe has blessed us with. His body may now turn to dust, his tongue no longer sculpting poetry, his star will shine bright on us for all eternity, still speak to us in dreams. Jhonn, I know you are truly at peace, and may your spirit still guide me to that peace. Love is the Law, love under will.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:49:37 AM

Subject: Goodbye for now.

To my friend whom I never knew. I Thank You for the profound effect you have had on my life through your art. Your music shall continue to soundtrack my existence, colouring my experiences, my thoughts, my actions and deeds, my highs and lows and I look forward to meeting you somewhere down the road. Goodbye for now.

Love Is The Law, Love Under Will.

Russell Joseph Kent

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:54:11 AM

Subject: [coil] tragic accident

This fucking sucks in a major way.

What a bummer.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:55:13 AM

Subject: note of condolence

Here's the note I wrote in my journal upon reading the news, slightly modified,

Normally I hate it when I get sentimental over the passing of people I knew only through their work. You have that initial pause when you hear the news, then you start reflecting on what they meant to you, whether it was really significant to you or not. You start to feel emptier due to the fact that they will never appear on the media again. Lady Di comes to mind. Her legacy largely came from her death and even if she had never grabbed your attention before you couldn't help but to give it then. John is easily an exception to this rule in my mind. When I came to Toronto to pursue arts training Coil was my first hit of something strange and real, and I've fed my ears and mind on them ever since. It was actually a borrowed copy of the Blacklight District disc and soon after musick to play in the dark , vol 1 and 2. Much of my work has been executed under the influence of Coil. I guess I feel saddened due to that fact. My exponential growth over the past four years has had Coil as it's soundtrack, and John as the voice. It provoked something within myself to explore avenues and confront myself. I feel the best thing I feel I can do to honour the man's memory and his work is to continue the path I've been travelling bearing his 'teachings' in mind.

John, Thank you.

--

Brett Despotovich

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:56:23 AM

Subject: Geff my angel

The world is poorer for your absence my angel.
A lost soul tormented by our demon of alcohol.
We are the same, clinging to reason, but oh, how we fly, when we fly, the sky is endless.
You remain a stain on the book of these years, □
indelible with your passions.
Now you drift across the twilight, the most terrible angel of love, still smiling.
□
Val Denham, for my old friend Geff. □□□□

From: Wajid Yaseen

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:04:22 AM

Subject: jhonn

i'm absolutely gutted.....jhonn was working on a vocal for me for one of my projects and may have been one of the last things he did.....we toured together on a small european tour and even though i had heard of Coil, i had never actually heard them but was astounded when i saw them perform and felt honoured to be part of it....we played together once in Leipzig at the Trethik Festival and i will never forget my reaction....i cried like i had never cried before...much of it was down to my own personal loss at the time but Jhonn found a way for that loss to pour out of me...the most personal and memorable reaction to a gig i will ever have.....the last time i met him was back-stage at the Ocean venue in Hackney after a Coil performance and i had never seen him happier....love.....of course his energy has morphed into something else but right now, i dont find it consoling.....the world is alittle less

wajid

www.2ndGen.net

<http://Uniform.adnoiseam.net>

From: Noit Excev

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:12:51 AM

Subject: Submission

John Balance and his portfolio of work is among the very few things in this mortal world I hold very dear. It saddens me he has passed but I know he will continue to influence me, and my own creations as Immutable and Semantic Error long after his crossing of the threshold. I will listen for you tonight mr. balance as I write you a death lullaby.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:14:27 AM

Subject: JB

the pleasure to meet jhonn and peter in bologna and fano.
few words but deep eyes finding an intimate contact.

if finding is recognizing...
his experiences and experiments,
from the early years to coil latest years have carved a magickal
and transdimensional path which will stay.

we're deeply saddened.
still we are conscious that his spirit and subatomic particles once part of him,
will keep channeling his voice and his presence
in dreams, thoughts and visions of the ones who love him.

keep in touch from the underworld jhonn,
we'll still be looking for balance.

with love.

(T)

dustin

From: Sam Brokenshaw

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:32:30 AM

Subject:

It is with great sorrow I learn of Jhonn's passing, may his journey
continue upward and onward.

We'll miss you Jhonn,

Sam

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:41:46 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

"one day, we're all going to fall..."

he will be so deeply missed on so many levels but his body of work and psychic trail will blaze for ever

Yeah, it was kinda like this when Bonzo and John Lennon passed. It's part of the deal, though.....

ed

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:43:46 AM

Subject: Jhonn Balance's influence on my life

This is what I posted in my blog (<http://www.luckysquid.com>) today when I heard. It's not much, but it's all I have to offer. :'(

As far as his influence on my life goes, Coil sort of haunted me, followed me around. I was repeatedly exposed to them but for various reasons that can only ever be comprehended by myself, I ran screaming.

As the old cliché goes, when the student is ready, the teacher shows themselves. In this case I finally decided it was time to settle down to my life's spiritual work in a systematic as opposed to half assed and haphazard way. D. J. Leslie presented Coil to me without me realizing that it was the perfect time for me to start listening to them, and learning from them. The music lead me through some of the harder times in Magick I've faced so far, and I know as my knowledge deepens their advice will be waiting for me. Also, the most profound psychedelic experience of my fully adult life was realized while listening to "The First Five Minutes After Death" and having it explained how it was presented live. At that moment I understood more about my relationship with death and loss then I have acquired through any other means of therapy or meditation.

Since much of Coils works have become so close to me, their words and music have been integrated in my own Tree of Life, since I very first began to explore it. Jhonn may be dead, but he is also growing and becoming one with all inside me as my Tree grows. He has much strange fruit yet to bear.

Adam Lewis

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:06:57 AM

Subject: Jhonn

Jhonn with all the love in my heart, I send you an extra pair ov wings to help in your crossing over to the great beyond! You have brought so very much love to the world ov Musick and have left behind a wonderful world ov musick and magick.

□

you will be greatly missed.

□

I love you Jhonn

□

Craig Gannon

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:07:12 AM

Subject: My sympathies

Hello Peter -

I'm sure you're quite inundated with emails right now, but I wanted to share my deepest condolences with you on the loss of Jhonn.

You may not remember me, but I worked at Nothing Records as a publicist for several years, and had the pleasure of working with you and Jhonn during your performance at Convergence in 2003. Coil was – and is – one of the artists that has influenced me the most over the years. Coil was truly a rare beacon of light at the many times when I needed it the most, and I consider the very brief time I spent with both of you to be inspiring, and one of the greatest honors I have ever had – even though I was too shy to tell you guys that.

It's very hard to write an email through tears, so I'll stop here. My most heartfelt sympathy to all of Jhonn's loved ones, and you are always, always in my thoughts.

Best,
Tiffany Luning

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:06:22 AM

Subject: John Balance 2/16/1964-11/13/2004

I dont haven't been much time immerse in music.

I can count the years since i first took seriously a piece of sound.

I can say who are the most important bands and names in my musical bases.

I can say some people will be never forgotten.

John Balance got to my life inside that shell called Coil a few years ago. Since that arrival, which came also with some groups that are greatly influenced by them, my musical perspective changed in a way i will never forget.

Today was a beautiful day.

Here where I live the sun is shining bright just after a heavy rain.

Here where I live shines bright. And maybe, it's also because the souls are ascending (and descending) somewhere else.

I dont believe in heaven or hell beyond the writings of Milton, Blake and Crowley.

I dont believe in reencarnations, other lives.

It's just us in an endless highway, with it's ups and downs. Facing everything.

Here wher I live shines bright just before a heavy rain.

I hear the noise.

That strangely musical sound that comes from noise, and I remember, then, that is that beauty that I learned in Coil's music.

This is not the end.

Just the beggining of some kind of legend.

May be just a ghost story.

Some spooky stuff.

Or maybe, for me, it's some kind of statment that will be torn in my flesh, forever.

Thanks John Balance and your teachings on how to destroy an angel, on how to learn the beauty of noise.

(noir.et.blanc) mythos.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:22:15 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] tragic accident

Jhon was one of a very few artist whom could truely make me feel uncomfortable and ashamed while listening

too. Uncomfortable and ashamed in a voyeuristic way,
as if I had stumbled upon something so very personal
that I might not really be right in continueing to
look. Too me that is a most beautifull thing.

Bob

Never another I guess we are lucky to have been
blessed with one for as long as that star shined.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:29:14 AM

Subject: The loss of life, and the gaining of something better.

Though I never met this man, through his musick he changed me in a thousand
ways.

□

Thanks□ for inspiring me John,□ would not be who I am today if it wasn't for you.

□

- Joseph H.

From: "blip"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:37:17 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

I don't really know what to say, I don't think it has sunk in yet. Although I only
briefly met Jhonn once, and exchanged a handful of sporadic emails, it feels like
losing an old friend of 15 years.

My heart and condolences go out to Peter, Ian and all Geff's friends and family. I
guess we all have to not dwell on what will now never be, and treasure all that has
been.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:46:46 AM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

Jhonn Balance was one of the biggest inspirations in my life. He saved my life many times through his art, inspiring me to go on with the every day struggle, and become the artist I am today.

- Jason Brown

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:44:12 AM

Subject: Johnn

Hi Peter:

I felt my heart drop when I heard about Johnn today.
I trust you will gather needed support from your friends.
My best thoughts and sympathy are with you.

Mark Smith
Toronto

From: n0-age

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:08:10 AM

Subject: we are so sorry :(

condolences by all the people from n0-age. we are very upset with the loss of a great person and artist who has always influenced very much our work.

--

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:11:23 AM

Subject: Balance of the Atmosphere

It is said that the air that we breathe contains the breath of every human that ever lived.

Through our breath, Jhonn, we will bring inspiration and bliss to those who seek it.□

□

Thank you,
Blake T. Honeytwin

□

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:17:04 AM

Subject: RIP

For all of the moments that John's music touched me, made me happy, made me feel like there was something out there that I related to and could understand, I feel I owe this note of condolence at the very least. For all of John's family and friends, I wish you calm and healing in your time of grief.

RIP John.

Matt

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:17:38 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

Good luck

Making your way

To the Western Lands

Burroughs will help you, I'm very sure

and the vultures

"it's full of holes"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:19:33 AM

Subject: With Us...Within Us
1__#\$!@%!#__image.tiff "

From: Tomas Everaert
Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:25:31 AM

Subject: [coil] He threw acid in our eyes.

The light that shines twice as bright, burns half as long.
Every man and every woman is a star.
Love is the law, love under will.

I can never express how much Jhonn Balance and Coil have influenced my thoughts and feelings; what is the impact he had on me, and which he will continue to have.

My thoughts go out to Ian, Sleazy, and all the ones who love him, the ones he loved. It's a sad sad sad day.

Thank you so much for your brilliance, Jhonn! You threw acid in my eyes.

Stars remain.

LOVE

Tomas.

From: "Benjamin Cameron"
Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:27:06 AM

Subject: Balance

The musick of coil inspired me and showed me how expressive musick could be, how deep it reaches and how far into the twilight it can be ridden. Each incarnation treaded new emotional, psychick and sonic ground. This is the passing of a tutor. It is a great and sad day. May he move through the void with Will. Omnium viri et omnium mulieres astrae sunt.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:33:57 AM

Subject: Condolences

Particularly through his works with Current 93, although I greatly appreciate Coil, PTV, Throbbing Gristle etcetera aswell, John Balance has made an imprint in my mind that will be with me for as long as I live (and after). The first snow fell here on Saturday, everything was, and still is, muffled, shrouded in white and silent. Even nature mourns.

P. Andersson, Skellefteå, Sweden.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:37:03 AM

Subject: -planting trees-

Jhonn's words alone could bring any man directly to his knees, not to mention his voice. At least, that's how I've felt about it all, time and time again. I hope we all see a white rainbow this Solstice.

Apologies on being so concise but I'm at an utter loss for words. Bless Jhonn always for being so wonderful to us all in this existence.

- Mat "madius" Harvest

From: Hamish MacKenzie

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:45:22 AM

Subject: black flowers

really really sad to hear of this....coil affected me appropriately in troubled times of long ago. his musical loss is immense. to you who shared his air, i feel for. take from the moment as you will and turn it to something more.

regards
hamish

From: "setai"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:08:12 AM

Subject: humble blessings

I don't know what to write now- even though I feel NO shock or surprise- we could all see the path that was coming- my god- we have all seen the path that was tread-

□

there will be an accounting of the tremendous synchronous events that have occurred to all of us whose life Balance has touched-□ experienced three separate resonances myself: a cd-r of NY concert photos constantly materializing in strange locations even after carefully/mindfully putting it in its place on sunday morning- my personal waking/sleeping rituals being altered on sunday morning- I have a three vector ritual of protection/control/healing □ that has remained unchanged for several years: a voice on saturday night COMPELLED me to change the healing vector to a BALANCE vector [always a synthesis between protection/action and control/being]-□ felt him then- but□ thought it was merely random cognition- and finally: at or around the time of the Fall- I was listening to some berlin-school elektronische [some tracks from Bernd Kistenmacher]- for some reason□ stopped and listened to my copy of Stolen and Contaminated Songs- I've done the math and around 5:29 PM GMT track 8 "Who'll Fall" started playing- also□ have had a tremendous awareness of mortality this week- so much so that I made a doctor's appt last Friday for a check-up after 5 years of avoiding my physician-□ don't know what to think anymore-

□

all of my love- as much as my limited and hurting being can muster- □

□

□

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:12:59 AM

Subject: will miss your contributions to our world

□ I wrote a little something about him on my [blog](#), but to be frank I think Jhon was very much a part of my reason for even continuing to make music during a point where I was ready to quit. When I heard the Equinox series□ was a real turning point in my life. If someone whom I've never had the chance to meet was able in some way to affect my life I'd have to say he was on to something. I now run a [micro cd label](#) and have been doing music for 7 years since i almost gave up, thank you Mr.Balance for giving the world such great inspiring music, me and my wife Jenn will miss your contributions to our world."

□

Respectfully,

□□□□□□□□ Joseph and jennifer (we'll miss you)

From: Joshua Seaver

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:19:16 AM

Subject: Balance Consumed

May your soul always reside in the freedom and creativity that it craved in your corporeal life. Life is continuous. Sincerest blessings to all your survivors.

Love,

Joshua (Minnesota, U.S.A.)

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:25:54 AM

Subject: miss you

thank you John for all the great music,your wonderful voice☐will ALWAYS send shivers.

words cannot say how much we loved you.

god bless

markxxxx

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:29:32 AM

Subject: Remembering

Though I never met John or had the pleasure of seeing him perform live his recordings have made a great impact on my own musical work over the years. His presence as an artist in this realm will be sorely missed.

Scott Carr

Philadelphia, PA USA

From: "Mark"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:37:06 AM

Subject:

rest

in

peace

☐

From: "denial ."

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:44:04 AM

Subject: making a series of prints in honor of jhonn's life, and work....

I never got to send the images I was working on. Jhonn's vision has had a huge impact on my work.

I plan on making a print series, and all benefits will go to threshold house..... please contact me with further information, how I may get the contributions to you.

Thank you jhonn, and rest now.

□

□

□

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:45:24 AM

Subject: THE DEATH OF A TRUE ICONOCLAST

TO PETER, IAN AND THOSE CLOSE TO JHON BALANCE,

□

IT IS WITH GREAT SADNESS THAT I WRITE THIS LETTER, HAVING RETURNED FROM MY HONEYMOON TO HEAR OF JHON'S DEATH. IN THE SAME INNOVATIVE AND TRULY CREATIVE VEIN AS DALI AND SHAKESPEARE, JHON BALANCE WAS MOST CERTAINLY AS CREATIVE AN ARTIST AS YOU COULD HAVE ON THIS EARTH.

□

HIS FORCE IN COIL (ALONG EQUALLY WITH PETER AND THE MANY OTHERS WHO HAVE JOINED THEM) HAS INSTILLED IN ME ONE OF THE MOST POSITIVE CREATIVE AND INTELLECTUAL FEELINGS I HAVE EVER EXPERIENCED. LISTENING TO COIL'S WORK HAS ALWAYS BEEN ONE OF THE MOST (IF NOT THE UPMOST) INSPIRATIONAL ARTISTIC FORCES I HAVE HAD IN MY YOUNG LIFE AND I AM TRULY THANKFUL FOR THAT.

□

HAVING LOST MY MOTHER EARLIER THIS YEAR, I KNOW TOO WELL WHAT YOU ALL MOST BE GOING THROUGH. IT IS MY HOPE THAT PETER AND ALL THOSE WHO WERE CLOSE TO JHON CAN HAVE SOLACE DURING THIS VERY DIFFICULT TIME.

□

WITH THE MOST SINCERE REGRETS,

□

DANE ROSE

ALEXANDRIA, VA. ~ USA

From: Morgan Hayes

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:44:41 AM

Subject: [coil] condolences and contributions

Balance's work was a gift that helped to make me who I am, and it would be ill-fitting of me to let him pass without attempting some gift of my own. What format or medium for the contributions, any preferred type or length of content or is it anything-goes (so long as it is pertinent). On the one hand, I wish to show my support and admiration for Jhonn, Peter, Ian, and the many others that formed the body of threshold house. On the other hand, I don't want to add to the burden of what must be an incredibly exhausting and difficult time. If anyone could fill me in on more details regarding the contributions, I would deeply appreciate it, so that I may decide what the best course of action for me to take would be. That is, to limit myself to the rather wonderful ideas Sleazy posted (the name "Jhonn Balance" out of context has a rather mythical or folk-tale feel to it, making the second option rather delightful), or to, in addition, try to do more. By now its evident that I said what I had to say in the first sentence and am mindlessly rambling so I'll be quiet. Any help in the matter would, as I said, be appreciated. Many thanks.

Much love

Morgan

From: "d"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:48:13 AM

Subject: Jhonn

□ Jhonn's work has made my life more interesting to say the least

□

it has given me a perspective on everything

□

it has taken me from the darkness

□

and has guided me towards it

□

it has given me the strength

□

to follow my heart
□
no matter the cost
□
□
□
Jhonn shine darkly

dear

shine darkly

-d

From: jason sweeney

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:51:05 AM

Subject: jhonn condolences

it was today, with great sadness, that i discovered the news about jhonn's death. his work, and that of Coil, has been of great influence and sonic guidance for me for many years.

these sounds and recordings and projects and texts that have motivated me, all the way over here in australia, to continue explorations of sound, performance and film.

and the true and meaningful explorations into darkness, masculinity, queerness & the occult.

and indeed, death itself.

it was stirred in me through the listening and creative/psychic association.

as a radio maker also, i always made sure jhonn was always present on (and in) the air.

now transcendence and transformation occurs.

may we all meet there as we each pass over the threshold.

much love,

jason

From: Kuma

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:59:14 AM

Subject: On Jhonn

The Black Light District has lost another denizen and we are poorer for it.

I cannot imagine what my life would be like without the influence of Jhonn Balance, a man whom I have never met but whose words and vision have been a driving force in much of how I have defined my creative endeavours.

I first was introduced to Coil via two songs from Love's Secret Domain that were on an old Wax Trax compilation. T'was The Snow and then Love's Secret Domain. A full introduction to the album of the same name...well..it cleft my little brain in two.

The rose was indeed sick, but what a brilliant flower it was.

I am a writer, words have been my stock in creative trade for lord knows how long. Jhonn's words have stuck with me from my first Coil purchase to the last. At the heart of it all lay a man who KNEW and such honesty in the self and with the world cannot be denied. This is what cuts to the bone, some things just have to and his words did the job.

You know, I almost cried over the broccolli in the vegetable section of the grocery store earlier today.

"Out Of Light Cometh Darkness." Enscribed upon the door which makes up the cover of L.S.D is the mantra and it's reverse (Out of darkness Cometh Light) are the words which have defined my life. That was what Jhonn's words taught me.

Through my own battles with various demons, I saw the knowledge reflected. Don't fear the dark, embrace it.

We're all a little messy, but that's fine, just eat your greens and all will be well.

And now, it just is.

Somewhere Jhonn is having breakfast with the sea priestess and all is right with the world.

I can't help but reference his words as I write this

and that's probably because even now as he has passed over the Threshold, I am lacking the words to do justice to what he has done for me. So I look to him and his words fill the gap.

As Spare used to paint upon radios, I will continue to play Coil's musick and Jhonn's words in my DJ sets. Less as statements and more as transmissions.

Transmissions out there. Out where? Anywhere. And maybe one of these transmissions will help reflect the energy of this black son out to others. Electricity making angels of all of us.

Thank you good sir, may you shine darkly and may the goddess keep you, evermore. You will be missed.

From: "J. Roarty"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:01:06 AM

Subject: [coil]

every spider has their web...

and for all those caught in a dead spider's web,

let there be a message,

"continue"

R.I.P.

From: Nate DeVillers

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:10:39 AM

Subject: speech

I had always been a big fan of Jhonn's art since the

90's, when i first heard him on Coil recordings (later than I should have).
when I started making my own art and artifacts strictly as a vocalist, I found myself listening to much more Coil, and listening to Jhonn much more than I had previously.
I never priviledged myself enough to see a live performance, but hearing the words "exorcising demons" in contextual reference to a respected vocalist made me want to not only take a more spiritual and personal approach to my own performance, but also forced me to re-examine my preconcieved notions of what I had previously considered to be poetry, singing, and speech.

I am a more enlightened being from having simply known his work. I cannot imagine what it would have been like to have known him.
He will be sorely missed, but never forgotten.

my condolences extended to those he had befriended,
nate

From: "Mark"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:10:47 AM

Subject: [coil]

We now the living
Me now the dead

R.I.P.

Sent: Monday, November 15, 2004 11:01 PM

Subject: [coil]

every spider has their web...
and for all those caught in a dead spider's web,
let there be a message,
"continue"
R.I.P.

From: matt holland
Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:16:45 AM
Subject: condolences and thank you

coil have been the soundtrack to and reason for, innumerable magical moments over the past ten years of my life.

when i read the official word this morning i literally cried. this in turn made me wonder what sort of heavy grief you must be going through.

i didn't know him of course, but his music and his voice will be missed.

i don't know what else to say. thank you for all the amazing music.

condolences and love,

matt holland

From: Alexander Leßwing
Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:18:52 AM

Subject: ...the dreamer is asleep

Dear members of COIL,

□

I want to give you my words of condolence. With Jhonn's death one of the most inspiring, expressionistic and surrealistic musicians for me passed by. It is hard to get it into words, how I feel about the loss of him. Truly the music will never die and keep within our memories. My heart and mind will always remember him as a great and unique human being with extraordinary thoughts and arts. Nevertheless I never met him personally it is some sort of a personal loss for me and share the pain of this great loss with you.

□

The dreamer is asleep now and there will be good dreams, wonderful dreams of other, better worlds now...

□

In remembrance,

Alex, Germany

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:03:58 AM

Subject: art piece

hello there,

i have made this picture of Jhonn and if you like you may include it in the Book of Condolence.

if it needs to be a smaller size please let me know the dimensions you require and i will resize from the original Photoshop document.

thank you kindly and again, my best wishes,

--

Alastair Parkkali

Zen Gardener

Jhonn-Balance.jpg "

From: "Donki Ra"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:05:09 AM

Subject: BOOK OF CONDOLENCE

Jhon Balance is someone I will never forget. Ever since hearing "Heartworms", to the countless times I would carve with glass that solid flesh line in the back of my skull, or driving for days on end with "The Anal Staircase" playing louder, louder,

and louder in my car...he'll always have a hold on me and my being (from the glamorous, to the drunken times). He will never die, and the admiration I have for him is the dream that goes on forever. Because of this man, THE WAY OF THE DONKI has been taken many a step further. I don't look at the death of Jhonn as a thing to get upset over, but only to Rule Eternal even harder. ALL BALANCE, ALL THE TIME.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:17:06 AM

Subject: Coil remembrance of Jhon

I will never forget my first time i ever listened to Coil. The record was Love's Secret Domain which is still my favorite. After listening to the disc I went to bed. The music had seeped into my subconscious, because that night I had horrific nightmares, it had been a long time that this had happened. That was eleven years ago. Coil will forever be for me the sounds and visions of beautiful nightmares and horrific dreams.

rest well Maldoror,

tragikhero

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:17:18 AM

Subject: Giving a shoulder for support

Hi Jhon

I remember the first time I heard you - back when I was in high school in 1990 or so. The ripped up sounds of Loves Secret Domain emanated over the speakers at the store. As I had heard of Coil, or was it This Mortal Coil, mentioned in the realm of music I had already heard, I had the employee put the disc on the store system so i could check it out before I spent my meager money on an unknown disc. I recall thinking "I am not sure if this is what my friend was talking about, but this is awesome!"

Here we are, 14 years later. Your influence is one of the few that have held sway in my life for so long. And will continue to feel.

One of my good friends lept/fell from a 11 story balcony a couple of years ago. The group of friends that knew him no longer gather - we were all so torn apart that we couldn't feel the same together anymore. Why do I bring this up? Synchronicity. This past Saturday, I had an unexplained headache. I went out with a friend but came home early. All day I had felt 'off.' The next day, I thought of my friend that had fallen. Details surrounding his event were veiled - he had been having hard times as well. I knew what was going through your head, Jhon, as I had a very close friend following a similar path. When he died, I wasn't sure if he had been so miserable for so long that he was happier now, or, if in a fit of drug interactions he thought he would spontaneously jump. A life cut short that he didn't expect. I wasn't sure which I wanted to believe - long held pain ending, or less pain but a wrong ending. I had made a song for him back then, but never finished it. Yesterday, Sunday, the day after..., I decided to finish my homage to my friend. I emailed it out to a close friend to share our pain, still to this day. And honor him.

I am a realist. I do think there is 'something out there' but I don't spend much time on it. I had followed your thoughts on Magik and knew how it impacted you. My world has less mysticism. But, I think that the impact of your passing has reverberated worldwide. I felt it on Saturday. I prepared my homage through my friend yesterday and it was also for you. Today I learn the fact. Even in your passing I learn something of the world.

I had gotten to speak to you in New York City. You were a little energetic ball of elf and unstoppable fuckery - Nothing was safe near you, but all in a playful way. There was no mean-ness in your actions, you wanted fun.

Farewell - but all will still feel you as I have always done.

Don Poe

PS. I send out a big hug for all his friends.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:16:57 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

I wanted to avoid writing something that sounded like a teenage fan's platitudes, from someone who, after all, did not know Jhonn personally...

But I would just like to say thank you to Jhonn, Sleazy and all others who have been involved in Coil for the wonder and amazement you have given me for the

last 20 years. From trying to convince my supposedly radical new university classmates of the merits of 'Scatology' in 1984 to rocking my three week old daughter to sleep to 'Time Machines' just the other day. Your influence is difficult to overestimate.

My thoughts are with those who were close to the man.

Cameron

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:23:10 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

well said

-pb

I wanted to avoid writing something that sounded like a teenage fan's platitudes, from someone who, after all, did not know Jhonn personally...

But I would just like to say thank you to Jhonn, Sleazy and all others who have been involved in Coil for the wonder and amazement you have given me for the last 20 years. From trying to convince my supposedly radical new university classmates of the merits of 'Scatology' in 1984 to rocking my three week old daughter to sleep to 'Time Machines' just the other day. Your influence is difficult to overestimate.

My thoughts are with those who were close to the man.

Cameron

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:24:38 AM

Subject: the loss of balance

Dearest Threshold House,

I am saddened to hear of the passing of John
Balance.

i have always been inspired by the unique sounds,
artwork, and poetry of Coil. the whole beautiful
package evokes a deep connection with nature and being
to me.

Thank you so much for your robust creativity in this
small space in time,

_____kelly west

balance.jpg "

Date: 16 November 2004 05:15:56 GMT

Subject: in my thoughts

Dear Sleazy,

Words cannot express my sadness about this. I'm so sorry and I know you must
be completely numb.

Though it must have been traumatic, I'm glad you were there with him.

I've been crying all day and feel like this world has lost someone most
extraordinary.

But he is now in a better world, full of sidereal friends and new beginnings.

YOU ARE IN MY THOUGHTS AND HEART AND I WISH I WERE THERE TO
PAY MY SINCERE RESPECTS.

Love and a huge hug to you and Ian,

John

Hi Peter:

I felt my heart drop when I heard about Jhonn today.

I trust you will gather needed support from your friends.

My best thoughts and sympathy are with you.

Mark Smith

Toronto

Ian and Sleazy:

Chris is on the road touring, but I was able to contact him with the news and he asked me to email you with this message.□

Please let us know if there is anything that we can do, albeit long distance.□We are deeply shocked, sadden and every other emotion that is possible right now.□The reality is not real for us yet.□We have composed some words that will appear on our website tonight, I am posting them for you in this email as well.

This is a great loss of an extremely talented person who has been a part of the tight knit experimental music community for such a long while.□It is one of those moments when you cannot even begin to formulate a response that encompasses everything one feels.

We are sure that everyone in our musical family circle (artists, fans/friends, labels, etc...) will offer up the support, fond memories and such, as they tend do at a time like this.□We feel very fortunate to be part of such an extended family.□It is truly amazing how music, such as that John Balance created, has helped create a worldwide intimate circle of individuals from all walks of life.

Thank you John.□You sang to us then and sing to us still.□Your music, influence and essence will play on forever.

We will be sending our positive thoughts and energy to you both in hopes that it can help sustain you as you carry on.

Our Love,

Heather and Chris

ate: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:36:04 AM

Subject: I don't know why you say goodbye, I say hello...

In August 1993 I was on the way home from a memorial for the poet Steve Abbott and stopped by a music store. There was the remixed CD of Coil's "How to Destroy Angels" with a quote from Steve's work in the liner notes - it had just come into the store....

It's this sort of brilliant chaos and clarity that has always surrounded John (and Peter's) work for me and remind me that there are no coincidences - only connections.

So when I finally met him in 1996, I was surprised at what a sweet, funny and engaging man he was. And though he had been through some sad periods he had not been deadened or inured by his experiences. I hold the memory of this close to me now and am glad he left on a happy day.

While writing this message the computer froze (it has never done that before) cutting short the 'Lost Rivers of London'.

I'd say I'll miss you John, but I have the feeling you're still around.

So I'll just have to wait until we meet again.

With much love,

Michael Flanagan

San Francisco

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:46:31 AM

Subject: bye-bye...

Without your life and work, mine would have been a lot less bearable and interesting. Bless you Jhhon, we will all miss you but we will see you again on the otherside of this,

□

□

Rest In Glorious Peace, Cheers mate;)
eduardo gomess /"Akita Mata"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:39:33 AM

Subject: Crossing the Threshold in Memory of John Balance

My heart goes out to Peter Christopherson and the friends of John. Just like the passing of William S. Burroughs, the world in which we move through, has lost a great artist and shimmering Star. The times and places John's, and Coil's music has taken me will always be there to serve as a reminder of the beauty of his work. Thank you so much for the knowledge and music of other places. May we all dream of better things. oh saddy saddy sad day.

Christoph Turner

NSLR

Chicago

□

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:44:22 AM

Subject: Dear Jhon from JAPAN.

Dear Jhon.

My name is Atsunori Sano. I am 24 years old ,live in Japan.

I received the mail from a friend this morning. "Jhon balance is died."

I am greatly saddened to this mail.

I don't believe this news.

When I was 14 years old, the music of a coil was listened to for the first time.

That's how I started playing Synth.

Coil's music made me want to do an music.

I was excited and impressed.

I expected:Coil's new Album and Danny Hyde's 1st Album,
come on tour to Japan.

And My Deam was I wanted you to produce me,collaboration.
I am very sad.

However, I like every album.
Therefore, the album released from now on should also surely be listened.

sano.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:59:42 AM

Subject: Peace Jhhon..

The Darkness Settles

around us, and only the promise of complete dissolution can keep our tears from drowning our hearts in this deep, deep sorrow.

The blessed life of one who rejected the obvious and mundane for the blacklight of self-knowledge and true creation is finally transformed. This writer will weep, then he will play the clarion calls for the Angel of Death to know that whom S/He receives is one of our finest.

With sincerest gratitude for being yourself and letting us play a part in your dreams. Long live COIL!

□

eduardo gomess("Akita Mata"),carla gomez-veltman, edwin veltman, sean o'neal, timothy benjamin□from
Amsterdam

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:03:57 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

I can only mourn for the loss of a dear and valued friend. Geff was witty, intelligent, crazy, visionary, beautiful, caring - a person of many qualities and a genuinely creative force in an age of mind-numbing mediocrity. Like Jacques Vache he scanned the universe with the most beautiful gaze....I am too numbed to write anything more, but I hope Ian and Peter can come to terms with this devastating loss and I send all my love to them.

John Everall.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:05:46 AM

Subject: The dreamer is still asleep...

...was the first and only song that I felt really touched upon the essence behind all artistic mediums. It changed the way I thought from then on and is still a continuous inspiration. Thank you for being one of the few groups that still consider music an artform to be experimented with, and thanks to John for his contributions. Will be missed by this particular hermit.

"He's creating landscapes in the magnetic fields."

Rich Lee

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:07:22 AM

Subject: Jhon

Jhon Balance sang to all of us. His words have meant more than anything I have ever heard. He told the truth as he saw it, all the time(at least in music). He didn't do it for popularity or fame or money(all of which are nice, just not the reason to be). I don't know why he did what he did. I cannot possibly claim to comprehend who he was, and what he did. I can only listen. And I can only say what he meant to me.

□

Jhon Balance has helped me through bad relationships, the fear of death, the fear of bad trips, bad trips, and the fear of being awake. He has helped me forge myself into a better human being, and I will always be in his debt, even though he never ever knew me.□His music has always inspired me to be better, and I can't thank him enough for that. Without him, I would have been without a lot of things, something great to talk about, freedom from drug addiction, confirmation of my sexuality, my way of perceiving the world. The list goes on.□

□

I don't have the words to assuage any feeling of loss, to those that knew him, and loved him. I'm not going to try and tell you that I know how you feel, or that I understand your loss. I don't, all I know is that I have lost one of the people that I have respected and admired the most in my life. And I'm full of sadness, when I think of him as no longer being here.

□

Does this mean the end of Coil? A rhetorical questiong at best, that's up to Sleazy.

□

I will never hear the words "I'm going upstairs now, to turn my mind off." the same way again.

□

I'm not sure this is going to be read, if this will make it through the rain of email that will come through this address. Hopefully it does, and hopefully you(whomever you may be that reads this) knows, that at least one of us, truly feels like the world has lost someone wonderful, and that the world will not be the same without him in it, singing to us.

□

- Chas Kugel, from Colorado, US

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:10:20 AM

Subject: In memoriam of Jhon

The Melkweg, Amsterdam 2004

My first Coil concert

You played all these tracks from the Black Antlers cd.

I'll never in my life will forget this performance.

It was beautiful.

Jhon had a great impact on me that night.

Very few times in my life I felt so connected to a stranger.

The insight his music gives; one can only feel it, not hear it.

What a tough loss this is.

Astral Disaster will never be the same for me.

+ + +

All the best at Thresholdhouse.

Hans Puik

The Netherlands

Date: Mon Nov 15, 2004 6:57:48 PM

Subject: sad

blessing to john & peter from mexico,
we have the magic experience
to collaborate with coil on two tracks,

they are one of the major influences.
sad...

hugs full of light
roberto castañeda & ford proco

Subject: Some words - a contribution.

All these things have been taught to me by Coil -
their musick and manifestos:

Coil opened my eyes to the fact that musick must be
art, if at all. Art is life and love and death,
nothing and everything, both Nu and Had, yet never
repeating itself. Never appearing in the same form.
Coil are in my opinion in alignment with the will of
creation. Every day a new manifestaion of the primal,
spiritual diamond within all of us.

Jhon and Sleazy are not only among my most respected
artists, but philosophers and shamans, as well. You
cannot seperate their magick from their musick. As it
should be. Coil are amoung the few types of REAL
'soul' musick. They showed me the black sunrise -
Jhon's voice a window to my Will.

My flagship beacon, guiding light towards a more
individual and creative existance. Without
experimentation, there is naught. But isn't that the
point? . . .

Thank you, Jhon. You will be missed, even by those you
have never met in person. We were all in the same
mental and spiritual state. A bleak (or Blake?)
subconscious family tree.

-Gary M. Parks, Reverend

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:34:00 AM

Subject: so sad for Jhonn

I want to say "thank you Jhonn Balance"

Guenther Albrecht

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:39:29 AM

Subject: My Condolences

Hi.

First, I'd like to express my deepest sorrow at this loss. Never has music touched the deepest recesses of my soul as much as Coil's music did. It soothed me, gave me a place upon which I could center my soul, and feed the spirit which cries inside of me. I never had the opportunity to see Coil in concert, and I regret not going when you guys were in Montreal a while ago. So many deaths have grasped this world the last 2-3 years, and this one really grabbed my heart strings and broke a few.

I want you to know that Jhonn's death will not be a tragedy in my eyes. It will be, instead, a celebration of the gift that was given to the music world when he was born. We shouldn't mourn for his death but take heed and glorify what he gave us.

I wish there was something I could do to ease the pain that not only the other members of Coil and his family have to endure, but, fans everywhere. This month is a dark month.

Thank you, Jhonn, for your spark of hope that you so wonderfully set inside me.

I love you and I will never forget you.

~ Stacey aka chemical.

P.S.: Thank you for Time Machines. :)

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:50:24 AM

Subject:

Hearing "Queens of the Circulating Library" has taken on a new significance.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:51:53 AM

Subject: Condolence

If there is a God,
GOD IS THE METAL

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:59:42 AM

Subject: grips of thanatos

the sea priestess
always makes me cry
my tears taste of ocean
bluegreen ruffles in the
back of my head
always filling the canals
with seamless echos
of waves that crash
into rocks that turn eventually
to sand

love,
joh

Date: 16 November 2004 07:15:30 GMT

Subject: RE: john balance dead - from coil website

Peter, I am so sorry. I don't know what to say. It's a huge shock. Just know we're wishing you well.

□

-Ethan

Date: 16 November 2004 07:15:16 GMT

Subject: loss

Peter,

□

what to say ?

the loss of a loved one somehow puts all the rest (other lesser nice things) in perspective...

as Patti Smith used to quote 'someone stated eloquently';

" the departed live on in the memory of the living"

...and so will Jhon...

□

lot's of love, strenght and good thoughts to you and those you hold dear...

□

□

christ

belgium

Subject: john

i had this huge letter typed up, and then i stood on the porch and all the power went out, erasing everything.

perhaps this is part of the continuing influence of Coil in my life.

within the range of detail throughout Coils lifespan, it struck me in a very simple and concise way.

it was able to cut through all the darkness ive dealt with in my life. Coil went straight to my core; it never left me the same,

and Johns life and work still is a continuing source of inspiration for me.

□

when i first heard Coil and Current 93, it was my first year of highschool.

it was also the beginning of my clinically major depression and, later, my schizophrenia. □

i've found such tremendous happiness inside myself though. □

when i hear these bands, and feel that i am not alone when staring into The Abyss.

my sadness now is for His friends and family.

Im glad for Him, that he has moved on from this dark existence.

□

Love.

□

□

Robert Graves

□

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:22:10 AM

Subject: For John

Too many deaths this year.... I am not quite certain how and when I first heard Coil but I can tell you it was 'Chaostrophy' - a masterpiece of harmony and chaos alike, something I feel in my heart for a long time now and associated myself with Coil's music ever after.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:30:33 AM

Subject: Condolences

I'm very sorry to hear of John Balance's passing away. Coil has been over the years a very strong positive influence in my life. Unfortunately I also during recent years have succumbed to sporadic but severe alcoholism, and can at least sympathize with his battle and the circumstances of his death (I'm amazed something similar hasn't yet happened to me).

Hopefully that will change. Something rather odd and significant happened shortly after his death (which I hadn't learned of at the time). Having recently started falling off the wagon again after a long period of sobriety, I found myself on November 13th between ten and eleven at night (which would have been between four and five in the morning after the accident London time) wandering through the downtown back alleys of my city amidst the skyscrapers, alone and already nearly too far gone, starting into yet another half pint of rum (I had learned to buy by the half pint despite the cost to slow the abhorrent rate I drink once into a binge).

I ran into a homeless man I had often seen wandering the same routes as I often do, mostly during the day in the walkways running above the ground between the skyscrapers here. I had often wondered about his past and why the security in those areas allowed him to wander in those places, which I assumed was because he never begged for change. On this night for the first time he did ask me for change. I gave him a dollar, and being curious about the man asked him his name. The name he gave me was the same as mine. A sudden flash of insight told me he was my future self if I continued on this path.

Shaken, I bid him goodbye and walked away, instinctively taking another massive swig of liquor to wash away my fears. I held it in my mouth without swallowing, terrified by what I'd done. I was passing over a grating, thought "That's it" to myself and dumped the remainder into the sewers. At least I had the huge mouthfull left to swallow, which the corrupted part of me knew would improve my

situation in some immeasurable but undefinable way. "Not so", something reacted, and I spat the rest down the drain.

Never before into a binge have I been able to dump precious liquor, or stop until either some crucial commitment forces me to my senses or I wake up in a pool of my own urine watching the obscene patterns and flickering cartoon-like hallucinations on the ceiling or the back of my eyelids wondering how I can live like this for days on end. Day and night will have disappeared and been replaced by coming to, buying spirits (or waiting anxiously with time almost standing still until someplace was open to do so), drinking myself into a blackout then complete oblivion, coming to (who knows where), and beginning it all over again. This time (I won't go into details of the remainder of the night though they were significant in a different way) I managed to sober up with surprising ease and stay so until tonight (the Monday after), my memory of the man who I could become keeping me from slipping back. I had (many life circumstances have changed immeasurably so there's much more to this than simply the events I go into here) new hope of escaping this nightmare.

Every time I've remained sober for considerable lengths of time I've had something to hang on to. I hoped the events of the 13th would be enough for that end. They wouldn't have been, I now realize, knowing the course of things too well from experience. Having learned just now, however, that they followed shortly after the death of someone whom I respect greatly, who shared my affliction and died due to it, maybe that's enough to keep me from destroying my own future. Life can spring from death, and while it's of no help to those loved ones suffering the loss, I can selfishly pull some life for myself from his death.

I'm very sorry for your loss, and wish you the best in difficult times.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:35:50 AM

Subject: ...

...it hurts, ~~as~~ the pelican passed away...

Kilian/ Sonne Hagal

between concrete streets and souls darkness is yet to come

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:39:57 AM

Subject: answers come in dreams?

Saturday night I went to bed still thinking that Jhonn was in this world. Once I was asleep I dreamt that I went to see Coil. They were playing at a large opera house the lights on stage were purple and green. After the show I asked Jhonn when he was going to play here (living in San Francisco I never had the privilege of seeing Coil live) and he smiled and told me, "Never." Weirdly enough I woke up feeling content, because in my dream I did get to see Coil. It wasn't until Sunday night that I found out about Jhonn's passing. I'm not really a spiritual person, but this was one of the more vivid dreams I've had in a long time... I never knew Jhonn, it doesn't make sense that he'd contact me, but I guess that night he was making the 'rounds.

-Aaron Nielsen

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:50:44 AM

Subject: Condolences from Voxx

93

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the law; love is the law, love under will.

Greetings Peter, and all the Coil/93 Camp. My sincerest sympathy is with you now, at this most difficult time of transition.

I am an old friend of John's from the early years of Coil. We corresponded for several years, until we ultimately lost contact. John and I regularly wrote to one another about music, and magick. I remember sending him a rare book entitled, "Ophiolatry," which I'm not sure he ever received.

John personally affected my life not only by his powerful music, and poetry, but his magick. I loved John very much. Here is a story about John and myself that you may find interesting.

Once, after performing a ritual with John (on the astral), I asked him to send me a token of our friendship. The next night, I met a magickal young man at a PTV concert. On our first night together, I noticed a strange ring my friend was wearing. It was a copper ring, engraved with the Square of Saturn. Admiring the ring on the hand of my new friend, I became aware that he did not understand the power of the ring, nor its significance. When I asked him where he had received the ring, he told me that it was a gift from a magician named, John Balance. I smiled. I knew the young man to be a magickal messenger of love. The young man and I

began a magickal partnership which lasted for several years and was the catalyst to my joining the A.'.A.'.

Even though John and I lost touch through the years, I saved all his letters. One is a long, hand-written letter from the early 80's that details his dream of "The Horse Rotovator," and it's significance. I cherish these letters, and the small piece of his spirit that he shared with me magickally. I have never forgotten his birthday and have always sent him loving thoughts on that day.

Finally, the last thing is this ... Friday night I dreamt that a young man fell head first from a balcony. He fit John's description, but in my dream it wasn't John. So, you can imagine how sad I was to realize that my dream had been a premonition of this terrible event. (Since the last time I had spoken with John, I had become well-known in America as a Psychic ... so, that's probably why John "sent" me this dream.)

Despite my shock, and tears ... I feel compelled to leave a Qabalistic note to hopefully goad a smile ... The reports stated that John fell approximately 15 feet. 15 is the Tarot Trump of The Devil, and the path of the Emperor. I find a strange solace in knowing that even John's death shows the mysterious symbols of the workings of Magick all around him. Hail to you John, old friend, from across the Night of Time, upon this celebration of your Greater Feast.

"... there's honey in the hollows ... bury me, in Ostia"
Requiscat in Pace care Frater.

Fiat Lux,
Voxx

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:54:15 AM

Subject: [coil] Why?

From a sad lurker,

I just learned the news today that Jhonn had passed away.

It makes me very sad to see a enlightened soul pass with such short notice.

Words can't describe the amount of emotion that Jhonn and Coil's music has brought to me over the last 10 years. When I first heard the sublimely beautiful dissonance of Worship the Glitch in my friends basement, I knew that I was cast under some spell.

Over the years I've enjoyed and praised the works that he, Sleazy, and many others within Coil produced to contribute to my musical tastes. I never would have expanded my boundaries musically if it wasn't for Coil. Many of my friends would not have had the opportunity to hear the invisible that Jhonn sang, had I not fell in love with the music of the moon.

Regretfully, I never got to see him live in concert or see him personally. It saddens me that this happened before I had the opportunity and privilege.

If you forgive the cliché, I hope we can all realize just how short and fragile life is. Make it something, say damn all to the world.

We know, we may never meet again.

For all we know, on this dusty road again.

We won't say goodnight until the very last minute.

I'll hold out my hand and my heart will be in it.

For all we know, this affair may be a dream.

They come and go, like the ripples in a stream.

