Coil, archangels of chaos, have been relatively busy issuing music under names such as Coil, Elph, and Black Light District where the nucleus remains John Balance, Peter Christopherson and Drew McDowall. Many of Coil's releases since last issue are covered in the review section but the following details items that have appeared since the last issue, imminent releases, and some projects (probably) still in their tentative stages.

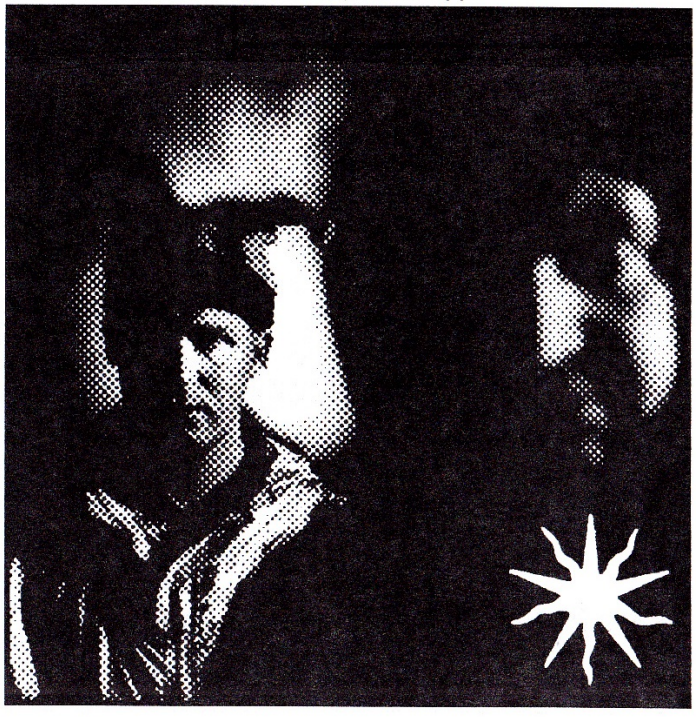
Coil's forthcoming album on Trent Reznor's Nothing label has been through a number of titles including *Backwards*, *International Dark Skies* and *God Please Fuck My Mind For Good* - a name lifted from Captain Beefheart. Although, it may now be called *Fire Of The Mind*. Coil are still working on it when they're not changing the title. I was informed that it was a return to the original ideas of "alchemy in sound". Whatever, Peter assures me that it is more vocal, more rhythmic with weird bits. Expect a spin-off remix album which may include remixes from Autechre, Steven Stapleton (of Nurse With Wound), Witchman, Surgeon and some as of yet nameless aquaintances. Jim O'Rourke was scheduled to remix Coil though that is definitely a separate project which may still happen. Coil, themselves, have remixed Chris & Cosey, Tactile, Psychic Warriors Ov Gaia and Esplendor Geometrica. Coil are also hoping to work with, or at least be remixed by, Labradford - a group they have long admired.

Also on the horizon is a series of collaborations called Intercourse with help from Warp supremo Steve Beckett. Names passed around include Chris & Cosey and Labradford. Coil contributed work to a project of Bill Laswell's tentatively titled *The Assassins* based on the Old Man of the Mountains, Hassan I Sabbah. Others involved included Hakim Bey, William Burroughs, Brion Gysin and Ira Cohen. Some of this did appear under the name *City Of Light* with a revised list of contributors.

Coil's much vaunted collaboration with William Burroughs is still to be released. This will now be a combined record with John Giorno who read a text provided by Coil. The single, *Two Friends*, is due for issue as soon as the music is completed.

In their Elph guise, Coil contributed to the German compilation, *Treat The Gods As They Exist*. A new album is in the pipeline still using the mysterious Sidereal sound. It's linked to Austin Osman Spare the atavistic artist who used a technique known as Siderealism which gave a sort of glancing vision of things. Coil have applied this to sound using computer software and recording techniques.

