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Fleetwood Mac

Interview with
Lindsey Buckingham



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ON STAGE INTERVIEW

Lindsey Buckingham

STILL LOOKING FORWARD

By Michelle Kaplan

Lindsey Buckingham isn't looking back too much these days. It could be because the future for him is now.

In the last ten years, he's married, started a family, and birthed a new album that is as intimate and personal a portrait as any artist may dare to venture. But for him, taking risks may be his proverbial fountain of youth. After all, he did it with Fleetwood Mac.

Following the commercially successful Rumors, which catapulted the band into rock icon status, Buckingham could have followed the same recipe and spoon fed fans a Rumors II. Instead, he followed it up with the quirky, Tusk, a 180-degree departure from Rumors.

True to his word, at 58 he's still not stopped thinking about tomorrow.

"I think what happens is usually a lot of people are either kind of tapped out with their creativity by the time the get to a certain point, or they're in a position where they're willing to rest on the their laurels on the body of work that they have. It's very important for me to keep fresh. What I think is important goes back to Tusk...it kept me musically honest... I subverted some of the commercialism, that's what you have to do, otherwise you paint yourself into a corner."

Through his new album, Under the Skin, Buckingham still has much to say. Beginning with the first track, Not Too Late, the tension of the passage of time is felt through his intricate guitar work. He questions his own motives in his lyrics:

What am I doing anyway?
Telling myself it's not too late

This feeling of time catching up with him may be the reason he has taken the time to finish his latest solo effort. Buckingham explained that several attempts at solos were put on the back burner when other issues in his life had



to take precedence. It literally had him feeling like he was doing a balancing act between satisfying his need to put out his own music, and fulfilling his responsibility to his band mates in Fleetwood Mac.

And there's a need for songs that are sung.
For chances not taken, for deeds not yet done.

...
So that's been a problem feeling unheard.
Socalled visions always deferred.

"I had intentions to put out a solo album for over ten years now... I did a

solo album in '93, then a subsequent album was shelved...I tightrope walked over, I suppose my entire career, certainly over the last 10 to 12 years...Under the Skin ...this is time for me... I'm blocking out a period of however long it takes. If Fleetwood Mac are knocking on the door, then they'll knock for awhile...This is really the best time of my life."

Buckingham left the band in the 80's because with members various drug and alcohol problems he found it impossible to harness the creativity needed to make it work.

"I walked out of Fleetwood Mac

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by Rose Johnson



ON STAGE INTERVIEW



all of that did happen...it may answer some questions that may have been hanging out there for years."

This tour promises to have that same intimate feel. Buckingham wants it to feel as if the band is playing in your living room. To accomplish this, he will take the stage alone... and with very few musicians (a percussionist and one other guitarist).

"Under the Skin, the song represented the basic feel of the album...We are all working to get from here to here... to here to here...stuck in one place for the wrong reasons. But it's not that far below the surface ...You just cant see it at that time. It's all about being in touch with what's really not far below the surface."

Perhaps he's looking deeper now because he is a husband and father. He said that meeting his wife, photographer Kristen Messner, was the best night of his life.

"The night I met my wife... she came down to the studio, she was a photographer... She was unhappy in relationship and I was unhappy in relationship...We just hit it off ...went out and had a drink...we were talking...and she kept coming back."

They couple now has three children: William Gregory, 8, Leelee, 6 and Stella, 2.

"I had never been married...the idea of being a husband and having someone being the mother of your children...those things alone come as complete departures...that puts you in a situation where you have a lot to fight for...I've never be in that situation before... Things are just great."

When Buckingham goes on this tour, for the first time, he'll leave behind a family.

because there was no way...it was almost impossible to do the album, in a year, we saw Stevie for 2 weeks... everyone was at their worst...I could not be around that anymore...I cared too much about keeping that alive, it wasn't about selling out...it's a spiritual thing not a commercial thing."

The band eventually pulled it together and released *Tango in the Night* in 1987. But that is where he drew the line. Buckingham was not going on the road.

I've never regretted it...craziness in the studio is times ten on the road."

When asked by the Clinton's to perform at the inauguration in 1993, a brief reunion was had, followed by a more substantial reunion and tour and live album in 1997.

Since then, there have been collaborative efforts with various members; *Under the Skin* is no exception. Both Mick Fleetwood and John McVie team with Buckingham on his latest venture. Listening to the album, fans can easily identify the track the two lend percussion and bass on with its very Fleetwood Macesque sound.

Although, *Under the Skin* is unique, it can't help sounding somewhat like Fleetwood Mac at times. After all, Buckingham was a driving force behind the writing, guitar and vocals, often sited as the band's visionary. The album is an eclectic and reflective piece of work that Buckingham calls intimate.

It's a more intimate album musically... it kinda jives with what's going on in my personal life...For years I'd watch people in my life not be there for their kids... I was not going to do that...at a relatively late point I met someone and

Lindsey Buckingham is set to take the stage at the Sunrise Theater in Fort Pierce on March 11 at 8 PM. For tickets and more information, call 772-461-4775 or visit www.sunrisetheatre.com on the web.