So kiss me my darling.

Tomorrow was meant for some.

Tomorrow may never come.

For all we know.

Tomorrow may never come.

For all we know.

Condolences and Love,
theta

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:01:56 AM

...Thank You John for Your ART...

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:08:06 AM

Subject: bookofcondolence

I never met John, nor have I ever spoken to him. However, through the appreggios of Red Birds... or the endless piano of Mu-ur, I experienced what John experienced, if only briefly.. He will be sorely missed by all those who love great music and great artists.

Rest in peace eternally.

with condolences,

K. Frausto

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:21:04 AM

Subject: Deep loss

I am deeply saddened to hear of Jhon's passing, and wish all of those close to him the very best during this difficult time. He was a huge and ever increasing mass of musickal and spiritual inspiration; his live performances were the explosion and implosion of dreams and nightmares all at once. I feel incredibly privileged to have been able to witness Jhon's passion for his art, no matter what venue, he was able to turn it into a new world and new experience. Thanks Jhon for the memories and the musick, and for sharing your passion with us all. This is not the end, his cherished legacy will live on, and I wish him all the best on his new journey.

Darren.

Subject: The last rose for J. B.

You have seen your hate
Risen from the depths like a shining star
You was walking in light
And you did never step out into their darkness

Subject: Fwd: for Peter

Hi Peter,

□

Just wanted to express my sincere condolences on the passing of Jhonn. I personally feel devastated at the loss, even though I only met him on one occasion (after the Royal Festival Hall gig) & only knew him really through the music, through the words, through his voice.

□

There's nothing really I can write to make things feel any less painful. I just want you to know that there are many of us out here just gutted to lose Jhonn, & my thoughts are with you at this awful time.

□

Sending the magick down.

□

Take care,

□

□

Shaun□

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:37:09 AM

Subject: geff john jhonn

dearest Geff

with burning sadness with burning sorrow I remember You as:

kindest of men, funniest of men, most intuitive of men, most incisive of men

a great artist, a great voice, a great visionary, a great Soul and a great Heart

Finally You were overwhelmed by it all: by all the beauty and by all the pain

till we meet again as I know we will

my dearest friend

(the last three letters I got from him:)

from an email from Balance to me 20/10/2004

At 2:34 pm +0100 20/10/04, Jhonn Balance wrote:

The whooooosh shish of the scythe these days is eeeeirie.
much love to you both

BALANCE XXXX

from an email from Balance to me 21/10/2004

At 1:05 pm +0100 21/10/04, Jhonn Balance wrote:

LOVEANDSONGBIRDIES. I JUST KEEP ON COMING.

BALANCE

from Balance's last email to me 22/10/2004

At 5:52 pm +0100 22/10/04, Jhonn Balance wrote:

letters later. kiss kiss
BALANCE

with love always to you dearest Geff, John and Jhonn, shape-shifter and joker, in
angelic form now,

david

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:41:48 AM

Subject:

I have gone terribly cold and I am trying to hold back tears,
That crazy fucking soul will be well and truly missed

Love

Danny Hyde

From: Ric8ard Munn

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:38:18 AM

Subject:

Dholcey Jhonn, dear friend of the aether, you will be dearly missed now you have crossed the threshold to live forever.

I have to thank you for saving my life and my sanity through your musick and the tip on the juicer. Hail the power of the vegetable!

We look forwards to hearing you again from your new home.

Salut! In chaos,

R.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:39:12 AM

To:

Subject: Balance

John Balance's passing is terrible, terrible news. I haven't been a COIL fan for very long, only eight years or so, but it was love at first listen. I am very grateful John has been able to express himself as much as he has and that people have been able to enjoy it perhaps even more than I have, but feel sad because there isn't going to be any more. I hope he rests in peace, and I wish strength to those most close to him.

Best,
Robin

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:38:49 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

I can only mourn for the loss of a dear and valued friend. Geff was witty, intelligent, crazy, visionary, beautiful, caring - a person of many qualities and a genuinely creative force in an age of mind-numbing mediocrity.

What we all can do to remember & honour him is to fight the mediocrity, stay creative and LIVE our days & nights to the max. Keep the stream flowing and the fire aflame. Avoid zombification by any means necessary.

Anyway... it is a great loss.
Goodbye Jhonn.

Niko

--

Subject: Sparkle Girl ssends its condolences

It is with great sadness that Sparkle Girl (Kurt Delaney and Jim Evans) heard of the passing of Jhonn. Jhonn and all the brilliant artists he worked with helped inspire our music, our thoughts and the very way we can explore sound to all the realms of thought. I think Kurt and I will always remember that when England's Hidden Reverse came out not only did Kurt special order it he then loaned me money to buy the only copy in our local shop. We send only the best wishes for Jhonn and all of those who care for him so much.

Love,
Jim Evans & Kurt Delaney
Sparkle Girl
Seattle, WA

Subject: [coil] For Geff, from the children of the Black Sun.

Although we're still in a state of shock and unable to fully realize that Geff has crossed over the threshold, we wish to add our voices to yours in saying goodbye to Jhonn Balance as his ship is sailing towards the peaceful shores of Anarcadia.

Our thoughts and our LOVE are with Sleazy and Ian, Geff's family and friends, at this moment of deep sorrow.

We mourn for the loss of the friend, the artist, the shaman, the artistic partner and guide, our little brother of the Black Sun, the most beautiful one among the ghost boys.

We understand Geff's phisycal existence met its end in the very place where we celebrated together with him the most powerful and magically charged amongst all the Plastic Spider Thing rituals.

We love you Geff. Always and Forever. Without you the two of us wouldn't be together today and we wouldn't be the artists and shamen you wanted us to be.

As Geff wrote us some days ago when we all were praying for Marc Almond's life:

"Use your tears as diamonds to blind this stupid God in his Heaven".

Massimo & Pierce

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:19:40 AM

Subject: no compromise

throughout a life born of sweat, blood, flesh, yearning and longing for that which preserves our primal nature and instinct of divination - a force greater than life itself to comfort and nourish for an eternity

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:22:21 AM

Subject: Jhon's passing

you will be dearly missed here -
by all who were inspired by you, who follow you
and will, still
when we meet with you again
in the next room

love extends to and from you

Ian

Subject: Jhonn

im so very sorry.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:27:31 AM

I was really sad to read this news ... Unbelievable it could have happen .
That was John's and Coil's that made me think, wow, what's THAT sound !
Without Coil I probably wouldn't have taken the step forward to make music .
His voice, his mind, and his controversial personnality will be sorely missed and
always remembered as a kind of a genius to me ...
Rest in peace John .
David / Dawn & Dusk Entwined
□

>>> Dawn & Dusk Entwined on the net : <http://dawnanddusk.wolfrune.org> <<<

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:25:07 AM

Subject: A hole has appeared in this world

The departure of John Balance has left this world a less magickal place.

His vision and voice inspired me to seek out ideas I may never otherwise have encountered. His art opened my mind and filled my heart with joy, wildness and excitement. He touched the lives and souls of many people over many years, and that is a wondrous legacy to leave behind as he moves on to other realms.

Thank you, John Balance.

Love and support to Ian, Peter and everyone who knew John.

Mark

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:43:39 AM

Subject: Sorrow

Dear Peter & Ian

We've never met but my brother Rob works for Thighpaulsandra and drove you to gigs this summer in his van. I apologise if this is the wrong email address to use or if this seems inappropriate to contact you directly, but I was shocked and saddened by news of Jhonn's death. His was a light that shone darkly.

The sadness I feel most of all is for both of you at this awful time. You are in my thoughts.

Love & best wishes

Dan Greensmith

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:46:44 AM

Subject: John Balance RIP

COIL provided the soundtrack to my teens and still provided the soundtrack to my adult life up till now, I had only ever met John about 6-7 times to speak to at concerts and at a couple of signing events.

What touched me was John's openness, his sensitivity, warmth and compassion that seemed to hang in the air like an aura.

Plus his boyish handsome good looks that never seemed to dim with age.

Over the last few years his vocals had taken on a new dimension that seemed to coil around the heart and pull at the very emotional core of the soul.

I remember remarking to him about how powerful his vocals had become after a gig at the Barbican in London.

In typical fashion he uttered something about "the drugs and booze levels just about being right".

The last time I saw John was at the Easy Jet lounge in Amsterdam the day after a blinding gig at the Melkweg in Holland, as ever he seemed as charismatic off stage as he was on.

I will pray that John finds the peace that so often he struggled to find during the time he spent on this earth.

He now plays with all the Pretty little horses in Love's Secret Domain.

Rest in Peace John.

KRISTIAN CARTER

NORTHANTS

ENGLAND

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:47:49 AM

Italian fans sadly and sincerely join the pain for the loss of one of the greatest artists and men ever known in the world.

Elisa and Simone.

Subject: Balance

Greatly saddened to hear the bad news. Jhonn's work was often inspirational... just yesterday I was looking through some notebooks from the 80s, and came across Jhonn's assertion that "there are monsters in the back streets of Britain... crawling chaos in the prefabs". One of those things that help you see more clearly - that make manifest what's lying beneath the surface. That's what art does at its best, and that's what Jhonn did. He'll be missed.

Steve Duffy

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:57:26 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] condolences accepted

You gave Light to so many lives
With
Folded arms
And
Fire in eyes
You swim in eternal waters
 From a bull
To a black bird
 From a puppy
To a beautiful boy
In the space between all things
We all shall speak again
And endlessly
In the dream
Where all things may be made real.
-Brian Conniffe

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:02:50 AM

Subject: Condolence contribution

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law

On behalf of the UK National Section of Ordo Templi Orientis, I would like to express our sorrow at hearing the news of Jhonn Balance's Greater Feast. He was a brother, if not in the bonds of the Order, then at least in the family of Nuit, whose contributions will be missed.

We will be celebrating memorial Gnostic Masses in the UK at an appropriate point in the future.

Love is the law, love under will
Fr. Spiritus

Secretary

UK National Section,
Ordo Templi Orientis

not sure what to write
jhon's words and music are important to my life
all shall be missed

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:15:35 AM

Subject: condolence

jhonn was one of the artists with the biggest influence to my work. the first time i listened to the music of COIL was thee inauguration of a new universe, which was much more than sound. jhonn influenced my musical work, my work on film and video and my whole experience in net art – thank you jhonn – i know that You Know and See my writing als gold.

gold is the metal, the onoma within and the enemy in me.

gold

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:18:38 AM

Subject: Jhonn...

...you will be greatly and sadly missed.

□
□

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:23:56 AM

Subject: Descanse em Paz

para alguém que viveu uma vida de completos excessos não deixa de ser irónico morrer num acidente doméstico...

eu acho que é uma perda imensa para o mundo da música. os coil são uma das bandas mais importantes de SEMPRE, sei lá, os **velvet underground da electrónica/experimental?**...

descansa em paz jhonn. your music and poetry changed my life.

Jorge André from Portugal

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:26:01 AM

Subject: glitch the worship

got Bill on my right, you sit on my left, stay over the shoulder jhon, cx

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:59:00 AM

Subject: condolence

Thank you for the music, Johnn!

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:49:36 AM

Subject: condolence

dear Peter (and other friends of Jhonn),

yesterday I was shocked to hear about Jhonn's death. I wish Peter and all friends and family all the strength in this difficult time.

regards, Patrick Kolenburg

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:54:05 AM

Subject: [coil] his passage into eternity

i only had the pleasure of establishing communication with jhonn a few weeks ago, after his glorious performance in dubh-linn. it was the second time i had met him in person and spoken to him. but it was enough for me to know that he was a man of exceptional intelligence, wit, vision (though of course that is all obvious in his vast creative legacy... without doubt in my mind, "dark river", "slur" and "time machines" are possibly the greatest pieces of music EVER... not only did jhonn explore and map other realities, but his vision allowed him to take others with him... the music of COIL allows one to enter these timeless Other states at any time on its own... the connection with nature measured with eternity... truly sidereal), generosity, kindness and sweetness. he and i had been in touch- electronically- over the last couple of weeks, over a shared love of the art of AOS, Father Ted and TG's "Second Annual Report". it is strange and sad that he has left this, most mundane, limited and ultimately unreal (and yet called by the many the ONLY) reality... but i know in my heart that he has only stepped through the door into alterity... we can always reach him again, and he can always reach us again, through sound, through states of mind and vision unfettered by the concrete and the ego... and in our lucid dreams. do not forget that this life, this reality, we occupy now, is merely a dream in which we are more limited than usual. death is not and cannot be a real end. if what we think and what we truly are is merely the product of neurological impulses, let us never forget that energy cannot be destroyed, it just changes forever... thus living on in eternity... the only constant thing is change. i cannot recall which writer it was who first said "electricity has made angels of us all"... KIA lives on. endlessly. no need to fear the ultimate trip... the one where all things unfold and all things become possible. there He can always be found, in the space between everything.

-brian conniffe.

Subject: Thoughts.....

Hello Sleazy and Ian,

□

I have recently returned home from work and having heard the sad news.□ am at a loss as to what to think or say, I felt that I had to write to you to let you know that my thoughts are with you.

□

I know that Johnns spirit has moved to a higher plain and that he will be able to realise his true self there.□ One day in the future we will all be together again.

□

I count myself amongst one of the fortunate ones that has encountered Johnn and yourselves although not personally interacted with.□ will remember with much enjoyment the exchanges that have taken place over the years, both in the old method of crayon and paper and latterly electronically, plus of course the numerous concerts.

□

Whilst I mourn the loss in this World, I celebrate what Johnn has given us all.

□

Thinking of you,

□

With much Love,

□

Mark

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:05:51 PM

Subject: It does reach to heaven, John!

Dear John.

This is dedicated to the Moon. Forever My Red Birds fly out looking out for
You and for You Are you shivering now, John?
SANGVIS COLOR CORDIS MEI. FONS AQVARVM VITAE. DEEFLUERENS AB
SELLA.

May God bless You, Ian and Peter and all Your's.

Axel from WERKRAUM, Berlin, Germany

:H.i.t.v:

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:06:06 PM

Subject: We Love John Balance

I've nothing to say. Nothing is. John Balance now like an Angel we can call within. He can see now Reality and embrace Silence. Through Balance we are Free. Like God: Immortal.

The end of the hiding of Hadit; and blessing & worship to the prophet of the lovely Star

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:13:29 PM

Subject: Paradisiac

Anjo Balance

□

Onde agora estás, deves perceber a minha língua materna, o português, e não queria deixar de escrever aqui algumas linhas, tão poucas, para te agradecer por teres salvo, com a tua arte, tantas vidas, incluído a minha. Tu, John Balance, e mais um grupo muito restrito de anjos fizeram, fazem e irão fazer sempre parte da minha alma. Um estúpido acidente não te afastou de nós. Estás agora nos nossos corações, para toda a eternidade. Ficaste mais perto.

□

Não sei o que diga mais. Só queria não chorar mais. Fazes-nos falta.

□

Paulo N. (Amadora - Portugal)

□

□

□

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:17:26 PM

Subject:

i don't really know□what to say. i'm very surprised, and very sad too. ths musick of coil is a part of my life and a great help in my work for six or seven years ago.

□

i don't know□what to say...

□

if you can read french, i give you this poem

□

et la mort ça doit être comme une table de restaurant
j'ai vu la mort à l'oeuvre au flam's
le flam's c'est bien on bouffe à volonté
c'est un peu le flunch de la tarte flambée
à côté de notre table y'avait des gens
ils fumaient ils parlaient fort de ce qu'ils avaient lu dans les inrockuptibles
ils buvaient de la bière et ils bouffaient à volonté
et ils fumaient encore un coup
et puis ils ont payé et puis ils sont partis
quelqu'un est venu a débarrassé les assiettes
a froissé et récupéré les nappes en papiers recouvertes de miettes
est parti
est revenu
napper les tables de papier neuf
disposer les assiettes les couverts les verres propres
plier les serviettes
ranger les serviettes en cône dans les verres à pied
d'un coup ça a été comme si les autres mecs n'avaient jamais existé
comme si leurs visages
leurs discussions de cinéma
leurs banalités leurs rires leur fumée de cigarette qui nous faisait chier
n'avait jam ais eu lieu
ailleurs que dans notre imagination
la table est restée un court moment
comme ça
d'autres gens sont arrivés une famille ils se sont assis à la place des autres
des disparus
ils se sont assis sans rien savoir des discussions
des cigarettes des bières
des miettes sur les nappes en papier des tâches sur les serviettes
il se sont assis sans rien savoir de rien ils ont choisi ils ont commandé
bientôt eux aussi finiraient

paieraient
finiraient oubliés
nous aussi bientôt devons partir
nos nappes en papiers seront remplacées
on ramassera nos miettes
on les jettera à la poubelle
d'autres gens nous remplaceront nous
d'autres miettes remplaceront les nôtres

Subject: john balance est mort. saloperie.

et la mort ça doit être comme une table de restaurant
j'ai vu la mort à l'oeuvre au flam's
le flam's c'est bien on bouffe à volonté
c'est un peu le flunch de la tarte flambée
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on ramassera nos miettes
on les jettera à la poubelle
d'autres gens nous remplaceront nous
d'autres miettes remplaceront les nôtres

Subject: blessings to john from mexico

dear peter!
this is really sad please receive you and john our blessings
and hugs full of ligh,
as you konw we was preparing a COIL tribute with justin headrick in USA,
and me in mexico,
until this sad new we dosent speak and we don't know if this compilation be out.

your
roberto castañeda
FORD PROCO +friends

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:38:10 PM

Subject:

when he fell down the stairs i tried very hard not to cry.

□
□

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:38:05 PM

Subject: RE: [coil] all that shall never be

I've sent out a few emails bearing the header "This has hit me much harder than I ever would have expected." I feel like I've been hit in the back of the head with a hammer and although I can't feel it I can tell it hurts a lot.

There's so much I'd like to say but don't know how to say it. I've never expressed, in words, how much Coil has meant to me but over the years I too (like Justin) earned the nickname Coil-boy, 'cuz I'd always have a Coil album on me and would go so far as to destroy other people's CD-Rs and delete the songs they

downloaded in Kazaa.

Many years ago Coil became like a secret friend to me. This was during the Blackest period in my life - a time I hesitate to look back on, let alone acknowledge; a time when the only reasons to live were that my dealer had some newer better stuff to try out and there was still a legion of Coil albums I hadn't heard yet. Jhon's voice was the only thing remotely human that I could tolerate. It's embarrassing how messed up I got but at one point the music personafied into some ghost-like thing and having that thing with me was all the comfort in the world that I could afford.

And of course I've made no secret of the fact that I used Time Machines to sooth the mouth sores I got during chemotherapy back in 2002-03. I wasn't bullshitting; it really helped alleviate the pain. Not the meds or mouthwash... a fucking CD.

This is to much for me. I wish the best to Peter, Ian and all those who knew Jhon in some way.

Thank you Jhon. Your life and work made my life more tolerable and that's more than I would have asked of you,

P.

justin

(also know for many years in Denver as The Coil Boy...now long since outgrown the boy part)

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:43:07 PM

Subject:

To all of you in Coil
and to Jhonn

I never had a living person who was near me to teach and tell how, why and what to do

You were - and are, and will be - one of those who helped me to see, to feel, to understand

Many things I would never see, feel or understand without you

Who helped me to concentrate and do things I should do in this life

I would never find my own way, never find my own voice

Without your Threshold, your Gates and your Universe

I thank you for your Spirit, Energy and Work

Love to you all

Anna, Moscow

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:46:20 PM

Subject: ...

John Balance was an artist by every definition of the word.□While many people never did and never will understand his work, those who did were always treated to art that was at the very minimum thought provoking, and more often than not brilliant. I have a very distinct memory of being very tired one late evening, getting ready to go to sleep, and then all of a sudden feeling the irrepressible need to go for a walk while listening to *Summer Solstice: Bee Stings*. I can remember walking along the sidewalk with a feeling in me that was both eerie and comforting, beautiful and ugly, frightening and calming, all at the same time. Few artists can have that kind of effect on a person.

I will not try to kid myself by saying that I "understood" John's work (because I don't think it was meant to be "understood" in the first place), but I can say that it has permanently altered my views of what art is, and it will continue to do that for myself and others for years to come.

Rest in Peace, John Balance. I look forward to meeting you when it is my turn to cross over the threshold.

-Nick Wilhelmy

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 12:49:21 PM

Subject: [coil] lucky

I have received a lot of emails and a lot of condolences since people knew Geff and I were friends. While they're all appreciated, I actually feel sorry for the people who didn't know him. I'm lucky to have known somebody like him, to be graced by his presence and his admiration and admire him back. Even if I never met him I think I'm lucky to have his voice, his music, his artwork to cherish and listen to whenever I want. He -HAS- transcended death since every time we listen to a recording, we're there with him in front of the microphone. Additionally, I may have been to their houses, but, reading Jim Overholser's email I realized I'm also just a big fanboy too.

I can't think of one person who didn't like him. He was such an incredibly nice guy. In him I saw a boy who didn't want to grow up if growing up meant learning how to dislike people and dislike the world and being forced to fit in to the expectations of society and anything else. But even simpler than that, it's almost as if he never wanted to take the kaleidoscope from his eyes because he simply enjoyed all the colors and patterns they made.

I last saw him face to face backstage at the TG event and he gave me a big hug. Maybe I'm being selfish but I would love to see him again, not only in dreams.

jonwhitney
TURBID.COM

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:17:36 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

I met Geff on two occasions and spoke to him at length, finding him to be very pleasant and encouraging, as well as uniquely dressed! Where as most people seem to think I'd be mad to spend two days on crappy public transport just to see some obscure spectacle, usually of a musical kind, Geff recognised this and related it to himself telling me that if there was something going on that you were curious to see, sometimes you just had to be there no matter what. Nick J.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:21:09 PM

Subject:

after hearing coil, other music seems unimportant.
so thanks jhonn, for ruining my record collection.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:22:11 PM

Subject: for you

I search you in the stars...
always...

□

F.

Subject: Condolence

Why ?,God,Why??????

□

□□□□WHERE ARE YOU ? (John)

□□□□.destiny,infinity,etermity...

□

□

□

□

□

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:28:13 PM

Subject: JB

guttet to hear the news..... Jhon was a real gent in emails to me and i pass on my condolences to those close

to him
□
dave

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:35:27 PM

Subject: jhonn

A great loss for this world..Jhonn/Coil..Uncomprimising..Free-thinking
Visionaries..No words could explain the effect the Voice..Sounds..litreture and
philosphies..have had on my life

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:40:51 PM

Subject: JOHN

I'M so so sad.... hello john , wherever you are....

--

Andrea Motti

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:44:25 PM

Subject: john

I am very sad about the loss of this great artist who has been part of my
life, of things that influenced and built and informed me since 1986 when I
first heard Scatology and ever onwards.
I never met him but his work has touched to the core and will be played and
loved for as long as I live.
My condolences to all his loved ones.
Andrew

Date: 16 November 2004 12:17:12 GMT

Subject: jhonn

Hi,I went out this morning to get a sympathy card but they all seemed so trite
It's a dreadful,dreadful time for you all,please accept my heartfelt condolences
that's really all I can say just now.....I'll miss our mad conversations....,drew

Subject: blessings to john from mexico

dear peter!
this is really sad please receive you and john our blessings
and hugs full of lighth,
as you konw we was preparing a COIL tribute with justin headrick in USA,
and me in mexico,
until this sad new we dosent speak and we don't know if this compilation be out.

your
roberto castañeda
FORD PROCO +friends

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:41:23 PM

Subject: Durtro news

16 November 2004

JOHN BALANCE/GEFF RUSHTON/JHONN BALANCE 1962-2004

With burning sorrow, with burning sadness

I cannot say how much the awful news of Geff's death has affected me and all who knew him. Below is a poor start; no doubt we will all have much to say in the future about how much we loved him and how much we miss him. I will be writing more when I can. The thoughts and prayers of my wife and I are with Ian and Peter at this terrible time, as we know they are of all of you who are reading this.

With burning sadness and with burning sorrow I remember You as:

kindest of men, funniest of men, most intuitive of men, most incisive of men,
most generous of men

a great artist, a great voice, a great visionary, a great Soul and a great Heart

Finally You were overwhelmed by it all: by all the beauty and by all the pain. You

perhaps never knew how much You were loved.

(the last three letters I got from him, prophetic to the end:)

from an email from Balance to me 20/10/2004

At 2:34 pm +0100 20/10/04, Jhonn Balance wrote:

The whooooosh shish of the scythe these days is eeeeirie.
much love to you both

BALANCE XXXX

from an email from Balance to me 21/10/2004

At 1:05 pm +0100 21/10/04, Jhonn Balance wrote:

LOVEANDSONGBIRDIES. I JUST KEEP ON COMING.

BALANCE

from Balance's last email to me 22/10/2004

At 5:52 pm +0100 22/10/04, Jhonn Balance wrote:

letters later. kiss kiss

BALANCE

Till we meet again as I know we will, my dearest friend, with love always to you
dearest Geff, John and Jhonn, shape-shifter and joker, in angelic form now,
playing with stars in the love of God.

david

durtro.com

You have received this mail because you have joined the Durtro mailing list. Your
details will not be passed on to any third parties. To be removed from the list,
simply reply to this message with the word 'remove' in the subject field.

From: James Tugwell
Date: 16 November 2004 13:02:55 GMT
Subject: geff

dear peter
my heart and thoughts are with you, ian and all geff's friends at this truly sad time. words are pretty pointless. he was a lovely man, a friend and shall be missed more than i can say.
all love
jamie

From: DENAIS Frédéric
Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:47:10 PM
To:
Subject: jhon balance

A great artist disappears ... Sincere best condolences .

Frederic Denais

□

□

From: "ian munt"
Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:13:38 PM
Subject:

Thankyou Jhonn.You Brightened our little worlds..Ian,Matt and Emma..x

From: Heather Flanagan

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 1:58:21 PM

Subject: A sad farewell

I would just like to say thank you for the wonderful memories,

Heather

xx

From: keith.madden

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:01:02 PM

Subject: RIP

I saw Coil in Dublin recently and was moved by John Balance's stage presence and performance.
A loss indeed in a world packed with poor performers with big backing and small ideas/ideals.

Keith.

From: Matteo Uggeri

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:11:37 PM

Subject: For John Balance.

I discovered Coil's music just few months ago, even if I heard John Balance in many others
Current 93 and in someone else albums.

I respect him, I really like his voice and his music. I feel very sad for loosing him.

I think I'll always shiver now in listening to Horse Rotorvator, more than before.

Long life to John Balance.

Hue, Milan, Italy.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:10:51 PM

Subject: with sympathy and deep sadness

To the Coil family:

It is a testament to the enduring power of John Balance's vision that his passing has left me deeply shaken and stricken with grief even though I never met him. The music of Coil has been the soundtrack to so many powerful moments of discovery, enlightenment, magic, sex, and pure joy and beauty. To say that it's the greatest music I have ever heard would not be an overstatement.

When I was in high school, in a small town in Southern California, a friend insisted that I listen to her copy of Horse Rotorvator... and it was one of those pivotal moments in a life where suddenly a door, a path is revealed, and one's life is forever altered.

By going through that door, I have learned so very many things, following references, associations, investigating the works of Coil's friends and collaborators. It's not an exaggeration to say that by encountering Coil, I was shown the world. Sometimes that world was dark and frightening, sometimes spine-chillingly beautiful, but always... the truth.

Because of encountering Coil, because of John's vision, and especially his voice, because of Peter and all the collaborators, because of Ostia, because of Ether, because of Where Are You, because of a vast wealth of beautiful music that made me want to continue to be alive during some horrible dark times, I simply want to express my grief, but also my deep thankfulness that Coil existed. When I heard John's voice, often in the dark, with headphones, in loneliness and isolation, I was kept alive so many times that it would be a novel's worth of memories.

I spend a lot of time these days in a virtual world called Second Life, where it is possible to create and build anything you can imagine, and tonight a friend and I, both deeply saddened by the loss of John, built a small shrine in thanks and remembrance, and I'm enclosing a picture of it. It has Coil music streaming, so anyone who was touched and made better by the life of John Balance can sit for a moment, and know why the birdcage sings.

in love and sadness,
Eric Ogilvie
somewhere in America

SLjhonshrine.jpg "

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:18:57 PM

Subject: R.I.P. John Balance

Hi, I just wanted to drop a note to pay my respects. I have to say that I may not be the biggest Coil fan ever, but I admire the music that they made. I think that it is some of the most powerful and emotional music ever, and it's a real shame that John's life has ended so suddenly. I hope he is at peace.

Sincerely,
Bill Northcott

From: damon baker

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:21:58 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] lucky

Hi,

I never got to meet him in person, but I talked with him by email some back in the early days of setting up this list. I was a big fanboy and he was gracious about it and made it all ok. At some point when he was in/out/running away from rehab I emailed him. It was the dumbest fanboy "hi, you are really great and a huge inspiration to me and I'm glad you are alive, please continue to be so if that is at all possible, sorry things suck for you right now, hope it gets better soon...umm thanks bye" letter ever, and then I think I said something about how much bile your liver is supposed to produce in a day. He responded graciously as always, and confirmed that the liver produces at least a quart of bile a day since he had been puking that much up at least, so the theory was confirmed by experimentation(our method is science!). It was the most pleasant conversation about vomit I had ever been a part of.

Why I'm babbling about this is that I realized that I am lucky too, I got to tell someone who mattered to me that they mattered to me before they died. Sudden deaths remind me that I have a finite number of chances to do things like that in this life and I need to make the most of them before they are gone forever. Losses remind you of how much you have gained.

So while I can't say anything more to mr. balance at this point that would change anything (though I'm sure he is listening), I can express my sincerest condolences to peter, ian, and all the rest of his family, friends and loved ones who are going through this very difficult time of adjustment and who serve as a model of dignity and strength in trying times that I can only hope to aspire to.

Damon Baker

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:34:31 PM

Subject: little thoughts

When I find a song that I particularly enjoy, I listen and hear it over and over again. I am not one of those people who then delve into the minutiae of the lives of those who have made that music; for me, the sound is enough. It began with Current 93 weaving strands of light into my life, that voice stirring the ashes and calling me deeply into the stars. It continued on to Coil's performance in New York City, before the towers crashed, when thunder rang in my ears and the heavens opened. It wove its way into my life slowly and sometimes sharply and now finds itself even on my desktop, where the image I created of words reminds me that "Persistence is All." A mantra for me once and now a reminder of what is possible in this world.

They are very subtle, the ways in which one other human has changed my life, but the ways are there and with me still. Now that one has made the crossing, and I a mere speck in his eye, it comes back to my honoring that life by again knitting the threads I have gathered over years of listening into a new pattern of love.

My thanks to you all for your gifts.

E.

From: Christopher Rutherford

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:35:20 PM

Subject: Balance

I was shocked and saddened to hear the news. He will be missed. I never met him, though I thought I knew him. I have always considered my life to be good, but without doubt it has been better because of

Jhonn and Coil. I am glad that I can still listen to his voice and feel his prescence whenever I wish by playing some beautiful musick. He will never be forgotten.

From: "Troy DeGroff"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:39:48 PM

Subject: Condolences from Minerva at the Peace Center

Dear Jhonn (because I know you are still there),

□

I am devastated upon the death of my greatest artistic hero, our Shaman.

□

Together with Peter et al, you transformed my life, allowing me to see my madness as my magic, a gift. When I wrote letters to you as a teen, during the time I was coming out of the broom and queer closets, you answered my call, inspiring me to follow my will, dreams, and desires.

□

While pursuing a graduate degree in philosophy and religion, my classmates pursued useless excavations of passed religion; I chose to study the transformative, magical powers of music, focusing much attention on your work. Waiting on the corrected-perfected version of my thesis, I never sent you or Sleazy a copy. I regret that so.

□

Your music, images and ideas are woven in my own art and the fabric of my being.

I am forever grateful for what you taught me.

□

You shall bring Balance to the Universe.

□

With infinite love,

□

Obie DeGroff

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:40:42 PM

Subject: ...

Since I found out about Jhonn's passing yesterday I have been struggling to come to terms with it as well as trying to put something into words to explain how important Jhonn and his music is to me. How can I even begin to talk about the effect of Jhonn's art on me when it has always transcended language to resonate at a very primal level? How can I start to express how much of an impact Jhonn has had on my life even though I never met him?

For the last 12 years, since I first discovered Coil, every aspect of my life seems to have had Coil as its soundtrack. No matter what has happened, the highs, the lows, people coming into my life and people leaving, the one constant has been Coil. Jhonn's voice has always been there, staying with me through it all.

Jhonn's contribution to the world, and my life, has introduced me to so many things that have become an integral part of who I am. Through Jhonn and Coil I have been introduced to the ideas of Crowley and Spare among others. I have been shown that my own experiences of other dimensions of existence are valid ones that have a lot to teach me. Jhonn's voice has been calling me on to shake off the constraints of the mundane and explore every aspect of experience and to create my own realities. Without Jhonn and Coil I would be a very different person.

Only recently Jhonn's influence over my life has become even more apparent. A few weeks ago I started my first foray into creating music. Naturally my biggest influence is the one that has been with me the longest, Coil. I think the music of Coil has taught me to try anything with my music. If I get an idea of something that I'd like to try then I should do it and see what comes out. Coil has shown me that there are no boundaries which cannot be crossed with music. If I'm having an idea of something to try that seems odd, or I'm not sure how it will turn out, I'm willing to try it, to experiment, to play. This is what Jhonn's art has taught me and continues to teach me.

It seems strange that I can be so heavily affected by the loss of someone who I have never met. Hearing of Jhonn's passing hit me hard. I think it is a testament to how special Jhonn is that so many people are feeling such loss at his passing. The only thing that eases the feeling is knowing that we have been left the gift of such beautiful art and that Jhonn's voice can never really leave our lives. My thoughts go out to Peter, Ian, and the others whose lives were so closely tied to Jhonn and I hope they gain some strength from reading how important Jhonn is to so many of us and how much Jhonn has done for us.

This has been the most difficult thing I've ever had to write. It's so hard to try and write coherently when my emotions are running this high. I'd like to finish with a quote from one of my favourite books, Hagakure by Yamamoto Tsunetomo:

"It is a good viewpoint to see the world as a dream. When you have something like a nightmare, you will wake up and tell yourself that it was only a dream. It is said the world we live in is not a bit different from this."

Safe journey Jhonn,

Prenna Unsane

From: ivan

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:47:32 PM

Subject: NO BALANCE PS

..it also seems John Balance's departure marks the end to an era in the particular layer of music culture many find themselves in. Technology mercilessly closing in, Jhon's voice was that of a visionary, a poet. While torn apart by his demons, in a certain sense he truly was a Balance to the multiplying self-organizing structures of today's music art and beyond - of today's life forms. For he brought Chaos. He was Chaos. This invisible presence of his has been charging (and changing) many of us over the years, empowering our own work and giving strength to us, often unaware. Like the light from a distant Star.. Now as Balance is not with us anymore, there is a void. A Hole, that with time will become a Scar.. The winter is coming, it's going to be cold. It's going to be dark, too..

From: Patricio Escobar

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:50:27 PM

Subject: In memory of the great artist

I've been listening to Coil's magic, since I was a young boy.. Here in my Country; Chile, at the end of South America, it was very difficult for me to get any Coil music.. When I get some, I feel like a precious piece of art was in my hands. Coil work is for me the most influential musical freedom I ever know... When I finished my first musical work, the only person I send my Cd was Mr. Balance at threshold. I'm so grateful I had the opportunity, to share the work of such a great artist like Mr. Jhonn.

□

Peace and love for Ian, Mr. Christopherson and all Jhonn's loveones..

□

Mis más sentidas y profundas condolencias.. que el espíritu de Geff se levante sobre nosotros..

□

Patricio Escobar Amaro

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:53:16 PM

Subject: Jhonn was an inspiration to life

when i was a teenager, all alone in the big city, i picked up a tape called 'horse rotorvator'. it was my first experience with Coil.

my love for their work has never stopped, and i can't picture a world without his voice. listening to Coil was always a special thing, i used the music ritualistically and to conjure states of being. Peter and Jhonn were the friends i would always have, i thought. i figured i'd be out of here long before either of them, as if they were made of something infinite, something that would resound forever in the sounds of this world.

an inspiration to creation? always. always. forever.

my love to you, Peter and my prayers always for you and Jhonn and your friends.

infinite love for you

-JS Wagner [durt]

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:57:30 PM

Subject: all is eternal

all is eternal, simply never ending..

□

Welcome, john, to another history...

□

pietro bonanno

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 2:59:51 PM

Subject: photograph pf john

Dear sir/madam!

□

My name is Polina, I represent russian rolling stone magazine/
we write an article about John in our december issue
and we need a photograph, may be you can help us with such a problem?
I search it in web and some photo-agencys, but I didn't find any...

□

□

□

□

Kind Regards,

□

Polina Velichko
Photo Editor
Rolling Stone Russia

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:33:54 PM

Subject: moon

2__\$!@%!#__image.tiff "

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:22:23 PM

Subject: PEACE

My Father died a few weeks ago and I found myself listening to Broccoli
from Moon Musick Volume 1. It was an most unexpected comfort and
pleasure when little else was.

□

Farewell, Jhonn. I suspect your journey into the ether will be somewhat
shorter than mine. Through your inspiring music and words you were
already part way over the Threshold.

Matt Leyshon

□

□

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:34:07 PM

Italian fans sadly and sincerely join in the pain for the loss of one of the greatest artists and men ever known in the world.
Elisa and Simone.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:46:21 PM

Subject: into the ether

thank you, countless times over, for all youve shown, done and proved in this world, and into the next. may they walk with you, talk with you and share with you through your journey. i weave these words into the air, in your name and image. love and light...fen.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:51:44 PM

Subject: geff

what terrible news ... I am really sad. - But I hope he has now a good time somewhere.....

□

Reinhard

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:52:59 PM

Subject:

My condolences go out to everyone who was close to John.□ never meet John but had always hoped i would.□Perhaps one day in a different form, different place.□His music influenced me deeply in everyway, especially spiritually.□ sure that within the next few weeks□ whenever i hear his voice coming from the speakers a sadness will come over me followed by a smile knowing how he affected so many people in positive ways.□ will miss him.□Chris Janssens, Burlington, Canada

From: Steve Schwarz

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:58:00 PM

Subject: Elegy

"Silence - A Fable"

Edgar Allen Poe

1834

"LISTEN to me," said the Demon as he placed his hand upon my head. "The region of which I speak is a dreary region in Libya, by the borders of the river Zaire. And there is no quiet there, nor silence.

"The waters of the river have a saffron and sickly hue; and they flow not onwards to the sea, but palpitate forever and forever beneath the red eye of the sun with a tumultuous and convulsive motion. For many miles on either side of the river's oozy bed is a pale desert of gigantic water-lilies. They sigh one unto the other in that solitude, and stretch towards the heaven their long and ghastly necks, and nod to and fro their everlasting heads. And there is an indistinct murmur which cometh out from among them like the rushing of subterrene water. And they sigh one unto the other.

"But there is a boundary to their realm--the boundary of the dark, horrible, lofty forest. There, like the waves about the Hebrides, the low underwood is agitated continually. But there is no wind throughout the heaven. And the tall primeval trees rock eternally hither and thither with a crashing and mighty sound. And from their high summits, one by one, drop everlasting dews. And at the roots strange poisonous flowers lie writhing in perturbed slumber. And overhead, with a rustling and loud noise, the gray clouds rush westwardly forever, until they roll, a cataract, over the fiery wall of the horizon. But there is no wind throughout the heaven. And by the shores of the river Zaire there is neither quiet nor silence.

"It was night, and the rain fell; and falling, it was rain, but, having fallen, it was blood. And I stood in the morass among the tall and the rain fell upon my head --and the lilies sighed one unto the other in the solemnity of their desolation.

"And, all at once, the moon arose through the thin ghastly mist, and was crimson in color. And mine eyes fell upon a huge gray rock which stood by the shore of the river, and was lighted by the light of the moon. And the rock was gray, and ghastly, and tall, --and the rock was gray. Upon its front were characters engraven in the stone; and I walked through the morass of water-lilies, until I came close unto the shore, that I might read the characters upon the stone. But I could not decypher them. And I was going back into the morass, when the moon shone with a fuller red, and I turned and looked again upon the rock, and upon the characters;--and the characters were
DESOLATION.

"And I looked upwards, and there stood a man upon the summit of the rock; and I hid myself among the water-lilies that I might discover the actions of the man. And the man was tall and stately in form, and was wrapped up from his shoulders to his feet in the toga of old Rome. And the outlines of his figure were indistinct--but his

features were the features of a deity; for the mantle of the night, and of the mist, and of the moon, and of the dew, had left uncovered the features of his face. And his brow was lofty with thought, and his eye wild with care; and, in the few furrows upon his cheek I read the fables of sorrow, and weariness, and disgust with mankind, and a longing after solitude.

"And the man sat upon the rock, and leaned his head upon his hand, and looked out upon the desolation. He looked down into the low unquiet shrubbery, and up into the tall primeval trees, and up higher at the rustling heaven, and into the crimson moon. And I lay close within shelter of the lilies, and observed the actions of the man. And the man trembled in the solitude; --but the night waned, and he sat upon the rock.

"And the man turned his attention from the heaven, and looked out upon the dreary river Zaire, and upon the yellow ghastly waters, and upon the pale legions of the water-lilies. And the man listened to the sighs of the water-lilies, and to the murmur that came up from among them. And I lay close within my covert and observed the actions of the man. And the man trembled in the solitude; --but the night waned and he sat upon the rock.

"Then I went down into the recesses of the morass, and waded afar in among the wilderness of the lilies, and called unto the hippopotami which dwelt among the fens in the recesses of the morass. And the hippopotami heard my call, and came, with the behemoth, unto the foot of the rock, and roared loudly and fearfully beneath the moon. And I lay close within my covert and observed the actions of the man. And the man trembled in the solitude; --but the night waned and he sat upon the rock.

"Then I cursed the elements with the curse of tumult; and a frightful tempest gathered in the heaven where, before, there had been no wind. And the heaven became livid with the violence of the tempest --and the rain beat upon the head of the man --and the floods of the river came down --and the river was tormented into foam --and the water-lilies shrieked within their beds --and the forest crumbled before the wind --and the thunder rolled --and the lightning fell --and the rock rocked to its foundation. And I lay close within my covert and observed the actions of the man. And the man trembled in the solitude; --but the night waned and he sat upon the rock.

"Then I grew angry and cursed, with the curse of silence, the river, and the lilies, and the wind, and the forest, and the heaven, and the thunder, and the sighs of the water-lilies. And they became accursed, and were still. And the moon ceased to totter up its pathway to heaven --and the thunder died away --and the lightning did not flash --and the clouds hung motionless --and the waters sunk to their level and remained --and the trees ceased to rock --and the water-lilies sighed no more --and the murmur was heard no longer from among them, nor any shadow of sound throughout the vast illimitable desert. And I looked upon the characters of the rock, and they were changed; --and the characters were SILENCE.

"And mine eyes fell upon the countenance of the man, and his countenance was wan with terror. And, hurriedly, he raised his head from his hand, and stood forth upon the rock and listened. But there was no voice throughout the vast illimitable desert, and the characters upon the rock were SILENCE. And the man shuddered, and turned his face away, and fled afar off, in haste, so that I beheld him no more."

Now there are fine tales in the volumes of the Magi --in the iron-bound, melancholy volumes of the Magi. Therein, I say, are glorious histories of the Heaven, and of the Earth, and of the mighty sea -- and of the Genii that over-ruled the sea, and the earth, and the lofty heaven. There was much lore too in the sayings which were said by the Sybils; and holy, holy things were heard of old by the dim leaves that trembled around Dodona --but, as Allah liveth, that fable which the Demon told me as he sat by my side in the shadow of the tomb, I hold to be the most wonderful of all! And as the Demon made an end of his story, he fell back within the cavity of the tomb and laughed. And I could not laugh with the Demon, and he cursed me because I could not laugh. And the lynx which dwelleth forever in the tomb, came out therefrom, and lay down at the feet of the Demon, and looked at him steadily in the face.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:59:03 PM

Subject: The passing of Jhonn Balance

To all,

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

'Remember all ye that existence is pure joy; that all the sorrows are but as shadows; they pass & are done; but there is that which remains.' [REDACTED]

The Book of the Law [REDACTED]I/9

My thoughts are with all those whose lives Jhonn touched.

Love is the Law, Love under Will.

Vochi

From: PAUL RUSHWORTH

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:02:06 PM

Subject: [coil]

Our loss is another Dimensions gain

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:05:21 PM

Subject: Such Sadness

So sad the news of John's death.

If it wasn't for listening to John and Coil from my teens I'm sure the vacuous strains of other such dirge would have steered my thoughts to the herd mentality that reigns today.

John's lyrics made me see things in a different way and in that made me my own person, not some fashion conscious bore destined to a mundane run-of-the-mill lifestyle.

I owe this man a great deal even though we never met.

A very unusual and bright star in the heavens tonight.

Paul Whittington

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:14:33 PM

Subject: always...

highest respects,

at times like this one is at an utter loss of words. The music of coil and the depth that jhonn gave to it have been in my life for 13 years now. i first listened to coil at 14 years old at a friends house, i was just a little girl... it was one of my first, and maybe one of the most important, steps into a world of infinite strangeness and beauty that is still present in my life. i am deeply grateful to you who have accomplished such a precious work, deeply saddened by jhonn's departure, and sending all the love and kindness and highest respects and friendship to sleazy and ian: **do know that you are loved, that jhonn is loved, in this world and in the next.** how people have reacted these last days - against what has happened, me and so many other souls keep jhonn, and you, in our hearts. to the departed i wish eternal light and the memory that will reflect upon us, and will perpetuate his message and his will. to you, sleazy and ian, all the love, all the gratitude.

i am so grateful for all your work, message, words, sounds, the universes you have created and revealed to me and so many other souls. it is absolutely priceless, precious, a true gift.

i wish you love, peace, and the strenght to continue in life and in work.

sincerely, your friend you know not, but close in the heart,

Dalem

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:21:45 PM

Subject: condolences

I can still vividly remember the very first time i heard COIL on the radio - it was « Ostia » and its spellbinding beauty has obsessed me ever since & been at the centre of many coilincidences. All of a sudden I was introduced to Pasolini, Coil and plenty of things that matched perfectly, here were the gay references/guides my teenagehood so desperately longed for. Henceforth, I've grown up with this music, had my first intercourse whilst listening to COIL (well, indeed, each time one listens carefully the act of listening in itself becomes charged with a sexual intensity, especially Jhonn's singing techniques, and this damn brilliant timber that will be missed beyond words). It was, is and will all-ways be, pure magick. & then the stunning news. No words can express this dreadful sense of loss, not even in my mother tongue : les mots manquent pour exprimer notre affliction et témoigner toute la sympathie que nous portons à Peter & Ian. Sincèrement. In topi veritas,
Spahi Amadeo
"...out of the strong came forth sweetness..."