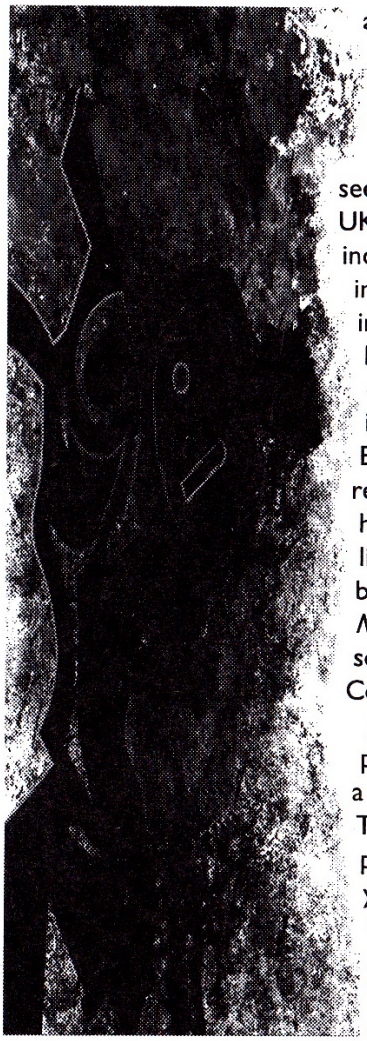
Coil eventually saw their work on a major motion picture, *Seven*, which featured a Coil remix of NIN during the opening credits. Those who managed to catch the film at their local cinema may have been surprised not to see Coil's name in the credits. Basically, in the USA only the writer of the song is credited i.e. Trent Reznor. This, however, may have been modified in subsequent prints of the film. Don't bother looking for it on the accompanying soundtrack CD; it's not there. The track was *Closer To God (Precursor)* and it appears on Nine Inch Nails' part one of the 2 CD single set.



Still in Hollywood or at least New Orleans Peter collaborated with Trent Reznor on several pieces of music that feature in David Lynch's *Lost Highway*. Peter provided Trent with some drone sounds for a couple of tracks which earned him a credit in both the film and CD soundtrack!

Coil also contributed to the soundtrack of the film version of Dennis Cooper's novel *Frisk* about a gay, serial killer. This featured existing and original Coil material. Despite enjoying the book and the work of Dennis Cooper, Coil assure us that the film wasn't too good. More recently, Coil music also featured in the latest movie from Los Angeles based underground gay-cult filmmaker Gregg Araki. You may remember Coil music featured in an earlier Araki film, the gay road movie, *The Living End*.

Derek Jarman appeared to Coil's John Balance in a dream telling him to make his 8 minute film short *Journey To Avebury* 16 minutes long. Coil subsequently did as Derek requested and provided