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BUZZ ADVICE



The Buzzed Perspective

A MOVING EXPERIENCE

By Michelle Kaplan
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There comes a time in your life when you have to face facts. You're not as young as you think you are. There's no such thing as Santa Clause, the tooth fairy, or catching up on your sleep... and moving is a bitch.

If you really want to face your true demons, pack up and move. For me this was move number 25, or so...the early 90's are a little foggy. You'd think I'd learn a thing or two about being prepared, but no. Again I was furiously packing boxes while the movers were hauling out furniture. And as much as you hear, "if you haven't used it, worn it or seen it in a year, throw it out," I still save crap...and really that's what it is.

I literally came across boxes unopened from two moves ago. I should not have even opened them. I could have taken that sealed box and dumped it. Let's face it, whatever was in there I certainly have done without...but no, I opened it. Taped it back up and took it with me to place of residence number 25. By the way Jimmy Hoffa says hello.

I do admit I'm a good packer. Nothing ever breaks on the move. That's probably how I've managed to accumulate so much stuff. Things do however break after you go through the trouble of packing and unpacking, that's when it happens...that's Murphy's Law, I'm sure it's one of them.

Moving day is Hell. You can hardly sleep the night before because you know you missed something. All day long is that awkward feeling of being in between residences, not quite knowing your way around, wondering just where is your local Starbucks (that is on every other corner in North America), worrying that you may never find your clean underwear again.

If you're partnered this is make or break, my friend. Get through this and you may really have someone special in your life. Unless that special someone breaks the cardinal rule of trying to speak to you during the move. Then run. The basic form of proper moving communication is grunting. Pick up box, grunt. Lift box grunt, walk by partner, nod, grunt and keep moving. DO NOT

ask anything that starts like this, "Honey, have you seen the...this is not just grounds for a legal separation but an automatic restraining order.

Mid move the crazy sets in. You just want it over. That overwhelming feeling starts. This is where the five stages of moving begins...oddly it is the same as Kubler-Ross' stages of Death.

Denial - This move is not happening
Anger - Why do I have to move?

Bargaining - Next time I move I promise to be better prepared. I promise to throw away all this stuff.

Depression - I can't do this anymore. I don't care.

Acceptance - This move is happening there are movers here and stuff in boxes and we are now leaving for the new place.

Finally the half-way point. The unload. The turning point. This is also closely proceeds the "I almost cried phase."

Things go faster, it's psychological. Because you don't already know where everything goes, then the things that aren't put away are not really out of place. Go think on that one for a while.

The pseudo end. You pay the movers, choke that the cost is almost double the estimate, but are grateful to see the strangers out of your house. This is also where you find the things they took apart and never put back together and find pieces of stuff and broken things.

But you look around feeling strangely secure. You and yours are all present and accounted for. United. Under one roof. Under God. The strange secure feeling soon gives way to that awkwardness.

Things begin to get put away. Paths are cleared through caverns of boxes. You awake the next morning. You're achy. As you open your eyes, you have that single moment that you don't quite know where you are. It passes. Morning coffee awaits. The day is spent putting more away. Finding new places for old stuff.

Back to work you go. You have to leave your new place just as you're in the bonding phase. This ends one of two ways. If you've moved a good many times, you go to back work in clean underwear. The rookies well...thank God for 24-hour Wal-Mart.

& Ask Darcy

Dear Darcy,

Dear Darcy,

I have a big problem that is affecting my marriage! My husband says I'm a nag and I'm always telling him what to do and how to do it. The truth, I think he's right. I don't know why I do it, and I find myself doing it all the time. Sometimes I feel so out of control. How do I stop reacting to everything all the time and just trust he'll do what is needed to be done, when it needs to be done?

Truly,
Nagged Out

By Darcy von Ohlen

Dear Nagged,



You hit on two very key words in your question: control and trust. I find that many people will begin to "nag" their partners when they are feeling out of control in their own lives, or with themselves, and feel they can not trust that everything will work out fine. Chances are you nag your husband when life begins to feel overwhelming.

Think of yourself as and elevator when you're feeling out of control. Anyone can come into the elevator and push your buttons. When these buttons are pushed you feel either depressed or angry. You are reacting to the pushing of your buttons. Of course, you will begin to feel out of control, up-down, or stop-go. The only way to stop this crazy elevator ride is to push the emergency stop button and quit acting like an elevator!

You can not control other people! You can only control yourself! So, stop playing the victim and take control of your own thoughts and behaviors. Trust your husband and if he doesn't follow through on your expectations remember to ACT... don't RE--ACT.

Of course, you are human and will nag again. Its practice and practice makes (almost) perfect. The next time you find yourself nagging, ask yourself in what way am I feeling out of control? Then talk to your husband about how you're feeling... and together you can find a solution.

Shine On,

Darcy

Have a question for Darcy? e-mail AskDarcy@TheLocalBuzzMag.com