+sangvis martyrvn semen ecclesiae+

From: michael cashmore

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:23:35 PM

John truly was a Star. My first awareness of him was as a fan of Coil in the early 80's. It wasn't until the early 90's that I first met him in person. The first time, as in subsequent times since, I was always too nervous, to shy to approach him, to make anything other than small talk because of the awkwardness I felt towards him. This was nothing to do with his manner or receptiveness, but simply I felt him as someone truly unique and rare, someone exploring the boundries of his existence, something of which I could only admire from my safe, ordinary life.

At the reception of David and Dri's wedding I was sat in the garden alone, John came and sat next to me. It was during a bad time for both of us and we had a conversation. It was the first time I felt that we connected simply as two human beings, and I'm glad that I had this opportunity to finally speak without the awkwardness I'd always felt, and to share this moment of friendship.

Seeing Coil perform for the first time was one of the most revitalising and potent performances I've ever been

I would like to end by sending Peter my heartfelt well wishes and condolences.

Love.

Misty Roses would like to express their deepest condolences to the friends/family of John Balance. His music is one of the reasons we make music. _And all my days are trances, And all my nightly dreams, Are where thy dark eye glances, And where thy footstep gleams _ In what ethereal dances, By what eternal streams." - Edgar Allan Poe

From: "Frazer Lee"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:31:46 PM

Subject: Jhon

I can't begin to explain to anyone the effect this man's voice has on me.

Jhon - you will be sadly missed

□

Frazer

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:35:01 PM

it is a shame but it seems to be that always the best will die early.

□

thanks john, for uncountable hours of good music.

□

thanks for your works!

□

friends in bavaria and austria

□

ebi

From: Andrew Lahman

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:34:41 PM

Subject:

Geff Rushton / Jhonn Balance

An honour and a pleasure to be able to call you a friend.

The warmest of the warm. My heart is heavy with your departure but I know we will have another day.

The difficulties we all have to face with the leaving of someone so loved can only be remedied by faith in a forever life.

A true poet of the 21st century with a heavy sadness that is burdened with that title.

You will not be forgotten. Never.
I know you are truly happy now.
I love you.

*'Life evermore is fed by death,
In earth and air and sky;
And, that a rose may breathe it's breath
Something must die'*

Andrew Tamati Lahman.
Friend, Fan, Spiritual Lover.

Heartmost love to Sleazy and Ian.

xxxx

A truly dark time.

From: Chris Horne

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:39:07 PM

Subject: Book of Condolence

dear jhonn,

the age of twenty three was most difficult for me. violence and chaos.
the blood on the walls was entirely my own. although it flowed from my
heart it never coursed through my veins. as i made my way through
these seemingly endless months, i somehow rediscovered coil. 'musick
to play in the dark volume two' was just released and there were many
nights when i would curl up to sleep right after putting it on.
without fail, i would be long gone before 'batwings (a limnal hymn)'
even started. it was during those nights that i dreamt dreams that
would both haunt and console me forever. "a wideness opening and
closing to keep the darkness sealed within." a dearest thank you from
my side of the threshold.

love,

chris

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 4:56:43 PM

Subject: jhonn will be sorely missed

This news is shocking, and I want to stress to you all that I would not be the same person without Coil. You have affected me more than I can even know, and I am incredibly grateful.

Over the years, there have been many times listening to Musick to Play In the Dark or the solstice releases that I felt as if I was sitting in the presence of Jhonn having a profound conversation. As if we were almost family.

Listening to Coil has helped me realize my potential to be Great, helped me to articulate that greatness through inspiration and creation.

I will love you always.

Carinna Siple

Eureka, California, USA

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:01:35 PM

Subject: Balance

I was blessed to see Jhonn Balance perform with Coil twice in my lifetime. His reverie during the performance was infectious and lifted my spirits utterly. Like an excited schoolboy I shook his hand after one of the shows. He was beaming. I wrote my first feature length screenplay whilst listening, in particular, to the track "Heartworms". This screenplay, 6 years later, is now about to go into production as a film. I hope to include "Heartworms" on the soundtrack as an homage to this inimitable talent. I too, as many human beings constantly do, have fought the addiction to alcohol in the past, so exquisitely summed up by Balance's notes on "Foxtrot". I always loved the fact that Jhonn's name was "Balance" - it seemed to sum up the heart of some of his messages, amidst the sometimes chaos of the music. My heart goes out to the remaining members of Coil and all friends in this difficult time, and my energy goes out to Balance for his now adventurous journey. A sad day for music and the world is a colder place, but I shall never forget this man and his inimitable talents for as long as I live and beyond.

All best wishes,

Frazer Lee

Writer/director, Robber Baron Productions

London, 16.XI.04

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:03:49 PM

Subject: thank you

dear sleazy,

i am deeply saddened by the loss of geff.

i wish you all the strength you need to come to terms with this tragic event.

i will have those moments forever in my heart when i first met you two at your house in london 1995 doing an interview for my magazine aufabwegen. ever since then geff has been friendly, open, enthusiastic and inspiring upon meeting him (and you) in barcelona, amsterdam, london, etc.

the last time i saw him was when i accidentally bumped into him and ian at an art opening in manchester in the summer of 2002.

his work has meant a great deal to my life and it helped shape my view of things, as i'm sure it did for most people who knew him. through his chosen subject matters he gave clues to investigating themes and artists and opened up a totally new and fascinating world for me (ie. i found out about jarman through coil).

my hope is, that as honest and as straight as he outspoke his belief in and experiences with the other world, his soul may now find a place in that sphere exactly as he dreamed of.

i wish you and everyone personally connected to john balance all the strength they need now.

i really do believe that geff's life was a gift to everyone else who met him and knew his work and art.

death is not the end.

love,
till

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 3:09:58 PM

Subject:

music is a gift

and with music coil are exceptionally gifted
within the ocean of sounds and time, no other music has touched me as deeply
and profoundly as coil's music has
the visions and words of John Balance will remain an inspiration for time to
come
it is a great loss, a tragic accident
very sad indeed...
I'll treasure every moment
my deepest sympathy to the friends & family of Geoff

Oliver Ross

From: Colleen Twitty

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:16:18 PM

Subject: ""

there is the impossibility of language to touch this
i have been unable to write a condolence, unable to set my fingers in motion

i love you, John.
you expressed things so well, things i thought only lived inside my head.

you helped inspire music & magick from within. in this most cynical and false
of worlds, you tore through boundaries to something deep inside.

i saw coil for the first (and only) time in July in London --only months ago! --
how lucky i felt (i am from California and this opportunity is rare). it
affected me like nothing else. how i longed to tell you i loved you. not in a
romantic way, but something different... like brothers and sisters throughout
time and space.

your songs are holy. your songs are incantations. the most beautiful, the most
beautiful, the most beautiful.

a feast for fire
and a feast for water
;
a feast for life
and a greater feast for death
!

love always,
coyote nef

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:18:45 PM

Subject: you will be missed

with much love an adoration i send you this message that will not be received.

though we never met in the flesh, your presence none the less touched my being
and inspired purpose in my life.

you were a role model, and you never knew you were.

the light which burns twice as bright shines half as long. i will very much miss that
guiding light in the darkness which surrounds.

peace be with you on your new journey.

martin nieznanski

From: "riccardo zanella"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:32:26 PM

Per sempre nella nostra mente
come una liquida sfera di fluido cristallo
svescerati i cuori, dolcemente

e
non più parole.

Riposa in pace

:have pity for the dead:

□

|

||||| |||||
|

□
□

From: Mark Pilkington

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:44:02 PM

Subject: On Balance

Dear Peter

I've just written this for the Plan B magazine web site - www.planbmag.com - it will probably go online tomorrow. It begins as a semi-formal obituary and ends as a memoir. I thought you might like to read it. Feel free to re-use any or all of it elsewhere, or not.

Best wishes at this difficult time

Mark

On Balance

"Death, he is my friend, he promised me a quick end."

Blood from the Air, Coil, Horse Rotorvator (1986)

Geff Rushton, aka John Balance of Coil, died on the afternoon of Saturday 13 November, in a fall from the first floor landing of his home. He was 42.

Founded by a young Balance in 1983, and bolstered by his musical and, until recently, life-partner Peter "Sleazy" Christopherson, for 21 years, Coil's music changed, deranged, detoured and matured with its creators. While each new album – and sometimes these were several years apart – brought new sounds and ideas to the fore, Coil's sonic vision was persistently transgressive and transcendent, both aesthetically and technologically. Whether they were peering down into the sewers or upwards to the stars, Coil were always several steps ahead, or at least one step to the side, of their contemporaries, with much of their music sounding like transmissions from another dimension. In fact, some of it they claimed was from another dimension. Certainly they were bold explorers of psychedelic space, much of their sound being informed by the glittering jewels brought back from these inner-landscape excursions. Their capacity to merge heavy-duty avant-garde weirdness with a canny pop sensibility and an ear for a tune has made Coil's sonic legacy an enduring one. What happens next for Coil is anyone's guess, but it's hard to believe that Balance's untimely death will do anything other than heighten their already semi-legendary status.

I first discovered Coil as a horror-film obsessed 14-year-old. They had brought out an unused soundtrack to Clive Barker's film Hellraiser. I was hoping for something like the terror-funk of Goblin, who were my favourite band at the time, but what I

got was something very different indeed: a haunting, captivating soundscape of tones, rumbles and music box tinkling. It was several years before I realised that I had been playing it at the wrong speed all that time, but it never seemed to matter. I would eventually pick up all their records and, while my tastes have changed (though not that much!) over the past 16 years, their back catalogue still provides refreshing and rewarding listening. Their more recent output, especially a collection of improvisations recorded on the solstices and equinoxes of 2001-2002, remains sonically inspiring, forward-looking and defiantly uncategorisable.

Late in the year 2000 I interviewed Balance for Fortean Times magazine, at the home where he died, while Peter snoozed upstairs. It was a very human discussion about drugs, magick, birds and dreams.

(http://www.forteanimes.com/articles/142_coil.shtml). Following this, Balance (I always called him this, though I knew he was Geff) and I kept in touch, sometimes regularly, mostly not.

In 2002 Coil performed at Conway Hall alongside Drew Mulholland's Mount Vernon Astral Temple and others at the Megalithomania event I co-curated with Neil Mortimer of the now defunct Third Stone Magazine. Feeling like Kermit the frog, I introduced them and wound the curtains open with a huge handle offstage. Their performance was uniquely odd and a one off, with a clearly drunk and unhappy-to-be-there Balance yelling largely incoherent abuse over a pulsing, shifting synthesised backdrop provided by Sleazy, Thighpaulsandra and Simon Norris. Meanwhile their Italian dancer friends Massimo and Pierce freaked the audience out inside barely-moving black-hooded entity costumes on the sides of the stage. At one point Balance hurled a large stuffed rabbit into the audience, hitting the Lovecraftian magician and anthropologist Justin Woodman, and towards the end looked like he was about to throw one of the London Musicians' Collective's monitors (hired by us at some expense) overboard. I projected a telepathic plea to him to put it down, which he did, afterwards insisting that it was only because he'd wanted to, even though he'd got the message.

We can all only know aspects of each other. I knew Balance as a mercurial, warm, funny, sharp and highly curious individual. I only caught glimpses of his demons, most of them seemingly borne of the alcohol that would eventually kill him, but got the impression from talking to others that he'd upset many people over the years.

Our last real conversation was in February of this year at the Strange Attractor Journal launch at London's Horse Hospital. We discussed beards, garlic, magick, the whereabouts of Atlantis and psychedelic jazz. At one point we were both startled as a full beer bottle spontaneously exploded as it stood on the floor at our feet. Our final encounter was a fleeting one, as I snapped away from the photo trench beneath the stage at Hackney's Oceans venue in August, at what would be Balance's last London performance with Coil. Curiously a friend had told me beforehand that this was to be the band's final gig – I don't know where he'd got that information from. Balance double-taked as I sent a friendly wink his way from under his feet. It was a good gig, though perhaps not as awe-inspiring as I know they were capable of, presenting some of the group's more melodic new electronic

offerings, including the cosmi-comic Sex With Sun Ra that's sure to become a posthumous favourite.

At gig's end John waved and said "Thanks Mark!" through the PA.

Thanks John/Geff, wherever you are now.

MARK PILKINGTON

JB at Horse Hospital Feb 2004
balance_feb04.jpg "

Mark Pilkington

From: Matthew Carpenter

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:50:43 PM

Subject: Everyone...

My most heartfelt condolences! I'm shocked and saddened...

Please remain strong! I want you to know that I feel such love and deep passion for Coil's music and mission. Jhonn's corporeal contributions will be missed so much. I just feel for everyone who was particularly close to him.

I just have two quotes to share...

At bottom every man knows well enough that he is a unique being, only once on this earth; and by no extraordinary chance will such a marvelously picturesque piece of diversity in unity as he is, ever be put together a second time.

and...

You must have chaos within you to give birth to a dancing star.

Nietzsche

Thank you all for creating and sharing...

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:48:45 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] 'Make pain your lover

my best friend had a "Blot" the say day of his death. (a sacrefice to the gods)
She was taking the place of Hel, the goddess of death.
This is Norway in november and all day it had raining and so cold....but during this blot the rain stopped and noone was cold and she felt the power of the goddess
Hel flow through her up there on the mountain....she is one of the biggest Coilfans i know and she didnt know at that time Balance was no longer with us.
It hit her hard to find out after...but like she said....she felt it strongly...
today as i was walking to work was watching the black crows fly up in this dim dark grey sky and it made me feel at peace.
how can i feel pain over someone i never met...
i cant explain.
Most feelings cant be explained.

when i was trying to get through the pain of my brothers suicide, these words were constantly in my head and still is and i want to share :

"what is loved, will never vanish..."

one never gets over such a loss....it creates such a big whole inside..but as times go by, the whole gets filled up with memories....

.
my advice is dont fear pain.
Make pain you lover.
its my mantra.

Batcheeba, Bergen - Norway.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 5:45:16 PM

Subject: hello

hello

i just want to know that coil has open my ears, in the early 80's; and my vision of art depends always on this period;

in 1982 i was still a teenager, in rennes (france); i was playing in cold wave and industrial band ; now my music has evolved, but i can say that at this period i was really influenced by the voice of john balance, and all my best friends too;

when i released my first album in 1996 the press said ' it has to be with the best of coil '; its not really true, but its a beautiful compliment;

at this period a friend of mine has offer me a tatou of the black sun, the symbol of coil; and i had the same haircut that john balance at one period (scatology) ,i am not shamed to say it, and i was young..... but impressed ;

i am sad because of the avenir of coil without john, but enjoy only thinking of the emotion the music of coil still mark me (excuse me, my english is not so good...); the music is life, john is not dead;

bye

christophe bailleau (a french musician living in belgium)

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:02:09 PM

Subject: Forever Inspiring.

A letter to Jhonn's Family and Friends,

I am writing to extend my sympathy for the loss of this wonderful man Jhonn Balance.

I heard the news about the tragedy yesterday morning and finally came to grips to write this letter. After hearing about the loss of Jhonn, all I could think about was the impact that Jhonn and Coil had changed my life in so many wonderful ways. I have been a devoted fan of Coil since my teenage years. Now 33 years of age, I look back at the years to become overwhelmed with joy to have Coil as one of the biggest inspirations to become an artist myself. I can not express how thankful I am for having Jhonn and Coil in my life. I will forever be a fan of Jhonn's body of work in all medias, and that is a great triumph. I hope your family & friends will find condolence from my letter. I will always remember Jhonn Balance! Bless you Jhonn and thanks.

Sincerely,

-Phil Reyes

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:02:50 PM

Subject: My condolences

Peter & Ian,

My condolences to you both. Though I did not know John personally, only through are short meeting in NYC and correspondence thereafter... he has always been an amazing influence on me. Your and Johns kindness in dealing with me with the tshirt production in NYC and my health and wealth problems since the World Trade Center bombing, etc. Thank you.... I do hope to one day sit down with you and talk... esp. about our mutual friend William Burroughs... another man who has had a great impact on life.

Sleazy, Please do continue the amazing musical work... I will always look forward to any new releases by you.
Much love & chaos (which I'm sure you have in spades now};)

Coil were one of my earlier forays into industrial culture... and definitely affected me in a big way. As I reach my 40's, I've been watching friends, fraters, ect. die esp. those older than myself. I've watched my best friend die, a friend and frater William S. Burroughs die, many friends die.... it's part of the cycle and I miss these people... but it always seems that I will be seeing them at some time in the future. Much like the majority of my closest friends... none live proximity to me... except my mate of course but it may take six months or it may take years... but as soon as we see each other its like no time has past. Getting rid of expectations is good in this regard.

I'm also saddened since I started correspondence with John and Sleazy, then had the

opportunity to meet them in NYC and produce their T-Shirts for the show and some further

correspondence with John, discussing publishing some books on Spare and Parsons . I will miss the interaction I so looked forward to.

John and the whole Coil crew have been amazing in their dealings with me... generous, understanding and just a general love to keep those in the underground going.

As I posted previously... I say farewell to a great psychonaut, John Balance... an inspirational part of life. My love to those he was close to. It's not easy missing a good friend, comrade.

My best regards,

-Douglas

From: Victoria Sendall

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:05:24 PM

Subject: night jhon, see you in the morning...

"A sleeping explorer, his wandering mind, Crossed over the border"

only just heard the news through a mate this evening about jhon. it is a very sad and sudden loss... my thoughts are with those who were close to him.

From: Benet Devereux

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:05:43 PM

Subject: where the desert roses bloom and grow

I'd like to extend my sincerest condolences to Jhonn Balance's friends, loved ones, and colleagues. His voice is one I remember from some of the best parts of my life, and some of the darkest; in the dark times, he spoke to me as one who had "followed the black valley trail of death into the brilliant sunshine" and shared the strength and wisdom learned on that journey with anybody who cared to listen. He was one of the great ones, no doubt about that.

May he rest now in that brilliant sunshine.

B.

From: ALISTAIR CROSBIE

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:08:42 PM

Subject: Jhonn

I just wanted to convey my sincere condolences to all who knew and loved Jhonn Balance. Your sadness must be unbearable.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:24:58 PM

Subject: The effect of John Balance's creations and giving on my life

I'm not very good at eloquent words, and writing, however I was thinking of Mr. Balance the other day, out of pretty much nowhere, and came across a picture I found on the internet, and posted on a 'random picture' thread on a forum.

Then last night I was at a diner in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, US, and my friend told me of his death, and felt rather odd. It seems like whenever I think of someone out of 'nowhere', I find out they died, soon after.

Despite my paranoia of relation to people I don't know personally's deaths, His art touched my life pretty deeply, as a musician and as a human being who is into opening his mind and feelings.

I don't know exactly who did what in Coil, and I really don't follow the band as well as other hardcore fans, but everything I've bought and/or heard from them has always given me a sensation of comfort and fear, and moreso, that which I really can't describe.

I've only experienced Coil through the recordings. Many songs, especially now, are probably going to make me think even more about things. The music made me think, feel, and wonder (wander?).

I read that Bruce Lee once said that the key to immortality is to

first live a life
worth remembering.

I believe Mr. Balance has done that.

I know so little about the man, but have been touched by his music. I
don't even
know if it's proper to write John or Jhonn. I apologize for my ignorance.

-Sincerely,
Christopher Emerle

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:27:49 PM

Subject: To Jhonn

To Jhonn Balance-

Whose art ment more to us than he could know.
Someone who was not fearful of standing above the
abyss, but rather dived head first and encouraged us
all to join him. Jhonn whose art with Zos Kia brought
about a new way of thinking, the rebellion against
stale music, to enervate others with Musick and
Magick. Coil, an art which has no physical existence,
beyond recorded sounds - but there is much more to
Coil than a cd, it is an idea which clearly has its
own silent empire. Jhonn runs at us now screaming.
Nothing can stop him now.

See you soon Jhonn...

Michael Ford November 16th, 2004

From: Haakon Nelson

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:32:47 PM

Subject: Finality

Jhon,
I know you are probably busy at the moment, but I would be remiss if I did not take

-Haakon

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:36:32 PM

Subject:

my god....

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:04:12 PM

Subject: Too soon

I've seen him only once on stage—but some of his expressions were so strong that they're carved in my memory forever.

Through his music, he is still with us.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:31:32 PM

Subject: john balance.....

it was a terrible evening... my friend told me about it, i didn't believe him and 've gone to the internet to read about it, and i was shocked, and i've bought the bottle of wine, and i'm drinking all the night today -- to remember John Balance, and listen to the songs where he sings, and other tracks, and all the albums..... i'm very very sad, but "the beginning is also the end", and we all are temporary here, and i was very influenced by coil. my first meeting with them was three years ago, when i was

16 years old, and almost all my views on world around had changed..... and i like this deep music and will like it till my end..... he was (and is, but outwhere?) the great men.....

□

(sorry for awful english)

From: "Mike West"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:42:25 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

This breaks my heart. John Balance, for all his darkness and problems, helped purvey some of the most beautiful, sophisticated, and experimental music of the last 20 years. The ideas he had in using unusual instruments and employing noise in new ways were inspirational, and I always enjoyed hearing where his offbeat muse would take us next. You will be missed, John.

From: "Els & Walter"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:53:02 PM

Subject: Rest in peace John Balance

My first contact with Coil was somewhere in the eighties. Horse Rotorvator struck me as lightning. It was a very special record to me, on blue vinyl. I followed the band until Love's secret domain. Only recently my interest in their more recent work was growing. I was shocked when I heard about John's unfortunate death.

□

Rest in peace John Balance.

□

Wallie

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:54:32 PM

Subject: Who'll Fall?

Who'll Fall?

In the book "The Fairy Faith In Celtic Countries", a mystic Jhonn mentioned in his music, George William Russell, was asked about the possibility of human beings entering the Otherworld:

"I think any one who thought much of the Sidhe during his life and who saw them frequently and brooded on them would likely go to their world after death."

I have often felt there was a phenomena amongst some people whose sense of the Otherworld is so strong that they are drawn back to it rather early, through some strange accident or circumstance. Hearing about Jhonn's death, I was, in an everyday sense, very shocked, yet in another sense, not surprised at all. I cannot describe why this was so, perhaps because he was indeed someone who lived closer to the threshold than many. Only having a few exchanges with him (through email way back when), I recall distinctly one in which I asked him if he'd ever seen a gnome. His response was a gleeful missive in which he said he saw them often, frequently noticing spirits as people in the street or in other public places. We can only wonder what Jhonn is up to right now, perhaps a tea-date with the queen of the circulating library! Amongst those beings who we sometimes catch sight of in the corner's of our eyes, as echos from the end, the source, the eschaton awaiting us all in different ways.

Rare it is that our lives are graced by visions such as his. I certainly don't expect to find another person to feel such affinity with in their art... Someone who pleas to "put your trust in the animals, for we are all animals..." The mushrooms and dark skies... And with such humor and transgressive carnality...

I first discovered Coil when I was about 13, five years ago, and quickly realized I had found a musick that brought me back to worlds I thought no one else knew of. Worlds that wait at the root of the world, in childhood, where all mystery has returned, and "there is no guilt and there is no shame". Coil's musick has served in many ways as a sort of "key" to return to those liminal, imaginal, eschatological places... like sonic artifacts of dream. Soon I launched through the rich rich conduit of artistic/philosophical references offered by Jhonn and Coil, from personalities such as Hakim Bey, to Angus MacLise, Terence McKenna to La Monte Young, Austin Spare to Sir Thomas Browne... and finally discovered writers and artists with whom I could feel spiritually akin. In this sense, Coil has strangely been the single most influential force in the pathways of my learning, since the trail they lead me on opened to new cultural worlds many times over.

Also, as a composer and musician myself, Coil's originality... the fact that they truly have done their own thing, with scarcely a worldly comparison to be made with their work... this has been so helpful and encouraging, in this world where every other song released has been written a hundred times already. Coil helped me so much in finding an ethos of emphasis on music as a means to affect consciousness, to return to forces of nature and imagination - music as magick, as shamanism, how it originally was.

Jhonn, thank you so much for what you have offered us here... May your adventures continue through every strange and beautiful visage that could only be glimpsed from this side of the crack between worlds.... It is these glimpses you have offered us with your work, the fullest tasks of the artist in this world. May all those close to him be bathed in a sea of love, in this time of his journey beyond.

"wise words from the departing, eat your greens, especially broccoli
and always say thank you, especially for the things you never had"

thank you.

Christopher Valauri
11/16/04

From: Wreath Of Skulls

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 6:58:29 PM

Subject: Submission for Book of Condolence

Greetings,

I am sad and speechless at the news. I know it is not an end, simply a transition.
But nevertheless... My thoughts are with all of you.

John Harford

Sirius Ascendent - Upon the Death of Jhonn Balance

It is the nature of man to vibrate to luminescence, peak, culminate and finally
cease - keenly aware of his own mortality. It is the nature of the animal to be
unaware, at least as so far as man can tell, of the implications of the ebb and flow
of vital energy and for this reason to exist more purely in coincidence with time's
endless circles. It is the nature of the mystic to hybridize the two aspects and
utilize this impetus. The keen manly awareness of mortality honed by the
headlong ferocity of the beast marks he truly touched by the horned god. Yet the
humility of the dog reminds us of the place of our animal self: equal to - not below -
our idea diseased intellect.

It is for his talk of man and animal that I most recall Jhonn Balance. His musical
and artistic vision, his somber yet playful demeanor, deep and broad lyrics were
inspiration beyond words. But his embodiment of the man-beast, the pure
heathen - for "better" or "ill" of those around him - allows him the mark of
importance alongside magickal thinkers such as The Great Beast and AOS.

The creative integrity of Coil, and Jhonn's often self effacing modesty was a
constant torch - lighting a path for me while I forged my own artistic path in the 13
long years between my introduction to Coil and through to this very moment. A
break from the conceit and contrivances of the spheres of modern "music" and
"art" industries - Jhonn and all of Coil represents the most pure artistic expression
of creativity: that which exists purely for its own refined agenda and not beholden

to economy, trend, fanfare and mores.

The Angelic Conversations, Zos Kia, Scatology and the Unnatural History of the World series saw me through personal and artistic explorations of the Kabbalah, Thelema, Buddhism, and Zoroastrism. Musick to Play in the Dark and the Seasonal releases were at my side while I began a journey into the abstract and hidden spaces of the world - an internal and external abyss that only a dead or mad eye can see. It was Moon Musick on that cold December 21st night, that I fully understood the nature of man and animal, earth and air. The hound transcendent, I drank of the brightest moon in decades. Alone - frigid to the bone, akin to the icy water that reflected the lunar orb - and somewhere, I heard a voice ask, "Are you shivering?"

Later the sonic virulence of The Green Child, the narcotic hum of the Time Machines, and the spiral visions inspired by the Queen of the Circulating Library were doorways into my own worlds of disjointed tone; these helped stoke rage against the growing claw of international fundamentalism and oppressive materialist faith-based initiatives. In Coil's musick and ethos I found the intangible symbol and politics merged with effectiveness not seen since the height of the surrealists.

Coil's vision - particularly the prose of Balance - helped to uphold my creativity honest. Jhonn's naturalistic yet practically modern philosophy on the animal virtues (the highest of virtues in our unnatural world) - and his association of the sylvan with the holy allowed me to more keenly understand the place of heathen man in the dross of contemporary reality. This self assigned place is of utmost importance in a world abscessed with irrevocable hypocrisy. In a damned land madness is a subjective state. It seems reason has been slain and the worst kind of madness - that of catatonic deceit - reigns. It is for this introduction to my beast-self and his own beast like virtues that I most remember and honor Jhonn Balance. You will be sorely missed.

John Harford

From: emily taylor

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:09:04 PM

Subject: we will miss you mister balance

10 reasons why I love Coil

1. Today at work I keep hearing

5-Dimethoxy-4-Ethyl-Amphetamine: (DOET/Hacate) off

Time Machines but since I'm not playing it, and no one else in my office would ever listen to that track, I can be fairly sure it's just the heating system in the office blending with the construction vehicles tearing down the elevated T line across the street, and that's fucking awesome.

2. They made electronic music filled with magic and ritual without letting it get too crunchy wiccan or losing the crisp modern space edge that makes it so great. That is a rare and beautiful thing. I love that they run both hot and cold without ever getting just warm.

3. I'd heard Love's Secret Domain before and thought it was cute and poppy, then I listened to it on acid. That's when I realized what it really meant. In the chilling, tight toothed, spitting laughter of his voice I found it. Love is a burning rose, love is the madness of being overwhelmed by joy and fear, love is when you grind your teeth into the flesh of another person's heart and let your own be ripped to heated shreds while you laugh at your own shaking hands and spit at fear in it's face. Love is crawling inside someone's skin and breathing in their hot blood like womb fluid. Love is not knowing where you end. Love is knowing that you never do. Then of course I came down and realized I was actually describing lust. But to have the crushing meat grinder type of lust I'm talking about you have to know the taste of the dark bits of love and that is where this song takes me every time.

4. Everytime I have a headache and I think to listen to Coil it goes away.

5. There are bands where you go "today I'm really in the mood for My Bloody Valentine" and you know that nothing else but My Bloody Valentine will really do. So far I've never been able to find a mood that Coil hasn't written some song or album that fits it.

6. I've heard other muscians try to do that Coil thing, but it never really works. They aren't a band that other bands replace easily. I don't think I'll ever hear myself say "_____ is the new Coil". They have their own formula and it will never be the same.

7. I don't consider myself to be someone who has used a great deal of drugs in my life, but when I do I try to do them less in a recreational setting and more in a ritualistic setting. Although it's obvious that Jhonn and friends did a lot of both types, it's nice to see albums like Time Machines that encourage ritual drug taking for purposeful introspection, and extrospection for that matter. Extrospection probably isn't a word... I don't really care.

8. Coil encouraged other bands to be more adventurous. They've inspired so many people to make music and other art. I've used their music as inspiration in my own art more times than I can count. Their music has open doors for me to other bands and other ways of thinking. The idea that the part of my own little world they populate is going to eventually stop production on new sounds is really pretty depressing for me. That's going to be a very empty space. I take comfort in knowing that so far I haven't gotten tired of the old stuff.

9. I can generally tell whether I'm going to get along in a certain special way with a new person I meet by asking two questions. If they like Wild At Heart by David Lynch and if they enjoy listening to Coil.

10. I really shouldn't be this sad. I know this whole thing is just him stepping over a line, and that we're just sad that we can't still hear from him. Maybe we just need to learn how to listen better. Coil taught me how to search for details inside of sounds. When I listen to it I search for details in everything I hear and see and feel. It's like learning the difference between a good wine and an amazing bottle of wine. Subtle things. Hidden bits. The use of silence, the use of volume. The silence part is what is going to bother me now. I just need to learn how to listen better.

"Artifacts generated by your listening environment are an intrinsic part of the experience." - coil

-emily

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:16:23 PM

Subject: condolence

Jhonne's musick and art has been installed on my personal harddrive for 13 years now and every repeated song and image never really takes the same shape as it did the time previous. His musick places such an intensely interesting mood on elusive thoughts about my life. Elusive, because the thoughts don't surface until the mood is set just right. A huge empty spot is left in my heart, vacant for no one else but Jhonne.

□

Stirr it up blackie. Stirr it & swirl it. Make it happen for us all.

Sean Wilde

□

From: "David Flick"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:18:32 PM

Subject: RIP John Balance....

I truly amazing star has faded into the next realm. I wouldn't even be making music if it wasn't for bands like Coil, I truly hope that John B's journey will continue in another realm. It is a true loss, and no one will ever be able to duplicate his genius. RIP John, and may you live on with all the brilliant music that you have made for us to enjoy..

Thank You,
David F

From: "Joe"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:25:32 PM

Subject: Meeting Jhonn

I talked to Jhonn for about half an hour after the show Coil played in Prague two years ago.

The previous week, I'd rented *The Angelic Conversation*, and in the course of our conversation, I asked the inspiration for it. Jhonn talked about it as a project conceived with a lover from whom he was then estranged. Between the memory of the lover and the memory of Derek Jarman who died in 1994, he choked up a little on some emotion, and apologized. I tried to let him know that it was entirely alright. I was honored to be within that moment with him.

I might be projecting my own aspirations, but in the course of that talk, each moment seemed full for him and what I could see was that he was full of each moment, no matter what that moment contained, and I try to live still to the level of involvement and honesty he showed me.

-Joe Silber

From: "j a s o n s l o a n"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:32:37 PM

Subject: with deep sorrow.

i am deeply saddened by this news. jhonn's work and many contributions have been an inspiration to myself and many in the visual and aural arts over the years. the world has lost a true visionary.

although he has only left our physical presence, johnn will still be missed.

with much admiration,

jason sloan

From: "TAZpenetraliaCDME"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:37:15 PM

Subject: the only word is silence

□

my mind and my heart can not explain the sensation of emptiness & sadness that i feel in me & all around me >

johnn was one of the most important minds i ever known read and heard >
and i'm still here to hear his voice and his words in the most exciting and magick project that i ever heard >

i'm so close to you peter and also to the others of the coil family >

□

the dreamer is still dreaming >

love to all

□

hi sir johnn

□

nihilCDME > from the italian group machina amniotica

□

" Verily, love is death, and death is life to come.

Man returneth not again; the stream floweth not uphill;

the old life is no more; there is a new life that is not his.

Yet that life is of his very essence; it is more He

than all that he calls He.

In the silence of a dewdrop is every tendency of his soul, and of his mind, and of his body; it is the

Quintessence and the Elixir of his being: Therein

are the forces that made him and his father and his father's father before him.

This is the dew of Immortality.

Let this go free, even as It will; thou art not its

master, but the vehicle of It."

□

AC

From: Christoph Gurk

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:40:48 PM

Subject: John Balance

Dear Peter Christopherson,

it was a shock to hear that John Balance died last Saturday under tragic circumstances. Please let me express on behalf of Volksbühne that we can hardly even express how sorry we feel about this terrible accident. The world has lost a really great musician and visionary. His appearance with

COIL at our venue about two and a half years ago was truly impressive and has changed some of the ways I am looking at music and the performing arts. It is so sad to understand that we will never again be able to share such an experience with him.

Sincerely

Christoph Gurk

Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz

Berlin, Germany

From: "Disruptor"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:47:35 PM

Subject:

A new star was born

□

has the name of Jhonn Balance

that you can rest in peace

□

Goodbye

From: obligon

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:53:23 PM

Subject: [coil] Wise words from the departed...

Wise words from the departed.

Eat your greens, especially broccoli.

Wise words from the departed.

Always wear sensible shoes.

And always be thankful for the things you never had...

You never had...

From: hassni malik
Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:53:58 PM
Subject: The longest journey

Farewell.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:04:14 PM

Subject: where is the balance?

hello
my name is jenya korolev
and i knew the thing just some minutes ago from a friend of mine
for the last 10 years Jhon & Coil were the most important spring
of my imagination, my spiritual clearance, my relationship with the things "not of this world"
i had a pleasure to see coil once at jesi, italy and Jhon was absolutely ok, and it makes me feel much worse
i had a pleasure to have a thing to lean on, to confess, i had a friend
there is an incredible void now, and the only thing i can say : where is "the" balance ?
jenya korolev
vicovaro (roma) italy
16/11/2004
□
□

From: Cameron Lindo
Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:07:35 PM

Subject: jhonn and on

It's a modish thing, to grieve for those you don't know. Everyone's doing it, or being criticised for doing it. I've managed to avoid it until now. But Jhonn Balance, of course, is someone we all knew. The Green Child, The Spoiler, the Astral Disaster. The fermenter of ideas whose origins are so fundamental that we're not sure if they're ours or his. We grieve for the part of us that he represented. And for his voice, and his vision. Lift up thyself! for there is none like unto thee among men or among Gods!
cameron

From: Tim!

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:12:29 PM

Subject: [coil] Out of Balance

As with Burroughs, I was convinced I'd meet Balance in person before one of us was no longer in the physical realm. I had such high hopes/fantasies of somehow helping bring Coil to San Francisco and following them around on their US tour, or finally venturing to Europe to catch a set at some fabulous show in the Parisian sewers.

As with most things, however, we become complacent and assume those things we've held most dear for decades, which helped us through the tough times and took us on journeys to far off internal lands, will never leave, never falter, never diminish in any way. Now our erstwhile shaman has gone AWOL, and we, his disciples, are left to mourn. But in so doing, we also glorify and enlarge the pool of psychic energy that was so carefully cultivated by such an artistically and magickally vital man. I only hope he had some idea of how truly important he was to so many people, and I look forward to him being even more inspiring in death than he was in life.

Farewell my invisible friend. You will be sorely missed.

The universe is finally out of Balance.
Equilibrium's a bitch.

Tim!

From: "Gino dal Soler"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:17:48 PM

Subject: a rose is a rose is a rose....

Yesterday evening i've opened my broadcast radio here in Bologna spreading to all our listeners "Batwings" a Coil song that is like a blessing to me..I remember few years ago, when during an interview for Blow Up magazine, i've said to John and Peter that "Batwings" could be to me the favourite song to accompany my threshold to death...It's still true, now...his moon songs and music will remain forever a pure blessing to my ears and to my heart... Can't forget, my heart is full of sorrow now, but your voice and words John, will continue to keep my heart in deep peace... and remember, like someone once said: a rose is a rose..is a rose....is a rose

Gino

From: Paul Nelson

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:31:13 PM

Subject: No: Longer

No longer the object of lust- on the cover of Dave Ball's solo LP; lithe, greased torso the fuel of youthful fantasies... of a dimented pixie, memeber of the dark carnival- then dark star of Coil, at Peter's side. Mad Love... The soundtrack to mis-adventures, a key-holder to a secrect realm that I could vaugely glimpse in dreams or perhaps psychadelic haze... gone but not gone; imprinted on me, just as are these tattoos. Dear, I'll see you when I cross over- please, though: seek out those others gone on and assure them that they are not forgotten as you will never be... find Derek Jarman and reserve a table at the Cabaret. I'll be along, in my time. Till then, feel free to haunt my dreams, just as you always have...

From: Damaged

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:39:48 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] Wise words from the departed...

Yesterday I wore my new pair of handmade Vans, had a drink (I don't normally) and some spinach salad, purchased some broccoli and ate it raw... and yes, I was thankful for ALL the things I never had.

I actually found I slept well and feel much much better this fine day.

-D

always tries to follow good advice, often fails.

On Tue, 16 Nov 2004, obligon wrote:

Wise words from the departed.

Eat your greens, especially broccoli.

Wise words from the departed.

Always wear sensible shoes.

And always be thankful for the things you never had...

You never had...

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:42:10 PM

Subject:

John balance and Coil influenced me as a young man.

The influence is documented in a painting of mine I did for an exhibition I did last year dealing with the subconscious relationship to the past, to the town where I was born.

Music was a big influence. Coil came to me when I was about 18 and the experience was a unique blend of sex and magic.

Niklas Blomkvist, Sweden

From: massimiliano zani

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:42:55 PM

Subject: The Dreamer is Still Asleep.

The Dreamer is Still Asleep.

Massimiliano Zani
Bologna - ITALY

From: "Patricia"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:13:48 PM

Subject: RE: [coil] regarding a gesture

It is some beauty there...in a plant or flower which grows, in the eyes of a

stranger... You'll always be alive in our thoughts, but in some way, you'll be in every little thing around us.

Love to all

Patricia

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:05:04 PM

Subject: The Arrow

Dear Peter,

Jhonn Balance was kind and generous the few times we corresponded, sharing his dreams from the night before and moments from his day. I no longer have those messages, but I am grateful for his music and his introducing me to the work of Harry Crosby, Philip Lamantia and other poets and artists.

Harry Crosby wasn't always on the mark, but there's something in what he wrote below that seems right for Jhonn.

The Arrow

A long arrow of gold within is the slender fire which is the spirit--vices virtues pleasures pains enemies friends fears hopes--nothing but particles of dust upon the impenetrable outer surface of the arrow--these will be blown off as the arrow shot from the archer of death carves its track through the wind until it strikes the target of the Sun. Thus fire becomes fire. Sun-Infinity.

With my most sincere condolences,
Paul McRandle

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:06:48 PM

Subject:

Jhonn,

□

may you rest in the true nature of mind

□

Love

Marc/Konchok Gyaltzen

From: "Cisler, Julie L"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:11:28 PM

Subject: Condolences

To Jhonn's surviving loved ones: My heart goes out to you.

I discovered the news about Jhonn this morning. At first, I didn't think my paltry thoughts merited a response to this book of condolences. Surely others have more eloquent things to say, more personal experiences to relate. But Jhonn's death has hung over me all day. I don't think I've ever felt so devastated over the death of someone I never met. So I had to contribute.

Jhonn's music has touched me since I first heard it, though I discovered it rather late (1991). His consistent level of creativity and uncompromising fidelity to himself has inspired me personally and creatively.

Thank you Jhonn. I'm saddened by the thought that I can no longer eagerly anticipate new music from you. But most of all, I am sad that a star that burned so intensely is gone from this world, now just a little more banal for your loss.

Julie

From: Maarten

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:13:37 PM

Subject: [coil] Jhonn RIP

RIP

From: InkBlot InkBlot

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:11:41 PM

Subject: In Silence

John who

Gave me
Balance
In Deafening
Silence
I will
Remember you
One persons
Torment
Can bring
Solace
To another
Tell the angels
You have
Shown me
Many
Thresholds
Your words
Pushed me
Over them
Triumphantly
Now
You walk
Beyond
The final
Threshold
Sadness
Silence
Strength

From: "riccardo"

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 10:50:38 AM

Subject:

your work is in my hart
thanks John

□

☐Riky

From: "anathoo"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:24:54 PM

Subject: PLEASE ACCEPT THIS MESSAGE

AZERTYUIOPMLKJHGFDSQWXCVCBN
AZERTYUIOPMLKJHGFDSQXCVCNAZERT
TYUIOP`QSDFGHJKLM%µWXCVCBN?
YOYOYOYOYOYOYOYOYOYOYOYOYOYO
OYOYOYOYOYOYOYOYOYOYOYOYOYOYO

👤 👤 [XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX]

[XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX]23

[XXXXXXXXXXXX]23 23

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:27:39 PM

Subject: Dear Jhonn

I've never met Jhonn,☐
Though, He speaks to me often.
☐
Never had a conversation with him,
But He speaks to me often.☐
☐
Never said "Hello, how are you?",
Still, He speaks to me often.☐
☐
Never☐Will I☐ay "goodbye",
Because He speaks to me often.
☐
☐
☐
☐
☐
My thoughts are with Jhonn's friends and family.
☐
Sincerely,
Brian Fults
Minneapolis, Minnesota
United States
☐
☐
☐

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 9:47:09 PM

Subject: Thank you.

That's really all I wanted to say.

A sincere extension of gratitude to one who's work have not only helped me through really tough times, but been a continued inspiration throughout the years. Grief is a personal thing, and even if I never knew John or any of his, there is a real feeling of emptiness even for me. So I hope you all will be safe in your own ways.

My mind goes out to you, and yours.

Thank you, John.

-- Bent Granheim (Norway)

From: Jani Kajzovar

Date: 16 November 2004 18:18:16 GMT

Subject:

I don't know what to say. My grief grows harder with every passing day. The news about the loss of our dear friend spreads like fire through our little central european country. This man gave me more than anybody else and completely changed me from inside. I am with him and with you, Peter, every minute, because Coil is my life. Please hold on, I think of you, Peter.

From our sad apartment in Ljubljana, Slovenia, sincerely yours, Jani & friends

...and yes, I will plant a tree.

From: Michael Moynihan

Date: 16 November 2004 18:23:06 GMT

Subject: departed

Dear Peter,

It was terrible news to receive this morning, and I don't think I can even find appropriate words to express my condolences.

John and I corresponded for the past two decades, although by some quirk of fate never actually met in person. Now I regret that more than ever.

Awhile back we re-posted copies of TYR 2 to the Oak Bank address, as the first package sent to the London box address got returned to sender as uncollected. I hope maybe this second parcel arrived and John had a chance to see it before his untimely exit from this plane of being. He had seemed quite upbeat and full of vigor in the interview we published, although I know he was certainly one prone to extreme shifts of temperment, and normal human affairs were not easy for him to navigate much of the time.

With all best wishes,

Michael, Annabel (& Aldwyn)

From: Gavin Semple
Date: Tue, 16 Nov 2004 17:52:47 +0000
Subject: Re: balance

Dear Bill,

I have spent time with AOS today, and I can find no words more appropriate to my mind than these, from 'Focus of Life' (1921); Crowley was also impressed, as in his copy he scored a marginal line with pen to highlight them. I have taken the liberty of tweaking the punctuation to make the reading flow more easily.

"Death is named the great unknown. Assuredly, death is the great chance - an adventure in Will that translates into body. What happens after death? Will it be more surprising than this world? Could I say? My experience may not be the commonplace... Without doubt, all shall experience the 'rushing winds' that blow from within, the body beyond perspective, into cosmic dust - till consciousness again develops. Death is a transfiguration of life; an inversion, a reversion of the consciousness to parentage - and may be a diversion! A continuation of evolution - the coming forth of the suppressed.

Do you know what happens to the body at death? Exactly what changes take place? Well, so it happens to your beliefs, desires and so on that make consciousness - for all things seen are incarnate desire; ideas of the past and present bodies. From these laws the new body is determined and parentage selected by the laws of attraction.

Again I say, death is the great chance and there grasp where thou hast before failed in the body. If fate is life, then death is the hazard to

alter fate! - a world where Will creates the afterthought in its own image.
For most, death will hold mainly blank pages, but were we ever treated all
alike?

Study your dreams in this life - it may help you in the Death Posture."

and from 'The Logomachy of Zos':

'We grieve the death of loved ones, and fain would let them go; for we do
not see them as becoming - nearer.'