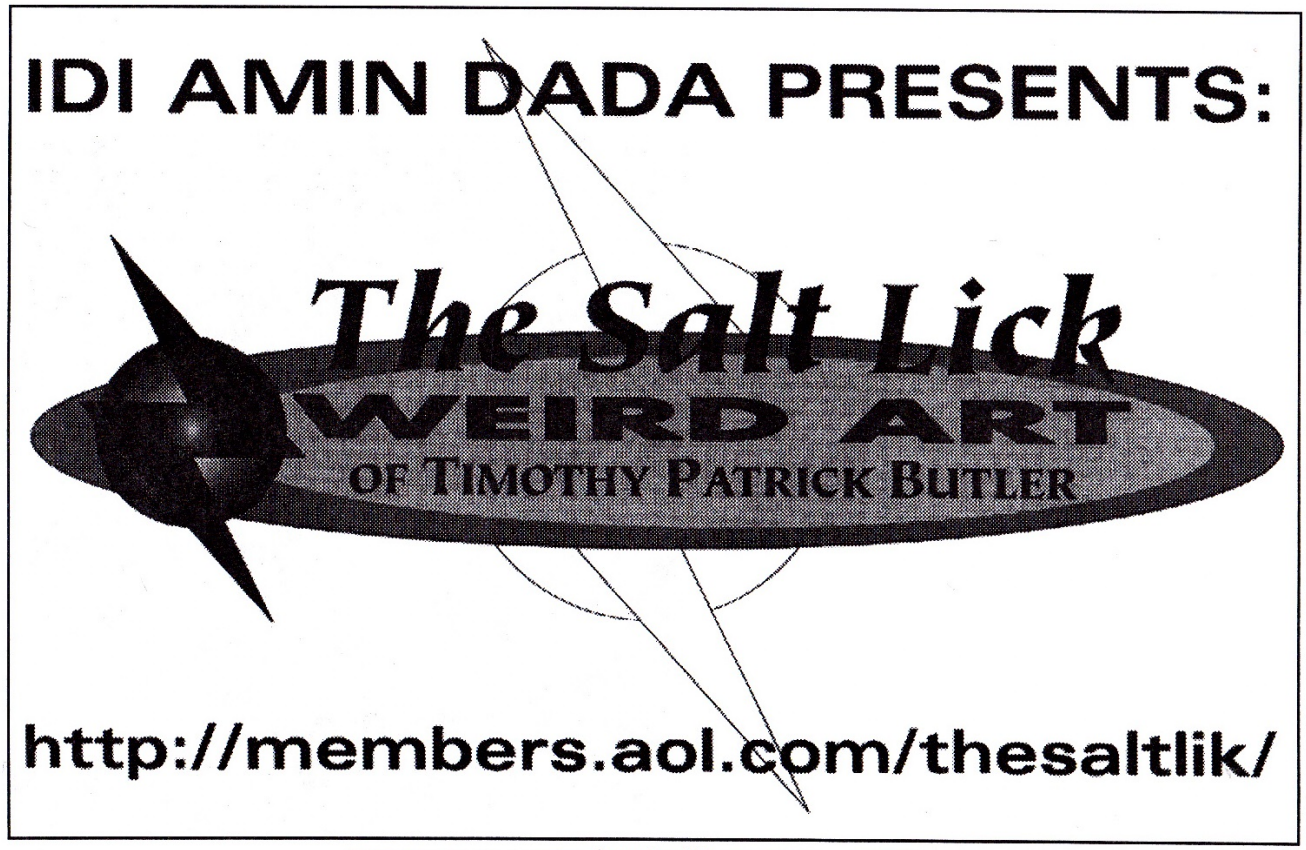
an original film score. This should be out whenever.

The much talked about *The Sound Of Music* may still happen one day but most of Coil's film music has already surfaced on various CD's primarily *Unnatural History II*. Incidentally a third volume of this series is out now.

Coil recently spent time with occult filmmaker and Hollywood scandal seeker Kenneth Anger who was a guest at Threshold House. Kenneth was in the UK to attend a party for John Paul Getty III which Coil also attended. Others guests included Marianne Faithful, and Anita Pallenberg. Kenneth is hoping to start filming in Austin, Texas for a film based on the Gnostic Mass and has asked Coil to be involved in the music - putting Coil on a par with Mick Jagger, Jimmy Page and Bobby Beausoleil.

Other things: *Heartworms* from the World Serpent compilation, *Terra Serpentes*, is being remixed and issued as a single. The same goes for *Blue Rats* from the Black Light District album *A Thousand Light In A Darkened Room*. Coil's nascent recordings including material from a rare performance at the Magenta Club, 1983 has been released on CD. It's called *Transparent* and originally appeared as an ultra-limited cassette credited to Zos Kia/Coil. Both *Scatology* and *Horse Rotorvator* are being reissued on CD with new artwork through World Serpent. A project *Time Machines* which John likens to "hardcore La Monte Young" is due for release sometime soon. Bill Breeze, Coil's newest member recorded some material for Coil's contribution to an ongoing Equinox/Solstice project.

John Balance, who performed with Current 93 at their last London show, still plans to collaborate with David Tibet on *Haunted Air*. Another possible venture is a collaboration with Julian Cope's synthesiser, electronics and drone wizard, Thighpaulsandra. The more aware of you may have been confronted with promotional posters for Julian Cope featuring John Balance's "Why be bleak when you can be Blake?" quote across the nation's streets. Asked how he felt about having his ideas spread across the nation, John Balance responded "fantastic."

All of the above is, of course, subject to change and probably will be too.

You can send messages to Coil at **BM Codex, London, WC1N 3XX, UK** or e-mail: John@loci.demon.co.uk but don't expect a reply.