

John Cunningham

1998-2002

John Cunningham 1998-2002 is a compilation of two of his albums: *Homeless House* (2002) and *Happy-go-unlucky* (2002), plus an extra track from the sessions for the latter.

John Cunningham is British and lives and works in the North of England. Cunningham's elegant brand of pop music owes a certain debt to smooth pre-rock classic pop of the Cole Porter school, mixed with a touch of Bacharach, Wilson, McCartney, and Costello. Unlike those artists, however, Cunningham infuses his music with an almost Nick Drake-like acoustic vibe that suits his delicate yet melodic compositions beautifully. (This John Cunningham is, of course, not to be confused with the Scottish fiddle player who was a member of Silly Wizard and other folk groups.)

Born in Liverpool, England, Cunningham attended University in the East Sussex town of Brighton, where he quickly fell in with the city's thriving artistic and musical community. A demo cassette landed him at the tiny British indie La-Di-Da, which released Cunningham's debut EP, *Backwards Steps*, produced by ex-Housemartins guitarist Stan Cullimore and released in 1989.

Cunningham's first full album, 1993's *Shankly Gates*, is much more stripped down and intimate than *Backwards Steps*, with jazzy piano and subtle trumpet and oboe accents. It was rapturously received by the French press, which compared Cunningham to artists like Robert Wyatt and late-period Talk Talk, but as would be the case throughout Cunningham's career, sales did not match the critical reaction. Cunningham's third release, 1994's *Bringing in the Blue*, is even more refined and elegant, but it continued the trend of ecstatic reviews on the Continent, little notice in Great Britain, and total invisibility in the United States, with sales figures to match.

Cunningham dropped out of sight for nearly five years after *Bringing in the Blue*, finally reappearing in late 1998 with the sublime *Homeless House*. A sweetly melodic and gentle album with an even more stripped-down sound than his two previous albums, *Homeless House* sounds at times like a more upbeat version of Drake's *Bryter Layter*.

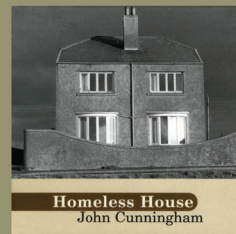
After the release of *Homeless House*, Cunningham began collaborating with Mehdi Zannad of the French pop group Fugu. Cunningham mixed Fugu's debut, 2000's *Fugu1*, and Zannad wrote the orchestral arrangements for a track on Cunningham's follow-up to *Homeless House*, *Happy-go-unlucky* released in 2002.

Cunningham is currently working on a new album, which will hopefully see the light of day in our lifetime.



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Homeless House (1998)

1. Public Information Song
2. Imitation Time
3. Homeless House
4. Quiet And Slow Time
5. Nothing Will Change My Mind
6. Taming The Family
7. What About Now?
8. Infinity Is Ending

Happy-go-unlucky (2002)

1. Losing Myself Too
2. Here It Is
3. Way To Go
4. Can't Get Used To This
5. It Isn't Easy
6. You Shine
7. Invisible Lives
8. Welcome To The World
9. Take Your Time
10. It Goes On
11. All I Want To Do (Bonus Track)

Release Date: June 15, 2010

Marketing: Cunningham plans to tour major markets in the United States in 2010 opening for Pernice Brothers.

National Publicity Campaign: Planetary and Ashmont Media will work press and social media extensively

National Radio Campaign: Planetary will work Non-Commercial radio nationwide.

Key Markets: New York, Los Angeles, Seattle, Chicago, San Francisco, Boston, Minneapolis, Washington DC.

MSRP: \$10.99



10a Burt Street Dorchester, MA 02124

617-282-2510 info@ashmontrecords.com www.ashmontrecords.com