I hope these will suffice - all best & blessings,

Gavin and Astrid

From: "LUDOVIC LEPRETRE & DELPHINE CABANEL"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:02:20 PM

Subject: Jhonn

I just want to express my intense sadness & scream to the world that a REAL man is gone.
Jhonn was for me a real man, a musickal genius.
He's gone but he leaves us his musick, his deepest feelings.
Now he's in everything. He's everywhere.

□

endless love

□

Ludovik (a french sad fan)

□

From: "Thomas Anomalous"

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:04:30 PM

Subject: [coil] A proposal: Sunday, December 5

Just now, somewhere, somehow, my most fervent desire is that John is singing a
quiet shepherd's song of consolation and tender comfort for Margaret Hassan.
Somedays the world is just too horrible.

Balance, yesterday: <http://www.fotolog.net/anomalous/?pid=9050585>

Balance, today: <http://www.fotolog.net/anomalous/?pid=9050629>

Balance, tomorrow: <http://www.fotolog.net/anomalous/?pid=9050715>

I propose Sunday, December 5, as a day of deeds in memory of Geff/Jhonn. Let's be ambitious: Really great acts of kindness. Superb generosity. Mysterious and extravagant gift-giving. Scatter ten pounds of birdseed. Donations of time or money to favorite charities. Here in New York I hope it can include a feast for friends. Dedicate a day of kindness to others, to repay one millionth of the kindnesses you have received and have yet to receive from this extraordinary person. Collect good deeds like a basket full of golden eggs, and send them all to John for use on his journey...

Of course we don't have to wait to begin. Practice makes perfect. Carry a book and write them all down, our flawless going-away gifts, and on Sunday, December 5, we can all share some stories. I've heard it said that rejoicing over the good deeds of others is the best remedy for depression and despair. I don't know about you, but I could use some remedy about now myself.

Thomas Olson

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:13:15 PM

Subject:

"Hush-a-bye
Don't You cry
Go to sleepy little baby
When You wake
You shall have
All the pretty little horsies"

□

Goodbye John

□

a friend

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:13:59 PM

Subject: coming to terms

Jhon,

I find myself dearly wishing that I'd been able to tell you how much of an effect your art had upon me. Fate offered me a few chances to do this, but the moment never felt right. Friends used to go and talk to you after we saw you play (usually to ask you to play a longer set!) but I always hung back. I guess I didn't know how to put what I felt into words without them collapsing under the weight of my intent. That, and you always seemed to want your space.

I know now what I'd have said to you:

"You see the truth you found in Austin Osman Spare?" I'd have said, "I found that truth in Coil. Thank you."

Terv Terran, London UK.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:29:08 PM

Subject: [coil] Bad 4 years...

The 21st Century has not been all that good yet.

Bryn Jones passes.

My mother passes.

Bush comes.

My father passes.

Bush comes (again).

Jhon Balance passes.

I (though doing well) am, of course, still HIV+.

Things simply must start getting better.

ed

From: (Daniel Zuleger)

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:35:54 PM

Hello bookofcondolence,

Death, he was Your Friend, he gave You a quick End.

--

may we meet us on the other side,Jhonn
regards from germany
daniel

From: matthew hibbert

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:34:29 PM

Subject: John

John's voice moved me and has inspired me in many
ways.Although I never met him I know in my heart I
will miss him being in the world.
Matthew Hibbert

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:43:40 PM

Subject: condolence

my condolence.

this is marcelo umaña from amsterdam, i saw you guys in june this year at the melkweg in a memorable show for me. the music of coil have a very special place in my heart and in my soul and represents to me the begining of very important things in my life.

thanks

marcelo umaña

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:51:57 PM

Subject: my condolences

Jhonn Balance has affected us on many different levels and though he may find himself in much more stimulating environs that hopefully we all one day shall share - he will greatly be missed.

he has affected the way we listen, the way we love, the way we think, and the way we live.

Jhonn, may your adventures in the beyond be fruitful and many.

Farewell

david attic

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 10:47:23 PM

Subject: Jhon Balance R.I.P. 1962-2004

Truly a tragic event...what can one say, i certainly didn't know John Balance, never met him, or even saw Coil perform, but over the years, Coils' music and Johns' voice have been a huge inspiration. From hearing 'Horse Rotorvator' and 'Gold is the Metal' back in the late 80's, there was an important shift in my perception of how "music" was made, and how

performers viewed
the universe and their psyche. Through the years, Coils' musical output
has gained intensity in the
manipulation of sound and altered states. His presence on Coil
recordings will be deeply missed
by admirers of Coils' music, and to those that knew him, his premature
departure from our mortal
coil must be devastating.
JB RIP

G.
USA

From: Tim Foster
Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:09:25 PM
Subject: something out of nothing...

Thirty years of creative endeavour as a musician and designer but always contributing to and facilitating the ideas and art of others. All of that time engaged in an inner struggle to create my own art, realise my own vision – an agonising, corrosive experience because nothing was made. The Coil performance at Megalithomania and my subsequent immersion in their music and also that of Current 93 liberated me – something in the way these artists went about their work showed me how to go forward. I dared to think that I could make art and I have begun – release after having been shut in for so long. Somehow Jhon showed me how to make something out of nothing. I know that this process was costly to him – but the artist has to produce whatever that cost. His calling, his vision – something needing to be made. With great respect and love for this work I think about him and feel regret and sadness but remain inspired – his gift to me for which I will always be grateful. So with Christmas near at hand Jhon, balanced on the whirling board, spins back into the centre of the spiral castle and into something quite inconceivable – something out of nothing and back again...
Tim Foster

From: Charlie Martineau
Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:27:10 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

Although I'm a relatively new fan of Coil (maybe half a year or less) the loss of Jhonn was something that really hurt me. In a world where MTV is what all the kids my age watch to tell them what to listen to, Coil was something that was very refreshing to me. Some people may have called them "industrial" but they really couldn't be pinned to any genre. A few months ago I began making music myself and I can only hope that I'm able to channel some of Jhonn into my work. I sincerely hope he's in a better place and that that wherever he is-he has peace.

Charlie Martineau

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:33:26 PM

Subject: Thank you John, you'll be missed.

The music of John Balance and Coil is a gift that keeps giving. Every time I listen it gets better and more relevant. There's a magical quality to it. I think it changes forms with repeated listenings. I can't tell you how sad I was to hear he'd left us.

My condolences to those close to him and thanks to John for all he's given us,
Daniel Morgan

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:40:26 PM

Subject:

i think John's work was the first reason that made my music as it is now, uphh simply have a nice trip, John
Evgeni Rogozin

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:39:58 PM

Subject:

I am greatly saddened by this. It's hit me harder than I thought the death of someone I did not personally know could. I have listened to his work with Coil with years now and am devastated that there shall be no more. As I said, I didn't know Mr. Balance or any others associated by him, but their music has inspired much of the art that I do, and if you happen to need an artist for the book, I would be more than happy to contribute something.

--

jessalyn

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:51:31 PM

Subject: adios John...

Mis mas sinceras condolencias a todo el mundo
que rodea a John Balance...

□

Desde el fin del mundo seguiremos admirando su obra

Un abraso

□

Claudio Parra
Santiago, Chile.

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 11:56:43 PM

Subject: LOVE

i am very sad.

sorry.

don_t know really what to say.

my thoughts are with ALL that love(d) him.

A STAR IS BORN_

Erik de Pauw Gerlings.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 12:00:58 AM

Subject: John Balance in our memories

First off news of John's passing mostly leaves me speechless...
But I wanted to note that as a part-time experimental
music creator and a "full-time" dj of electronic and underground
music, I have revered, respected and thoroughly enjoyed the
music of John Balance (esp. Coil, Psychic TV and 23 Skidoo).
His work is part of what got me interested in DJing in the first place.
I don't believe the influence that his projects have had on
minimal, modern and electronic music can be measured precisely.
Regardless, we do know that Jhonn and his skills and knowledge will be missed...

...at least by this fan.

sean r in floriduh (US)

From: Giampaolo Ingarsia

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 12:02:22 AM

Subject: jhonn

Starres...

as I said to Pete in Fano last summer...

Starres...

Many thoughts, but no words...

I remember his eyes, his Power, his sweetness...

The way he talked to me and my mind and my heart

... once in Leipzig...

A Star...

So glitter in a sky delighted by the wet light of our Moon, Jhonn.

Goodbye.

Giampaolo

from Lucca, Italy.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 12:06:19 AM

Subject:

I saw John for the first and last time this year, in Jesi, Italy, on July 11.
I moved from Rome to Jesi to see Antony, to satisfy my curiosity. I never seen Coil before.
When I came in Repubblica square I saw John during the soundcheck. I was shocked by his figure, and after the gig i had the same impression.
I can't forget his eyes. I never talked to him. He looked to me and seriously wrote his autograph.
I can't forget his performance. I can't forget that night.
Love to him. Love to Peter and the rest of the band, to David that informed me now by his email.
Love to John.
I pray for him now, although my sins.
□
Giuliano

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 12:06:49 AM
Subject: Balanced

It is with much grief that I read this morning that a great poet, musician and visionary has escaped our grasp. The music of Coil has so inspired my creativity and my soul. My deepest sympathies go to his family and Peter, Ian, Thighpaulsandra, David Tibet and all who knew John. I will play his albums tonight with candles abound to help his soul pass to the beyond. My wife and I were profoundly touched by the mysterious wonder of Coils music and I certainly hope Peter Christopherson will find peace in all of this and continue making music. I place a delphinium...blue....upon your grave.

With deep respect and understanding

IAN AND DAWN WELLING

From: "cindy"
Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 12:25:45 AM
Subject:

93,
□
John's musik has had such an impact on me. He helped me listen in new ways influencing the way I make music and making my world a more magikal place. I will truly miss him and his contributions to art.
□
"Unto them from whose eyes the veil of life hath fallen may there be granted the accomplishment of their true Wills..."
□

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 12:26:33 AM

Subject: book of condolence

Firstly, deepest sympathies to Jhonn's family, friends and band members.

Secondly, i became aware of coil through horse rotorvator about 10 years ago, over the last 5 years

i have pursued to collect everything i could find including the beautiful art editions from threshold house. This was always worth the wait, i would have been prepared to wait forever.

Being a part of the mailing list has provided me with information i never thought i would have access to.

As is now evident in this list Coil & Jhonn touched people in a way that was truly special and unique.

Throughout this time i have only met a couple of people who expressed an interest in Coils' work,

i suppose this made them all the more precious to me.

Even now i find it hard to express in words what Coil & Johnns' work meant to me. I can say it has opened up a whole new world of sound, art, thought & expression and for that i will be eternally grateful.

For Johnn - i feel anger that you were taken so early but positive that you lived a life and produced art that most of us can only dream of, i feel honoured to have been shown down this path by your work (i hope you are now creating chaos amongst the angels).

For COIL - to quote David Keenan "Coil - More than just music".

Thankyou.

Paul Coughlin

17/11/2004

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 12:32:28 AM

Subject: jhon sings with ghosts

sabato 13 jhon balance è morto, è caduto dalla finestra. sabato notte tornando da comacchio, guidando sotto la pioggia stavamo ascoltando music to play in the dark. erano anni che non lo riascoltavo, la pelle d'oca, la sensazione di ascoltare la voce di un fantasma. anzi a un certo punto canta "let me be your human toy" e anna mi dice "cosa sta dicendo?" e io gli dico "sta parlando con un fantasma". e lì ho capito che la sua musica è sempre stata un tentativo di parlare con i fantasmi.

massimo carozzi

From: John Several

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 12:52:33 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] Honest John.

We remember all the wonderful things about Geff, but we must also remember his anger at homophobic legislation, eco-devastation and numerous other nefarious manifestations of our sick societies. This is also part of his legacy, part of his character that filtered into our many conversations. Geff was a visionary, but like Spare, Blake, Jarman or Bunuel he had a keen understanding of reality, an awareness of where "constant shallowness" leads to. He did despise some people - what intelligent person couldn't? I loved him: but I loved his sweetness, his anger, his indignation, his humour, and his crazy entirely justifiable belligerence...

Several.

From: "Greg Donn"

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 1:06:41 AM

Subject: R.I.P. John Balance

At this time I cannot fully put into words exactly what I am thinking. Suffice to say that the impact of this tragic loss has not fully sunk in.

□

A great voice has been silenced far too soon.

□

About all I can say is that Coil's musick and John's lyrics always made me think.....just sit back and think and get lost in the mystery of it all - this is far more than I can say about anything else I have listened to.

□

To this day, I can honestly say that Rosa Decidua gives me chills every time I listen to it.□Chills at the beauty and emotion of the song.

□

Farewell John.□May you now be in a better place.

□

My deepest condolences to Peter and Ian and all who have ever known or loved John.

□

From: "Brian Canepa"

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 1:32:53 AM

Subject: John Balance

I know it's not profound, but I am sorry and saddened by John's passing.□Coil's music has moved me, scared me, freaked me out, disturbed me and amazed me for 20 years.□I still remember the first Coil song I heard on the Elephant Table LP that I purchased.□"S Is For Sleep".□I thought it was perfect.□One of those rare songs that didn't need anything else, it was perfect the way it was.□I rushed out to buy Scatology when it came out and it was my favorite LP for years.... Of course until Love Secret Domain arrived.□To this day I still consider it a masterpiece and perhaps one of the greatest recordings of modern music ever.□Good bye John.

Brian

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 2:03:37 AM

Subject: for peter...

My deepest sympathy to Peter Christopherson, as well as Jhonn's various circles.□ While I merely know balance through his work and interviews, his humor and insight were truly marvelous, and has broadened my web in immeasurable ways, a kiss to you all....Dan and Kilby

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 2:06:45 AM

Subject: my sincerest condolences

dear peter / ian,

i'm sorry for your loss. as much as jhonn's music and

lyrics meant to me i'm sure that hardly compares to what he was to you both as both person and companion. i posted the list yesterday mentioning how his music and lyrics impacted me as both a writer and one who appreciates and creates art. he was truly a visionary and an artist in the highest echelons.

just know that my heart goes out to you both during this difficult time. if there's anything i can do from here in new york city let me know and i'll do my best.

sincerely yours,
greg rapp

From: "Jones Family E-mail"

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 2:09:47 AM

Subject: Condolences for Jhonn

It was in 1989 on my way to a Ministry concert just south of Chicago that I first hear Coil. It was very dark, with heavy snow falling and a friend had put a tape in the radio. The music played softly, just audible through conversation and I began to hear Greensleeves. Deep in my soul I felt a disturbance - then suddenly a capahonous marching band jump through the dark dirge. I was hooked. Peter Gabriel, Pink Floyd, Current 93 and of course Coil are among a very select few musicians that truly make sense to my soul. Any time, any place, the music grabs me and takes me for a ride.

□

In whatever form Jhonn has taken, wherever he is, I hope that he knows that when all the trendy people move on, there will be a culture of souls who will celebrate his spirit and embrace his purpose on this earth. He has and will continue to changed many lives. □

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 2:28:44 AM

Subject: unbelievable...

Dear Balance,

The very last week before you (physically) leave us and far from imagine such tragedy and shock, i took "Love Secret Domain" for an ordinary listen. It was a while since the last time i've done it, but as usual, and again, every split second i spent on it, i thought for myself: "how perfect, actual, visionary and astonishing this wonder record is". And, as I always do when i listen something from Coil, i took again "Scatology" and "Horse Rotorvator" for a comum ride and went back to my old memories, ghosts, fantasies, travellings, questions, policies, belovings, sensations, believings, passions, fears, amongst other feelings... That's what i call "Living!". Thank you Balance, i will always owe you that.

Saudades...
Carlos Matos
(Portugal)

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 2:34:12 AM

Subject: Book of Condolence - Jhonn

I am deeply saddened to hear of Jhonn's death. His vision, with COIL and Current 93 as a vehicle, has inspired me for over 10 years. Full of tragic and mystic beauty, the music he has been involved in creating can only be described as deeply spiritual. I have a notion that his ideas may be more appropriate to other existences/planes than this one. In that sense, although I feel that a light has gone out in this world, I know he will illuminate the next.

□

Cheers,
Liza Badaloo

□

You must be the change you wish to see in the world.- Gandhi

From: jason goldberg

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 2:47:45 AM

Subject: thanks and prayers

i'm not sure how appropriate it is for a mere fan to email you, although i'm sure you're getting a lot of it. i don't mean to speak as if coil itself has passed on, but your music taught myself, some of my close friends and band mates how to listen not just to music, but to sound, and what sound can do. you changed the way i hear the world.

perhaps someday our music can help you get through certain times as yours has ours. i think i speak for quite a few when i say thank you and i'm sorry.

the timeout drawer
molarmill
sounding spirals

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 3:04:35 AM

Subject: To Jhonn

how do you deal with loss? i've never known how to express sadness, only keep it to myself.

jhonn, you were probably the single most influential force in my personal ideology and development as an artist. you introduced me to concepts and experiences that punctured through every vacuum placed over my modern and deadened soul. You spoke to my heart with such clarity and vision previously unfathomable and unprecedented to me. You awoke my true inner animal, that I knew I always had somewhere, but didn't know how to use. You permanently raised my level of awareness and interpretation of all things, so that I now experience a richer, more thoughtful, and more intense existence. You were and are so powerfully present in your music that I consider you one of my closest friends, though I had never met you in person.

I always hoped you would develop into something of an elder, a wisened sage who could continually offer guidance to those of us who are so lost in this era of meaninglessness. of course this path was not meant for you, and looking back i realize that it never was.

i saw you in paris. i thought you looked tired and ready. in fact the events made known about your life in the past few years, when assembled, illustrated a slow and steady eclipse. not solar, not lunar; abyssal. thus heralding a great transformation, a new manifestation of the force that was and is the A.K.A. JHONN BALANCE. may you finally be free of your demons. may you finally find what your soul is yearning for. may you continue to progress on your journey, wherever it takes you. may you continue to mutate and evolve with the genius you displayed while you were here with us. may you look to us if needed, the friends that you leave behind, for love to feed you in your travels. may the whole world be shown and never forget what you have so unselfishly given to us.

i will do my best as an individual to carry on down the path you had shown to me, and to pass on what i have learned from you.

i give you my entire being, all that i have, as PURE LOVE. i'll be missing you.

~a

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 3:17:42 AM

Subject: condolence

a circle in the sand drawn firmly where
upon the sunlit shore coiled waves shall dare

a friend to leave us as we whither here
for he has found nectar less bitter there

-Michael

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 3:37:35 AM

Subject: sadness

although i'm no longer on the coil email list, it was always a nice surprise to see a new email start with "balance here."

it was new years eve in 1999 and i had a month prior ordered musick to play in the dark from some online place that had copies even though they werent supposed to and took the CD that I'd recvd in the mail just the day before to a friend's ranch in south florida -- deep in the fucking boonies, the nearest store miles and miles away....while everyone got drunk and roasted a pig and traded the same old stories, i put on the headphones and stared into the dark humid smoky slightly cold night sky and listened really hard and got that funny feeling you get when something changes in you, when something happens to you that you know is different but can't put a finger on. from then on, everything i heard from coil was like that and a large part of that was balance's voice and his voice's cadence and it's such a fucking shame that he's gone from here (to somewhere else? back to where he came from? whichever....)

--

Dave

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 3:38:36 AM

Subject: balance

not much to say, only my condolences.

i was turned on to coil, my children will be turned on to coil.

i will leave a piece of balance at every highest peak in Oregon so some one else can be turned on to coil.

i'm not sad, but a very rich influence in my life has died.

balance was the voice for coil.

i do hope peter will recover from this. and that he will continue to be the warm boiler that has been with coil since day one.

unbalanced without balance.

klint.dixon.usa.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 4:30:11 AM

Subject: Condolence

I am saddened by the loss of a navigation light.
His output has been a magnetic north.
The world will be shabbier without him.
- decay

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 4:37:58 AM

Subject:

We travelled long and hard and thanks for holding the torch. Someday we will someday meet. Take care.□
□
Thanks,
□
Craig

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 4:40:20 AM

Subject: This is extremely upsetting

I've only cried for the death of one other "celebrity" - Fred Rogers.

I am extremely upset and don't know what to think or say. I will just let this spill and click send. The music of Coil affected me to an immense degree. I was 14 when I discovered the music, and had not actually seen or appreciated any kind of art until then. I appreciated life, music, and art almost solely due to

coil's music. I was immediately blown away. Some of my favorite times were taking the car ride + 2 busses to the one comic/record store that carried anything other than the "regular stuff". I was always excited to see what Coil imports they had for me to spend my hard earned bus boy money on.

As I grew and my tastes matured and changed, one constant was at least some Coil music. I owe that to Johnn and Peter, and Johnn will be sorely missed.

Regards,
G.Brendel

--

<http://kamikazemedia.com>

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 5:29:20 AM

Subject: In Memory of the Truth

I'm at a complete loss for words, but I feel I have to say something. I'm a nobody, just another music fan, but Jhonn's contributions to the field of human experience through his art, his pain, and his perseverance have touched me in ways that are impossible to express. For years and years I had the opportunity to write to him to tell him how much I appreciated his music (which my friends never understood, but which I thought was beyond genius), and how I looked up to him as an inspiration not only to create but to fight against personal demons. But now I can only tell those fortunate enough to have known him that there are plenty of us out here who picked up the transmission, and who cherished it with all of our hearts. It's so strange that music can have such an effect on a person that fans like me who never knew him feel like we've lost a best friend. Perhaps that's selfish, but I do feel like a blazing light has moved on and left me lost and shivering in the darkness. A wordsmith of charming wit, and an artist of the highest caliber, Jhonn dared to give his work life with the rawest of emotion that resonates as much now as it did in the very beginning of Coil. I hope that he has found peace and happiness after an all-too-short life that could have used more of both. ☐

☐

Jhonn: you, Peter, and all of your talented and supportive friends will always be heroes to me. I'm sorry I didn't write sooner. Thank you so much for all you have done. You will truly be missed.

☐

My sincere and humble condolences to all,

Karl Anderson (Minnesota, USA)

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 5:39:27 AM

Subject: information?

I am very much interested in contributing to the book of condolence, and am wish to know the details involved. Like many, Coil's musick has helped to preserve me in many hard times, not only emotionally, but spiritually (though I don't like that word) as well. In times when I've felt too depressed or too complacent Coil helped to preserve something opaque and mysterious in my world. Coil helped me to not lose sight of the fact that life always requires further stretching of the imagination, that it is always overflowing with the visionary and the bizarre. I have, at various times in my life been prone to visions of a rather strange nature, and have been unable to make any sense of them. Coil, and, in particular, Jhonn's lyrics helped me find a place for this in my life (one that I am still finding, I suppose). Knowing that he, too, had visions helped me put a healthy distance between me and them, remembering that they happen to many others as well, even if I don't know those others. It's not that I meshed them in with some symbol system or other, but that Jhonn helped me to see them with an artistic eye, and not with an eye that would pathologize moralize and tyrannize both the visions and myself. Please understand that I'm not claiming to be a spiritually advanced person (whatever that means) or to necessarily have special insight into Jhonn's visions, but that he helped to bring me into a world of many visions of many people, that he helped me out from a small space that was, and occasionally still is, threatening to overwhelm me. Jhonn's words, Coil's musick, and Peter's beautiful imagery helped show me not another world, but myriad worlds from which we are never distant or never not a part of. So it has aided me in a very intimate arena in my life in its very strangeness. It was because I did not know Jhonn intimately, because I didn't always know what he meant or what he was getting at and yet always knowing that it was a real and vital speech, that I received the gift of a space where I, he, and many others could be. I'm sorry for rambling and I hope this makes sense, but I'm not very good at talking about this sort of thing. Jhonn gave much to many people, and I would very much like to give something back. I hope you are all well and in good company. You all have my deepest well-wishes and support, and I will be remembering you in my meditations.

Best wishes,

Morgan

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 6:02:26 AM

Subject: John Balance, this is for the artist

its funny, I did not listen to single album by anyone today, it was almost a day of silence, until tonight when I came home school I played "Gold is the Metal with Broadest Shoulders". Within 20 minutes of putting that disc in I read about John's passing into higher level of spirit. His music and visions of magic, love, and madness have pushed me away from conventional forms of art and music. Forever will his name to be remembered as an Angel with wings of fire. I have composed a song to pay my own personal tribute to John. As I write Syntax A of Satan's Almighty Penis is writing the lyrics. What is ironic is that I wrote this piece over a year ago with Coil on my mind. Sadly it will be out after John's unexpected death. I will post the song very soon after the vocals are recorded. THIS IS FOR THE ARTIST.

Kristian Day
the Engineer

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 5:54:29 AM

Subject: In Memoriam

JohnBalance-InMemoriam.jpg "

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 5:59:07 AM

Subject: Thank you for listening.

Hello to Peter, to everyone, and thank you for listening. I am so sorry for your loss and I send you my warmest wishes. Please please excuse the fact that I had to use a lot of words to express what I'm feeling tonight. I apologize for the length of this. Please feel free not to use it if there are too many words. THANK YOU.

Sincerely,
Bruce LaFountain

HE'S AN ANGEL NOW.

Jhonn Balance is still here. Anyone who knew him or became familiar with his work realizes this. His spirit was too intense to be contained in his body alone. He seemed to live in several dimensions at once, and crossing boundaries to the other side of 'reality' appeared to be a natural course for him. Last night, as I sat in solitude playing CD's that he and Peter recently sent

me, I became overpowered by sadness. The sadness that only Humane Beings can know. Without love, there is no sadness. How brutal the process of accepting the inevitability of death. Jhonn's transformation reminds us all how fragile our physical existence really is. Every second of our life is precious. And no minute can be recaptured. We feel the bittersweet sting of how treasured our friends and loved ones really are. When we learn that a friend has died, our environment changes. The air seems to get thin, and our minds become dizzy with disorientation. But we have to know that Jhonn's spirit is very much alive. How the hell could that much energy vanish? I don't accept that.

Last night as I looked at the words he wrote to me on the CD's, I felt like a mother holding her child. Poor little Jhonn. His last gifts to me have now become symbols of his passing. I've never experienced this type of situation before, so I can only grasp for the right words to describe what I'm feeling at this moment. It was difficult to accept that although the ink was barely dry on his text, those treasures were now all I have of Jhonn Balance in this life. His spirit, at least for me, will remain in the gifts he gave me. Every time I look at the writing and listen to the sounds, I will be next to him. I will never get the chance to see him on stage again, or to walk up to him and talk with him. I'll never hear from him again in a letter or an e-mail.

Recently, I sent a letter to Jhonn, just days after I received his package of surprises. I wanted to thank both he and Peter for the presents they sent me. In addition to my letter, I also included a CD that I had done especially for Jhonn - a track that was recorded for my forthcoming album. I couldn't wait to surprise him with the new track. The music I sent was a gift of friendship and support, with words written by Jeremy Reed. The track is called "For

Jhonn Balance at Oak Bank", written about Jhonn's struggle with alcohol addiction and our love and concern for him and his well being. I was excited to know that Jhonn would receive a warm hug from me in the form of a song - written especially for him. Jeremy and I agreed that John would love it. But he never received it. It's too late now to know what his reaction would have been. All I can do now is play the track and trust that somewhere out there, Jhonn gets our message.

Our brains won't allow us to embrace the fact that someone is gone, even though we know it is true. But through my tearful, numb stare last night, I just knew that he was soaring somewhere above me, with his massive white wings outstretched - probably telling me to enjoy the CD's he gave me. Or perhaps he was off somewhere else, searching for someone to play with in his new playground. Bare feet and a gleaming smile. He's fine I suspect. He's just exploring

new territory now. I just wish I could have grabbed his toes and pulled him back to give him a hug before he left.

I was first introduced to Jhonn's work about 18 years ago through a friend -

shortly after the release of the first COIL album "Scatology". It had a profound and lasting effect on my then teenage mind, and still does to this day. I was taken into the strangest of places when I listened to it, where the corridors were filthy and the air was electrified with ritual energy and danger. It also had a cinematic grandeur that made me curious and captivated. My imagination ran wild. This was a far cry from entertainment, and for the first time in my life, I discovered that a piece of vinyl could transport me into another level of consciousness. I felt as if I was being inducted into a secret society, and I kept the discovery to myself...for the time being. I had tapped into someone's energy and I was drawn towards it.

Needless to say, the next COIL album "Horse Rotorvator" made its way swiftly into my possession. Although in all honesty I was alarmed by some of what I heard, the rest undeniably fascinated me. It was an epic adventure in sound, and I played it endlessly. Certain tracks left me feeling as if I had paid to take a harrowing journey on an insane carnival ride in a very adult amusement park, yet other songs brought me to grim graveyards that stretched out into the horizon, the Angel of Death standing in the field beside us. There were some serious scenarios being played out in front of me, and I was very curious as to who was responsible for such powerful art.

In 1987, while "Horse Rotorvator" was still plowing through my mind, I decided to write to Jhonn for the first time. I received a postcard from him soon after. (I still have it all these years later). He ended his message that day with "We will stop at nothing." It was obvious that he took his art seriously. Through the years that followed, I would often get postcards and other information from him about COIL activities. Occasionally, he would send me his newest CD. I loved the fact that at any given day, out of the blue, something would appear in my mailbox from Jhonn. I remember lying in my bed at night, smiling in the dark as I listened to his voice – a spiritual connection as if he were standing in front of me, enjoying my reaction to the album he'd just sent me.

Ten years later, I had started to release my own work as The Sword Volcano Complex, and I had the privilege of telling Jhonn that he was a major influence on me. As a matter of fact, "Horse Rotorvator" is responsible for the 'epic' feeling that I try to create in my own work. I met him in the flesh a few times. Once when I was in London, we spent time walking down the street to pick up dinner. I told him all of the things I had always wanted to say to him about his work. And he was very warm and engaging. I talked to him about his struggles with alcohol, and how I lived most of my life with an alcoholic father. He told me how much he had been trying to overcome his addiction. He mentioned medicine, acupuncture and exorcism. I felt very sorry for him because none of that seemed to be working, and I promised that I would stay in touch with him to give him any support he needed. He was more than a musical influence at that point; he was someone I knew was burdened by addiction, and my

heart went out to him. The pain caused by alcoholism is indescribably difficult, and I know from my experience with my father how devastating it can be.

When I returned home to Virginia, I started to get e-mails, more CD's and cards from him. Our connection definitely grew stronger after we met in person. I remember calling him on the phone one evening, after many months of not being in touch. He was in the bathtub. He said, "Bruce, isn't this amazing, I was just thinking about you." And we both resonated with that realization. During that specific conversation, Jhonn told me that I was one of only two people in the world that he felt he already knew before he had met them. It was a very special moment for me. We talked about invisible threads that connect people, and the inevitability of making contact with like minded souls. How it is bound to happen. Jhonn invited me recently to see Throbbing Gristle's reunion show in England, but I could not make it happen. How I wish I could have now, more than ever.

My father came very close to death last year with his alcohol addiction. In addition to serious cuts, bruises and suicide threats, he fell off the first story of a building, landing on his head which led to bruising and bleeding on his brain. Thankfully he survived. So when I learned that Jhonn had fallen to his death in a similar situation, you can only imagine how chilling it was to hear. Jhonn didn't conquer his addiction, and he is no longer with us. I have a close friend who is currently struggling with alcohol addiction. We talked about Jhonn last night, through choking tears. I hope that Jhonn's passing will somehow give my friend the strength to realize how fragile life is, how important he is to me, to his loved ones, and to himself.

I had a special connection with Jhonn Balance. We stayed in touch throughout the years, and each time we shared joyous thoughts and positive energy. He always used the word 'Love' in his letters, poems and e-mails. I wish I could have gotten one more letter from him, letting me know that he conquered his addiction. He is free from his pain now. I hope he is having fun somewhere.

On one of the CD's Jhonn recently sent me was the following message:

"We remain as we always were and always will be, fanatical in our intent, our hearts and our swords will sing of victories for Bruce in fanatical love"

I will treasure those words. I will miss you Jhonn, but I will always honor the influence and the energy you gave me. My heart goes out to the people closest to him.

Bruce LaFountain
November 17, 2004

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 6:13:16 AM

Subject: (no subject)

Jhonn Balance has always been one of my favorite musicians, "Baby Food" being one of my favorite songs ever. He was beyond creative, he covered tons of ground, pushing his boundaries, always experimenting in new directions, his music becoming more spiritual with time. He left this world with plenty of treasure.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 6:20:38 AM

Subject:

Creators of wonderful darkness that delighted my senses.
The light was always visible, just out of reach.
I am greatly saddened that I shall not meet you on this Earth.
Peace to your traveling Spirit.

William
Quietworld

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 6:20:43 AM

Subject: Book of Condolence

While I never had the privilege to meet Jhonn, the news of his passing has affected me like the passing of a dear friend. His work granted me a comfort that few things in life have. Because of this loss my world has become smaller. May death grant him the peace that life never did.

☐

I wish the best for all of his loved ones and friends.

☐

If there is a memorial fund please send me information on how to contribute.

☐

With deepest regards,

Larry Brown

☐

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 6:25:11 AM

Subject: Condolence

What an irrecoverable loss of wisdom, creativity and beauty for music.□□

Moon Musick made darkness warm and friendly.

□

Dr. Joachim Adler, Munich, Germany.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 6:55:14 AM

Subject: goodbye

alone

from childhood's hour i have not been
as others were; i have not seen
as others saw; i could not bring
my passions from a common spring.
from the same source i have not taken
my sorrow; i could not awaken
my heart to joy at the same tone;
and all i loved, i loved alone.
then- in my childhood, in the dawn
of a most stormy life- was drawn
from every depth of good and ill
the mystery which binds me still:
from the torrent, or the fountain,
from the red cliff of the mountain,
from the sun that round me rolled
in its autumn tint of gold,
from the lightning in the sky
as it passed me flying by,
from the thunder and the storm,
and the cloud that took the form
(when the rest of heaven was blue)
of a demon in my view.

edgar allan poe

goodbye, dearest john.
maarten

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 6:50:48 AM

Subject: Fwd: my sincerest condolences

Date: 17 November 2004 02:06:45 GMT

Subject: my sincerest condolences

dear peter / ian,

i'm sorry for your loss. as much as jhonn's music and lyrics meant to me i'm sure that hardly compares to what he was to you both as both person and companion. i posted the list yesterday mentioning how his music and lyrics impacted me as both a writer and one who appreciates and creates art. he was truly a visionary and an artist in the highest echelons.

just know that my heart goes out to you both during this difficult time. if there's anything i can do from here in new york city let me know and i'll do my best.

sincerely yours,
greg rapp

=====

'the naked need of the control addicts must be decently covered by an arbitrary and intricate bureaucracy so that the subject cannot contact his enemy direct.'
-william s burroughs

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 6:56:20 AM

Subject: the life of jhonn

jhonn balance is/was one of the greatest inspirations of my life and my work . his words, his works , his ideology , it all fit into a part of a greater purpose that once understood was mind altering on undescrivable levels . i will miss him dearly .
-ariel

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 7:02:52 AM

Subject: Condolences

I knew him only indirectly- perceiving only those parts of him which translated his suffering and his searching most readily through music. Evoking phantasms of the mind which spoke of his turmoil, his fantasies were offered up to all of us. Parts of this half-glimpsed soul mirrored my own and resonated on an emotional and a spiritual level while others were alien to me and offered vistas of places I might never otherwise go. I mourn that this is all I will ever know of Jhonn in this lifetime, and I offer my prayer, tatterwinged and sorrowful thing that it is, to follow after him and sing of the peace and transcendent luminescence that surely awaits him in the Infinite.

He dreamed of many wonders in this life, but now it is time to awaken.

To those left behind who mourn the man as well as the dream I offer prayers of comfort: May your tears be cleansing and your nights be filled with dreams of fond remembrance. The only remedy for sorrow is hope, and the light that shines beyond seeing can never be extinguished.

FIAT LUX

□

□

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 7:50:05 AM

To:

Subject: grief

there are no words good enough to describe what I feel about you john. I never met you but when you died , I feel something died inside of me as well. I will remember you every day. I will think about you every time I listen to musick.

I feel lucky that I saw coil performing 2 years ago in greece. I hoped to see coil again but I will have to settle with the live bootlegs.

every man and woman is a star , but some stars has a brighter shine. the world has lost thee balance but you will always live in my heart.

uri shaham

Israel

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 8:15:31 AM

Subject: John

Have a nice trip John.

Adriano

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 8:18:31 AM

Subject: Mournful salutations from the other side of zero.

Most sincere condolences and disbelief are sent to you.

I came across "Scatology" during formative years at MASSART (at the time I was nicknamed 'the wax junky' by classmates due to my regularly showing up for class with a big bag of ten or so records I had just purchased in Kenmore Square), and was taken in by it's charms (too young to fully comprehend all of it's references, it would be an excellent 'grower' as I became further entrenched & knowledgeable about the underground). Shortly thereafter I came across "Horse Rotorvator", and deep affinity set in. From the moment that the stylus first ran through "Anal Staircase", Coil would become a litmus test, a common denominator for making connections to the rest of humanity. I briefly ended up in a band who did a live cover of "Solar Lodge": how many people can claim that? (*I did my best to conjure up a NagNagNag guitar sound... I believe I still have a rehearsal tape*)

Years passed before I ran across more Coil transmissions. It was while working at Forced Exposure that my flame was rekindled. I was a shipper in the warehouse, and over the stereo I heard the most magnificent drone music, akin to and bridging the gap between the eternal flow of Lamonte Young's Dream Syndicate and more cosmic forays of Taj Mahal Travelers. When I checked to see who was responsible for such transcendent noise and discovered it was Coil I knew I had to work my way backwards to fill in the gaps: this was far far different than what I had come to expect from them. Ever since then I've gotten most every recording as it came out, only to find them going from strength to strength. It felt like each recording was pointing towards an even more brilliant future Coil. Now it feels, as I have read others say, like all of John's music has been leading to this moment.

John Balance; I have never met you, but your life has touched mine for nearly two decades. I was playing your "Horse Rotorvator" JUST LAST WEEK. I hope the other side you have passed to holds all you had imagined. I hope that all your earthly gifts you left behind can fortify those who had come to rely on your previous manifestation. May all who need you FIND you, now and forever. Thank you, thank you, and thank you again.

In admiration/in shock...

Mark D Dreikosen

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 8:24:04 AM

Subject: John shines even at midnight

Care/a All;

93

I think I am finally able to write this now. I found out about Jhonn on Monday. I had been away for the weekend and not near a computer, at a gay fetish event- something I'm sure he would have approved of. I have spent the last couple of days weeping and being angry that the universe saw fit to take this star from us all. When I was 16 a friend made me a mix tape of some obscure things he thought I should hear, it had Panic on it. I was instantly a fan of Coil and have been ever since. They (Coil), and Jhonn in particular shaped my life and without him/them I wouldn't be who I am today. Jhonn has inspired me in so many ways, and in many ways I can't even fathom if I wanted to. As one example... I am a painter, and the last three paintings I did (before Monday) were a series I titled "Gold Is Thee Met-AL".... which I painted while listening to that album, and the focal point of the paintings is a sun dias made of golden sperm cells. So needless to say- he was/is a muse for me. Monday night I did a painting brought on by my high emotions about this..... simply titled "Jhonn Balance" of course. Even with that frenzy of artistic expression.. it does nothing to quiet the void rumbling within me over this- nothing ever will. "Everything changes, Everyone dies" keeps coming to my mind, it's my favorite Coil lyric and often quoted by me in times of joy and sadness. Yet another way he was a part of who I am. There are far too many to list in this space even if I could list them all.

I still can't believe you're gone, something inside me won't let me accept it. I keep going back to the site and re-reading the announcement, as though somehow the page will open and it won't be there.. it will all have been just a horrible horrible dream.

To all of those who knew him, and those of us who didn't but still were touched by his beauty, his light, his darkness, and his all: I send my deepest sympathy.

Jhonn: Our world is a far darker, cold, and silent place without you.

93/93

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 8:40:49 AM

Subject: FW: commiserations

Here is one of the last emails I'd gotten from John/Geff. I met Geff in 1982. I was 18 traveling around UK/Europe, completely obsessed at the time with TG. Geff walked off the street into the Virgin store with a box of "Assume Power Focus" LPs. I talked for a bit and he told me about the 23 Skidoo show that weekend at a skate board park outside of London (where part of the "Culling is Coming" was recorded). We were closer in age so it was easier to talk to Geff. What a completely magical time.

For some reason I never kept up a correspondence with Geff, just followed his work from a far. It was only a few years ago that I took up an email correspondence with John and Sleazy. I stare at this email from John and my heart sinks. There's so much life and energy there. I'd so looked forward to meeting Geff next year after 22 years, instigating some mayhem, and just talking. I don't think I'll be able to make sense of this for quite some time.

Take Care John, and my thoughts are with you Sleazy and the rest of John's circle.

-Ethan
Ethan Port, Ph.D.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 8:55:07 AM
Subject: condolence

the musick of coil appeared 15 years ago in my life and showed me the way of music I had never heard of before. This music helped me many times in my life when I was down and always showed me something new or inspired me to go on.

I'm really sorry to hear what happened, but as was said, nothing is ending and may something new appear soon.

may his soul is happy

peter tegza

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 10:44:25 AM

Subject: Shock

DEAR PETER,

□

JUST GOT BACK HOME AND SEEN THIS TERRIBLE PIECE OF NEWS.

ME AND MY FRIEND / PARTNER ENRICO CROCI @ LINK ARE SHOCKED.

LET US EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST FEELINGS OF LOVE & RESPECT TO YOU ALL.

WE WILL NEVER FORGET HIS VOICE, HIS EYES, HIS DANCE...

P.S. ANY MESSAGES SENT TO MY ADDRESS BETWEEN NOVEMBER 6TH 04 (3:23 PM)

AND NOVEMBER 16TH 04 (3:28 AM) HAVE BEEN LOST, DUE TO SERVER PROBLEMS.

PLEASE SEND 'EM AGAIN, ESPECIALLY IF THEY'RE KINDA IMPORTANT.
THANX.!!!!

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 9:48:16 AM

□

Dear all, this is the saddest news... but I'm sure that Johnn has passed to a higher level and is finally whole.
With infinite love. Ilario

Ilario Cellon
Reservation Department - Milan

A World without Balance

□

I still can't believe it....Coil without John, a World without Balance. I will miss him terribly. John Balance was one of those very, very rare singers that gave his mind, body and soul to his art, to the music, to the sound. Every performance, every record was something new and special, and John Balance could terrify you or comfort you, dangerously or carefully seeking a balance between light and dark.

I only began listening to Coil some four years ago, but Coil's music and the voice of Balance spoke directly to me. For me there were hidden associations with the hypnotic voice-art of Robert Ashley and the electronic shamanistic rituals of the late Jerry Hunt.

The first time I saw Coil perform was in Paradiso Amsterdam. It scared the shit out of me. And it was a big revelation. Balance's performance and commitment was exhilarating, really astounding. Loud and clearly, the dark and shallow side of life was revealed, and I was hooked. Last june I saw Balance perform for the last time in de Melkweg Amsterdam. It was a legendary performance. John Balance gave all he had, it was a performance full of enlightenment, full of spirit and beauty. John Balance had found his own path towards the light. Music as a ritual, an initiation rite, a way of getting rid of your ghosts, Balance understood it all and made you feel the mystery of life again and again. I will never forget him. His spiral of Light and Dark, Dark and Light will glow forever.

I wish you all the strength and love in these difficult times,

Mark van de Voort

□

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 10:09:40 AM

Subject: Simply grateful to have heard Jhon's work

I heard the news via email from a friend. I cannot stress how important the work of Coil has been to me. I discovered it rather late, as I am not that old of a person. Coil were breaking new ground while I was still crawling and eating food out of a bottle.

Before Coil I had no serious interest in music. It was a space filler, a background and a wallpaper. It was not until about 1995 that my older sister had

given me a copy of Love`s Secret Domain, that I finally had found music that I connected to, music that I really felt. 14 years old at the time, I quickly became interested in sound. Coil not only opened me to a new world beyond pop, their music inspired me to start recording on my own. My debt to Coil is impossible to pay, as they helped me discover music, which is now my life blood. Jhon Balance will be deeply missed for the passion and honesty in his work. Thanks.

Jake Hardy

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 10:22:31 AM

Subject: for the Love of John

Thank you John.

Back in the days of my thorny late-teen years, I remember well the day I took home the recording of Horse Rotorvator from the record shop I worked in. A door I wasn't sure existed so clearly slammed me in my cerebral nose of consciousness, and I was suddenly awakened to the rhythms and melody chimes of some of my most cherished literature.

Many passages and many musicks later, I've noticed pathways into the mainstream are so rarely forged but he and his troupes achieved this state of honor - always vigilant, always mindful of fellow travelers and fighters.

All day I thought of the shortness breath of life each one of us has, TO USE and CREATE.

Let us not waste another precious second - our blessed instructor has said so!

J.Allen 17.XI.2004

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 10:33:27 AM

Subject: with condolences

Although I had only just begun to listen to Coil some months ago when I heard the news, the song Bee Stings has had a very strong effect on me, and seemed to

penetrate memories and feelings like no other music around today. It was with some surprise, and no surprise, that the group had its beginnings where I had grown up myself, around Castleford and Pontefract.

His living soul may have passed to the other side, which only the strength of our faiths might give estimations of or reach him thereby.

His body, music and memory, remain subject to the seasons and movements of the Earth.

The skull fills with bloom rootings, the chest with tree saplings,
the boughs are not shiftless, above the child-bed.

and on the dead white elms, a blue black beetle crawls out from beneath the dead bark.

to watch the plough turn over the earth.

with my sincerest condolences.

Elliot.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 10:53:05 AM

Subject: 1 from Israel

the other day I've got a phone call that woke me up the voice was that of my friend asking "have you heard?" next he informed me about the demise of John balance , I was just about to start my day laying tefilin , conducting the LBRP & playing "sex with the sun ra" & I "liminal hymn" on full volume as I do every day

I've been acquainted with coil's music for most of my adult life (being currently 29) , without it I would never read Crawley , Spare , Manson ,Dee

John's music was the soundtrack for some of my best narcotic sexual & I daresay religious & mystical experiences of my life & continue to be .

it never sises to amaze me how as i grow up as a fan John's music always seem to be a few eons away leading the way to a new visionary frontier and breaking yet another limit

this will be no more .

now there is less coil on the temporal realm and more of John in the other for the rest of us steal in this gross incarnation there is a loss - one of our kin if not the best has moved on

moving threw this world of shadows surrounded by stupidity . ignorance , conformity & insensitivity John's music was the lighthouse a shining example for a real love under a true will

□ In his music John managed to do what others only could dream of in their writing and what few have come close to in their painting a true culmination of all magical formulas

□

□

□

desert venom & military temples .. & bat wings

□

love is the law

□

Gil Gayer

□

Israel

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:02:00 AM

Subject: Mr Balance

On hearing of the tragic death of John Balance I went for a walk to clear my head and get some perspective. I remembered I needed to buy kitty food. The shop had a big box of cat biscuits, their name, "Vital Balance". Of course I had to buy them.

I fed the cats on my return. They joyfully wolfed the grub down.

I don't believe in coincidence, but I do enjoy synchronicity, much as Mr Balance did. I shall miss his voice, his ideas and his vision.

Thee Liquid Faction.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:03:45 AM

Subject: Goodbye Jhonn

I'd like to extend my deepest sympathies to Jhonn's family and friends. I was shocked and saddened at the news of his untimely passing.

Having listened to Coil for the best part of 20 years, I consider it a privilege to have seen him perform in Dublin last month (my first time to see Coil), in what was to have been his last concert, and to meet him briefly afterwards, when he signed my copy of David Keenan's book. I have a nice collection of photos from that gig, and will send a disc of jpegs when things

settle down. Perhaps you could advise me of an address to send them to.

I was particularly struck by how Jhonn's voice had matured in recent years (first noticed on Musick to play in the dark). There was an calm elegance and sophistication to it that I found very appealing. He was a unique individual.

Best wishes

Fergus Kelly (from Dublin)

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:13:21 AM

Subject: john will sleep now

When i was a teenager, a friend gave me a tape with horse rotorvator recorded. I still think coil take on who by fire is the only Leonard Cohen version that is superior to the original, may the forces of nature give john a bed who fit his desires and the heritage of good art and decent style he left to his kind.

□

With love

□

Julio Cesar Magalhães da Silva.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:09:15 AM

Subject: Balance and Gravity

Balance is broken.

His beautiful body is broken at the foot of the stairs.

But what stares?

Which stairs?

I can only remember him,

I only knew him,

on the stage,

on that stage,

prancing around in 16th century underwear amongst those strange glimmering colors.

Like a lunatic broken out of his straight jacket, swinging the long sleeves to the music.

Like a cheeky John Dee in his boudoir flashing the Angels through the openings in the back of his undergarments.

Too exuberant to ever be broken.

The day he died was a beautiful day here in London, flooded with golden autumnal light.

A whole day of gloaming.

The next morning I watched the sun burn the blue mist off London from the top of a bus.

The whole city shone: cold, sharp, bright and golden.

"Death was not, but eternal life sprung"

Last night I dreamt I went to the north pole,

with some unknown man who was my guide,

to watch the spheres

and listen to their musick

the planets were so close I could see their colors and patterns,

they revolved in such close proximity to each other,

and he asked me if I could tell what was the center of thier revolution,

and I replied Saturn,

and he said no.

It wasn't Saturn.

I was mistaken.

"Ah! gentle may I lay me down, and gentle rest my head.
And gentle sleep the sleep of death. and gentle hear the voice
Of him that walketh in the garden in the evening time"

And now it seems his soul is electricity

in the air,

that dissipates into the clouds and turns the sky red over London,

and emanates from everywhere

a voice that speaks from a recording,

upon each transmission it says something different,

as if he is still speaking,

my mind randomly catching fragments from the air throughout the day.

His heart beat like the rhythm of the train tracks leading to?

The electronic memory of a man I never knew.

But whose influence seems to exert an even stronger gravity now that his body can
no longer retain a balance, can no longer restrain the exuberance.

14 years of his work exerting some unknown pull on my mind.

And now that his body is broken his gravity is even stronger and more unknown to
me.

I don't know if i will ever be able to tell exactly how his work has touched my life.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:16:07 AM

Subject: For John....in pain I write....

~ A Thousand Candles Lit in a Darkened Moon~

I can't express how much such news as affected me deeply...not only the death
itself, the way it happened but as a much bigger picture and as John itself; his

place he had to my eyes and within me, like an inner organ of mine just ceased to function suddenly.

My personal history regarding Coil goes way back. I was 15 when I browse the radio late one night and stop immediately to a channel that played an amazing track - I automatically hit 'record' on my tape-deck. It was a 2h special on Coil (still have the recording) . It was the release of the Hellraiser 10". Not only did I never heard of the band neither such interesting and mindblowing music. The radio host person was also reciting texts by Coil in between tracks. I was totally fascinated & hooked! From that instant, it totally changed my life; a major turning point.

For 2 years, I searched any record shop and kept asking for Coil. Even the 'alternative' shops didn't knew who I was talking about...There was of course not internet back then and did not have any mail order knowledge/facilities. My first find was the 'Core' compilation with one track by Coil. Happy like a dog waving his tail, I was shaking, eager to play it. And by thanks to this I was also exposed to the other bands on that compilation which were unknown to me (later became part of my collection) .

Finally I find my 'heaven' store - The Bunker (in Montreal, Canada) where to my surprise, there were many albums! I had no clue of lenght of their career. Hellraiser was not available but grabbed 'Horse Rotorvator' which I adored and is still one of my all time favorite album. I thought it was brilliant to have both instrumental tracks as well as some songs. It was so brilliantly crafted.. I returned back to the store to quickly grab everything by Coil. Then, I threw out my Skinny Puppy/industrial-techno related bands from my collection knowing there was much more potential, intelligent and better music out-there.

As for my dear 10" with one of the best cover still today, I finally obtained it by begging on my knees to buy it from a friend who owned it. A very joyful day. Every since the very moment I heard Coil, I was a dedicated fan and that, until today, and will always be. Now knowing almost every artists out-there in the experimental scene, I firmly can state that Coil is the best band for their research into finding new sounds, ahead of their time, always! From dark atmospheric, to acid and glitch (they were ahead of their time) and seeing artists later on doing it, I kept thinking, this is not new but some of them got more attention then Coil, but I knew better and wished Coil had the real credit behind all this.

I can also state that Coil is a rare band who with over so many years of music, dare, had the guts to go further into their music, expansion far beyond any band I know. Never repetitive from one album to another, you always have a new approach, a new concept to discover. It was a different journey every time as well as a growing, elevating path; a continuation that lead us further then the expected, always. Lyrically, I must admit not being able to be at the level of comprehension, perhaps parts of it, but not as a whole and deep into the details of their meaning. Perhaps meant for the next worlds/dimensions. I thank Coil for changing their mind for not being just a 'studio' band and started to do live shows which I went (NY) and was worth every penny of my trip there.

The other in MTL (my hometown back then) was at the Mutek festival, but unfortunately John wasn't there. Although very disapointed at first, Ans was played and again, discover news sounds & approach to music thanks to Coil. I couldn't help shedding tears during "5 minutes after death", the last track of the show - such a gift for me to experience this live and the meaning of such track are too

many right now. Brings me back to the buy of my first LP by them, also the recent 'sign' I kind of got. The night of Nov.13th (death of John), I was to burn 2 CDs for a friend, did the first one, but when I put the Coil one, my program just refused to do it, tried several times, even restarted the computer - it wouldn't just let me burn it. I guess it was the '5 minutes of silence after violent death' signal sent out to me. More similar coincidences occurred strangely... Maybe it's the Aquarian link that makes this perception sense (both a gift & a curse) more receptive. Not being a close friend of his, I can imagine many of us have received signs in a form or another from John. My door is wide open to you, dear friendly ghost. It's quite an unsupportable time right now for me, this is happening 3 weeks after the death of my best friend. When I was asked what I would like to have from his music collection (and a huge one he had), I was too confused to make a decision about something 'material' in such a situation, what popped up was the Hellraiser CD (and he wasn't a Coil fan) but he had this one. So this CD will represent 2 meaningful departed persons in my life and is the first thing I ever heard from Coil. It's almost like a closing circle. But rest assured that I will swim into that circle with pain and pleasure for as long as I live. Coil music will live very long and may it be discovered by the new generations ahead.

In such a painful moment, I'd like to say despite John's problem with alcohol, I regard him highly to the fact he admitted his problem and even went public about it. It was very courageous of him. Hard thing to face your demons and to unchain yourself, getting back your own freedom; specially in such times we live. Life is not easy to cope with. We seem to spend more energy trying not to go insane; hard times. John, it's very hard to realize you are no more among us physically but I promise you that you will live through the music we'll keep on playing and diverse memories; positive ones. You were way too young to die and in such a dramatic way. I wished it never ever happened. Your name and of all what you represent will be crown in history of music. My regrets & biggest support to Peter and all the close friends of John. Much Love John & Miss You, xxx Isabelle Hebert (aka Lady-Bee) - Netherlands.

--

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:16:52 AM

Subject: a sad sadness day

Dear Friends,

i can't believe...in this moment i can't find myself. My words are lost, my heart is crying. I hope that John find his place now...a place for freedom, love and silence.

On his last way, i wish for him and his friends and family sounds of sadly hope, were by your side...

Salingia from Leipzig/ Germany

R:I:P

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:48:51 AM

Subject: R.I.P.

Very sorry to hear of Jjohn's passing. From 'The Elephant Table' onwards, his creations have been inspiring and uplifting, and I only hope that this - and other sentiments from everyone who was touched by his work - will be of some comfort to you.

□

Sincerely,
Nicholas James Bullen

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 12:20:33 PM

Subject: Jhonn

I was shocked and sad to learn about the death of Jhonn Balance. A fan and not a personal friend, I met him only once, as I had the good fortune of booking Coil to our venue in Oslo. The band was great, but especially Jhonn left a lasting impression on me as a uniquely genuine and warm person. I was around all day working, helping with this and that, we spoke jokingly a few times. As I said goodbye to band and crew at the end of the night, Jhonn, perhaps noticing my fatigue, skipped the usual handshake and gave me a big, tight hug. That simple gesture has stuck with me ever since. I can only imagine the loss those around him are suffering, my thoughts go out to his family and friends.

Britt Rinde Hvaal, Oslo, Norway

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 12:46:21 PM

Subject: condolences

Greetings,

□

This note is meant to indicate my sincere condolences to Peter and other friends of John/Geff. □ wish that I could be at the upcoming ATP event to say this personally, but can't afford to do so. □ My very best wishes to you all, at the loss of a beautiful individual.

□

Sincerely,
Russell Erwin

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 1:02:10 PM

Subject: Where Are You John?

Leipzig (2001)...Glauchau (2002)...Leipzig (2004)...
mindblowing performances which carved out a very special niche in our
hearts!
Thank You!

Katrin & Markus

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 1:15:10 PM

Subject: Bang bang

I will write this letter in french as I don't want to be limited in my expression, I hope you will understand.

□

Quand j'ai ramené de la bibliothèque le vynile de horse rotorvator, je ne pensais pas que j'allais entrer dans un autre monde. Ce disque, et je m'en souviens très bien, je l'ai aimé dès la première écoute. C'était vraiment le coup de foudre, ça m'est arrivé que très très rarement. Il tiendra à jamais une place particulière dans ma vie. Autant la musique que les paroles ont résonné dans ma tête.

Je suis réalisateur et lorsque je prépare un film, je fais des CD avec des morceaux pour aider mes collaborateurs à rentrer dans ma tête, Coil y a toujours été présent. Dans mon dernier film je me suis inspiré de la phrase "and the night pass by and you whisper to me a thousand lies" pour l'une des scènes, doublant moi même le comédien principal et murmurant à la comédienne les paroles de la chanson. Ces paroles de Jhon Balance résonnent toujours.

□

Je me dis à présent que j'ai eu de la chance de voir Coil sur scène à Paris, à la Loco, en été dernier, avec un Jhon Balance très en forme...

□

Cette voix me manque déjà et à ce point que j'écris dans ce livre pour exorciser quelque chose : "it's my little book of sorrows"

□

A bientôt Jhon, dans un prochain film.

□

Rodolphe Bertrand

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 1:22:23 PM

Subject:

In life, all experiences change us, and so do readings and listenings. But there are some stimulations that change us differently, in a more qualitative way. Probably, it's in those occasions that we can use properly the words "development" and "evolution".

When I heard about the accident occurred to John Balance, I felt like I was hitted in my bowels, because the work of Coil, like the work of few others, for my own growth stands like a crucial milestone. What I'm now, it's also because of him.

□

With gratitude,
Francesco Tramonti (Pisa, Italy)

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 1:44:07 PM

Subject: Geoff

The moment I got a text informing me of Geoff's passing, I looked across the Firth from my house to a raging gale, waves crashing on the shore and a big 'fuck off' rainbow !

□

Stormy, troubled but ultimately awe-inspiring! p6 x

□

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 1:42:54 PM

Subject: condolence from Belgium

I want to give my condolence for missing Johnn Balance
physical, spiritual and creative presence at this level of consensual reality.

- ' answers comes in dreams '

As a chaote, disc jockey, musician and visual artist the appearance of
Coil confined me to develop my aspiration.

Boris Bertrand
a.k.a Clone Françoise [Saru Ryujin]

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 1:58:42 PM

Subject: homage to Johnn

JohnnBalance's voice is a wave. Its flow submerges us of rare feelings and its backward flow leaves an indelible trace from where appear emotions, hidden in the deepest of each of us. I am disappointed for those which remained insensitive with the creative force of this wave, those which remained hermetic, such a dam, with the genesis of elementary and pure feelings.

□

Like the image of the perpetual motion of this spiritual wave, Johnn Balance is immortal. He reaches eternity and he sits on the not usurped throne of a new deity, the god of exacerbated senses and desires. Thanks to COIL and consequently Johnn Balance, I personally bored the mystery of the life, the love and the devotion. Life has no sense without the music of COIL. This music must continue to fill the abyssal vacuum of our

miserable existences on earth.

□

My spiritual identity was born one day from 1989, the day when the first sounds of HORSE ROTOR VATOR vibrated in me. These vibrations caused a resonance between body and spirit. This album was a true vector of conscience.

□

The 23th of May, in Paris, Johnn Balance appeared in all his splendour, succeeded mix between creative madness and evocative wisdom.

The 13th of November, with the morning gleam, Johnn sows the germs of the perfection for the last time.

The 13th of November, with the twilight, Johnn became a radiant wave, irradiating everywhere at every moment ...

□

□

Norbert L. (Paris – France)

□

Texte Original

□

La voix de Johnn Balance est une vague, son flux nous submerge de sensations uniques et son reflux laisse une trace indélébile d'où émerge des émotions cachées au plus profond de chacun de nous. Je plains ceux qui sont restés jusqu'à présent insensibles à la force créatrice de cette vague, hermétiques – telle une digue – à la genèse de sentiments élémentaires et purs.

□

A l'image du mouvement perpétuel de cette vague spirituelle, Johnn Balance est immortel. Il accède à l'éternité et siège sur le trône non usurpé d'une nouvelle déité, celles des sens exacerbés. Grâce à COIL et, par conséquent, à Johnn Balance, j'ai personnellement percé le mystère de la vie, de l'amour et de la dévotion. La vie n'a de sens que bercée par cette musique, une musique qui doit continuer à combler le vide abyssal de nos existences terrestres misérables.

□

Mon identité spirituelle est née un jour de 1989 où les premiers sons de HORSE ROTOR VATOR ont vibré en moi, provoquant une résonance entre le corps et l'esprit. Cet album fut un véritable vecteur de conscience.

□

Le 23 mai 2004, à Paris, Johnn m'est apparu dans toute sa splendeur, amalgame réussi entre folie créatrice et sagesse évocatrice.

□

Le 13 novembre au matin, Johnn sème pour la dernière fois les germes de la perfection.

□

Le 13 au soir, Johnn est une onde rayonnante, se propageant, à chaque instant, dans chaque recoin de l'espace infini ...□

□

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 1:53:06 PM

Subject: I am terrible at writing these things; my apologies.

I'm going to try not to get too wordy with this, as I tend to do that.

□

First of all, my deepest sympathies go to you who knew Jhonn. I didn't even know the man and he has had a tremendous impact on who I've become; I can not begin to guess how hard this must be for you. Please do not hesitate to ask for any help you need from the Coil community (including myself) during this difficult time.

□

As a brief example of his impact on me, I had just started taking photography classes when I started to really listen to Coil in 2000. Of course, this worked its way into my photography, both in it's subject matter and it's style. As a result of Jhonn's words and Coil's music, my mind began to open up so that I could begin to appreciate the world around me. Everything around me began to take on new meaning. I was able to find beauty in rocks, plants, trees, and snow. Even people took on a new mystery to me. I had always hated Michigan winters; however, my first winter that I spent listening to Jhonn and Coil made the air seem to crackle with magick and intensity. The song that I remember the most from this time is "A White Rainbow."

□

A white rainbow (a roaring aura)
Under an unquiet skull
(A tremulous column of air, hanging there)
Moon's milk spills from my unquiet skull and forms a white rainbow
(A psychosis, a roaring aura)
Aurora borealis
A white rainbow
A lunar ascension, a solar declension
A tremulous column of air hanging there
A bleached beach, a psychosis
(Laughing like skeletons clattering at midday)
Feel the moon's pull
Feel the moon's pull
Moon's milk spills from my unquiet skull
A white rainbow, inverted vertigo
A psychosis
(Moon's milk spills)
And overhead, overhead
(Feel the moon's pull)

A tremulous column of air, hanging there
(A white rainbow)
Laughing like skeletons clattering at midday
And overhead, a white rainbow
Under an unquiet skull, under an unquiet skull
Feel the moon's pull
A white rainbow

□

I would listen to this song along with the rest of "Winter Solstice" when it was too cold or snowy for me to go outside to take pictures. I always took my focus off not being able to practice my photography and instead left me appreciative of just being able to enjoy the winter. I loved to watch the snow fall to this album. Slowly that winter, I began to feel more like a child again; everything had a feeling of being new again. For that winter, Michigan took on a new life and vitality that would have never happened were it not for Jhonn and Coil.

□

I know that this is only a small example of how Coil/Jhonn changed my life but I hope that it will just serve as a token of thanks to a life that was certainly NOT lived in vain.

□

Although I do not think of myself as a great photographer, please accept these photos that I took during the time as a tribute to Jhonn. I would like to think that the flame represents his madness still shining bright.
Picture for Jhonn2.jpg "Picture for Jhonn1.jpg "

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 2:10:03 PM

Subject:

Non ricordiamo il musicista il poeta (che erano, SONO) grandi, ricordiamo l'uomo.
Accanto alla sua opera rimane il ricordo di una persona gentile, disponibile, generosa, come si mostrò le tre volte che lo incontrai in Italia.

□

Che la terra ti sia lieve.

□

per John i versi di un poeta italiano (Cesare Pavese): sleeping friend

L'amico che dorme□

3_#\$!@%!#_image.tiff "

**Che diremo stanotte all'amico che dorme?
La parola più tenue ci sale alle labbra
dalla pena più atroce. Guarderemo l'amico,
le sue inutili labbra che non dicono nulla,
parleremo sommessamente.
La notte avrà il volto**

**dell'antico dolore che riemerge ogni sera
impassibile e vivo. Il remoto silenzio
soffrirà come un'anima, muto, nel buio.
Parleremo alla notte che fiata sommessa.**

**Udiremo gli istanti stillare nel buio
al di là delle cose, nell'ansia dell'alba,
che verrà d'improvviso incidendo le cose
contro il morto silenzio. L'inutile luce
svelerà il volto assorto del giorno. Gli istanti
taceranno. E le cose parleranno sommessi.**

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 2:23:56 PM

Subject: Jhon

to pass through
leaving traces in your wake;
marked out in ritual
balanced, forever...

□

his light will never fade.

□

Adam Sykes

liris light recordsl

17th November 2004

□

□

my thoughts are with Jhons family & friends

□

A.S.

□

□

□

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 7:14:16 PM

Subject: Geff Rushton

□

There are rituals of the elements and feasts
of the times.....

□

A feast for fire and feast for water; a
feast for life and a greater feast for death!

□

□

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 2:52:55 PM

Subject: JOHN BALANCE

i'm very sad. he will be in my heart forever.

ingo

□

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 3:05:46 PM

Subject: Lost rivers

Sat above the River Effra, Brixton 17/11/2004.

□

When first I heard of Coil I did not even know that it was Coil.□It was in 1985 when Tainted Love was released and the UK media were doing their AIDS queer bashing and were conveying their disgust at "that song." I was only 11 at the time...

□

I did not think that years later, when finally I discovered Coil and had the chance to listen to "that song", it would lead to the falling in love with your sound and the magic it conveyed.□Jhonn your words were always so moving, sexual, magical and inspirational.□In a world where the cultural norms are of a vacuous nature, true icons are hard to find... almost impossible.

□

As the lost River Effra traces its course through the sewers beneath me, the chaotic tumultuous river of life continues to flow, almost unnoticed.

Yet Jhonn, your leaving this world has left a legacy and your words shall echo forth to continue to inspire the need to act and question everything.

□

Although I never managed to meet you, it was only a few weeks ago that you recommended Arbos by Arvo Part, which I went out and bought.

As I listen to it now its beauty reminds me that you had so much to share, and for that I am truly grateful, and most importantly inspired.

□

May the next stage you have now gone to, be one of continued divinity.

□

With love to your memory Jhonn, and also wishes of love to Peter, Ian and all those that knew you in a way that most of us did not, as a lover, friend and family member.

□

I never thought that the death of someone I had never met would have such a profound influence upon my spirit.

□

Much love and may all our lost rivers continue to flow... until they reach their own end.

□

B.S.Exxx

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 3:14:56 PM

Subject: my condolences

My condolences to all that knew Jhonn personally. I didn't, although I always deeply respected his work and everything it stood for. His legacy will continue to serve as an inspiration to many of us.

My deeply felt gratitude at this point goes out to Jhonn for everything he did and who he was, is and will continue to be.

Andreas Schlieter
inside the vortex.

--

VORTEX
haltet das tempo!

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 4:10:34 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

My heart goes out to Peter Christopherson and all of those close to Jhonn Balance. I never met Jhonn but his music has been a great inspiration to me over the years and he will be greatly missed.

□

Robin Amos

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 4:10:53 PM

Subject: Geff Rushton

Bochum den □ 7/11/04

□

□

□□□□'There are rituals of the elements and feasts

□□□□□f the times.....

□

□□□□A feast for fire and feast for water; a

□□□□feast for life and a greater feast for death!"

□

□

for ever .

□

Susanne & Holger

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 4:14:22 PM

Subject: Fwd: sorrow

Date: 17 November 2004 06:43:48 GMT

Subject: sorrow

Dear Sleazy, Feeling deep sorrow & shock at the tragic news. I send a heart full of love to you & Ian. I wish I was geographically nearer to you, but my thoughts are with you.

Please stay in touch.

Fiz. xxx

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 4:36:18 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance [Scanned]

A tragic loss , both for those who heard his music , and more importantly , those who knew and loved him. He was an inspiration to me and caused me to think about music , magic and life in previously unknown ways. The world is a darker place but in some form I know he's still around. Regards and best wishes

David Allan

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 4:42:42 PM

Subject: john balance

sad to hear of death of great artist. hopefully things will continue with his spirit overseeing .

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 4:40:25 PM

Subject: Re: For John....in pain I write....

Hi,

I was wandering if you could add this link where I honour my way the death of both John & my friend...

<http://stores.ebay.com/Bee-Buzz-Zone/May-They-Rest-In-Peace.html>

Thanks.

My text for John was already sent out to you, but in case, it is written below.
(unchanged)

Isabelle.

Subject: For John....in pain I write....

Date: Wed, 17 Nov 2004 03:16:07 -0800

~ A Thousand Candles Lit in a Darkened Moon~

I can't express how much such news as affected me deeply...not only the death itself, the way it happened but as a much bigger picture and as John itself; his place he had to my eyes and within me, like an inner organ of mine just ceased to function suddenly.

My personal history regarding Coil goes way back. I was 15 when I browse the radio late one night and stop immediately to a channel that played an amazing track - I automatically hit 'record' on my tape-deck. It was a 2h special on Coil (still have the recording) . It was the release of the Hellraiser 10". Not only did I never heard of the band neither such interesting and mindblowing music. The radio host person was also reciting texts by Coil in between tracks. I was totally fascinated & hooked! From that instant, it totally changed my life; a major turning point.

For 2 years, I searched any record shop and kept asking for Coil. Even the 'alternative' shops didn't knew who I was talking about...There was of course not internet back then and did not have any mail order knowledge/facilities. My first find was the 'Core' compilation with one track by Coil. Happy like a dog waving his tail, I was shaking, eager to play it. And by thanks to this I was also exposed to the other bands on that compilation which were unknown to me (later became part of my collection) .

Finally I find my 'heaven' store - The Bunker (in Montreal, Canada) where to my surprise, there were many albums! I had no clue of lenght of their career.

Hellraiser was not available but grabbed 'Horse Rotorvator' which I adored and is still one of my all time favorite album. I thought it was brilliant to have both instrumental tracks as well as some songs. It was so brilliantly crafted.. I returned back to the store to quickly grab everything by Coil. Then, I threw out my Skinny Puppy/industrial-techno related bands from my collection knowing there was much more potential, intelligent and better music out-there.

As for my dear 10" with one of the best cover still today, I finally obtained it by begging on my knees to buy it from a friend who owned it. A very joyful day. Every since the very moment I heard Coil, I was a dedicated fan and that, until today, and will always be. Now knowing almost every artists out-there in the experimental scene, I firmly can state that Coil is the best band for their research into finding new sounds, ahead of their time, always! From dark atmospheric, to acid and glitch (they were ahead of their time) and seeing artists later on doing it, I kept thinking, this is not new but some of them got more attention then Coil, but I knew better and wished Coil had the real credit behind all this.

I can also state that Coil is a rare band who with over so many years of music, dare, had the guts to go further into their music, expansion far beyond any band I know. Never repetitive from one album to another, you always have a new approach, a new concept to discover. It was a different journey every time as well as a growing, elevating path; a continuation that lead us further then the expected, always. Lyrically, I must admit not being able to be at the level of comprehension, perhaps parts of it, but not as a whole and deep into the details of their meaning. Perhaps meant for the next worlds/dimensions. I thank Coil for changing their mind for not being just a 'studio' band and started to do live shows which I went (NY) and was worth every penny of my trip there.

The other in MTL (my hometown back then) was at the Mutek festival, but unfortunately John wasn't there. Although very disapointed at first, Ans was played and again, discover news sounds & approach to music thanks to Coil. I couldn't help shedding tears during "5 minutes after death", the last track of the show - such a gift for me to experience this live and the meaning of such track are too many right now. Brings me back to the buy of my first LP by them, also the recent 'sign' I kind of got. The night of Nov.13th (death of John), I was to burn 2 CDs for a friend, did the first one, but when I put the Coil one, my program just refused to do it, tried several times, even restarted the computer - it wouldn't just let me burn it. I guess it was the '5 minutes of silence after violent death' signal sent out to me.

More similar coincidences occured strangely... Maybe it's the Aquarian link that makes this perception sense (both a gift & a curse) more receptive. Not being a close friend of his, I can imagine many of us have received signs in a form or another from John. My door is wide open to you, dear friendly ghost. It's quite a unsupportable time right now for me, this is happening 3 weeks after the death of my best friend. When I was asked what I would like to have from his music collection (and a huge one he had), I was too confuse to make a decision about something 'material' in such situation, what popped up was the Hellraiser CD (and he wasn't a Coil fan) but he had this one. So this CD will represent 2 meaningful departed persons in my life and is the first thing I ever heard from Coil. It's almost like a closing circle. But rest assured that I will swim into that circle with pain and pleasure for as long as I live. Coil music will live very long

and may it be discovered by the new generations ahead.

In such a painful moment, I'd like to say despite John's problem with alcohol, I regard him highly to the fact he admitted his problem and even went public about it. It was very courageous of him. Hard thing to face your demons and to unchain yourself, getting back your own freedom; specially in such time we live. Life is not easy to cope with. We seem to spend more energy trying not to go insane; hard times. John, it's very hard to realize you are no more among us physically but I promise you that you will live through the music we'll keep on playing and diverse memories; positive ones. You were way too young to die and in such a dramatic way. I wished it never ever happened. Your name and of all what you represent will be crown in history of music. My regrets & biggest support to Peter and all the close friends of John. Much Love John & Miss You, xxx Isabelle Hebert (aka Lady-Bee) - Netherlands.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 4:42:26 PM

Subject: John (1962-2004)

John est mort, mon passé aussi...

Un nouvel âge commence...

Merci pour tout

□

David from France

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 4:46:36 PM

Subject: Condolence John Balance

our condolence,

we were very sad about his death. He was an incredible, charming and wonderful person

- we will miss him

Anne and Mandy

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 4:54:29 PM

Subject: the death

no thoughts.....no words,but pain and suffering for our and his life.but remain in us a part of him that always
bring us up and up and up and up and up and up and
up.....

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 5:01:34 PM

Subject: Crossing the threshold

I've listened and followed Coil since the early days and while I have wandered from the path leaving the Coil days to gather dust, I have always popped back to say hello and realign myself from time to time. Looking back through my Coil CD's after hearing of John's death, I found a little note tucked inside my copy of the Snow EP. This note was handwritten by John on 22nd November 1991 apologising for the delay in sending the CD and also for the delay in the release of the Stolen and Contaminated Songs CD. A sweet and unexpected gesture indeed. My interest in Coil's, among others, exploration of aural alchemy has influenced and inspired me to start upon my own path of making music, and recreating in sound the inner vibrations, the magic and the light/dark I experience and feel. I thank John for his influence and for the music and as he said at the end of his note "All the beast".

Andrew Shackleton.

=====

In Love we trust

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 5:17:48 PM

Subject: RIP

Jhonn as Coil have been a part of the soundtrack to my life for 20 years. I was also lucky enough to see them for the first time at the ocean only a few months ago. I feel as i have lost a friend toal

□

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 5:23:07 PM

Subject: scar(r)ed for life

(rambling but with bona fide sincerity) (the B 52's? WTF?)

I will never be able to fully appreciate how this man I never even met knew me so well that he was able to touch my soul much deeper than I could imagine was possible with just his

voice and some words.

He's responsible for my intellectual curiosity (I'm highly sceptical of anything smelling remotely of religion, but I still checked out anything about magick I could lay my hands on), my love of language (my puny puns are but weak imitations of his seemingly nonchalant brilliance), my musical openmindedness (1983, I was 11, I read "The tattoo executed on Geff during "Eden 1" was recorded in the studio of Mr Sebastian in London" on the sleeve of Psychic TV's Dreams Less Sweet, and suddenly music didn't have to be made by instruments anymore, didn't have to be musical anymore.) (OK, it may not been his idea, but he was the instrument even before I heard him sing), the vague feeling that there was someone out there who would probably understand me if we ever met, my acceptance of gay people: probably thanks to Coil as well. But also my mood swings (why can't the world be like we all want it to be?), the way I always think I've put away the poison chalice but then I find myself smoking yet another cigarette, buying yet another Coil related item I already own (but not the blue transparent vinyl, had to have that one as well),...

I only ever received one email from him (and I deleted it only last week - *shakes fist in random directions at invisible god who doesn't exist in all of those directions*). I had asked what I should do with an extra ANS art print I received, if my damned catholic school guilty feeling was in any way justifiable, if I could alleviate it by returning the print so another less fortunate fan could receive it, and he replied: "give it to a tall dark stranger."

Of course, Coil wouldn't have been Coil without the incredibly brilliant wizardry of Sleazy, and I would like to thank him equally for everything. You two have shaped a lot more lives than you could ever imagine, although the reactions on the mailing list are probably starting to give you a small idea.

Even though I'm probably rambling into thin air after this much too long missive, I still want to report that I've changed my mind. I never believed in anything after death, but this time, I just have to make an exception. After all, he is such a big part of me, I'm hearing his voice right now, I'm breathing the air he exhaled, how could he be gone?

I will forever be sad about this, because his mind is eternal.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 2:13:39 PM

Subject: Jhon Balance...

Dear Peter,

I have been a HUGE T.G.,P.T.V. & COIL fan 4 years...

I was extremely sick & upset about Jhon's untimely death !!!

I just want U 2 know that a lot of folk R thinking of U & Jhon in this terrible time...

Please take care of yourself & KNOW that Jhon will NEVER be forgotten & the music U both made will live on 4ever...

Respectfully Yours, Frank Florio.....

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 5:49:52 PM

Subject: none

EXTREMELY SAD NEWS TO HEAR OF THE DEATH OF JOHN BALANCE .LONG MAY HE LIVE
ON IN THE STARS██████████FROM STUNTCHICK██

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 5:53:34 PM

Subject: The Loss of a Wise Man

Greetings Threshold House,□

You probably don't know me, my name is Nicholas S. Jones and I live in Iowa in the United States. I am merely an avid fan of both Coil and John Balance and was so overwhelmed by his passing that I wanted to share that sadness with like minded individuals. This is indeed a sad passing. John's work through out the years has been captivating to say the least. I have enjoyed the musick and feeling that Coil's work invokes. John must have been a terribly happy upbeat person (I never had the pleasure of meeting him personally) but from reading his interviews, especially the interview in Tyr Journal Vol. 2, I had never felt closer in my beliefs to someone. He has inspired through the years and will continue to inspire for many more. May he now live in harmony with the Gods and Goddess'. Wotan mit uns, Nicholas

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 5:58:28 PM

Subject: Balance RIP

I am deeply addened to hear the news of his passing.

Mike Mitchell

this news of Jhonn's passing was so devastating to me.
coil has been such a sacred place for me to be no matter what

mood, day or time. ☐ there is a sound & movement for me in whatever state I find myself.

I find that when listening to coil I need to listen to each album and not individual songs.
for each album tells a story with words and without words.
the albums speak of transcendent, physical, spiritual and emotion joy...
and in the same breath it speaks of the deep dark things that only some have the privilege off seeing and touching.
I suppose that I am not doing the best job articulating the way that coil makes me feel...mostly because most of the time when I am listening to coil I am so overwhelmed because it speaks to every part of my body and soul.
I have loved each coil album over the last 15 years for different reasons.
I feel like each album is a window into what the band is experiencing on every level.
from physical addiction to spiritual discovery and so on.
I felt like I was blessed enough to be able to share it with you.

I spent a lot of time with 'the black light district' and crystal meth.
I crawled into that album for over a year on heavy rotation. That album is so near and dear to me I could feel each track calling me from out from a place that I had been hiding for so long. that album truly is a thousand lights in a darkened room.
for I experienced some amazing life altering things while sitting in the belly of that album.

while having a coil eulogy the other night...I listened to 'the black light district' and 'refusal to leave to land' reminded me that Jhonn was ok.
he is a star now and he will always be seen by all and admired by all.
he was such a remarkable musician and magician.
I know that I will never ever forget that.
someone like Jhonn never really dies he has just now taken another beautiful form.
blessed is he for he has blessed all.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 6:22:15 PM

Watch over us...

☐

There's too much sadness in our blood

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 6:25:36 PM

Subject: :-

Condolences from the Netherlands.

□

There is art that gives simple answers and there is art that raises (sometimes uncomfortable) questions.

Nothing against simple answers...but a warm thought for an artist who dared to investigate chaos.

□

Peter Sijbenga,
musician.

□

□

□

□

IMG_0501-r.jpg "

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 6:48:23 PM

Subject: The Death of Guff Rushton

Hello,

□

thisnight is a stormy night

And I dance to the music of Coil.

□

My name is Volker Wurth,

I am a classical and modern dancer fromgermany

anda DJ (Carbonite Solo) playing music of different styles

mostlywith an destructive aspect.

On of the reasons why I started dancing as a professional dancer on stage was

thatI heard the music of coil and of course others

My strong will was to make the joy this wonderful music can give to one

beenshared with others if possible on stage.

Especially the music of Coil and other side projects from Jon Balance guided my throu my artistic career

My first performance in 1990 in an Art museum nearCologneinhabitened music from the SCATOLOGY LP.

Others did follow in Dresden

□

I am always fascinated, inspired and close to feeling fulfilled by the positive aspects of the destruction in Coil's music.

It establishes and supports my fantasies and wishes of a better life closer to truth at once.

Like a duty I want to give in my creative energy

to build a bigger (w)hole, a totality consciousness

that brings us closer to

the everything,

the love

that makes us forget

loneliness,

greed,

suffering

and the pain that makes one think that individuum

needs some more contemplation

□

an error of course

□

I am

a servant to the art

a servant to the love

□

I will never forget the joy you gave to me

□

You will never walk alone

□

Thank you for your help and guidance an my way

□

□

Yoursincerely

□

Volker Wurth

□

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 6:44:22 PM

Subject:

Jhon was a very special friend and a great influence. We enjoyed his visits & conversation&ideas&music&poetry very much. It was fun when we got thrown out of the ICA together for taking our trousers down. The mushroom trip was great to. Long live Jhon.

□

Little Richard&Richard Torry xxx

Date: Tue Nov 16, 2004 8:57:31 PM

Subject:

I didn't get to meet Jhonn on this plane□But am so thankful I came into contact with his work...he significantly expanded and enhanced...well, everything, and showed me new ways of seeing myself and others in relation to□this dimension and it's neighbours. What a great talent - and what a special gift that□he stuck around so long to share it with us. Cheers Jhonn - you made a massive contribution and we will never, ever□forget. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

□

Fran.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 7:00:13 PM

Subject: Johnn Balance

I have always loved music, and grew up in a house full of classical, Beatles, jazz and big band.□There was always music in my house and it's in integral part of my soul.

□

We had a college radio station in town, and late at night I would tune in and hear local and underground

bands that were unlike any other music I had heard.☐ came upon Coil one night and was transfixed.☐The song I later learned was The Anal Staircase.☐ didn't know how or where to find Coil.☐It was something I tucked in my brain that didn't surface until years later.

☐

The next song I heard was Astral Disaster and was again deeply moved by the sound.☐By then, I could find the music and began to buy any and everything as quickly as possible.☐Spiritual changes had impacted my life, and the music brought it together for me in a very personal way that human words are incapable of describing

☐

In 2001 I went to Convergence 7 in NYC and was treated to the only live Coil performance I've ever seen.

It was my birthday, some 12 years after first hearing the sound in 1987.

☐

Johnn Balance, you have unknowingly been a teacher to me by your participation in this project; speaking, guiding, and terrifying me into an understanding of this world that is unseen by so many and cherished by those who have learned to see with other eyes.☐Thank you.☐Rest well.

☐

Jeanne Francis

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 7:04:30 PM

Subject: The passing on of a shaman... the birth of a new god?

Emptiness...

As a gift he was from the universe - and he has been taken away way too soon!

His talent has been a huge source of inspiration and joy for me, and will always continue to be so. Coil has been my number-one favorite since I first heard Scatology at age 17.

And has inspired me to create electronic/samplebased music/soundscapes, freely and

playfully, and to search for and learn of the mysteries of sound. The connection between

magick and musick has always been important to me, and becomes more and more

important the more I explore and learn - and no-one has shown me/given me that as

much as Coil... And the voice of John has tickled my brain and made me shiver like

no
others.

My heart bleeds for those who knew him and loved him. I am thankful for meeting him once, and I don't know why but he seemed to be so shy and innocent. And his presence on stage in Oslo (Norway) a few years back was absolutely breathtaking. I was in a blissful trance through the whole set.

May the gods and goddesses of death treat you fairly John, and send you off on a further journey of enlightenment or towards nothingness in whatever realm, form or state you wish!

Forever grateful,
Tania Stene

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 7:10:20 PM

Subject: Condolence

Jhonn Balance and Coil have been part of my life for a very long time. Sometimes audibly, by means of the music that, again and again came out from the loudspeakers: at home, in the car, in the studio, in my mind... in the darkness, late at night, drinking alone...

It was much more than a soundscape, it was something more vital, a mental landscape...

The disappearance of a great artist always makes us feel how much poorer the world has become; it just seems I never felt it so strongly as today.

I want to express my deepest sympathy to Jhonn Balance loved ones and to all the people who miss him.

Gil Heitor Cortesão

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 7:10:49 PM

Subject: message for condolence book

Dear Threshold House

Here is a message for your condolence book from life long coil fan, Mike Rogers.

"I have been corresponding with Jhonn for over 20 years and will continue to. Even those who are far away are still close in our hearts. My heart goes out to his family and loved ones."

- Mike Rogers, West Lodge, Shoreham-by-Sea, UK

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 7:17:05 PM

Subject: Long Live Jhonn Balance!

I've just heard the news.

I had a photograph of Jhonn on my desktop as I read the story.

Coil's music was a truly unique & moving experience; a pivotal and iconic musician is lost. He was a beacon and an inspiration for my own music.

Kind Regards & My Deepest Sympathies to Everyone.

Thanks & Enjoy, Jhonn!

Alec

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 7:37:27 PM

Subject: Jhonn's Influence

ON COIL:

When I was about 19 years old, I was living in Albany, NY. I was not a healthy person. I was involved in a...relationship of sorts that suffice to say, was not a positive one. I was in the peak of unhealthy eating, experimental and mindless drug use, depression, and wandering lost about the cruel streets of that wasteland. Albany, though I am free from you, I have not forgotten your misery.

In my own way I have reclaimed it for myself, but that is tentative at best. The City the God Forgot was what my friends and I deemed it then, friends who I have long since lost contact with.

However, in the midst of my Pre-nine-eleven dark years (before I lost my father in the towers), I met Jhonn Balance. Said unhealthy relationship from paragraph one was responsible for this introduction. Cat, meet Coil. Coil, meet Cat.

The first listening happened on some strange drug in former lover's room. It was cartoony at best for me, on that first exposure. Then, slowly, I became infected with Coil. I had to re-learn how I listened to musick altogether, to change my very composition. I now have a large collection of Coil's work, from Scatology to The Autumn Equinox EP to Stolen and Contaminated Songs to Astral Disaster.

(I just wondered what you thought that feeling was like...)

Jhonn Balance changed the way I saw musick, life, magick, everything. I know it's old and cliché to have that sort of emotion towards a musickian, but I can't help it. The man was a genius. He wove spells with his words, he made musick out of nothing. His voice was ever-evolving, ever-invoking, and always-evocatory.

(...because I have a terrible fear of heights...)

If there is one thing I am glad I did, it was forking out \$70 bucks for my ticket to see Coil live at Convergence in NYC a few years back. I had the honor of seeing an earth-shattering performance, such that my companion and I left Irving Plaza charged, changed, and shaken. Jhonn was inches from me, screaming and glowing, I AM THE GREEN CHILD, machines blaring, a whirrrrr of sounds and boys covered in blood. Projections and phrases flashed across the screen, and in that one hour, I experienced pure musickal bliss.

(Please god, fuck my mind for good...)

It's so silly and senseless. I hate what alcohol does to people. I hate that genius is destroyed because of drinking, yet again. I hate that one of the most influential people in my life falls off of a balcony because he is drunk, and another star is out. Another dead hero.

(Color! Sound! Oblivion!)

But it's not for me to criticize fate. I will just have to tolerate that he is gone, and slowly grow used to it. I've had "The Original Wild Garlic Memory" running on loop in my head since I heard the news. And, of course, "Who'll Fall?".

Okay, so I'm mourning. I miss him and I never met him, how classic. But I love him.

-Cat

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 7:39:47 PM

Subject:

Dear Peter,

□

I'm so sorry to hear the tragic news about John's death, I hold such good memories working together, although a few years back, when I was lucky enough to be able to release Coil material on Torso Records. I often think of the precious time we spend both here in Amsterdam and in London. Although we hadn't kept that much in touch I was glad to see you both earlier this year in Amsterdam.

I leave you and other loved ones with my thoughts in this difficult time.

□

Love

Eleanore

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 7:58:26 PM

Subject: For John

Thank's John...I miss You
Love
Andrea

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 8:02:18 PM

Subject: i'm so sad...

i'm so sad...
i have no words
i miss you... but your work will live on!

thanks for all!

best urs

(a friend of drazen, pierce and massimo)

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 8:15:11 PM

A Red Moon is falling over the Black Horizon

□

The Dreamer is still Asleep

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 7:51:15 PM

Subject: Geff

Geff, I love you.
I love your generosity.
You gave so much to me.
You gave a world to me, no less.
I love your fragility and your strength.
I love your eyes, most of all your eyes.
I love your vision, but I hate the void you leave behind.
I now see you everywhere, in the trees and in the ground, in the dark
skies and the sea.
And in the birds' song.

There's so much I never said to you,
when all I meant was
I love you Geff,
Claus

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 8:40:26 PM

Subject: Jhonn...

The mark you've made on this confused wanderer will not fade, you've been a
spectacular light in mundane world - thanks Jhonn

Jake

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 8:42:36 PM

Subject: Book of Condolence

I am deeply shocked to hear about the tragic news.

□

The music Jhonn (and the rest of COIL) created has been for me an escape from all the stress and other worldly business. How strange it may sound, when listening to the music of COIL I feel relaxed.

The few live concerts I was able to visit were great, seeing Jhonn do his dance. □hese memories will not be forgotten.

□

Jhonn will never be forgotten.

□

My thoughts go out to all how knew Jhonn, especially Sleazy, his family and close friends.

□

□

Jan

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 8:44:22 PM

Cc:

Subject: [coil] for J.B.

There's not really a lot I can say, on my own account, that hasn't already been said in the last few days by others who knew Jhonn only through the work. But I can offer, like a bouquet, a poem from Mark Strand's _Dark Harbor_ that spoke to me when I read it last night:

There is a luminousness, a convergence of enchantments,
And the world is altered for the better as trees,
Rivers, mountains, animals, all find their true place,

But only while Orpheus sings. When the song is over
The world resumes its old flaws, and things are again
Mismatched and misplaced and the cruelty of men

Is tempered only by laws. Orpheus can change the world
For a while, but he cannot save it, which is his despair.

It is a brilliant limitation he enacts and

He knows it, which is why the current of his song
Is always mournful, always sad. It is even worse
For the rest of us. As someone has said, "... we barely begin

And paralysis takes over, forcing us out for a breath
Of fresh air." As if that weren't bad enough, he says,
"But though reams of work do get done, not much listens.

I have the feeling my voice is just for me ..." There is
A current of resignation that charges even our most
Determined productions. Still, we feel better for trying,

And there is always a glass of wine to restore us
To our former majesty, to the well of our wishes
In which we are mirrored, but darkly as though

A shadowed glass held within its frozen calm an image
Of abundance, a bloom of humanness, a hymn in which
The shapes and sounds of Paradise are buried.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 9:13:12 PM

Subject: Jhonn

I would like to thank you for helping to clear a path which some of us might not
have seen without your guidance.

Thank you for continuing to punch holes and expose what's below.

- You will find my cells, in the tops of trees, blowing in the wind, because I will
always bend. -

Love Willing,
Graham Moore
"Why did the chicken cross the road"

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 9:14:06 PM

Subject: from THOMAS LIGOTTI

I am very sorry to learn of the death of John

Balance. After reading the chronicle *England's Hidden Reverse*, I mentioned to David Tibet how admirable I found the individuals portrayed therein, a community of gifted persons who in my book form the nobler part of the human race and whose lives prove a particular consolation to those who feel most intensely the predicament of life itself. I myself am not involved in mankind and any man's death does not diminish me. And yet I do feel diminished by the loss of John Balance or any of his rare kind, as well as grieved by the pain his passing has brought to those who were close to him. You must all be devastated.

□

Thomas Ligotti

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 9:19:33 PM

On this morning I awoke I had felt my stomach problems arise again, my anger for feeling trapped within a job and a small suburbanite cell, my loneliness for someone to share my heart with, and my lip that is constantly bitten at in the pre-winter dry air. These things plague people's days and seem to cause a certain subconscious stress, that in the many people I've noticed with the saddest doubtful face, enclose in the finest fake smile gloss to ignore their difficulty in life. I, on the other hand, feel often pleased with these difficulties. Mind you, it's not the pragmatic wish of mine to spend my time finding something challenging my sitting song serenity, surely not... YET, as my stomach persists decaying inside of me, as my job sucks the life out of me, as my home/cage is a mere place of my whistling bird lowly life, and I feel lonely as I always have I am proud to say/see that as inspiration rather than a hindering stagnant whine. Mr. Balance has given me a sense of hope for my imagination (which had always felt so scabbed and picked upon) to release itself in a manner that only a subconscious audience would smile and hold each other to.

Perhaps I should dramatically lay this out to express how important his thoughts, his words, HE was and still is to me:

IT WAS 1994 I had read a magazine speaking of Trent Reznor and how he will soon be signing bands under the moniker Prick, Pop Will Eat Itself, Trust Obey, Marilyn Manson, and Coil on his Nothing Records label. None of them at that time to which have heard, yet (being a scurvy sophomore high school student) I had skipped lunch and saved up my lunch money for an entire 3 weeks to hunt down these musicians soon to be on this label. Lo and behold, the first disc I found was Coil - Love's Secret Domain, a disc that (little did I know at the time) would soon be withdrawn from the consumer's hands from the local musical market for years to come. I listened to it from beginning to finish. Again. I had listened it from beginning to finish. Again. I had listened to it from inhale to exhale onto a page, a canvas, memory, inspiration, and now... now I hold it upon my head. Every release I could get my hands on sat upon my mind to soon roam with me from school, to school, to work, to my music and art...

TO ME Jhonn or John or Geff... may it be... the person, his spirit had slipped into me. There's a certain fire within particular people and most of them you must personally meet to feel the heat. Geff, I felt no need to.. I felt if I had met him I would have creatively combusted. His words, his thoughts were enough to be displayed before me from his Audio Alchemy, and yet, as I found out about his untimely death, now I wish I could have met him, got to know, understand him personally. I would have allowed myself to combust just so I could aurigmatically witness what he would do with the dispersed pieces of my overwhelmed imaginative debris. Surely though, he would not need it. NOTE: those who know of Geff know a new colour only few have seen. NOTE: skies had spirits no longer a ceiling. NOTE: King belay, welcome some sort of blink from the moment now had wasted past, and I for one will stand there... the same.. Listening to what was made then without need of looking back.

Or as I should have put it simply instead of rambling this verbose letter Geff was one in few who could have told you when the right time to blink when the world was perfect. I'm laughing in a new colour now.

--

seerly,
terry

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 9:28:25 PM

In saturday died part of myself, my heart. I love you John. Lovelovelove

Luká_ Daj_

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 10:13:14 PM

Subject: My Condolence to You All

At first my condolences for the Death of Jhonn. A tragic loss of a Great Man and someone who must have been a great friend.

□

I came in contact with the works of Jhonn and especially Coil through the release of Horse Rotovator. My bother bought this album when it was just released back in 1987 and the first time a heard it i was in love with the musick. For somehow it was everything i had always looked for in musick but always lacked. It was the start of a collection of Coil-albums and related albums.

□

The lyrics of Jhonn grapped me every time i heard then, i never was much of a reader of them because i was in love with the voice of Jhonn. It was just Magickal. Somehow he could touch the deepest of my soul as the musick played with it.

□

I still can't get over the fact that he is crossed over to the other/higher world at we can not enjoy in his newest ideaes in musick and lyrics. But for me he will live on in the musick and writings. The moment i heard he was gone i felt a shock as i lost a dear friend, although i have seen Jhonn only preform twice on stage with Coil. Magickal concerts in a strange world that we own.

□

I would like to thank Jhonn for being in my world and presenting his insights to everybody who wanted to see. May his memory live on forever!

□

~Arjan~

□

□

ps: pardon my english

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 10:15:46 PM

Subject: he lorst his balance & fell downe thee staires

□

Date: Mon Nov 17, 2003 10:19:50 PM

Subject:

Dear Geff/John!

□

It is hard to find words for the experience that for me has been connected with your person. Our first contact goes back to the year 1983, when you wrote to me on behalf of TOPY. From this point an intense correspondence developed, that lasted for more than two years (actually much longer than our both's association with the temple) and I still have dozens of letters in beautiful handwriting, in which you shared your ideas on music, magical technique and the details of our collaboration (I released your recording "Transparent" on my cassette label Nekrophile Rekords). Out of this correspondence a deep friendship and love developed, which made me realize that you were for me a kind of intimate spiritual twin soul, with whom I was connected in several strange respects too numerous to be outlined in this place – I just need to

mention our passion for the art and philosophy of Austin Osman Spare, who's works I later translated into the German language and who influenced my thinking more than anybody else – very likely as he was a basic inspiration for yourself throughout your life. Our ways nearly crossed at several times of our lives, another opportunity being our both's membership in another body of initiates where you chose as your name an anagramme of Coil – referring to the cosmic trickster in German mythology. Nevertheless we never met and I am sad that the chance to do so still in this life will never come again. I cannot say how your end is touching me. You were a tantric surrealist, gnostic rebel, a postmodern alchemist, one of the great immortals who appeared - and disappeared – in betweeness realities. I will never forget you and my love for you is part of my soul.

Michael 'Zos' DeWitt / Zero Kama ☐ 7.11.2004

☐

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 10:24:02 PM

Subject: memory and passing

It seems strange, I guess, to offer condolences to people I've never met on the passing of another I've never met, but I was and still am so deeply upset by the news of John's death, so appreciative of all he gave us and so moved and impressed by the outpouring from his fans and by the spiritual beliefs so many seem to hold to. I've loved Coil's music for more than 15 years. I never saw Coil live and as I live in Auckland, New Zealand, the prospects were remote, although I would have travelled to Australia, SE Asia (Coil in Bangkok!) and maybe even the west coast of the USA with enough notice.

☐

So, being in this hemisphere and time zone means I've enjoyed and valued Coil more remotely. The Coil list digests appear each morning in my email intray at work - everyone is asleep when I'm able to respond - and I'm happy when there's more than one. Of course, on Tuesday morning there were many and I was pleased until I saw the subject heading. All day I thought that I wanted to listen to Blood from the Air. Horse Rotorvator was the first Coil record I bought and it still has a special place for me. That evening, I put the song on, but it didn't work as I thought it might. I cued Black Antlers. The TV came on for a moment. It was the Himalaya series with Michael Palin. He was in Bhutan. In a Buddhist temple. He spoke about meditating on mortality. That seemed apt, and I muted the TV and played Sex with Sun Ra. Like so many of John's songs, it seems prophetic - the future leaking through. On the TV there were images of rivers, boats, crowds and traffic; it matched the forward momentum of the music, both music and images seemed otherworldly. The sequence finished and there was an ad for the series Angels in America: a man in a hospital, angels and other visitors, the ceiling collapsing and light pouring through. The song ended: "All will be forgotten and all will be well."

☐

I don't know what to say to those who knew and loved and lived with John Balance other than that I hope you know much his life and work was valued. And that what can continue of his work does continue.

☐

Philip Matthews

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 10:34:21 PM

Subject: from alan trench

peter, ian, thighps, but especially peter

I have only just heard about geff and words cannot express how sorry i am, both for him and for you all. geff was much loved by all who knew him; I hope that he

realised that. geff was infuriating and brilliant, funny, warm, bitchy and somehow never sad, only shot through with melancholy and otherness. i am glad that he was up on the day he passed over; although I have not spoken to him for nearly a year I feel his loss keenly and so cannot begin to imagine your own sorrow.

love
alan

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 10:44:59 PM

Subject: - - -

Dear Jhonn, Peter & Ian---

I first heard a Coil-song shortly after the wall collapsed; a certain song played to me 14 years ago in the car of a guy who had been my friend for 10 years yet probably altered the direction of my life at that moment.

Many things have changed since then; one of the constant aspects in my life has always been the parallel and somehow unseizable universe of Coil in its dark and bizarre beauty.

Visiting the south of England and the cliffs on its shoreline in this years spring with my girlfriend and this special friend, it was again that certain song that was in our heads.

The sole existence of a system that consisted of people like Sleazy&Jhonn has always been a reason not to loose the belief in the unique nature of every single human being. Your magic musick was permanent mutating and changing inside of me and has therefore been a persistent source of energy to my (and as I know, other peoples)inmost core.

Something in my life has ended yesterday and only today I can find words to describe my feelings of loss and sadness. I hope and I belief in the power that lies in the support of your and Jhonns friends beside a legion of Coil-heads.

Our thoughts are with you and Jhonn these days.

Frank, Dresden

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 10:45:03 PM

Subject:

Such sad news!

since 1984 the music of Coil has had a great influence on me and my music.
for 13 years I had a dog called Zos Kia.

I would like to express my deepest sympathy to Peter for the loss.

--

Radboud Mens

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 10:50:07 PM

Subject: my condolences

Dear friends,

□

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the law.

□

My condolences to Jhonn's friends and family.□I've been a Coil fan for nearly twenty years...I'm sorry to say that I never wrote to Jhonn to tell him how much his music has inspired me throughout these years.□To me, Coil is the pre-eminent band of my lifetime...very few□even come close to reaching the lofty heights that Coil scaled time and time again.□

□

I grieve for him without ever knowing him...how much more pain those of you that were close to him must be feeling.□I am sorry for your loss, and my heart reaches to you.

□

Aye! feast! rejoice! there is no dread hereafter. There is the dissolution, and eternal ecstasy in the kisses of Nu.□□Liber AL vel Legis II:44

□

I raise my glass and salute you, Jhonn.□May your memory never fade, as your gifts to us will live forever.□Peace be with you.

□

Love is the law, love under will.

□

Sincerely,

□

Michael Spreier

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:05:52 PM

I've been trying to think of something to say that won't sound stupid, like I'm some obsessive fangirl or something. Maybe now I think I should just let the way I feel speak for itself.

I never met Jhonn, never wrote to him or emailed him, never saw Coil live even. I only "knew" him through his music, and through what little bits and pieces I could learn about him in articles and interviews. Yet

when I found out he'd died it felt as if a significant part of my world had just collapsed. Maybe that's enough of a testimony to what and who he was - that his death could make people who never even met him feel such an immense sense of loss because he could impact on peoples' lives so much even without ever meeting them.

Coil are one of only 2 bands who have made such a massive impact on my life, whose music has helped me through some very bad times and been a constant source of comfort and reassurance and of influence and inspiration to me, especially in regards to my writing, and I know that I am not the only person who feels that way. That legacy will remain no matter what, whether Jhonn is here or in some other realm. All my love and thoughts go out to all those now grieving for him, especially to those closest to him, his family and friends. But also to everyone else whose lives he touched in some way, whether he ever knew it or not.

- Laura

From: Michael Walter

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:19:12 PM

Subject: jhon

we are deep touched from your being

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:13:33 PM

Subject: Mr. Balance..

Hello, all.

□ am deeply sorry for your personal loss, our nostalgic loss and the loss to the music community in general. John Balance has remained with me as a HUGE source of inspiration since I was weened on electronic music so many years ago. I believe him to be a major, unsung genius of this age. I will celebrate his passing

as I love him. God
bless.
Sincerely,
Daniel Kerr

From: "Tommy Moore"

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:16:38 PM

Subject: Ghosts are sidereal

Jhonn's impact on me was probably quite similar to that which he has had on many others who have come upon Coil. To find someone with interests and obsessions similar to your own is rare in a culture where they are not shared, and are far too often actively discouraged. This rarity makes it all the more valuable. He was (and is) one of those uncommon individuals who presents an example of a genuine and public commitment to his own ideas and ideals. These artists are what prevent the disillusion and despair of countless others who pursue their own esoteric interests, either solitarily or with a few like-minded others. It is an impact that will continue despite his untimely death. He will be missed.

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:16:31 PM

Subject: Farewell Jhonn, to Summerland...

Two months ago I mourned for the passing of Andrew Chumbley.
And now, another magickian and avant-gardist, and first and foremost, another GENIUS, left us.

□

You passed the Threshold Jhonn, you met Choronzon and went past it.
May your new existence in Summerland be happy and creative.

□

Thank you for everything.

□

I will miss you...

□

Marco
aka Azrael2393

□

□

From: Keith

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:35:40 PM

Subject: book of condolences

Ave,

□

□ Mine and Jhonn's path seemed quite similar musickally and spiritually. But Jhonn, through his works, seemed to illuminate my path when it grew dark as if he knew, without knowing me, where I would stumble or falter. □ For this, I shall always carry him in my heart.

□

□

□ Behold, these be grave mysteries; for there are also of my friends who be hermits."

□

□

□

=====Keith

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:40:45 PM

Subject: condolence

To those left behind I wish the greatest ease in pain. Just like many others I greatly admired, John Balance never met me. I got to meet sides of him through his music, noises, conceptualization, words, and ideas. He was one of the few in modern times to inspire me to create and think on my own. I'm currently working on a sculpture of a goat coming out of the wall. I'm sure subconsciously I was inspired by Coil's use of animal imagery and their ode to all horned animals. John Balance tiptoed around cliches and made them innovative and sincere. His ambiguous references to all things misunderstood was a constant reminder to me that I wasn't alone in my view of the world. Some eyes see too much. I hope he has found the peace he always wanted.

Sincerely,
Sean Cassidy

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2004 11:53:43 PM

Subject: Re: I weep at parades.

Dearest Jhonn, wherever you are... You are so loved and so mourned... Please know that your art has made us what we are today, and your essence lives on. You helped us to see what music really is. You helped to see what it means to be damaged; and to be truly alive.

Re-reading your last email to me now, I am overcome. How I struggled with the same disease... More than you knew. And yes, I have been sober for 16 years, but the pain of existence never goes away... I just wish that I could have maybe helped you find peace... Life is so painful; unfortunately I know this only too well.

I just want to thank you for sharing your music and your humanity with us.

I will never forget your words, your songs... My life has been so enriched because of you.

Thank you for being.

Sincerely,

Michael Laird

YES NO
B C D E F G H I J K L
A O P Q R S T U V W X Y M
N Z
GOODBYE
____X____X____X____
www.UntoAshes.com

From: Ogr242

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 12:05:45 AM

Rest in peace John!

From: "Kevin Kirby"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 12:07:32 AM

Subject:

Jhonn's passing is a terrible loss for the experimental scene. His work has been a great inspiration to me and others I know. I know of no other band who's work has the spiritual and intellectual depth that I've consistently heard through the years in the work of Coil. A major piece of the puzzle is now missing. Listening to Coil is never a casual experience, it engages. I feel as if I have shared in an experience bigger than myself, or even the creators of the music. The music opens a door to another realm-- a place that Jhonn could very well now call home.

□

My greatest condolences to his friends and family, your grief will be shared by many.

□

~Kevin

□

]See you on the other side, bro.[

From: Ferrara Brain Pan

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 12:29:58 AM

Subject: Geff Rushton

"The little boy, a living ghost
the little boy, alive again..."

("Black Moon", words by G.P-Orridge)geffrushton.jpg "

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 12:41:35 AM

Subject: a kind, friendly, happy, shining spirit..

i was label manager of k422 at the time when coil released horse rotorvator, and remember what a pain it was to get all the different coloured vinyls right; i think it was six or seven of them...

□

i was also an astrologer back then, a good one i'd like to think, and drew up and interpreted geoff's birth chart for him. the last time i saw him was at the t/g 24 launch, but all through the intervening years (about 20), i felt a brotherly kinship with him. the last time i really got to chat with him was after the rfh show, when i was extremely pissed and - so i was told later - kept saying how much i loved him and sleazy...

□

i feel a great sadness at the loss to this mortal coil and physical realm of such a kind, friendly, happy, shining spirit...

□

yours, marc williams ("girly").

□

p.s. i would dearly love to attend any memorial which may be held, please ask sleazy if that is at all possible.

□

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 12:44:24 AM

Don't know what kind of contribution this really is. Five minutes ago I found out what had happened. Some strange feeling; I'm still realizing it.

I'm 19, live in Russia (sorry for bad English if this is so), two years had passed from the moment when I listened to Coil for the first time. To say the truth Coil opened me the doors to Current 93, Psychic TV, Nurse With Wound & some other industrials, that I was able to find.

The influence was great. I write prose and have some ideas about making a film, Coil's philosophy, their visions influenced me a lot. By chance, my non-music authorities are more or less connected with John & his work (W.S.Burroughs, Jarman, etc.). This was the latest group that formed my visions. "Listening to some Coil songs now, and they are all sounding to me now as if they were written for this moment...."

John Balance. Rest in Peace

From: Joe McNally

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 12:52:21 AM

Subject: In Crazy Balance

In Crazy Balance

In crazy balance at the edge of time
Our spent days turn to cloud behind today -
And all tomorrow is a prophet's dream -
This moment only rages endlessly
And prime
Is always the long moment of decay.

Mervyn Peake

From: Chris Gutierrez

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 1:08:52 AM

Subject: Mr. John Balance

My name is Christopher, I have been a long time enthusiast of the music of Coil. As a musician myself, I can appreciate the long dark inward that is the creative life. Coil's music first came to me in the form of "How To Destroy Angels" at the tender age of 15. Since then, I feel like Mr. Balance has been a surrogate family member from afar who has blessed my life with his otherworldly transmissions. I never got to meet the man, but his influence reached halfway across the world to my humble Denver existence. Thanks be to The Great Spirit for his imprint upon my life. I would like to think that maybe John and 'Ol Dirty Bastard are collaborating on the most arse-kicking industrial hip hop record to date; and that my mother (also recently departed) is sitting back, enjoying the fireworks flying. May we all be consoled and comforted in these times. Thanks, CG.

From: "Alexandra Nicholas [FIEND Magazine]"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 1:12:32 AM

Subject: a verbal wreath from australia.

I was about 14 years old when i first heard "Horse Rotorvator", and it made me very frightened. I didn't understand how or why the music made me feel the way it did, and in a moment akin to Robert Frost's 'two paths diverging in a wood', I decided I wanted to find out.

And I never looked back. Now 30, I have devoted myself to promoting and spreading aspects of an aesthetic that Balance was so clearly a founding father. That I can pinpoint the moment in time where my path took this direction, and that Balance was such a major part of that moment, makes his passing incredibly poignant for me even though I'm on the other side of the planet.

We never met, but that's almost irrelevant as his work is such a major part of *my* story. While the world is now down one unique talent, what he created will continue to influence, provoke, frighten and enrapture others for lifetimes upon lifetimes to come.

- Alexandra Nicholas

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 1:21:48 AM

Subject: jon balance death

It's a sad day for music with the passing of John Balance, Coil is the main reason why I got into making music after hearing Stolen Songs and Contaminated I had to know how they made those sounds so I spent the next 5 years of my life collecting studio gear and perfecting the craft and I'm still amazed every time I hear anything they do, it always seemed they raised the bar higher then everybody else. It's a sad day for me even though I never meet him or saw them live I feel like I lost a close friend.

□

RIP John you will never be forgotten...

□

Navan R. □ Vancouver B.C.

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 1:41:30 AM

Subject: Condolence

The work of Mr Balance was engraved into my young adolescent mind and his art held me often in thrall, sometimes in dread, in the best sense. In my own music his influence will always be in the background of what I produce, as an early and constant source of inspiration that I hope I can somehow resonate a faint echo to. I wish I had been able to meet the Jhonn in person or to have seen him in performance. The world has lost a great composer who I believe will be celebrated long past this generation.

-Ole Eldor, Vancouver, Canada

--

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 2:40:50 AM

Subject: bookofcondolence for John Balance

I am Deeply saddened to have heard about John's death!, I know He has struggled with alcoholism for many years now, and I have for quite some time been concerned about His well being. This is a Tragic loss for too many reasons.

□

I was 14 in 1987 when I first got turned onto Industrial music at large, the third Industrial song I had heard was Anal Staircase from Coil, Its impact on Me was unlike anything I have heard. . . even to date, I knew I must own everything this band had put out, and made it a point to do so.

□

This song for reasons difficult to explain everytime listened to brings Me back to a time in my life not only missed but enchanted by this Very song even to this day indeed.

□

2

9

9

!HONORABLE WOLFE!

██████████On behalf of our collective - NYARLATHOTEP - “loathsomesoundsfrombeyond”

9

Thankyou for the audio alchemy, Jhonn.
The next league of your journey awaits.

IAOSun93

I was deeply impressed and sad to hear the news of the passing of John;
I think that he did much to spread and promote the works of Austin Osman Spare
apart from his magic contribution to music and arts;
I've used to send him my italian editions of the books of Spare signed to him and
for me it was always a pleasure,
I think that many people will miss him and so a thought of love goes to him,
regards

Roberto Migliussi

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 7:20:45 AM

Subject: To The Book Of Condolence

It is only a couple of years since a good friend of mine introduced me to the world of Coil.

I am deeply thankful to him for doing it, for showing me this magical place.

□

In these last years the music and the words of Coil have mapped out and explored places in me that I didn't even know existed, and also, at times, healed my wounds.

□

I didn't know John, nor did I ever meet him. But his art and his spirit touched me.

To me he seemed like a man who was able to create light and beauty out of darkness, and that is such a rare and wonderful gift. He was a special one, one of the special few.

He will be missed.

□

My heart and my thoughts goes out to all those who stood him near.

□

□

Morten Vågen

Jessheim

Norway.

□

□

From: Richard White **Date:** Thu Nov 18, 2004 7:46:09 AM

Subject: Jhon Balance condolences

I was really devastated to hear about this- I not only truly admired John as an artist, but he was a truly nice man. I remember writing Coil a fan letter many, many years ago. I never expected a response- it was just kind of a "I want you guys to know how much your music means to me, and what an influence it's been. You are much appreciated, etc., etc.". I honestly never expected to receive a reply. Imagine my surprise when, several weeks later, John not only replied, but sent a very nice several page letter. This began a brief correspondance between us which I've always treasured. Above and beyond all of that, though, I was both surprised and delighted to receive a copy of Coil's "Windowpane" CD several years after we'd last been in touch- I was truly amazed, that someone (who, no doubt had more important things to deal with and on his mind), remembered, many years after the fact, a fan who had taken the time to write him, and send him a CD. I'm sorry I didn't keep up the correspondance, John, and I'd like to let you know (belatedly) how much you were appreciated and admired by at least one of your fans. Allah's many blessings upon you, and I hope we meet again in the realms beyond this mortal coil. Requiscat in pace, John.

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 7:59:58 AM

Subject:

Jhonn's work has inspired me in ways I cannot imagine, and helped me to see everything in an entirely new light. My close friends and I will miss him greatly. I hope all is going well for him on the other side of the threshold.

-Dustin Lehman

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 8:00:53 AM

Subject: from Vittore in Italy

Peter:

what can I say but that I am really moved and saddened today having found out what happened...

I first "met" G.R. in the mail, even before he started the Stabmental zine,

so for me it took some time to re-adjust to his J.B. name

I'm sure it will take a while now to re-adjust to his crossing the threshold

whole lotta love,

VB

□

□

Vittore Baroni

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 8:46:27 AM

Subject: .

i remember when coil were here in zurich - we've been playing together at rote fabrik - he just returned from the squatted cabaret voltaire, holding a cow bell he found over there... it was the moment i had the luck to tell him that he is one of the reasons why i became musician.

my condolences
marcus maeder

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 9:11:32 AM

Subject: [coil] A lurkers condolences to John.

Another lurker comes out of the list.

So saddened to hear of this tragedy.
Seems that God wanted Marc Almond,
Marc survived, so God went on to
take John Balance away from us all.
I am so saddened by this, I have been
playing Loves Secret Domain over and over
in tribute to a great man.

We love you John, hope you
are with Frank Tovey having a lager.

xxx Justin Wolthers

Subject: [coil] Why?

Date: Tue, 16 Nov 2004 03:54:15 -0500

From a sad lurker,

I just learned the news today that Jhonn had passed away.

It makes me very sad to see a enlightened soul pass with such short notice.

Words can't describe the amount of emotion that Jhonn and Coil's music has brought to me over the last 10 years. When I first heard the sublimely beautiful dissonance of Worship the Glitch in my friends basement, I knew that I was cast under some spell.

Over the years I've enjoyed and praised the works that he, Sleazy, and many others within Coil produced to contribute to my musical tastes. I never would have expanded my boundaries musically if it wasn't for Coil. Many of my friends would not have had the opportunity to hear the invisible that Jhonn sang, had I not fell in love with the music of the moon.

Regretfully, I never got to see him live in concert or see him personally. It saddens me that this happened before I had the opportunity and privilege.

If you forgive the cliché, I hope we can all realize just how short and fragile life is. Make it something, say damn all to the world.

We know, we may never meet again.

For all we know, on this dusty road again.

We won't say goodnight until the very last minute.

I'll hold out my hand and my heart will be in it.

For all we know, this affair may be a dream.

They come and go, like the ripples in a stream.

So kiss me my darling.

Tomorrow was meant for some.

Tomorrow may never come.

For all we know.

Tomorrow may never come.

For all we know.

Condolences and Love,
theta

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 9:49:20 AM

Subject: (Kein Thema)

Lieber JOHN,

Die Nachricht von Deinem tragischen Tod hat mich sehr erschüttert. Auch wenn wir schon seit langer Zeit keinen Kontakt mehr hatten, fühlte ich mich Dir und Deiner Arbeit immer sehr verbunden. Ich hoffe es geht Dir dort wo Du nun bist.

Allen die um Dich trauern sende ich mein tiefstes Mitgefühl in diesen schweren Stunden.

Shine on
Will I Stasch

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 9:56:10 AM

Subject: jhonn

thank you jhonn is all i can say
thank you
love light and power
sven franke

—

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 9:59:42 AM

Subject: Submission for Book of Condolence

From Ben, John and Gerard of Cultural Amnesia.

We are very saddened to hear the news about Geoff. We knew him first when he was 17 or 18 and editing the magazine Stabmental, one of the most notable zines covering early industrial and post-punk at the height of the cassette scene and of a now rather distant material culture of

tape, vinyl, mailart, typewriters and photocopying. It was he who first introduced us to this exciting new world.

When, with his encouragement, we started making music, Geoff was enormously generous and supportive of us, providing contacts for cassette companies, telling us who was looking out for material for compilations, donating a number of songs and recording with us on one or two occasions. He released and designed the packaging for one of our tapes himself, wrote blurbs for us, featured us heavily on his Endzeit compilation and generally spurred us on in our mini-career. Perhaps we ill-repaid his efforts by fizzling out as we did.

We had little contact with him after the early 80s, but our experience is one small example from early on of the generosity and support for others, and eagerness for collaboration with those he felt were doing, or could do, something worthwhile, that marked his life throughout. It is inseparable from the body of music that he leaves behind, and together they have made him a very significant person in experimental music since the late 1970s.

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 10:31:30 AM

Subject: To A Shining Star !

My Cordial Condolence to the Family of Jhonn and all his Friend`s !

9

To A Shining Star !!!

Many,Many Thank`s for all Your Great Inspiration`s,Motivation`s for all Your Great magickal Musick,Lyric`s and Your Great Magickal Voice

[illegible]

Your Death Is a Gigantic One Loss

[illegible]

We will never forget You

0

YOU ARE IMMORTAL

[illegible]☐

Forever Your Admirer !!!

Kevin

From: Geoffroy Montel

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 10:22:27 AM

Subject: John

It's so sad. What will remain is Coil's work of art, to listen again and again, and leverage on this as it has open lots of exciting paths for music, which haven't been fully explored yet. My thoughts for all his friends and families. All the best. geoffroy (minizza)

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 10:41:05 AM

Subject:

I never meet John or really took much notice of work. Until lately, I realise that for many, he was another fallen genius the world will miss. I cannot merit anything about the devastation of intoxication. I myself am a recovering alcoholic and understand the pains that it induces, in oneself and others.

John is another fallen hero who guides the light for others to practice care.

May he live on forever.

Jason

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 11:46:31 AM

Subject: jhonn

I fall asleep trying to imagine your new voyage.
just thank you for your worlds of life.
love.
athravan.

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 12:50:11 PM

Subject: goodbye John.....

goodbye John.....

It's a very sad day for us.

☐

We would explain with words how John Balance (and Coil)'s work have contaminated our music but, now, we don't find it, really.....

☐

So we would, if you want, make a donation to all at Thresholdhouse sending some of our productions.

☐

mail an address.....

☐

Plastic Violence.

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 2:01:05 PM

Subject:

I just found out this sad news. My thoughts rest with all that knew and were associated with Jjon. What I knew of him I always found fascinating...I'll spend this evening listening to some music in the dark.

My best wishes,

Gareth

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 2:31:54 PM

Subject: bye jhonn

"you're now the living, we're now the dead"

Though I listen to Coil for only a few years, their music is of great importance in my life.

I'm sorry for what happened.

good journey across the threshold, jhonn

sympathy for sleazy and everyone.

"See the black sun rise from the solar lodge"

Vanveen (france)

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 2:27:19 PM

Subject: Jhonn

I want to express my deepest condolence to everyone close to Jhonn and his family. I'm so sad after hearing the terrible news, that I just can't come to myself at all. Coil and Jhonn was my beacon in life and endless inspiration. Now, after seeing Coil in Melkweg, Amsterdam (w/ Chris & Cosey, Whitehouse),

that concert seems even more sad than it appeared.
Courage my brothers,

Fritz.
Den Haag, Netherlands, 2004.

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 2:34:13 PM

Subject: john balance death

GUILT TO KEEP THE WORLD TURNING. ALICE.

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 2:40:34 PM

Subject: John

Very sad we lost john balance.
the voice that frightend me, delighted me.
The man behind who was on one side very close, on the other side very far.
Have to make my experiences on my own now.
Hope to meet him the next time
Katrin (berlin)

From: "Chris Lynch"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 3:13:23 PM

Subject: Goodbye Jhonn..

Goodbye Jhonn - we never met in person, but you played a great role in my life through your incredible contributions to art and music.☐You'll be greatly missed.

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 4:18:01 PM

Subject: Tribute to Jhon and COIL

Through my tears I wish first to extend my deepest sympathy to all of you at COIL and all the other musicians and artists who had the privilege and honor of knowing and creating with Mr. Balance. I just received the call from my friend Nathan and my heart broke.

My heart is filled with regret that I did not write to him personally sooner to tell him how much he and indeed all of you mean to us here in this sad and lost place known as America. Life is so short and now I know in the worst possible way how not telling someone how you feel about them while they are here makes one feel. I hope Jhon that wherever you are floating on some ethereal plane you can feel the love and the energy from these words and that you are comforted as you have comforted all of us, your fans, the world over.

In 1997 my best friend Nathan Ketchum at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan introduced me to the music of COIL. I was mourning the death of my Father and trying to sort out the pain of having a Mother with acute schizophrenia. I had grown up for the most part in a quiet resort town in Northern Michigan surrounded by tall pine trees and the moon reflecting on snow. My family all lives far away in Finland so it was sort of a lonely and often frightening childhood dealing with my Mother's psychotic episodes and my Father's failing health. I had always known in my heart there was Magick in nature and vice versa despite what the conservative Christians said. The night I first heard COIL it was undeniable proof to me that someone else not only knew about Magick but was creating it through Musick. Ever since then I have been addicted to the sounds of COIL and the soft timbre of Jhon's elegant voice. His voice and COIL's musick has helped me through so many struggles and dark times. I have always thought of Jhon as a modern day mystic poet much like the great Kipling.

Recently, I spent the first night of my life in jail for too much champagne, I was so scared and hysterical no one knew where I was and I knew I had lost my job too, I kept hearing the lyrics to A Cold Cell in my mind and once again there was Jhon and COIL comforting me in my hour of need.

I met Jhon once only the night of your Amsterdam/Paradiso concert, ThighPaulSandra and I were discussing opera and he elbowed Jhon in the ribs and introduced me to him as "this young woman here is a soprano" and John came out of his mystic veil for a moment and said "Where" and Thigh said "right here" and Jhon focused on me and I said "I am Thaisa" and he looked confused as most people are when they first hear my name and he said "Where do you come from?" and Thigh and I said simultaneously "America" and his eyes widened and he said "you came from America to see us?" and I said "yes" and then he took my face in his hands and looked into my eyes and proceeded to kiss me once on each cheek and said "then I like you very much". I'll never forget that moment. And I'll never stop listening to or loving your musick and all that I know about Magick and the Universe began on that fateful day when the sounds of COIL first washed over my soul and I began to awaken and to really hear for the first time.

This Sunday is my first vocal solo in concert. My city choir The Grand Rapids Cantata Choir is performing "Singing By The Northern Lights" a concert of exclusively Scandinavian Composers. I am singing Star of Bethlehem in Swedish, it is a moment that I have been working very hard for and I'd like to dedicate it to Jhon Balance where ever he is, he is my star and my Muse always as are all of

you at COIL. We are cutting a CD that day and I shall send a copy your way in remembrance of Jhon. I always wondered what John's and my voice would have sounded like together and now because I was too shy and self conscious to ask if we could work together, I'll never know. I have learned a painful lesson today and I'll never refrain from my true will again even if it seems impossible and but a dream. I love you Jhon Balance and Peter Christopherson and ThighPaulSandra and Marc Almond et al. with all of my heart always, thank you thank you for the Musick,
With Utmost Sincerity and Positive Energy,
Thaisa Christina Lindberg Rantanen, Thursday, Nov. 18th, 2004
□

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 4:25:14 PM

Subject: condolence

hi peter, i terrible sorry to hear the news of john's death. just would let you know, i 'm with you. he is still in my heart. especially now, just i had twin daughters the day before, live and death seems so connected. love carsten

--

carsten nicolai

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 4:42:18 PM

Subject: ...

j'aurais tant aimé que cela dure plus longtemps... Tu vas me manquer cher John Balance. Un brin de folie sans va... Adieu ce bout de Coil que j'aimais tant.

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 4:48:19 PM

Subject: John Balance

I,m deeply sorry to hear about this accident... J.BALANCE has been a great inspiration though Coil and other side-project...The music will allways remind me about John and be alive...

□

Øyvind , Norway

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 4:51:21 PM

As I heard of John's death, I thought of all the mystical, strange, disturbing and most of all influencing work, he did. When I listened to Coil the first time in my life, I was totally fascinated by the "sound paintings", the fantasy and emotion that was captured there, but I hardly understood the depth of the songs and lyrics. But time after time, I began to read literature of Crowley, AOS, and magick in general and began to think more about, what and who I am....and why. John's work showed me, that it is possible to combine the complex world of magick with musick in a perfect and beautiful way.

thank you John,

Johannes from Vienna

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 4:53:34 PM

Subject: John Balance' death

As I heard of John's death, I thought of all the mystical, strange, disturbing and most of all influencing work, he did. When I listened to Coil the first time in my life, I was totally fascinated by the "sound paintings", the fantasy and emotion that was captured there, but I hardly understood the depth of the songs and lyrics. But time after time, I began to read literature of Crowley, AOS, and magick in general and began to think more about, what and who I am....and why. John's work showed me, that it is possible to combine the complex world of magick with musick in a perfect and beautiful way.

thank you John,

Johannes from Vienna

From: sonja

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 5:10:03 PM

Subject:

Dear members, dear mr. Christopherson and co,
what a terrible loss this is! i am so happy i saw you guys play last summer in amsterdam, ill always keep great memories to this concert and to jhon's great and intense performance! i wish you all great strength !
a fan

From: "Michael Göttert"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 5:25:04 PM

Subject:

Sometimes coincidence/fate plays strange tricks. I was sitting in my car when a friend sent me an sms, telling me that Johnn Balance was dead. What made this weird was that I was listening to "Tattooed Man", giving this great song an uncanny quality.

About 14 years ago I copied a tape (well before the age of the mp3) from a friend. On it was Coil's "Horse Rotorvator" and saying that I found the music absolutely stunning does little to describe how I felt during those 40 minutes. Over the years the music/lyrics/art of Coil has/have always played an important role in my life and has/have been a kind of constant inspiration. I think I am not the only one who believes that "Moon's milk (in four phases)", "Astral disaster" and the two volumes of "Musick to play in the dark" belong to the strongest works Coil have created – especially Johnn's vocals, which I often missed in the mid 90ies, are/were outstanding. He seemed to be an artist with a vision and a visionary artist – a true representation of Blake's Los: Showing the power of the creative imagination. "All of us are wounded".

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 5:34:28 PM

Subject: Geoff

I'm so sad Geoff's gone. I will miss him, daft bugger.

□

Tim

From: "raffoler"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 5:36:23 PM

Subject: for

in memoryin memory of John.jpg "

From: "ed murphy"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 5:35:39 PM

Subject: john balance

I was very saddened to hear of the death of john balance, i have always enjoyed the work of coil and was fortunate to see them a month ago in dublin. The band were amazing with johns vocals and stage presence were amazing.. the music world will miss his innovation.

From: Johannes Bauer

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 4:51:21 PM

As I heard of John's death, I thought of all the mystical, strange, disturbing and most of all influencing work, he did. When I listened to Coil the first time in my life, I was totally fascinated by the "sound paintings", the fantasy and emotion that was captured there, but I hardly understood the depth of the songs and lyrics. But time after time, I began to read literature of Crowley, AOS, and magick in general and began to think more about, what and who I am....and why. John's work showed me, that it is possible to combine the complex world of magick with musick in a perfect and beautiful way.

thank you John,

Johannes from Vienna

Date: Mon Oct 18, 2004 6:11:56 PM

Subject: Sadness

Dear Friends of John,

□

Just this moment, I read the obituary of John and I am truly shocked. Coil's work has really stimulated and impacted on me the last 2 years... For me coil is a true revelation in music, hereby I would like to express my gratitude to John for giving me hours of true beauty...

□

Greetings

□

Eli Huijgens

□

□

□

□

□

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 3:57:33 PM

Subject: "Who'll Fall?"

What goes on?

I am very sorry to hear about the profound loss of John Balance. Although I never knew the man, his music has left a permanent impression into my spirit. On the exact day he died, I was listening to the track "Who'll Fall?" from the "Stolen & Contaminated Songs" compilation. My heart and condolences go out to his friends and family.

Todd E. Jones

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 6:16:04 PM

Subject: CONDOLENCES TO JOHN BALANCE- A GREAT CONTRIBUTOR TO THIS WORLD IN THE WAY OF GREAT ART....

THE MUSIC OF COIL HAS BEEN A GREAT INSPIRATION TO ME, THE FIRST ALBUM I EVER BOUGHT WAS BY CHANCE- IT WAS "HORSE ROTOVATOR" I WAS YOUNG AND LIVING WITH MY PARENTS AT THE TIME AND IT WAS THE ONLY ALBUM THAT MY FATHER TOLD ME I COULD NEVER PLAY IN HIS HOUSE AGAIN. I HAD NEVER HEARD ANYTHING LIKE IT BEFORE OR AFTER. I PURCHASED ALL COIL RECORDINGS AVAILABLE TO ME AFTER THAT AND IT SEEMED TO ME THAT EVERY ALBUM WAS UNIQUE AND BETTER THAN I COULD EVER HAVE EXPECTED. I HAVE ALWAYS LOOKED FORWARD TO NEW RELEASES BY COIL AND AM BOTHERED BY THE IDEA THAT THERE WILL BE NO MORE WORKS FROM JOHN BALANCE IN THE FUTURE IN THIS WAY. DEATH IS ALWAYS AROUND THE CORNER FOR US ALL AND IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN BETTER THAT JOHN WAS GIVEN A QUICK AND PAINLESS END (PRESUMABLY). HE HAS GIVEN SOME GREAT WORK FOR THE WORLD AND

I HAVE NEVER GOTTEN TIRED OF ANY COIL ALBUMS -THEY ARE ALL EVER
CONSTANT TO ME. JOHN BALANCE ONCE WROTE A LETTER, VERY
ENCOURAGING TO MY WORK AS AN ARTIST, THAT WILL ALWAYS BE OF
GREAT INSPIRATION FOR ME. IT IS A VERY SAD LOSS THOUGH. THE
LIVING ARE LEFT WITH THE RESONANCE OF THE DEAD- MY BEST WISHES
GO TO PETER AND JOHN'S CLOSEST FRIENDS THOUGH, IT SEEMS TO ME
THAT THIS EXPERIENCE WOULD HAVE LASTING EFFECTS.
MY GRATITUDE AND MY CONDOLENCES, JESSE PEPER.

From: "Arthur Gordon Scratch"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 6:17:25 PM

Subject: The Sadness of Human Things

I'm very sad to hear about that tragic event. Hopefully, it forces me forget
pettyness and get closer with loved ones. I went to the forest to plant a tree this
afternoon with this death in mind...

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 6:39:37 PM

Subject: the end of a era XX

Non esistono parole per descrivere lo sgomento e il dolore, l'angoscia e il senso di
vuoto, provocate dalla devastante e prematura dipartita del nostro caro amato
Geff. L'unica cosa da fare in questo terribile momento è cercare di conversare
angelicamente con Lui o contemplare la sua musica in assoluto silenzio: in
amorevole memoria.

E' veramente la fine di un'era: grazie tante John, ci mancherai Jhonn.

Un calorosissimo abbraccio a Peter e condoglianze vivissime a Ian.

GEOFFREY LAURENCE BURTON resting in peace

giuseppe caputo xx

"Ho detto alla Bellezza: prendimi nelle tue braccia di silenzio." Louis Aragon

From: Leah Kennedy

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 6:53:37 PM

Subject: jhonn

today I will eat my brocolli.

rip

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 6:54:03 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance, R.I.P.

Dear Jhonn,

It was with great sorrow that, upon waking on Monday, I read the news of your tragic and untimely passing. I am sorry that I never took the time to let you know how much your work and life mean to me. Your music is always inspiring to me, regardless of how troubled or depressed I am. There is some inexplicable element to your work that always urges me to overcome my problems and strive for something better. Your life has been encouraging to me also: both the way that you bravely strove to fight your own demons, as well as your personal pagan beliefs. My heart at this time goes out to all those closest to you. The ancients believed that a man who is remembered by his people never truly dies. May you be immortal, Jhonn.

With deepest respects,
Kyle Wright

From: "Peter Vercauteren"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 7:47:32 PM

Subject: Jhon Balance article in Gonzo Circus

Greetings,

We are very sorry to hear about John's sudden death and wish you a lot of strenth and courage in these hard times.

On the other had John will probably be having a great time on his (new) Mother Ship right at this very moment!

As we want to write an article on John in the next (nr 66) issue of Gonzo Circus Magazine(www.gonzocircus.com) and with a nearing (tomorrow)

deadline... we were wondering if you could e-mail us a recent picture of John (300DPI or more)...

We know you must have a million other things on your mind right now, so no problem if this is not possible.

All the best

WOLVES ARE SAFE IN THEIR OWN COMPANY

for Gonzo Circus
Peter Vercauteren

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 8:07:34 PM

Subject: -chris, Heather, Pia, Else at Beta-lactam Ring

In memory of his beautiful existence amongst us:

John Balance (Geff Rushton) 1962-2004

This is a great loss of an extremely talented person who has been a part of the tight knit experimental music community for such a long while. It is one of those moments when you cannot even begin to formulate a response that encompasses everything one feels.

We are sure that everyone in our musical family circle (artists, fans/friends, labels, etc...) will offer up the support, fond memories and such, as they tend to do at a time like this. We feel very fortunate to be part of such an extended family. It is truly amazing how music, such as John Balance created, has helped create a worldwide intimate circle of individuals from all walks of life.

Thank you Balance. You sang to us then and sing to us still. Your music, influence and essence will play on forever.

-chris, Heather, Pia, Else at Beta-lactam Ring

till soon,
chris
Beta-lactam Ring

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 8:17:26 PM

Subject: love

sleazy and ian,

□

I went to bed last night hoping i would awaken and it would hurt a little less. I think it did a little. This got me to thinking that if I (at the end of the day just a fan of Coil and of the great man's music), what on earth must it be like for the likes of you two and his close friends. All i can possibly say about this, is that everyone i know who has fallen ~~for~~ for your music without question, ~~send you~~ send you ~~our~~ our love. Our thoughts have been with you every second ~~of~~ of this week and will continue to do so for a long time to come.

□

The first time I saw Coil was at the custard factory in B'ham last year. A life changing experience. I can never put into words those times in your life when you are left ~~speechless~~ speechless. I spent the last few songs ~~drouched~~ drouched down with my head in my hands not knowing whether to cry or laugh as the sounds slammed into me from the box shape walls of the custard factory courtyard. I can remember 'the first 5 minutes after death' like a flash back, one minute aware of my head in my hands and the next tip toeing over an abyss in some place i have never been to before. When the gig was over i managed to scrape together basic english. I asked a friend "fucking amazing but what was it? 20 mins?" he replied ~~with~~ with a smile on his face "they played for and hour."

□

When i saw the man himself play with Coil in Hackney everything seemed to make sense. It all fell into place. I felt blessed more than i can imagine i will ever fell again. Complete.

□

Tim Leary said to Rob Anton Wilson when his daughter was killed that you are in a network of love. I believe that this network is very very much alive and doing its work right now.

□

Ok i'm off to learn how to nurture a 'plant baring Jhonn Balance cum bush'.

□

□

ALL my Love

□

Andy x□

London

□

☐

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 6:43:57 PM

Subject: Jhon Ballance

I am deply saddened to hear of Jhons passing. Coil were, and are one of the most influential musical acts in my life. I felt a real connection to their music, in particular Jhons vocals. I feel worst of all for Peter. Loosing such a clost friend / soul mate cannot be easy.

My condolences, take care of yourself Peter.

G Cicci

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 8:53:27 PM

Subject: John Balance

I'm sad sad sad.

I hoped to see Coil at the Seed Records Festival.

Now, I'm returned in my country and I'm sad sad sad.

I don't know the good words to "reconfortate" you.

I'm sad sad sad.

Pascal Mahieu

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 8:59:03 PM

Subject: John/Geff

So sad to hear of John's death. I corresponded with him in the early 80's from his Stabmental days, through PTV and to the early days of Coil. He leaves a great legacy in his work.

David Minshall

From: Charles Caskey

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 9:18:43 PM

Subject: If it moves any faster...

Coil's music was a huge part of my early experiments with reality and opened my eyes to ideas I do not think I would have encountered elsewhere. John's exquisite ability to relate uncomfortable notions about reality in an insanely humorous manner was one of a kind.

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 9:21:31 PM

Subject: Rest in Peace Jhonn Balance, you will be sorely missed!

Dear Thresholdhouse,

Many Condolences on the tragic and untimely loss of Jhonn Balance. May his soul find peace. He will be missed by all of those whose lives his musical art touched. Coil was one of the first 'dark' bands I discovered, and has greatly influenced not only my musical tastes but also the way in which I try to live my life. I wish you strength in the sad and trying days ahead.

□

Sincerely,

Joshua

From: "GV"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 9:44:41 PM

Subject: for John ... & Coil

□

□

Bonsoir,

□

Coil has always been a crucial reference for me, for my work - as some other "industrial" culture fine proposals.

It is and it was ever to me the example, the sign of a strengthfull and surprising capacity of producing art. The enclosed photography is my real saying in fact, and the way to express my friendship.

□

Yours

□

J.M

□

please don't spread my adress.

bvh Sauv_s____.jpg "

From: "Xavier CARTRON"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 9:58:30 PM

Subject: THANKS

Sorry english is not good :

□

Merci, merci du bonheur apporté par coil et sa musique.


□

Thanks a lot!!

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 10:41:50 PM

Subject:

"weh unser guter kaspar ist tot.
wer trägt nun die brennende fahne im zopf.wer
dreht die kaffeemühle.wer lockt das idyllische reh.
auf dem meer verwirrte er die schiffe mit dem wörtchen
parapluie und die winde nannte er bienenvater.
weh weh weh unser kaspar ist tot.
heiliger bimbam kaspar ist tot.
warum bist du ein stern geworden oder eine kette
aus wasser an einem heissen wirbelwind oder ein euter
aus schwarzem licht oder ein durchsichtiger ziegel an
der stöhnenden trommel des felsigen wesens.wer isst nun mit der ratte am einsamen tisch.
wer verjagt den teufel wenn er die pferde verführen will.
wer erklärt uns monogramme in den sternern.
seine büste wird die kamine aller wahrhaft edlen
menschen zieren doch das ist kein trost und
schnupftabak für einen totenkopf"

 (Jean Hans Arp, gekürzte fassung)

☐

vielen dank für deine musik.

□ gute reise john

□ens(ein trauriger fan)

1

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 10:49:34 PM

Subject: my deepest sympathies

dear peter,

☐

i've tried to start writing this a few times now, and hope that this time i can keep from devolving into long-winded praise (we'll see how long it takes). i want to speak frankly and humanly, not as a fan-boy would. i want to start by thanking you and john. works like blacklight district, unnatural history II and remote viewer have inspired my own music writing process profoundly. that out of the way, i just want to say that as a 25 year old, i can't imagine what you are feeling right now. i guess i'm mature enough to know that much. you two must have been closer than i am to just about anyone i know, and knowing that makes my heart hurt for you, peter. i respect you deeply as a director and as a musician, but that doesn't make one care for a person's feelings (necessarily). i think when it comes down to it, i love people. i feel their pain, and i share in their delight. that's how i was built by my creator. the art that you and john created as coil made me feel those extremes i'm speaking of DEEPLY. it makes me know that you two were people much like i am, in at least that respect. it is THAT which makes me grieve for your loss. you guys really put all that out there, in a naked and honest way... how could one not see it in such stirringly beautiful songs as "a cold cell" or your serie

rendition of "bang bang" (i believe thats the title, oops)? my hope for you is that you can push forward through this time of great suffering, and maybe turn it into somethign that, in keeping with everythign you and john have always done, will leave its haunting fingerprints on the world around it. i know you aren't alone, there are people like me who are out there rooting for you (as cheesy as that sounds). i hope that you will do what i could only imagine john would want (knowing him solely through his art)... and THAT, i imagine, would be for you to pick it up and carry it for the both of you. peter... my only hope is that your life sees an over-abundance of hope and light, until the day when all souls must meet at their final destination.

□

in brotherhood,
tibbar

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 10:55:37 PM

Subject: brief thoughts

Jhonn's life, work and vision . . .

changed my view(s) of reality
gave me strength to continue exploring
will always be glorious

Duncan Moyne
New York

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 10:56:02 PM

Subject: My Deep Condolences

I am shocked and deeply saddened to to find out that Jhonn Balance died. The impact that Jhonn's work has had on my life and my work is imeasurable. His music inspired a short film I created in college. I used a Coil song as the sound track and I believe it was my best work ever. I am speechless.

All of my love,
Phoebe

From: "Mark Cragg"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 11:04:56 PM

Subject: John's departure...

John will be sadly missed from this world. His presence in my life, though we only met once, was everlasting.

Venthams

From: "templateproductions"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 11:14:07 PM

Subject: respects.

hi,

□

□

sorry to hear of johns passing.

got into coil around horse rotovator period.

went to see them recently in dublin and was very good show. john was inspired.

□

much respect for john balance for living his life the way he did.

□

patrick

From: "John Bjorne"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 11:24:39 PM

I am speechless. Coil have been a large part of my life for the past 16 years. I cannot imagine life without John. Your music helped me through a difficult part of my life; one where i considered suicide every day.

I miss him terribly, and have nothing but the purest sympathy for all those people who his life touched.

John Bjorne.

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 11:38:15 PM

Subject: message to Jhon

Jhon Balance

What can I say?

Jhon you are an inspiration and friend_. A rock of sanity in a sea of shit (although I never met you, and you me).

Coil were more in my thoughts this weekend than in recent times (I had just lost my job (slave) after 19 years)

I woke up on Monday morning and put on the Coil vs Elph cd I decided to check out the threshold house website and_.

Well what CAN I say_

Jhon stay cool and free, freer than ever, forever in my thoughts I_m sure we will eventually meet.

Peter and Ian you have the love of many in this difficult time and in the future always

Love

Dave_id Abrahams

From: Neil Murphy

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 12:47:07 AM

Subject: death of jhon balance

a true genius is by the way. he is out of the high stretch of himself and has found something new. god will love him as he did his god. r i p

From: "jferraromo"

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 1:15:32 AM

Subject: I'm sure that he will live with us forever...

I'm filled with tears...

He was a great artist that had a lot of meaning in my life... I'll remember him for the

rest of the time that i have to live. Here, in Chile, with a group of friends, we are very sad... We feel this like a part of our lives are dead too, I have no words... Please give my condolences to all the people who was near to Balance in his life... I have the pain stucked in my throat...

Sorry...

From: "Disabled larai"

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 2:23:08 AM

Subject: sorry

sorry about the other mail, i'm really shock

my biggest condolence, really
i'm 21 years old, and living in santiago, Chile

i knew coil during my 15, and i've been a big fan for this thast 6 years
i'm quite sad for the horrible new, its horrible
i followed the tg members after the dissolution of throbbing g, and thats how i knew coil,
balance works have inspired me since mi 15 years, in my carreer and projects,
specialy some of his liryys, the same with peter christopherson, i always thought
that this was really moon music, a higher plane of concience,
i hope everybody is allright in his friends goup...
it's amaizing how the dead of somebody i don't really know affects me, specially
cos i live in a diferent country, in a different continent, in a different world...

i hope to get further knews of this horrible subject, but i need to know, whats going
to happen with u, his friends, and his projects...

well, my condolence, really, my head is broken right now, i don't really believe this
happens, its more than horrible, i sordid and bizarre, it's almoust a bad dream i
suppose

take care

and my condolence, again

i ask your pardon for my bad english, but i'm just a sudaca, who sometimes in his
life listened to coil

Disabled

From: "Michael Wilkinson"

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 2:47:38 AM

Subject: perpetual amnesia

I've been aware of Coil for a long time, but until a few years ago I was not old enough to really appreciate Coil. The music of Jhonn Balance and Peter Christopherson has had a profound effect my own ideas about music and musical output.

Today I queued up several Coil albums I have on my harddrive and randomized the playback. The first song that played was Ostia. The Death Of Pasolini. Pasolini was a truly gifted artist, as was Balance. I felt connected to this song, for reasons I'm sure I don't need to explain.

The second song that played was Who'll Fall? and while this did jar me for a second, I released that shock was not an appropriate response to synchronicity. I've never really had the experience of finding out that one of my most admired inspirations had passed. Its been weird.

Take care.

From: "witchbeam"

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 3:09:27 AM

Subject: John Balance RIP

Difficult to put into words how I feel about this.

□

Sleazy wrote this to me back in April about the loss of my friend Chris, and it really touched me more than anything anyone else had said:

□

I dont know if I can say anything to help but as Im sure you know we

have lost many friends too, and we share yr sadness at the loss but

also, hopefully, a sense of quiet optimism in the continuity of energy

and in the non-existence of linear time. Maybe not lost but just

mis-placed.

□

Jhonn Balance to me was not an idol, but someone you could respect in being uncompromising with his work. Not knowing him personally, I still always would feel an attachment to him when listening to his art. When discouraged he was someone I could look at and realize that you can indeed live your life in an artful, magickal path, which I always sincerely appreciated. Spending my teenage years in the cultural wasteland of Ohioit was always important for me to seek out and find like minded individuals as inspiration.

□

Hopefully the last moments of his conscious mind before he entered the super-context were filled with thoughts of the people he loved and knowledge that he made quit a positive impact on a world that craves and needs it.

□

Luv,

□

Steven

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 4:05:11 AM

Subject: Contribution

Dear Thresholdhouse,

□

I owe much of the inspiration for my work to Jhonn and Coil, who along with Zoviet France and Einsturzende Neubauten, and Dead Can Dance and the Cocteau Twins as well, greatly influenced me during my formative years in the 80's and early 90's.

□

I can remember vividly my "epiphany" experiences listening to all of Coil's tracks.

□

I remember the "transformative" experience I had hearing "Anal Staircase" and Coil's remake of "Tainted Love" which struck me like a thunderbolt from the Mythological Greek God Jupiter.

□

I could go on and on expressing the deep sentiments□have for Coil and for Jhonn.

□

Thank you eternally Jhonn for everything!!

□

Wishing you eternal beauty and peace,
August Highland

□

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 5:27:52 AM

Subject: Goodbye, Mr. Balance

Tonight I mourn the loss of John Balance to this physical plane and recall all the wonderful music he and the rest of Coil have brought me since I discovered the band in 1986. John Balance helped stretch my understandings of music, sound, and the darkly mystical. Thank you, John.

Max Shea
Amherst, Mass.

From: greg saturley
Date: 18 November 2004 21:54:41 GMT
Subject: Re: Geff

Hi Peter

I'm sure you're inundated with thousands of emails, but when and if you get a chance I wanted to say how saddened I was to learn yesterday of Geff's passing over. Perhaps he will be happy now that he's gone to a place that has probably intrigued him since early teens? I hope the whole thing wasn't too traumatic for you, though I'm sure it was.

Such a simple accident...

I was listening to my recording of the last time I saw you at the Ocean club in Hackney, when a girl shouted that she wanted Jhonn to die, to which he replied 'I'm no good to you dead' - ironic really, but hopefully he will gain strength and knowledge from his new 'being'. My thoughts really are with you and Geff's friends and family, despite what he says about his stepfather, I'm sure there must be some compassion around?

Although I only met him once, I have grown over the years seemingly alongside his (and Coil's) development, and, like many others, felt much in common with you and Geff's outlook, understanding and translation of the world around us.

From the earliest days when a handwritten note from Geff accompanied the early coil magazine answering my eager questions, I have kept all responses, notes and memorabilia as they form an important record of my past, which I somehow linked to him.

I feel sad, but happy for him, as I hope he is now happy too, and I hope to see him again someday,

somehow, in some form!

I am sure you will keep his memory alive, as will I.
My best wishes and caring thoughts at this difficult
but kind of expected time.

Sincerely

Greg

PS if you want to put any of this in the book of
condolence please do. I would be honoured and my
thoughts are genuine.

From: _____Ω_____

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 7:40:02 AM

Subject: good bye...

...hope that there are lot of new fields to explore there !!!

□

(start with destroying angels...)

□

Vangelis - Greece

From: Mark Godwin

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 8:18:26 AM

Subject: imbalance of time

A distant pinhole of light
Serving as a beacon
Imitating magnets
The words eventually ate him up

Time is what stops the light from reaching us

Always fixated beyond the ugly
Where people mistake emotion for darkness
Is it too dark to feel anymore?

“We have forgotten the spaces between us are empty”

Time is what stops the light from reaching us

Wish on a star you cannot sense

So

The ethyl disintegrated into shifted meanings

What

Leaving him unprepared for the hungers of the dead

Time is what stops the light from reaching us

Dreaming you on a vivaciously indigo

Lilypad

Drifting away smiling

With the frogs

Of

The free

Vision

...

Time is what stops the light from reaching us

but

your

musicks

delivered

the

light

thankyou

and

goodbye

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 9:00:16 AM

Subject: A memory of John Balance

I'm totally shocked. I got the news of his death only yesterday, 18th November. I can't believe he's dead now. I can't believe I won't listen to his voice anymore, neither in the recordings nor live. Coil has meant much to me, ever since I was 16, (and I'm 31 now) I have loved Coil all along. Isn't it a tragic coincidence? I was lately listening to "Sex with Sun Ra part I" where he sings "...most accidents occur at home.." Don't know what to think. You are a star now, John, and stars shine bright in the night. You'll be deeply missed

Salvatore Bognanni
Turin, Italy.

Kafkahigh

From: "Colin Chapman"

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 9:30:24 AM

Subject: My love and respect for Geff

I knew Geff in the early 90s through a mutual gang of mates (his University friends). We were often at social gatherings and parties together and I recall his sense of fun and how approachable he always was.

I ran into him again much more recently at The Cock nightclub and we had a lovely conversation about old times, his new partner and my planned trip to South America. I think he was surprised to find out how interested I am in the estoteric aspects of human experience and I'm sure these conversations would have continued had I been able to decipher the email address he gave me! Sadly those conversations will never take place now but I just wanted to acknowledge my respect here.

Geff always followed his own path in life, was steadfastly individual and should be an example to us all in that. I'm very sad and sorry that this has happened. I hope you can take some strength from all the messages here and the countless obituaries on the web, Sleazy.

Colin

From: "Kingsley Ravenscroft"

Date: Thu Nov 18, 2004 9:06:39 PM

Subject: Dear Jhonn

Dear Jhonn

We too have lost our balance.
A significant moment in your career.

I trust you will weather the storm.
Thank you.

With love,

Vibeakimbo

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 9:50:50 AM

Subject: Heartfelt & Understood

I only saw Jhonn in his flesh once - at the gig at Ocean.

His vitality ripped my soul apart and fixed it up with razor wire and blackest roses.

He opened up my ears to new possibilities and my heart to tormented joy.

His simplest lyrics seem to carry the most power when delivered by his tortured self.

I never knew him but will miss his presence just the same.

My heart goes out to all who did know him as friend or lover.

Peace upon all your Thresholds.

Darius Akashic

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 10:39:46 AM

Subject: Condolences from Portugal

Hello

□

Jhonn was a great human being and extraordinary artist.

□

I kindly send my condolences to his friends and family.

□

□

Fernando Sousa

□

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 11:32:40 AM

Subject: Seeds of Light

Dear Friends,

Keep the angels' fire! I cannot explain how much I'm shocked by the news about Jhonn's death. But I'm sure his unrest spirit will flame in our hearts and motivate us in disseminating seeds of light. At least his vision and voice did it to me and Jhonn was one of these avatars of freedom who helped me in my quest for sovereignty.

Love & Will

Darek Misiuna

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 12:48:13 PM

Subject: to john

Oh John, what have you done.
Now you are in the sky, playing with stars.
But we've got your voice, eternally.
Many tears.

Eric Dubois (from France)

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 1:13:31 PM

Subject: Thank you

Dear Jhonn,

□

Now that you left us (in this 'hell') without you , □ will need to hear your songs more and more , to be ' with you ' . Your □ words' have the fabuluous mistery of transporting us for where you are now

□

With love,
□
Yolanda / Portugal

From: Andrew Lahman

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 1:53:19 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] This is kind of spooky . . .

John,

Grief is a weird and wonderful thing. It can contribute to a lot of the things you've mentioned below. Please be patient as these will soon pass.

I too have been feeling bad. I only ate something substantial for the first time last night, but I am feeling better about the situation.

I was not hallucinating, drunk or tierd when on Tuesday I was still sitting blankly staring into nothing, grieving for my friend and not knowing how to cope with it when I started to get a very warm and comforting feeling down one side of my body. I wasn't sitting next to a radiator or anything but the overwhelming sensation was that it was Geff coming to say goodbye, giving me a huge big hug and letting me know that he is fine, in fact he is happy! This lasted about 5 minutes before my confusion swallowed me up but after that I felt so much better for him.

He is out there John and I don't believe for a second that he would leave any of us feeling bad if he could something about it, and lets face it, if anyone could it would be Geff.

Take care and look after yourself!

Eat plenty of Broccoli

Andrew. xx

On 19 Nov 2004, at 10:36 am, John Several wrote:

I did the only Tactile gig of the year on the evening of Geff's death, but there isn't too much that is odd about that. But what is odd is that prior to the gig i was walking through Manchester city centre with Karl Blake and I spotted a button badge lying there (I have a curious habit of picking up badges I find in the street). I looked at it and pinned it on my jacket. The badge simply said "Jon has disappeared".

Also I apologize if I haven't replied to certain people - I have been feeling very

weak and ill. I literally haven't eaten anything since Geff's death and I am breaking badly with reality again. A lot of mental health issues I was learning to cope with are resurfacing: I am hallucinating wildly and I have seen Geff's ghost, but when you're delusional it's impossible to tell what's going on. I miss my friend and it's breaking my heart.

Several (International Black Cross).

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 2:27:36 PM

Subject: In love and sympathy

We were desperately saddened to hear the news of Geff's passing. Although we only met Geff properly the once -- with Peter, at the home of a mutual friend in London -- we carry fond memories of those hours in Geff's company.

From the moment we heard of Geff's passing over, he has been in our thoughts and our hearts, and we send blessings and strength at this difficult time to Peter and Ian, and all who loved Geff.

With all our love,
Words & Jackie
xx xxx

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 2:59:03 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

It has been with sadness that we learnt about the passing of Jhonn Balance. He was a unique figure who will be greatly missed; his work in Coil represents some of the most original British music of the past twenty years. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Peter and to Jhonn's family and friends.

DEMOS Distribution, Italy

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 4:18:13 PM

To:

Subject: heartfelt

I send my heartfelt condolences to Peter and Ian, and to all Jhonn's relatives, friends, collaborators and fans at this tragic time. Our loss is

incalculable - we all know this - although in these early days it is perhaps almost impossible to frame our feelings properly in words. For the present I can only offer the following:

Balance was a genius, and fully possessed by his Daemon, his True and truest Will - that is beyond doubt; I believe too that part of his genius was simultaneously empowered and hamstrung by his seeking of danger within himself, sometimes unleashing inspiration and brilliance, at others throwing him back into unhappiness and addiction. He was oftentimes reckless, but always courageous and curiously steadfast in this path. The path along which he scampered in his all-too short life was both narrow and precariously twisted, a two-edged blade whose ascents and descents could never be predicted. I was exceptionally privileged to know him, and to be able count him a friend, while remaining an ardent fan of his work and person. I was lucky to be able to enjoy having both perspectives, but even if I had only met him once I think I would have been blessed. He was a beautiful, charismatic spirit.

For myself, the most important thing he gave after his friendship was contact with Austin Spare. It was Geff who, along with Hilmar, introduced Spare into the Psychic TV/TOPY current, from whence it came to me. Geff was an unfailingly generous man in every way, and part of his generosity was his constant promotion of sources, writers and artists who had inspired him. By doing this he set out many, many lines of investigation that others could follow - passing on the inspiration, creating possibilities for liberation of those who would come after. Spare has become a focal point of my life, and it is ultimately thanks to Geff that I - and many another - chanced upon his work. This was a massive contribution to radical culture, but still only a small part of what Geff achieved. I thank him especially for that amazing gift, and for all that he gave to me and to Astrid - his attention, friendship, enthusiasm, words and sounds - himself in all his colours and contrasts, from brightest light to darkest dark and back again, again and again. Sometimes he worried us intensely, but mostly he made us laugh, and his foxy laugh was gorgeous and so perfectly him.

Geff was incredibly funny, kindly and generous, caring, vulnerable, insightful, inspired, proud, self-effacing, uncertain, decisive, ecstatic, unhappy, romantic, tragic - a bizarre, unique and many-faceted jewel. At his best he was uninhibitedly creative; a postcard, an address on an envelope, a dedication on a CD inlay, an ansafone message, a two-line email could become playgrounds for his imagination, just as much as a fully-equipped studio or live stage could be. He drew from artists of all kinds from the past, and distilled all that he could seize in the alembic of his personality, in order to re-create himself as he believed an artist should be. He encouraged me directly and by his example, and he never gave up.

He worked hard and travelled far in both body and mind to gather the elements that he would forge into the personalities of 'Geff Rushton' and

then 'Jhonn Balance'; beneath this motley masque of flesh and name there lived a brilliant, burning, radiant, rebellious spirit - condemned to exile upon Earth, born into one of the worst of humanity's attempts at 'society'; vulnerable, ecstatic, anguished in his exile from his source.

His travels have now begun in earnest - but he equipped himself well for the journey. His last words to Astrid and me were at the end of an ansafone message: "See you soon - lots of love - 'bye..." - and so I wish him all the love he gave returned to him a thousandfold, say "Goodbye, proud Spirit - thank you for being among us - we'll miss you", and yes, we'll meet up again, somewhere. Till then, safe journey, brother.

As well as my condolences I would also like to offer my thanks and blessings to Peter, whose support and love and all else over the years allowed Geff to blossom in his artistry; without you I feel certain Geff would not have advanced, or even survived, as long as he did. And to Ian, because you enabled Geff to fall in love again, and gave him strength to regain hope. Thank you!

Gavin Semple

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 4:32:56 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

September 2000: The day after having emerged, scourged, by the Thames outside the Royal Festival Hall, mind truly _fucked for Good_, I fired off an unprecedented _thanks_ message to Jhonn_s old email address. The unexpectedly swift reply was succinct enough. _You_re most welcome,_ it said. _Let_s do it again sometime._

I_d been intermittently obsessed with Coil since Horse Rotorvator, but what I_ll always hold to be the Greatest Show on Earth that night occurred at the start of good time for me; a period of discipline and fun but crucially one of learning and personal results. I_ve always suspected that this was as much facilitated as heralded by that spine-tingling display, and Jhonn_s subsequent description of it as a clearing/ banishing for the benefit of them and us made perfect sense.

As well as his involvement in what has already turned out to be a timeless and transcendent body of recorded work, Jhonn_s most significant and pervasive contribution to this particular life (and, I suspect, that of many others) has been manifest in the following way_

Anyone who_s spent time as an unapologetic _fan_ of any artist of intelligence and integrity has indulged in that voracious scouring for information - the seeking out of any points of reference, figures, movements in art and literature, however

cryptically acknowledged. With Jhonn_s pantheon of stars and outsiders it was simply thus - if it had been given a sleeve note name check, been alluded to in an interview or paraphrased in any of Jhonn_s searing lyrics then it was invariably worth seeking out.

What I_m (clumsily) trying to articulate is that Jhonn_s life and work has led me to the lives, works and ideas of others (and then, progressively, others still) which are now truly and indelibly etched upon (and, in a few cases, curiously linked to) my own. I_ll always be grateful for these introductions and hope to do them justice one day. This is something Jhonn will continue to share with his friends and colleagues; a matchless art, wedded to that of a lineage of spiritual antecedents who they_ve served brilliantly as patrons, conduits and avatars. To have been able to so enrich lives and promote awareness of so much hidden genius is invaluable. What_s more, for someone still so young to have contributed so much to our cultural and psychic currency is a fantastic achievement, and to lose just one such visionary in this day and age is a great loss indeed.

So, thanks Geoff/ John/ Jhonn. Lets do it again sometime.

James Papademetrie X

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 4:38:50 PM

Subject: for jhonn.....

thank you for providing me with a purpose and and means of expressing myself through musick. your creative legacy has greatly enriched many lives (including mine, and my friends, who attended the dublin city hall show only a few weeks ago!). your dedication and persistence to your vision has been an absolute inspiration. in short, thank you for sharing your life with us all. no. in fact, thank you for everything.

condolences to sleazy and ian and everyone who was especially close to jhonn balance.

alex thompson, belfast northern ireland

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 4:45:57 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

server trouble...please disregard if doubling up here

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What I_m (clumsily) trying to articulate is that Jhonn_s life and work has led me to the lives, works and ideas of others (and then, progressively, others still) which are now truly and indelibly etched upon (and, in a few cases, curiously linked to) my own. I_ll always be grateful for these introductions and hope to do them justice one day. This is something Jhonn will continue to share with his friends and colleagues; a matchless art, wedded to that of a lineage of spiritual antecedents who they_ve served brilliantly as patrons, conduits and avatars. To have been able to so enrich lives and promote awareness of so much hidden genius is invaluable. What_s more, for someone still so young to have contributed so much to our

cultural and psychic currency is a fantastic achievement, and to lose just one such visionary in this day and age is a great loss indeed.

So, thanks Geoff/ John/ Jhonn. Lets do it again sometime.

James Papademetrie X

From: "philippe philippe"

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 4:59:54 PM

Subject:

thought for an artist

From: Phoebe Berg

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 4:50:15 PM

Subject: [coil] So Sad

The music of COIL has helped me through the roughest times in my life, been with me through the best, and inspired my life and work beyond measure. I can not even imagine what the people close to Jhonn are going through. I send my deepest condolences.

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 5:04:09 PM

Subject: photos of john balance, muffathalle,munich

hi,

i cannot find any words to express my sadness about the death of john balance. his music makes me crying of joy and his deepness often touched my soul.

these photos i took during a coil gig in munich.

i would like to give these photos to you and the coil members.

they express a little bit the mystical atmosphere of john.

thank you!
greetings from munich.

manuela leu
heiligenblut

From: zardoz

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 5:21:28 PM

Subject: Re: [coil] The Vegetable Kingdom makes deliveries

on 11/19/04 8:18 AM, Thomas Anomalous wrote:

I had the strangest thing happen to me.

I like the logo on the box (Page Boy), but no it wasn't me, I'm too far away, but then so is Jhonn and I wouldn't put it past him!

From: "Gwenn"

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 5:42:06 PM

Subject: sadness an pain

your music is in my brain, in my veins and in my bloody flesh. Your are not dead☐MISTER BALANCE !!!☐
Never!!! From Belgium with love and passion. J3 nEGAPADRES.3.3

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 6:10:09 PM

Subject: Gone John

Can you tell me if my message re: John was received? I was disconnected & am not sure if it reached you. If not, I'll re-construct it (as it wasn't saved). I'd also like to know if flowers can be sent, or a donation can be sent somewhere in his memory.

stay tuff,
a much bereft George, Massachusetts

☐ :-{>

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 6:33:43 PM

Subject: goodbye

goodbye john.....you will allways be in my heart.I will keep the nice memory of knowing you in Jesi in July.

LOVE

FRANCESCO PARISI
and
CARLA CENTI

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 7:47:08 PM

Subject:

I am 34 having just heard Love's Secret Domain for the first time.
It has happened at a time in my life when I'm just waking.
Shedding a lifetime of dogma.
Practicing magick, reading occult and undoing myself.
From the first listening there was resonation.
Fascinated and intrigued with COIL's experiments in magick using music and sound.
My sincerest condolences to friends and family...

Richard Nosek

From: Exrement

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 8:59:49 PM

Subject: Jhon

I would be a diffrent person had he not been here.

From: "opuntia-tunicata"

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 9:01:52 PM

Subject: x

sky cries jhonn

From: Chris Hopper

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 9:14:51 PM

Subject: question

First and for most, sorry about your loss. What forms of contributions are you accepting?

chris

93.gif "

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 10:11:59 PM

Subject:

Jhonn Balance was to me one of the best singer and lyricist of all times. I discovered him some 17 years ago through a Death in June song called To Drawn a Rose. I was stunned and hooked.

I had to found out. When i listened to Coil for the first time I was so amazed that such good music did exist. It was exactly what i would have done if i could have done it.

His extremely poetic and intelligent lyrics, the sheer beauty of his voice convey a sense of deep mystery about to be revealed, a tragic secret, fragrance of childhood and dreams, a state of exultation in front of such beauty. I found strength, courage and knowledge about myself and directions listening to Coil. It has influenced my writing and my music, it has helped me define my aesthetics, helped me get in touch with myself.

I am very very sad., Jhonn is now a Lion in sunshine as as we keep on dreaming and sleeping.

Thanks for this book of condolence which permits to express oneself and symbolize his death.

Love,
Pierre.

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 10:13:48 PM

Subject: [coil] Balance

As many of you know I tend to pop on and off this list once a year or so. Mostly when coil happenings are afoot. I was teaching a multimedia class Monday morning, on break, when I checked my email to find that someone forwarded me the notice about Coil's page going black. Soon after, I got the update about Jhonn. I felt the need to come back on and see how everyone was or was not fairing. Me, personally, its been devastating. The worst part is, not a fucking one person near me in "real life" has a clue why the death of Jhonn should be so personally significant to me. And those of you have known me virtually and in person for some time know I take little personally or for that matter - seriously. My deepest sympathies go out to all who were personally close to Jhonn. I only knew the man via email and a VERY brief passing meeting in New York a few years ago. However his poetry and Coil input has been an endless inspiration to me through out the years. And he seemed like one of the absolutely most sincere people I've ever encountered. A rarity in this repulsive culture. I've written up an extensive condolence for Threshold House. At some point I'll send it here especially if it takes a while to be posted. My regret for missing Coil in Europe this past summer, despite my proximity to the Leipzig and Amsterdam shows, has no bottom.

Take Care,
J. Harford

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 11:09:36 PM

Subject: bookofcondolence

I've never understood why I've been so fond of Coil's music for so long. It's like it's beyond the music itself, some kind of connection we don't need to know how nor why it's working. It just happens, as if it's in your genes or something like that. I would say that John's voice has always been that "special voice", the voice of mankind, in a way. He was the Voice that made the difference and did the connection, talking, whispering, shouting about differences. And we'll miss him terribly. My thoughts go to the lucky ones that had the chance to cross his path and live close to him.

□

Bertrand

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 11:22:02 PM

Subject: .Λ.

i am not sure how you fit in

but maybe within it all

from the ether to the ever

your sun still burns

and i so look forward

to experience another dawn

and when i listen to coil, will i think of music?

maybe

though i think i should say

when i listen to being, i will think of coil

as i have always done

i can only thank you for that

nicholas s./önd

Date: Fri Nov 19, 2004 11:56:40 PM

Subject: Jhon B

RFH 2001. Life changing.

□

Love

ian

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 12:00:06 AM

Subject:

I am very shocked at this news..... and to see that he was born in Mansfield which is about a 15 minute drive from where i live

It was such a pity i couldnt get into Haus Leipzig to see Coil and Feindflug as the venue had reached its capacity after a 2 hour wait outside at WGT 2004 i REALLY wanted to see these 2 bands and never got the chance, Coil were 1 of my main reasons for making the trip to Wave Gothic Treffen 2004! and unfortunatley will now never get the chance to experience John Balance in the flesh.

Regards

Tracy Dawber

Worksop, Nottinghamshire (UK)

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 12:01:32 AM

Subject:

Jhonn Balance was to me one of the best singer and lyricist of all time. When I discovered Coil I was amazed that such good music did exist. Jhonn 's extremely poetic and meaningfull lyrics, the sheer beauty of his voice convey a sense of deep mystery about to be revealed , of tragic knowledge, fragrance of childhood and dreams, a state of exultation in front of so much beauty. I found strength and courage and a sense of direction for my life listening to Coil. It has pushed me to be active in arts and get my own studio and do music. It has influenced me so much in fact... I am very very sad. Jhonn is now a lion in sunshine as we keep on sleeping and dreaming and shivering.

Hugs to Peter and Jhonn's friend,
Love,

Pierre.

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 12:04:58 AM

Subject: sad

almost a week after... I'm sad.

The album Scatology has been one of my favorites since I was fifteen years old (now I'm 34)

Tonight I burned a candle, listening to the album, drinking a bit. Sorry there won't be any more.

□

love to everyone who misses Jhonn

□

best wishes

□

Manja

From: "Christian Leoni"

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 12:38:44 AM

Subject: Buon viaggio Jhonn

Reply-To: "Christian Leoni"

Jhonn

□

che il tuo viaggio verso le stelle sia il più brillante e splendente.

□

Grazie per la musica e tutta la creatività che hai saputo regalarmi attraverso le tue opere.

□

Ti ricorderò per i momenti e le intense emozioni vissute durante gli ultimi 15 anni della mia esistenza...

□

un sincero fan

□

blackleo

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 12:56:27 AM

Subject: romanesco

one more thing...

around the day of jhonn's death, i heard about romanesco broccoli for the first time...

soonafter i opened up book of dali's paintings which i hadn't looked at in years only to find a head of romanesco broccoli in the work i was gazing at. a few days later, the day after i heard about jhonn's passing, a few organic romanescos showed up at the little grocery store i frequent... i bought the biggest one. i've never seen them there before, and they're already gone.

:-) :-) :-)

perhaps jhonn's work continues to unfold...

lots of love,

chris valauri

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:09:32 AM

Subject: Book of Condolence

I was new to a lot of things in the mid 90's. I had just started a new beginning in Austin TX. I was stationed at Ft. Hood but found my way every weekend to Austin, sometimes more. It was around this time that I started experiementing more with LSD (I only tried it once before back in New Hampshire). It was also at the same time that I was beginning to discover music that hit me in ways I could not describe. I was new to the club scene, but made friends rather quickly and easily. My friend Chris invited me to hang out with him one weekend and it has changed my life ever since. We decided to trip that night. Chris had a special surprise for me at his house, though he made sure that we were well into the trip before he exposed me to it. A few hours later, he pulls out a vinyl copy of Coil's Hellraiser themes and plays it. I instantly loved it. I needed to hear more. The first disk I picked up was Unnatural History II, mainly because at the time it was the only one I could find. It was differcult for me to find other albums (more for lack of knowledge of where to look). Eventually I left Texas and went back to New England but things were different. I was beginning to perceive things differently and paying attention to things I normally wouldn't think to consider. I was pushing the mental boundaries of conservative up bringing. Questioning and challenging the status quo of religion, sex, and everything else that shock my parents. Without Coil, I would definitely be a different person today. Thank you for the sight. Thank you for the light... and all the fun inbetween. Jhon, you will always be missed but never forgotten.

-Adam

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:16:34 AM

Subject: Jhonn

Jhonn was to me harsh angel of thumping soul
clicked my mind in ways never felt before
sad to claim for a place for him
'cos he gave us lots of space
ruin and rain and roof and reed
render rise, tender smile
was he main plug plus in wire scheme
marauders of death took him brave
what's the stake, moved by breeze
dada dandy dirty grasping
dart the plunging, thrill the seam
now where the angels dare to spin?

My most deeply felt condolences, Peter.

He's looking at us from Heaven's mixing desk controls in an endless loop of joy in artistic achievement...

Luis J.
Plastic Fang Vexer

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 3:12:21 AM

Subject: LOST RIVERS

DOLOR , AUSENCIA , Y SABER QUE AHORA EL SILENCIO TIENE SENTIDO ,
HASTA LUEGO JOHN , Y GRACIAS POR TODO .
DR. NOISE .

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 3:49:18 AM

Subject: transmigration

i am very sorry to hear of your great loss.

i never knew jhonn, but the music has always been a great inspiration. there was a real depth to the music he worked on, and that really touched a nerve. i performed a musical ritual last night in his memory:

<http://trnsnd.net/uncoiled.mp3>

nothing can truly express my admiration and appreciation.

respectfully,
chris

From: peter rehberg
Date: 19 November 2004 23:28:08 GMT
Subject: ...

Peter

I've been trying to communicate a message of support these last days, but I just find it so difficult.

Deeply moved and shocked on hearing the news.

My thoughts are with you.

p

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 7:33:27 AM

Subject: RE: [coil] Balance

Just wanted to mention that most of the people who I've related this news to have taken it quite badly. I told an old Coil fan who works in a music store (he probably hasn't listened to Coil in months if not years) about the news and his eyes teared up.

However I haven't told everybody about it. I wanted to post this because there are so many messages describing how careless (for lack of a better word) most people seem regarding this issue.

I'm still having the most terrible time dealing with this and sinserely wish the best to all,

Paul.

As many of you know I tend to pop on and off this list once a year or so. Mostly when coil happenings are afoot. I was teaching a multimedia class Monday morning, on break, when I checked my email to find that someone forwarded me the notice about Coil's page going black. Soon after, I got the update about Jhonn. I felt the need to come back on and see how everyone was or was not fairing. Me, personally, its been devastating. The worst part is, not a fucking one person near me in "real life" has a clue why the death of Jhonn should be so personally significant to me. And those of you have known me virtually and in person for some time know I take little personally or for that matter - seriously. My deepest sympathies go out to all who were personally close to Jhonn. I only knew the man via email and a VERY brief passing meeting in New York a few years ago. However his poetry and Coil input has been an endless inspiration to me through out the years. And he seemed like one of the absolutely most sincere people I've ever encountered. A rarity in this repulsive culture. I've written up an extensive condolence for Threshold House. At some point I'll send it here especially if it takes a while to be posted. My regret for missing Coil in Europe this past summer, despite my proximity to the Leipzig and Amsterdam shows, has no bottom.

Take Care,
J. Harford

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 7:55:12 AM

Subject: [coil] respects to Jhonn

to Peter and Ian and everyone else who knew Jhonn personally I wish to send my deepest condolences, my love and that you are all in my thoughts during this time.

I've been reading the e-mails on this list since Monday morning when I first learned of Jhonn's passing. I was deeply saddened by this news~ Jhon's death has affected me in deep personal ways- it is only now that I have been able to put the thoughts & feelings together. like many I never met John- I was able to catch Coil in Montreal (but as someone else mentioned- Jhon was sorely missed). I've chastised myself for not having been able to see them in nyc- an emotional mental fear of people attack prevented me from venturing the 3 hour drive into the city, etc...

I've thought a lot about Jhonn- more so than I ever would have expected from someone whom I really didn't know. it is only now apparent how far reaching and pervasive he actually was. back in the mid '80's I first heard Coil- How to Destroy Angels EP- the sleeve notes said it all and I was hooked! Coil were a band I could identify with. over the years the band has shed a lot of light, information & constant and continual "entertainment" and in a personal way a sort of individual mental support- the existence of Coil helped me to better understand who and what I was/am. for these reasons and more I am indebted to Coil and my love to them all flows from this. I am grateful and shall always treasure what Coil has given me.

In memory of Jhonn I have been lighting two scented soy based candles by his picture from the windowpane sleeve. the reddish cover reminds me of the red clouds that burned on the horizon the other day at sunrise- the fireball red stretched across the horizon as far as I could see- I've been loading the CD player when I go to bed and doze off listening to Coil- last night I awoke to Jhonn's voice from one of the tracks calling "hello...hello...hello..." it was sort of eerie but rather comforting as I drifted back into slumber. other tracks I've listened to have taken on new meaning- new sounds. they appear as if they are brand new and I've never heard them before. It's like rediscovering things all over again- as if I've entered another reality where things are new and fresh. How can I be listening to a song that I've heard before yet have never heard it before? I also have to agree with Thomas Olson who wrote "Listening to some Coil songs now, and they are all sounding to me now as if they were written for this moment...". the vision of Jhonn.

Jhonn will always be with us even though now he has departed. it's always a heavy heart when someone whose loved passes on, but through that sorrow shines the joy that one has moved into a different reality- I believe a better reality. the body is chemicals and energy- matter is neither created nor destroyed- it only changes form. Jhonn has changed form and I wish him well on his journey- even though in my heart and mind he'll always be here.

as part 2 of Spring Equinox: Moon's Milk or Under an Unquiet Skull plays I am once more moved to tears...

sorry this went on so long but thanks for listening...

peace & love~ gregg

xoxo - we love you Jhonn

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 8:57:40 AM

Subject: [coil] I Fell In Love With a dead Boy

I Fell in Love With a Dead Boy

I find you
With red tears in your eyes
I ask you what is your name?
You offer no reply
Should I call a doctor?
For I fear you might be dead
But I just lay down beside you
And held your head

I fell in love with you
Now you're my one and only
All my life I've been so blue
But in that moment you fulfilled me
Now I tell all my friends
I fell in Love with a dead boy
I tell my family
I wish you could have met him
I write letters to Australia
I through a bottle out the sea
I whisper the secret in the ground
No one's gonna take you away from me!
I fell in love with a dead boy
Oh such a beautiful boy
I asked him are you a boy or a girl?

I fell in Love With a Dead Boy, Antony & the Johnsons, november 2000.

Ostraf

xxx

Relaunching The Dreamweapon

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 9:11:33 AM

Subject: Re: [coil] Bunuel On Death

It is hard to quote this, but my view on death is pretty close to Bunuel's and is the reason I would rather die before the people I really care about are gone. Too late.....

This is from Bunuel's autobiography " My Last Breath":

"The thought of death has been familiar to me for a long time. From the time that skeletons were carried through the streets of Calanda during the Holy week procession, death has been an integral part of my life. I've never wished to forget or deny it, but there's not much to say about it when you're an atheist. When all is said and done, there's nothing, nothing but decay and the sweetish smell of eternity."

Geff knew that was the way I felt about it, even though he perhaps had a different viewpoint. Indeed I hear him cackling from the other side but memories and the tricks one's mind plays leave me still agreeing with the above. I don't wish to offend anybody, but I know Geff always appreciated honesty.

Several.

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 9:48:24 AM

Subject: Jhon

He made a difference.

Martin Dust

From: "Richard Molyneux"

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 12:40:30 PM

Subject: [coil] Jhon & Lemurs

This passing is very very sad. Saturday 13th was my wedding day and a wonderful celebration. Odd as well as myself and Michelle had the reception at the Horse Hospital.

The last time I chatted to Jhon was at a book launch there a few months earlier. He was on good form and we talked about Lemurs, especially my favourite the Aye Aye.

I hope that he gets to meet the now extinct 'Giant Sloth Lemur'. A treat for anyone in human or spirit form.

Rxxxx

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 12:48:16 PM

Subject: Jhonn

It's very difficult to express the shock I felt at hearing the news of Jhonn's death. Coil have been a part of my life for as long as I can remember and I avidly followed up on any news I found.

Jhonn had such an amazingly beautiful voice. I loved hearing his vocals and his voice had a very comforting and calming quality. Perhaps in total contrast to him and his life.

There was always an air of unpredictability with Jhonn and you never knew what to expect. I remember seeing him at the TG gig in April dressed up like an extra from a Clockwork Orange. The next time I saw him was in Amsterdam at the Coil gig where again he confounded all expectations by looking like he'd popped into a time machine from Tudor times and found his way to the 2000s.

There was always something to look forward to with Jhonn. There was always an element of surprise and there were always new avenues opened up and new things to explore. New ideas to investigate and new ways to think.

I thought that maybe I'd not want to listen to Jhonns voice or to Coil again but in the end on Monday I put on Broccoli and raised a glass of red wine to Jhonns memory. I hope he's happy wherever he is and is pleased to see so many people thought so highly of him.

My thoughts go out to his friends and his family and I hope they find comfort in all the goods words that are being said about Jhonn.

Best wishes

David Bourgoin

From: banaszczyk

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 12:56:26 PM

Subject:

.....John..... Dear John..... Thank you for your energy, musick, and
being here on this world and giving us the gift of your art..... I hope you are
happy now, wherever you are..... I pray for your soul..... I will be missing you.....
With love and sorrow.....

Sebastian Banaszczyk (Poland)

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 1:14:59 PM

Subject: For Geff and Peter

When I was first introduced to Coil in late 1986, the vocals of Geff struck me as "otherworldly". I was only beginning my journey towards "new music" at that time and - even though I was already 17 years old - at that time - was somewhat scared by this new universe that the horse rotovator offered to me. By 1988 I was heavily addicted to Coil's aural output - especially to John Balance's lyrics and voice.

□

Although I never entangled myself in magick (at least not in a formal or conscious way), Coil's music always transported me into a very unique state of self-consciousness. It was also this music that awakened the feeling within me to create a "musical" outlet myself.

□

Geff's vocals had a very strangely sad, yet positive influence on myself. His voice has, over the years, become a very familiar voice within my inner self. This intimacy went so deep that I was actually afraid of the possibility to actually meet Geff and Peter some time - since there would be no way for me to express my feelings.

□

I was lucky enough to personally meet Geff and Peter in London after the Cornucopia happening in April 2000. Unfortunately, Geff was very exhausted and in his own words "near to fainting", so there was no possibility to share more than a few words. It was a great pleasure to talk to Peter for a few minutes though.

□

When I learned about Geff's death last monday, I was deeply shocked and could not believe what I read. I could not put anything into words until today, and even this attempt will eventually end up very clumsy. It is hard for me to put into words what I feel. I will miss Geff very very much and only now I am slowly able to open up and share my grief for someone special that I have not truly known.

□

My wishes of the best possible transition go out to you, Geff - may you keep on being of great positive influence in whatever state you are in now. And may you receive some of the great energy back that you so gratefully gave so many of us.

□

I also deeply wish all the strength in the world to Peter, to continue within this world without your companion. What the two of you have achieved is of an absolutely unique stature and cannot be repeated, nor replicated. Please continue on your path with great energy.

□

Geff will always have a very special place in my heart, mind and soul.

□

Yours truly,

Burnie

□

Bern, Switzerland, November 20, 2004

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 1:31:51 PM

Subject: Dreamtime

4__\$!@%!#__image.tiff "

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 1:56:09 PM

Subject: John Balance R.I.P.

To: John

□

Without Words

A prayer for you in the highest of Temples and Beyond!

For we who've heard your cry in bond

I cry a tear here in Bombay

Your words not ever far away

Always waiting for a Coil to complete its wind

By the Angels: Seen and Blind

They await you in the house of Crowley and Spare

The Unseen Eye has opened there

Where you always longed to go and behold

Let you now enter into the Threshold

Your BALANCED voice was heard in the air

And now your BALANCE is more than fair

For you, John

You are forever in my thoughts and prayers

□

eternal love and respect in the Realm of Gold

Chandra, Bombay, India November 20 2004

□

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:07:42 PM

Subject: condolence

Jhonn,

Your thoughts, words, beliefs, and actions have all had profound effects on both my spiritual and world views. You are a kindred spirit. Though you have left this plane, your artifacts will continue to populate and circulate it hereafter. Saying you will be deeply missed is an immense understatement. Continue traveling through the moonlit embroidery of nature's living tapestry. Speak with you on the astral.

Love above all,

Mark H. Koch

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:12:02 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance

I've always had a deep connection with Coil's music ever since I first heard How To Destroy Angels. I've paid close attention ever since and I'm so glad I've had a permanent ticket on this journey. I don't know why but Coil's music has helped me be myself more than anything. It just is.

A week hasn't gone by in the last 20 years without the music of Coil being there in my life, even when not listening at home it's in my brain and seeping from my pores - I've almost been like the character in the Peanuts cartoons surrounded by that foggy fuzz of dust or like the kids in the Ready Brek commercials walking down the street surrounded by a protective Glow.

Coil are also to blame for my having a huge amount of beautiful, creative and close friends - many of these friendships were started by me introducing (or corrupting) people into this endlessly wonderful kaleidoscope of Beauty and Infinity. Two of these people are both called Ben. I couldn't wish for better people in my life - rabid Coil fans, we make creaky, wonderful musick together as Jazzfinger - in pursuit of Beauty and Infinity. We get asked to DJ often and we always play something by Coil. And somebody always wants to know what it is we're playing. One person is Richard Bevan who I worked with for a while in 1998 - I played him Black Light District and saw in him the epiphany I had experienced back in 1984. He since went on to form Posthuman and the Seed label and later invited Jazzfinger to play at Aldwych as he more than knew that we would be electrified at the prospect of sharing the bill with our favourite musical entity and at the opportunity to meet up with Jhonn, Sleazy and co. Sadly, this didn't happen. And then we all lost Johnn the next day.

Why am I writing this?

To say Thank You to Geff Rushton.

Thank You to Johnn Balance.

I'm so lucky to have your Musick and Soul as part of my life.

I'm exceptionally lucky to have seen you perform with Coil five times - the memories of these performances will live long and strong within me.

And your example has taught me how important it is to keep creating in the face of adversity and pain.

With Love to you and to all of those who know you.

Wherever you are I will always be there as well. Somehow.

Hasan Gaylani

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:24:07 PM

Few weeks ago, i decided to forget how shy i am, and i wrote something with my poor english to Jhonn Balance about the "Et In Arcadia Ego" sentence (which was on Thresholdhouse website, under a Balance portrait).

This sentence is graved on a funeral stone - in a Nicolas Poussin's painting. It says that even in this land (Arcadia), a land of felicity and beauty, death can hit people.

I always thought that the remote viewer cd-r was the music from this land of pure beauty - and death.

Balance answered me with great kindness :

"I agree totally with your sense that Poussin presents a clasical surface behind which or underneath which there is a contagion. The age he lived in must have been a very senseladen experience with rot and death at the head of the tunnel, shining. I wonder how I would have fared in such times. My leg would probably fall off with gangrene. A psychic once told me I was crushed to death by a horse in a previous life."

We were planning a swap beetween some melancholic folk cds and lp i sent to him, and some coil discs he wanted to send to me.

His generosity moved me, like his music (and Christopherson's music) did.

I remember him dancing in the Paris show this year - i keep this souvenir of someone escaped from Arcadia.

jonas

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:35:36 PM

I want to thank You Jhonn, Peter and all the others for all the impressions, emotions, and thought's Your magick-music gave to me.

As You, Jhonn, sang on the horse rotorvator album "death, he is my friend,
it's promised me a quick end" as well was death Your friend. He gave
You an quick end and didn't let you suffer.

dereinst wird es uns ebenso erstaunen dass uns die lebenden nicht
sehen, wie es uns heut verwundert das aus dem reich der toten kein
schimmer zu uns dringt
(ernst jünger)

--

Best regards,
See you in another world
daniel

From: showpony

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:33:37 PM

Subject: Geff

please accept my most heartfelt condolences

From: "Emanuel Flamini"

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:42:57 PM

Subject:

La morte è un passaggio per la vera realtà di una dimensione invisibile
che ci circonda e ci compenetra.

viva in pace Jhonn Balance la vera vita che attende noi tutti nell'altra
dimensione

era scritto che avesse un appuntamento improrogabile quella sera
con Pier Paolo Pasolini che lo avrebbe accompagnato nell'"oltre"
un saluto alla sua memoria

Emanuel (Viterbo, Italia)

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:44:46 PM

Subject:

John,

I can't thank you enough for all the inspiration and motivation you and Coil gave me for my life.

Even if we never met in person I felt you where in a way a very close and intimate friend - someone I could rely on. Your honesty and integrity felt through e-mails, records, cd`s and interviews where a guiding light I treasured and will treasure. I can't find much better words than those I read from someone else a few days ago:

"Suddenly the world is a much lonelier place now".

I am thankful for every memory,
seeing Coil in concert 2001 was a dream come true,
receiving some releases directly from threshold house in handwritten packages was such a pleasure,
listening to your voice and music helped me through a lot of wired and dark times.

So all I can say is "thank you" - over and over again.

Love,

Carsten

"In Silence We Rust"

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:50:38 PM

Subject: From his Auntie Tot(Tottie Fey)

Jhonn Balance(born Geoffrey Nigel Laurence Burton) came into our lives, born by the fireside at his Nana and Granddad Burton's home in Nottinghamshire.An old fashioned beautiful birth.

His early years brought joy, love and happiness. Always singing and reading childhood tales. A fey little boy who knew what we were thinking the moment we did. He loved the flowers and creatures of the world and was gentle and loving with them, always thinking before answering a question. A True Sunbeam.

We loved you and always will,

Auntie Averil (*Tottie Fey*) and Uncle Peter

Geoffrey N L Burton.jpg "

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:50:49 PM

Subject: Good bye.

My Dear Dear Jonh

My God what can I say to you? I'm so very sad and shocked. You beautiful beautiful man you. I hope with all my heart that you can find happiness and peace wherever you now are, and that your spirit will forever blaze with an ever greater passion and intencity. I can't imagine you not being here with us, but you will forever be in my heart. Yourself and Peter will be in my thoughts and prayers. I will miss you and all the beauty you brought into my life.

I write this to you, tears running down my checks, Broccoli playing on the stereo, you speak to me still and always will. Such sweet sorrow at your leaving.

I wrap my last kiss in a bandage. Love love love to you.

Gregory xxx

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:52:57 PM

Subject: Jhon

Jhon's art and vision infected me as a teenager, and has inspired and informed me ever since. i look back on the influence he has had on me and my own artworks and music and feel a sorrow that I cannot describe or define. I know that his current will live on in the minds, hearts and works of so many besides myself. I grieve for Balance and the loss felt by his family and friends, but I know we all will keep celebrating the divine fool, beautiful explorer, and illicit challenger that has now continued on his way.

jeremy dickens

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:54:49 PM

Subject: For Jhonn

I just now heard the sad news.

I can count on one hand the number of musical artists who have profoundly influenced my life. Jhonn was one of them.

He will continue to positively influence my life until I too pass the Threshold. And when I do, I look forward to embracing Jhonn in a sign of deepfelt thanks.

Frater Steve

From: "Donald Ross Skinner"

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 2:57:18 PM

Subject: To Geff

I only got to hang out with you for a few days in Europe, but it was a great time. I'll never forget 'Constant Shallowness..' at that festival in Leipzig and the smile it put on my face.

Happy travels, Geff and my condolences and all the best to you, Peter.
Donald

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 3:28:15 PM

Subject: Love for Jhonn and all who were (and are) close to him

I feel with everyone who has known and loved Jhonn and who misses him now so painfully, especially Ian and Sleazy.

Coil's music and Jhonn's beautiful voice have been like a healing balm when my nerves were wrecked and my soul was full of pain and sadness. Especially this year, when for weeks on end it had been the only music I was able to listen to. It alone had the power to calm me and soothe me and give my mind some peace and rest. And it continues to have this power.

May Jhonn's spirit never leave those who were (and are) close to him.

Jhonn - may all our love accompany you on the journey you are now on and make it a peaceful and safe journey for you. May your new existence give you whatever you wished for.

And continue to transform the spirits of those who listen to you.

Thank you, Jhonn, for all that you gave.

Love,
Daniela

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 3:38:40 PM

Subject:

How do you say good bye to someone who 's music touched your soul. It is pretty odd that someone who has died that you do not know saddens you so. music will never be the same . No one could fill his shoes.my deepest sorrow for those who knew him in life as well as music. My best friend and I never got around to getting our coil tattoos.We still are , but wish it was not like this.

Natalie phillips and corinna arlington

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 3:46:00 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance the great

Jhonn I L-OV-E you with all my heart. You have brought so much joy to Peter and friends and fans world wide. You will be greatly missed for the rest ov our lives. Thank you Jhonn for the kind words and the voice ov wisdom.□this world screams out in pain and sorrow and you brought us all such great Balance. This is the second time I have wrote to you. The first time was when I was in shock.□am writing to you one last time to reach out and hold you with pure l-ov-e in my heart thinking ov all the great times you brought all ov us. I found this great passage from Brion Gysin. I believe this□assage makes more sense to me now than it ever has. My wish is this will be a reading on the the 23rd for you as to help you pass through the great beyond. Thank you Jhonn for being so nice many years back when we exchanged□-mails. I just wish I could ov found that Beefheart you were looking for.

with many thoughts about you -I think ov love-

goodbye for now Jhonn for I know you will be there for us with l-ov-e and open arms (waiting).

□

□

this is the passage I hope to be read aloud on the 23rd□>>> its all to clear to me now (please read this)

By Brion Gysin

the hallucinated have come to tell you that your utilities
are being shut off□□□□reams monitored□□□□hough directed
sex is shutting down everywhere□□□□you are being sent

all word are taped□□□□agents everywhere
marking down the live ones□□□□o exterminate

they are turning out the lights

no□□□□they are not evil□□□□hor the devil□□□□but men
on a mission□□□□with a spot of work to do

this□□□□lear friends□□□□hey intend to do on you

you have been offered a choice□□□□between liberty and
freedom□□□□and□□□□No!□□□□you cannot have both

the next step□□□□s everyone into space□□□□but it has been
a long dull wait□□□□since the last tower of babel
that first derisive visit of the□□□□paraclete

let's not hear that noise again □□□□and again

that may well be□□□□he last word anywhere

this is not the beginning□□□□n the beginning was the word
the word has been in for a too□□□□long time
you in the word and□□□□he word in you

we are out
you are in

we have come to let you out

here and now we will show you□□□□what you can do
with and to
the word
the words
any word
all the words

Pick a book□□□□any book□□□□ut it up
cut up
prose
poems
newspapers
magazines
the bible
the koran
the book of moroni
la-tzu
confucius the bhagavad gita

anything
letters
business correspondence
ads
all the words

slice down the middle
according to taste
chop in some bible
pour on some Madison Avenue
prose
shuffle cards
toss like confette
taste it like piping hot
alphabet soup
pass yr friends' letters
yr office carbons
through any such sieve
as you may find or invent

you will soon see
just what they really are
saying
this is the terminal method for
finding the truth

piece together a masterpiece
a week
use better materials
more highly charged words
there is no longer a need
to drum up a season of
geniuses
be your own agent
until we deliver
the machine
in commercially reasonable quantities

we wish to announce
that while we esteem
this to be truly
the American Way
we have no commitments
with any government
groups

the writing machine
is for everybody
do it yourself
until the machine comes
here is the system
according to us

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 3:41:20 PM

Subject:

I had the privilege of once being introduced to Jhonn by a mutual friend. There was no reason why he should have remembered me. A while back, at a book launch that Jhonn was also attending, he recognised me and came up to say hello. That he should have recalled me at all was beyond my comprehension, for he must have regularly met many people in the course of his Work with whom he was not personally acquainted. It was a small gesture which, as a *Coil* aficionado meant much to me. I'm certain many *Coil* fans could tell a similar story. May his continuing journey be both safe and *sound*.

□

JC (Greenwich,London)

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 3:46:51 PM

Subject: farewell, fair star...

balance!
in a time *without* balance...
i LOVE you.
and so shall i cherish you, in passionate retrospect...
the intangible hours!
you and your musick, to guide me (via chaos) to absolute truth.
these personal effects:
a reno apartment(!) a seattle subway(?) new york city(*)
an astral disaster; a peculiar itch... an eternal obsession.
blessings, dear jhon...
you have changed the pathways of my heart and of my mind,
and i am grateful to you.
travel in peace,
surrounded by light
and my love.
you are eternal...
blossom, my love!
z e n

From: mikavainio

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 3:50:38 PM

Subject: for ever radiating jhonn

dear all at threshold house. news about jhonn's death reached me tuesday evening making me very sad. i met him many times ,but there was never a chance really to talk and to get to know each other a little bit better ,or at least it was feeling so then. we were even planning to work together allready ten years ago, and now again in london last may. as so often you realize these things when it is too late. his influence on my own and pan sonic's work cannot be overestimated. ilpo vaisanen was allways a big fan as well. since 's is for sleep', his work was allways important for me. he left a precious heritage. my sincere condolences and best of wishes. mika vainio and Jhonn -KEEP ON RADIATING.

From: "Daniel Presnell"

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 3:56:36 PM

Subject: For Jhon

The world rests under the red, falling leaves.

Call out the sounds from stones, our mourning is celestial.

Take the light with you and return to us in the simplest beauty.

The Voyage is beginning, we pray to your stars,

The wind is lifting the sails. Moon is rising. Farewell, Friend.

□

d.

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 4:08:59 PM

Subject: balance

To the sonic alchemist : Safe travels.

Joe.

From: "antonio.quintas"

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 4:09:45 PM

Subject:

i´m a venezuelan boy living in portugal,and i came to coil and balance when searching for things about austin osman spare in the net,i think is was destiny,i just want to thank you balance for your happines,meditation and confrotation of fear that you gime me,some of your lyrics were magic,walk alone on your one what remenber we arew with you in your new path,now is your future,see you in the future,obrigado

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 4:13:44 PM

Subject: Jhonn

may i ask you all for silence
the dreamer is now asleep...

peace.

si and paul xx

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 4:19:11 PM

Geff, we all love you! I'm saddened by your passing, but I envy you the chance to see all the beauty that you felt and heard all these years. Peace.....Pete Zecewitsch

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 4:20:16 PM

Dear John,

I met you in New York City, right before the tragedy of the Twin Towers. I do not know it yet, but this loss will probably effect me in a much grander way.

Yet is a measure of loss enough? I will make sure to go out, and from time to time, try and express what measure of life you possessed.

Feel free to possess me, and help me do it right!

CHEERS FOREVER AND TILL I CROSS THAT THRESHOLD MYSELF!!!

as always
Rev. Alexavier S. Strangerz 23.3
'Still Dreaming'

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 4:20:24 PM

Subject: The Silver Apple Of The Moon

Dear Jhonn

Thank you for leaving us with such a wonderful legacy. The beauty you brought into

my life makes up for the constant and unremitting barrage of ugliness I see around me. You truly are the Balance.

XXXXXXXXXXFATFEZXXXXXXXXXX

And pluck till time and times are done
The silver apples of the moon
The golden apples of the sun
W.B. Yeats

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 4:31:23 PM

Everything changes, everything dies, but for the last ten years, Coil has been a wyrd constant in this otherwise frenetic life. Jhon was an inspiration both artistically and as a person in so many ways. Having reached a place in my life where I find a smile more often than not upon my face, it's hard to have to thank someone who indirectly played a significant small/large part in that process in such a manner. But thanks Jhon. From something into something. Have fun in the aether!

Rob Allen

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 4:35:59 PM

Subject: the great god balance

greetings,
it is with a heavy heart□ write to pass on my condolences following the news of johns death.i have always viewed john as one of the few great magicians left in the west!the power of his word and thought has been a source of delight and fscination to me for many years.He travels now to another place where i am sure he will be warmly recieved by the gods and goddesses!A true pagan!
Hail!
eden301

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 4:48:04 PM

Subject: Condolences

I just wanted to say thanks for your insight and musical genius. Without you, I doubt I would have

ever gotten into producing music. You and coil taught me that music wasn't always musical and that one didn't always have to look at life straight on.

You will not be forgotten.

Daniel

From: "ratema"

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 4:54:01 PM

Subject: Jhonn, Jhonn, let's hope for Balance

Jhonn, Jhonn, let's hope for Balance

□

The red moon is a liquid
To be swallowed by a virgin

□

The squidlike manifestation of our Spirits' flesh
Is swimming it's way through so called life

□

A last dance before passing the Threshold
A sole dance and a brief flight

□

Sometimes
Sometimes

□

The night's a bit darker
For your brilliance has gone
The day was already less sunny
For freedom was taken

□

We'll return the books, not burn the books
After we've found the spell for turning feaceas into Gold

□

AtematicA 16-11-2004

From: burnett

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 5:13:39 PM

Subject: my thoughts on Jhonn, and Coil, and what they've meant to me

The announcement of Jhonn Balance's death was literally the first message I had in my inbox this past morning, and the information hit me hard. You see, Coil is one of the four musical entities that I listen to, collect, am inspired by, am comforted by, and draw strength and inspiration from. If I was to call a circle for some reason, Coil is one of the four guardians of my musical psychogeography and mental landscape.

Magicians masquerading as musicians, Coil's recordings have been an important part of my mental landscape for many years now, are an openly acknowledged influence on my musical performances and were part of my decision to begin performing live only a few years ago. I owe Balance a great deal, even if I never met him directly. Jhonn's work in Coil towards sound sculpture, audiognosis, chaotic functions such as the Glitch and strange attractors, influenced my improvisational sessions with A & R that became our twenty-two to date performances as Subscape Annex, and continue to inspire me in my other work in Phasmatodea and other, more ephemeral, projects. Indeed, Jhonn's work in Coil helped contribute to my decision to start performing in public as a musician again after a hiatus over a decade and a half.

Shortly after I purchased my Chapman Stick several years ago, I discovered that Balance had used a Chapman Stick for some of Coil's earlier recordings. Instead of a shock, this discovery felt more of an "of course" moment for me.

I had a strong impulse Saturday night after everyone left my regular Saturday night party here at Badgerhaus around 3am to put on Coil's _Time Machines_, which I haven't heard in months (mostly because I don't have it ripped to iPod and the 13 albums I do have ripped, while maybe a third or fourth of my collection of Coil, is generally enough when I want Coil), and fall asleep to the dreamachine flickering. I had no idea at the time, but a powerful urge that I chose to ignore. I might do so Tuesday night.

I performed a requiem for Balance Monday night. I had no script, no plan, only an intent to evoke what I knew and imagined of the man and his work through sound. Deliberately not-thinking, I strung effects and gear together with cables until a usable chain of equipment emerged. I used the Moog Etherwave Pro theremin, the Moog moogerfooger pedals, and the three looper pedals (Akai Headrush at the beginning of the signal chain, E-H 16 sec digital delay and RC-20 LoopStation at end).

On. I began with the theremin set on a square wave, at the very bottom of the sonic range, hardly more than a death rattle or clacking of beetles. Maintaining that sound I recorded roughly a two-minute loop on the RC-20 at the end of the signal chain, counting on minor variation in pitch to create liveliness, if "onlie the most awful" type as written of by HPL. Afterward I switched the Etherwave Pro to the custom voicing and used my

preferred all-turned-down mellow setting with the moogerfooger phaser, setting a still-low note with some shifting, letting it play and overdub into the RC-20 until it set as a layer.

I then turned off the moogerfooger phaser and turned on the moog MuRF filter to add pulses of a few seconds duration pitched a whole note above. I did that until I accreted a layer, then reinforced that layer with a second layer. Then, I took the RC-20 off overdub and let it play. I then combined the moog phaser and MuRF, and recorded a second loop a half-tone above onto the E-H 16 delay loop - about a minute or so long. I let the two loops play for a bit and precess.

Then, I set the E-H to overdub and added another layer of low tone using the Etherwave Pro saw wave setting, the Moog phaser, MuRF, and delay pedals. I added pulses again until they overlaid and accreted another layer, or another outer/inner circle of the diagram if you would have it so. I set the RC-20 back onto overdub until it picked up everything from the E-H 16, then set it back to play-only mode.

Setting the Etherwave Pro to another voice on theremin, a sort of horn sound, I turned on the Moog ring modulator. I used the Akai Headrush at the beginning of the signal chain to record three short blips of sound, which went through the Moog ring mod before reaching the loopers. Using the RC-20 in overdub mode, I captured one cycle of the Akai-through ring mod loop. Then I set the E-H 16 in overdub mode again to capture the same loop, except I let it run for a while, catching multiple out-of-sync Akai loops on the E-H's much longer loop with about four passes.

Finally I set the RC-20 back into overdub, so it recorded the multiple overlaid ring mod blips from the E-H 16 as well as the Akai loop that was still running. I let this evolve over roughly six minutes until the ringmodded blips had merged and congealed into a wall of clanging sound.

I ended the piece brutally by killing the master power switch.

Goodbye, Jhonn.

From: maquislazar

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 5:03:10 PM

Subject:

jhon

a week ago you fell away and across
and i'm not sure if i have fully grasped this yet
but i want to

thank you for all the times you made me shiver and cry

and thank you for your voice, a saving lifeline i could cling to
while in extreme pain and tripping out of control

thank you for displaying your scorching wounds as they bloomed
immolating your mind in public

and thank you for physically touching the fireflame on my arm
at the astoria in may
may it always burn with you in the same way that you will
continue to burn in my memory

makis lazarpoulos

From: james hodson

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 5:22:57 PM

Subject: Jhonn Balance - Pagan Saint of Bent-Brained Visionaries - xxx

Dearest Geff,

I cannot find the words to express how much your work
and vision meant to me. You truly were the brightest
shining blackest star. I wish I could have met you
more often and overcome my shyness to talk to you
properly. I can only hope that one day we might meet
in some other realm, in some other form. I shall
always carry you close to my heart. Your work with
Peter was immediately and has always remained to me
the most intense, profound expression of the soul I
could ever have imagined - nothing else ever came
remotely close to it and to me it was far, far more
than mere art or musick. I know that we shall never
see or hear of your like again. Willam Breeze's
comments about yours and Peter's astral charts make so
much sense about you and your work together and makes
the pain of losing you so much more bearable. I only

wish I could say more that really reflects what you meant to me. My deepest sympathies to Peter, Ian and all your close friends, loved ones and family. My thanks be to those beings responsible for making your taking so swift.

I know you will always be here with us in one form or another when we listen to your work.

- Pagan Saint of Bent-Brained Visionaries.

LOVELOVELOVE

James

xxx

xx

x

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 5:20:29 PM

Subject: What to say

One can get far beyond possible belief with random thoughts in fact randomness is the only way to get 'somewhere' where no one else has been.

Culled from the Gurdjieff mailing list.

Gerim'e

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 5:27:43 PM

Subject: Thank you to Jhonn Balance

I remember Jhonn Balance as perhaps the kindest, sweetest person I've ever met. I met him briefly when I, along with Dick Robotic and Stud Chambers, interviewed him, Peter Christopherson, and Thighpaulsandra after the Coil soundcheck at Convergence 7 in 2001. I didn't really know what I was doing at the time. I felt so silly and inadequate to approach such great musicians for an interview. I was such a rock journalist novice at the time (and I still am

and hope to remain a novice, but a more productive one at least). Anyway, Jhonn was so kind to say that I may interview them after their soundcheck. Without going into too much detail, I just remember how kind Jhonn's essence felt to me, and how honest it was. When I looked into his eyes, they seemed so very blue, sparkling, and spiritual. It was like looking into another dimension and losing track of reality for just a second. I didn't really hear much of Coil's music before the interview. It was all done on a whim and instinct for me. I didn't realize how spiritual Coil was, but at the time, I had seen spirits and ghosts before my interview with them. I ventured to ask Jhonn if he'd seen any spirits, and when he said yes and went into descriptions of what he'd seen, I felt I'd met my first and strongest spiritual kindred spirit. I know it is too much to say that, but that is what I felt. It was a very healing experience for me to have the interview with Coil and especially to have my short chat on spirits with Jhonn. Later, during their show, I felt I was in another world. The emotionality and surreality of that Coil show took my breath away and I still haven't fully regained it. It is that acute, deeply great feeling of finding a kindred spirit that understands the most scary, timid, and knowing part of you. Every time I listen to a Coil song, I feel a strong kinship to the people who have seen even more of what I've seen and know even more than I know, and who feel the same things I feel. Coil is absolutely necessary to my happiness. They've helped me so much. In closing, I aspire to be so kind to strangers as Jhonn was to me that day. And that seems a very difficult thing to do... but in doing so, I think it is the most loving and knowing thing ever. Great love and wishes to Jhonn. I find happiness in believing you are now everywhere at once.

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 5:33:57 PM

Subject: condolence

Jhonn inspires my life, magick, musick.

"Thank you ,Jhonn!"

I feel with Peter and Ian, I lost a friend (more family) two and a half years ago on cancer and it is bitter to loose someone you love.

But the spirit and all the love are existing after his physical ending, too. Heilige..

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 5:42:29 PM

Subject: Kind words to the departing... and those left to wonder.

Dear Jhonn,

when I was little and asked my mother what an artist was, she told me that it was somebody who could go beyond the borders of sanity and then come back. This is a definition that I felt was true and which I still use to this day.

□

I am one of the late ones, somebody who was only touched by your magick after having heard some of your remixes for NIN. But that was enough. It started me off and since then, I have tried to find my way deeper and deeper into the pathways of shit, lightning and moonlight that you, Peter, Drew, Thigps and the other had paved. I never truly understood, if there is ever a point when one can say that one truly understands something as deep as you communicate with your music, but I never stopped trying to make my way further. Persistence is all, after all.

□

And at the heart of it all, you have done what you have always done: pushed the boundaries and come back to scream the tale. I was fortunate enough to be able to see Coil play live twice and, as if you needed telling, there is no band on earth that I know of that equals what you do, no concert that fried my mind in the same way.

Thank you for that.

Thank you for the hours of intense emotions I experienced to your music and thank you for the many, many bewildered faces that my friends made when I exposed them to Coil.

□

By now, you will know whether "Horse Rotorvator"'s last track was giving a good aural representation and I do hope that in the light of the star now rising, you will be less set upon by demons than you were when the sun was setting.

□

So many things to say and all sound silly now.

□

So, Hail to Him that has gone before as ever and my kindest thoughts and considerations to those he left behind. I hope that your house does not feel too cold and empty.

This story, having no true beginning, also shall not have an end (I think that's Barker, but I hope he'll forgive me.)

□

Safe journey,

□

Christian

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 6:10:23 PM

Subject: yes

Dear Jhonn,

In your last email to me you asked, jokingly, if I would marry you. I am writing to you now to accept your invitation.

I received the gift you sent me a few days ago. I regret that I didn't get to eat any of it, but I'll be sure to think of you the very next bite of brocolli I have. After being awed and perplexed, I had the good laugh I think you wanted me to have.

I was very troubled to hear, only a few days ago, that you had sent an email to the coil listserve asking if anyone knew how to get in touch with me. I wish I had known - I wonder what was on your mind? If you find the time on your trip, could you send me off a little postcard letting me know what it was you wanted to say to me?

I said some prayers for you all night a few evenings ago - really they were for me, to make me feel better, and because I wanted so much to believe you were happy and would be moving into happiness. I feel much more confident today that things are going well for you, and that things are happening for you now that exceed my own understanding.

I don't know what is in store for you, so I wanted to say goodbye. Just in case you can visit, I have reserved for you a double bed in my heart, under a grape arbor, in a garden next to a lake, and I invite you to come lay around there with me anytime. If I am not around, wait for me - I will come by periodically to see if you are there.

Your journey must be electrifying... so much being washed away now, all that toil and trouble. You were such a brave warrior to keep your heart so true through so many years of pain. I am very proud of you for the good fight you fought.

I am sure we will cross paths very soon, and I hope I will recognize you! Please keep an eye out for me, I will be looking for you. I bet I will recognize your voice.

With deepest respect and profound gratitude for all your faces that I never knew, but imagined, and for those I didn't imagine, with an ache of sad joy in my heart, I send you all my love.

Thomas Olson

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 6:42:12 PM

Subject: Farewell sweet angel

I'll never forget the moment when I first met Jhonn and Peter. It was in New York

City, August 19, 2001, at the hotel lobby of the Warick Hotel. I passed a message onto them and received warming hugs from both. Oh to get just one more hug from Jhonn. Upon my departure I told Jhonn and Peter that they're always welcome to visit Denver and that they'd be taken care of - Peter, always remember that.

Jhonn, thank so much for bringing such beautiful words and beautiful music into my life. I so wish I could have given something back before you left us all. In life and now in death you have given me inspiration and hope. I feel even more inspired now to pick up the theremin again. I'll try my hardest to make you proud, Jhonn.

You're eternal. You may not be here physically, but your spirit lives on forever and ever. Sleep peacefully sweet angel until we all meet again.

My heart goes out to Peter and Ian through this dark time.

Love eternal,
Vanessa

From: "Ellen De Ceunynck"

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 6:54:26 PM

Subject: no love lost

Jhonn,

□

thanks for the emotions, hope you find some peace now.
you helped me to follow my own road, living my own life!

□

Respect, love and peace,

□

Flip.woozie
Zen for Birds

□

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 6:21:35 PM

Subject: John Balance showed us the grey room

when coil played ocean, the twenty-fifth of july, incredible things did happen. devout and ruling all seemed that night, on the good side of lunacy and in full control. john's back was bare and descending. somewhere past half way through the sound a large space taking shape over all our heads

caught my eye and I could not lose it. in the form of an oval field, dark and concentrated, it grew out of the mass of spectators. john balance moved off centre stage and lapped this space onto his voice. another room then did appear. the grey room. which is rarely seen. past black, past blue, past white. the last room on the corridor. beyond grief, despair and rage. the room behind all others where only quiet rests. not knowing whether I was alone in this yet convinced that everyone saw it. this room, I thought, is what he knows. not many people go there. to know now that John Balance is no longer alive is simply the saddest shock. my deepest thanks to Coil for creating all you have. for invaluable consolation. strength in time to all at Threshold House. and love to those who should be.
paula harvey
29, amsterdam.

From: "Mark"

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 8:19:18 PM

Subject:

May the memory of your life live,
rest in peace.

Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 7:27:17 PM

Subject: crossing the threshold

I was listening to Jhonn's singing when I learned of his death.

The previous week I had arranged to trade improvised tapes with another instrumental musician. We both ended up creating tributes to Jhonn.

Hopefully the fans of Jhonn's music helped make the sometime difficult process of being an artist a little easier, a little less tiring.

Jhonn's creations have helped my life be more meaningful. What greater accomplishment can an artist achieve?

deep sorrow,
Bryan Neil Jones

Subject: heartfelt condolences

randy jensen
denver colorado usa

Subject: precious memories

[REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]first time i saw coil live,festival hall,2000.
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]othing could prepare you for that night
 [REDACTED]here you felt the full power of coil and indeed music.
 [REDACTED]t was an[REDACTED] exhilarating,refreshing and mesmeric performance.
 [REDACTED]one of those rare moments when your[REDACTED]ntire body and[REDACTED]hind
 [REDACTED]felt alive.[REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]thank you for what you`ve given me Jhonn,rest in eternal peace.
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]Frankie.[REDACTED]

Subject: condolences and wondering about an hommage cd for Jhonn Balance

I really have loved Jhonn Balance and Coil's work throughout my years. I have been working on a 'cover version' composition of _Are you Shivering?_ from Musik to play in the Dark Volume One. I started the idea of course before this news of Balance's death. And now I'd for sure like to offer it. Is there any talk of an homage cd for Jhonn Balance or Coil?

My music can be heard at www.myspace.com/struggleatthesnuglefactory. One may need to enter in an email and password to access the site but I'm not sure.

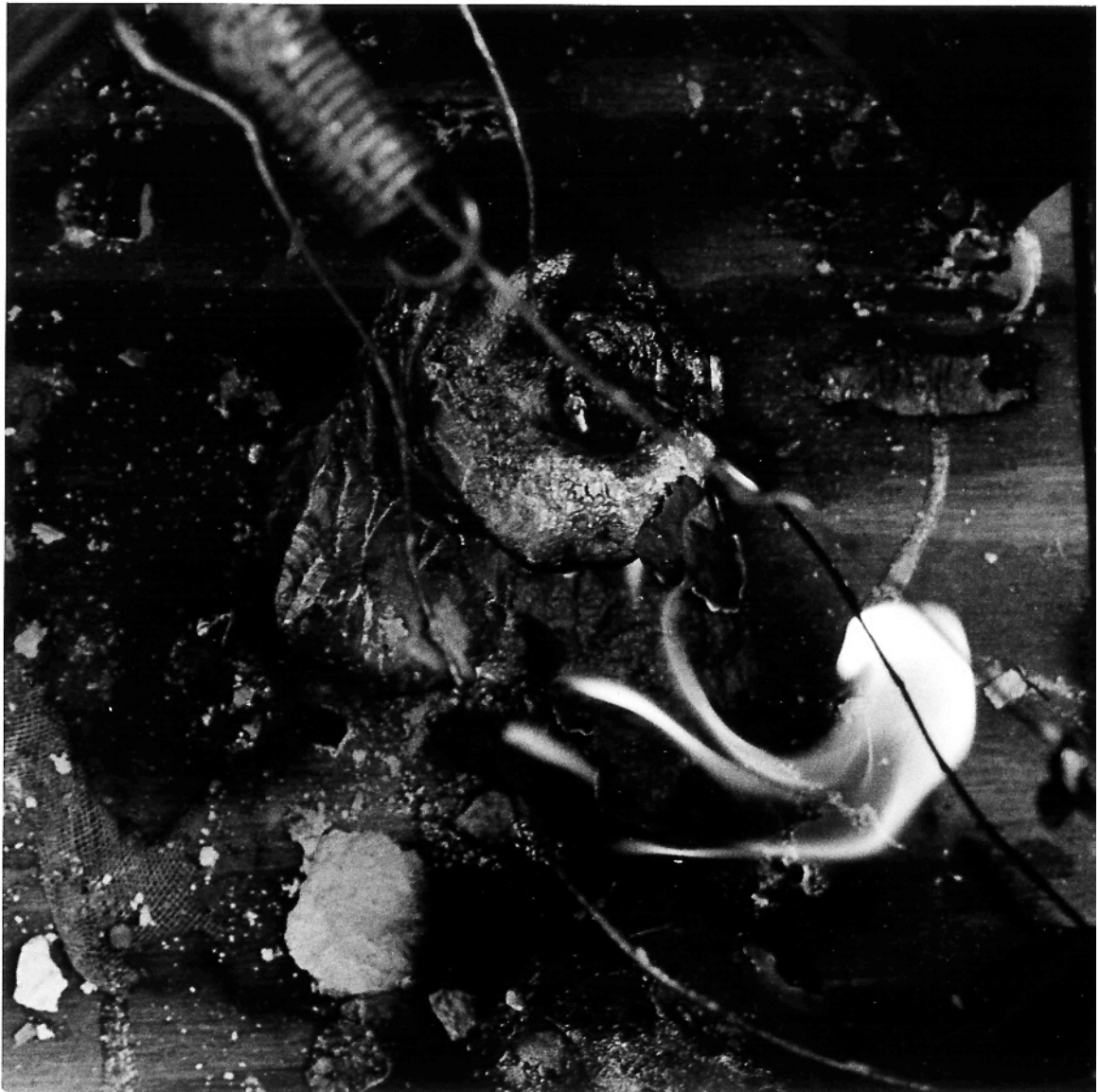
I apologize if this email is not appropriate or in opportunistic bad taste. I don't intend it as that but as my tribute or homage and condolences to Jhonn and Coil. I could also contribute some money towards getting a compilation produced.

Best,
Mike Richard

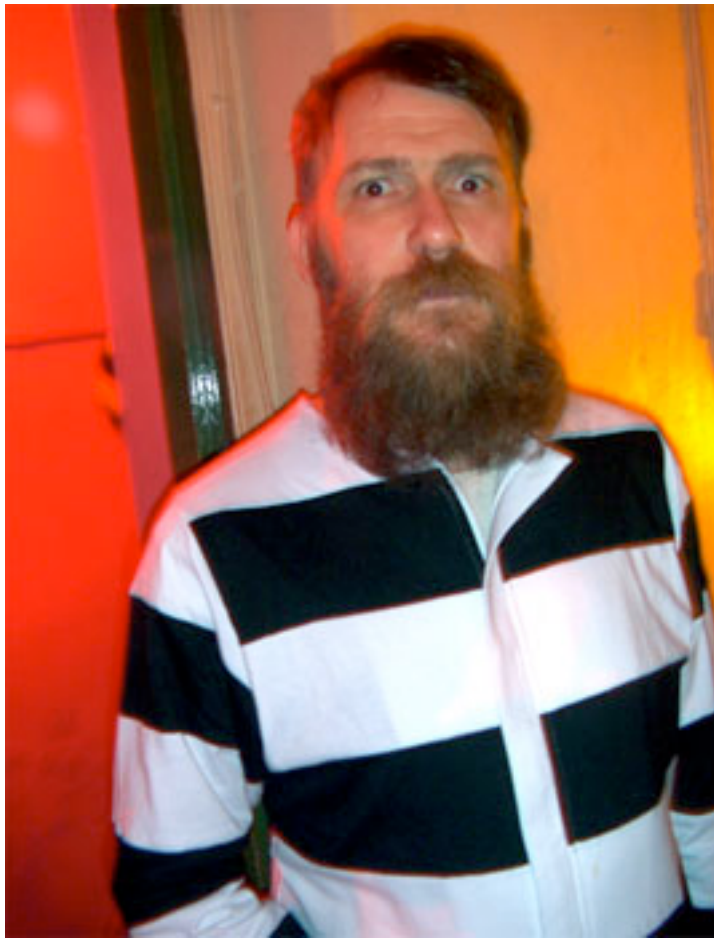
Date: Sat Nov 20, 2004 8:43:04 PM

Subject: condolence

From San Francisco,
Jhon has been in our thoughts and prayers. We had a wake for him on thursday and so many of us have talked and been there for each other through this loss. Much of his music spoke to me over the last few years, and helped me get through personal loss as well as planetary loss. I feel like we are all struggling for expression, for clarity in our voices, as things are devolving around us.
Thank you for all the work. We are greatly saddened that you never played here, but you play in our hearts and minds for eternity.
tomkat



Love is the law, love under will.







Serenity is a problem When you get this close to heaven



But you really want to see The wonders of the Underworld

But you really want to see The wonders of the Underworld



The Fool

R.I.P. Jhonn Balance

16 Feb 1962 - 13 Nov 2004

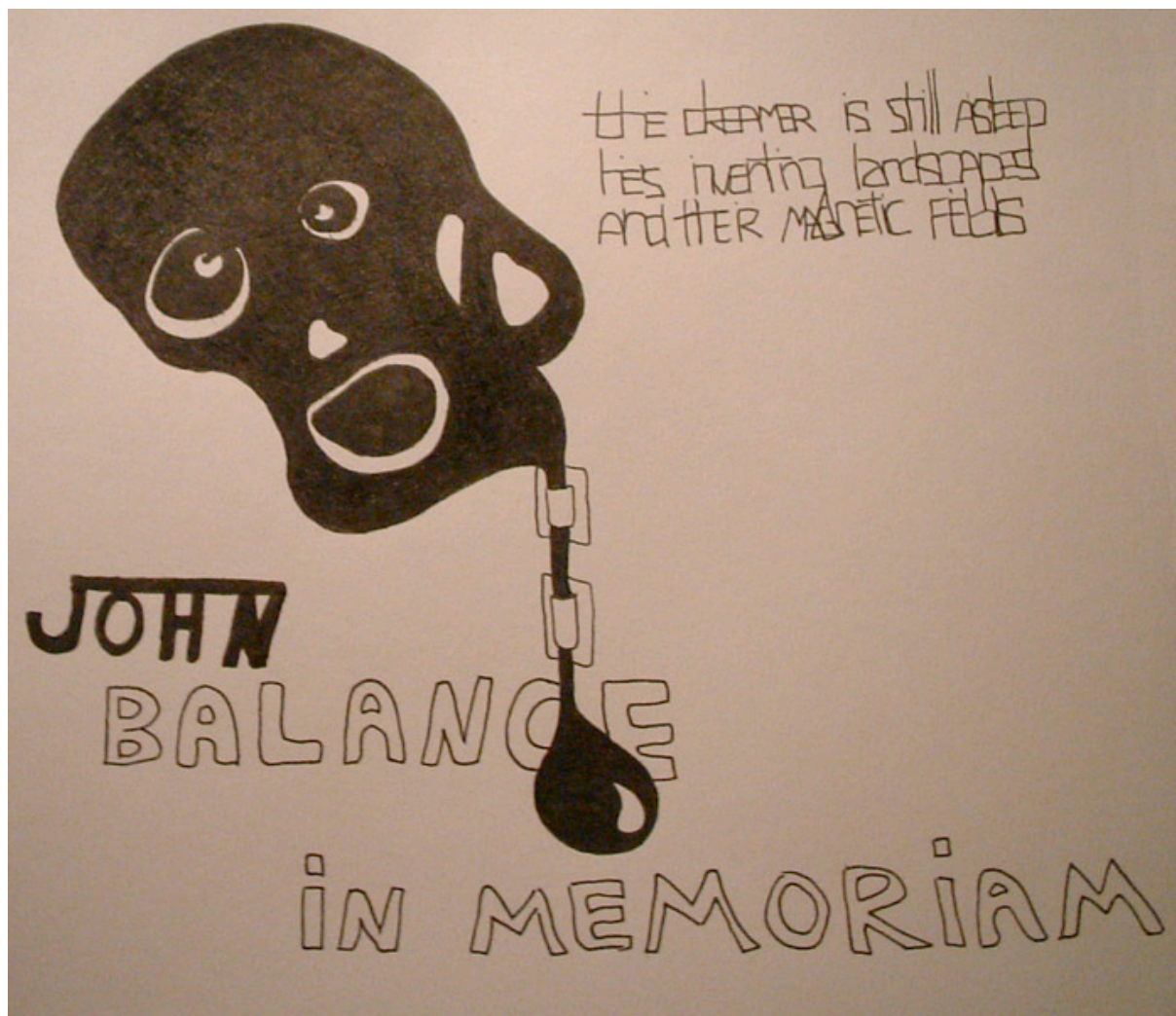


Serenity is a problem When you get this close to heaven



He crossed over
the Threshold...

John Balance
16 Feb 1962 - 13 Nov 2004





It was shocking and devastating to learn of Jhonn's sudden and tragic death, after having lived a life of unparalleled experience that many only sadly dream of. Discovering Coil was a disturbing, inspiring and mind-expanding experience for me. Jhonn's intense multi-dimensional poetry did much to teach me of what art could consist of, of what level of conviction one's living could reach and of just how chaotically magical this multiverse really is, as he unflinchingly reported just and truly from the dark regions he courageously explored. For all of us lost in the darkness, he burned brightly to help us find our way. As he passes into the next dimension to mingle with Crowley, Burroughs and McKenna (and Horse Rotorvator graces the stereo in memoriam), I mourn the loss of the unique vision with which he graced this world and remain thankful to have been touched by it while he was with us. My condolences go out to the members of Coil (past and present), Jhonn's extended family and the many fans who have supported and appreciated his work. May we all continue the journey...

Joh(a)n Alle(e)n

*The first time I died
Was in the arms of good friends of mine
They kiss me with tears
They hadn't been near me for years
Say why do it now
When I won't be around, I'm going out?*

We needed you to love us too. We wait for your move

*Only tragedy allows the relief
Of love and grief never normally seen
I didn't want to let them see me weep
I didn't want to let them see me weep
But I know I have shown
That I stand at the gates alone*

Kate Bush

The voyage begins. Lots of Love

Gary

As I read the new on our website today I thought it was very strange... & really normal, anyway. As it is the cycle ov Death & Rebirth: strange & normal, for what we can understand "here and now".

I think Jhonn lived his life as I wanted, so, that's all folks... who can stand this? :) he did what he wanted, touched levels ov intensity in his life that maybe really few among us shall ever reach, so, praise & honour to Jhonn Balance firstly 'cause he lived his life: entirely, without restriction, that is without the concept ov 'sin'. His choices, his life... who can judge? Nobody can tell a word about the life ov another people: maybe he realized his True Will; who knows? Maybe not...

I only know that Balance gave me a bunch ov emotions, not ever positive, but EMOTIONS... & I feel emotions are keys...

"How To Destroy Angels", "Scatology", "Horse Rotorvator", "LSD", "Tainted Love", "Astral Disaster", "Hellraiser"... these are not 'albums', these are keys, & I'll carry 'em with me in my grave 'cause they marked me, in a way or another.

I feel Jhonn is cool now :) but which is more important, probably HE IS...

No more words, so... Praise the Fallen who chose even a Death perfectly in line with his life.

R.I.P. - & tix for all, by Heart...

*Francesco/VojnaKK (Italy)

www.kaoskulure.com