

2010 - 21

PLANET XMAS

December 24, 2010

"Laughter is the best medicine of Life "
~ Madelaine Bamford

THROUGHOUT THE 'PLANET,' CLICKING
BOLD, DARK RED TYPE
OPENS A RELATED INTERNET LINK.

A GREAT GIFT IDEA

The Firesign Theatre and Seeland Records are proud to present 'Duke of Madness

Motors.' the long-awaited "Dear Friends" radio reissue that fans have been dreaming of for decades. You'll get over 80 hours of *The Firesign Theatre Radio Hour Hour*, *Dear Friends*, and *Let's Eat* in one MP3 DVD-ROM - and an original, one-of-a-kind 108-page book. It's the ultimate boxless set of Firesign's complete LA radio output for 1970-1972 so just dump it on your hard drive and let the fun begin.

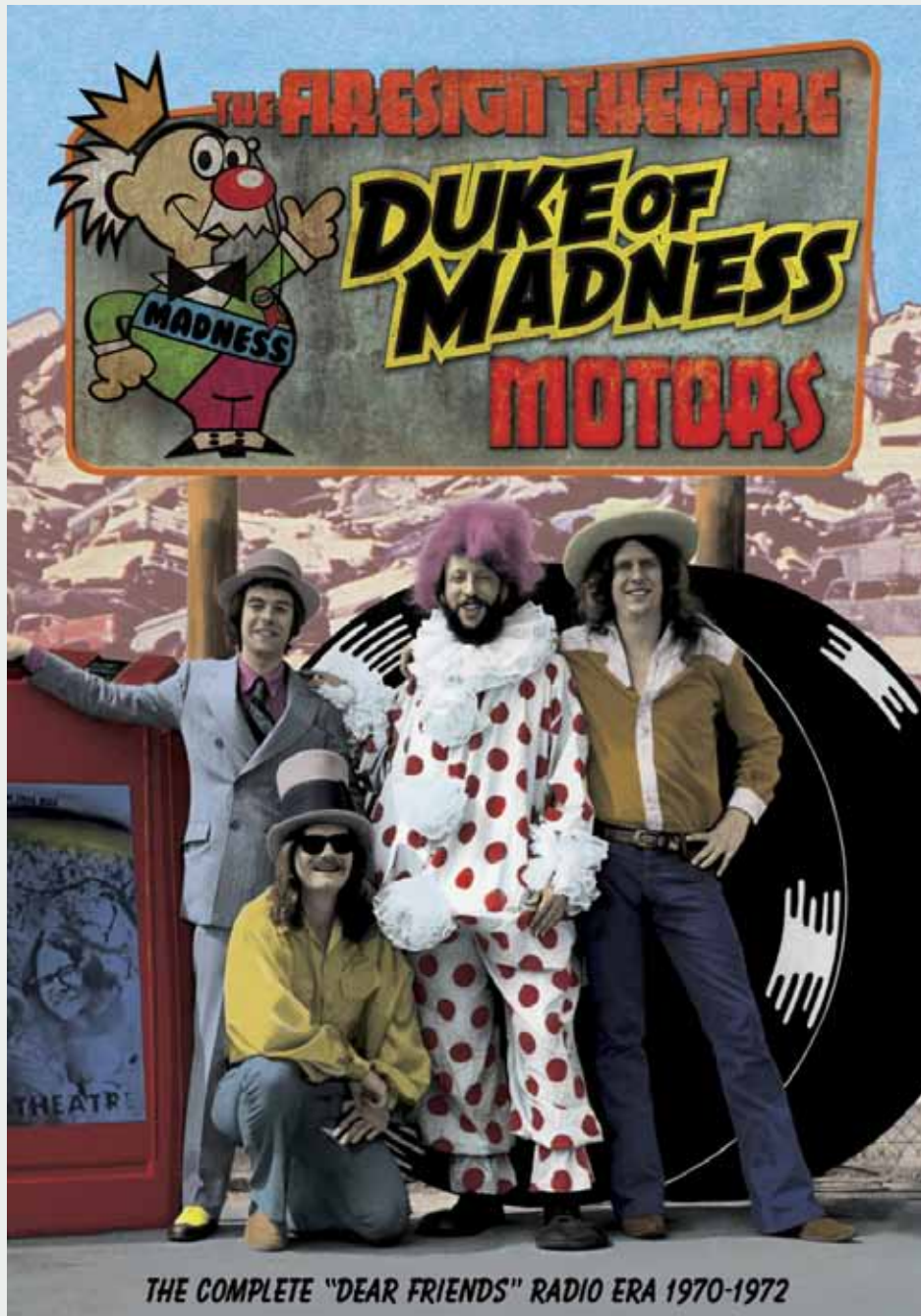
It's available in stores starting February 15 - but if you pre-order now directly from us, we'll ship you a copy hot off the printer. One book plus DVD

costs just \$45 postage paid to the U.S. and Canada, or \$50 post paid worldwide (we accept PayPal, credit cards, checks, or well-concealed cash). To order, just go **HERE**, where you can sample the audio and the historic book which contains an 8000-word essay written by the producer, archivist and engineer, **Taylor Jessen**, fresh interviews with Phil, Phil, Pete and Dave, complete show rundowns, original scripts, vintage Proctor photo collages, found objects and much more.

ORDER NOW!

"Never be deceived that the rich will allow you to vote away their wealth."
~ Lucy Parsons

■ CONTINUED



"You can discover more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation." ~ Plato

SEE HERE

Republican talking points constantly suggest that conservatives and liberals don't see the world in the same way, and now research from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in a forthcoming edition of the journal *Attention, Perception & Psychophysics* confirms it.

IT'S A WATER WONDERLAND

It's been raining, more and less, more or less, here on Wanda Park Drive for five days now, and except for a few minor wikileaks, all is high and dry – or often we're high and we try not to stay too dry...

But the other evening, right before **Kristin, Geoff, Bowen** and some other friendly elves came by to help us trim the tree, a water main burst just up the road, unleashing a torrent of muddy water that tore up part of the great street that our former neighbor **Kirk Kerkorian** built for us at a cost of half a million bucks about 10 years ago!

An incredible crew from the LA Department of Water and Power repaired



CHRISTMAS GREENINGS FROM US. Phil, Melinda and Pepper adjust the ornaments.

the break working late Sunday into early Monday (we took them sandwiches and coffee) and except for an occasional power outage, things are back to normal for now... and the tree, which we bought this year for our youngest cat, Pepper, to enjoy, looks great...



"First people say it's impossible, then they say it conflicts with the Bible, and finally they end up believing it." ~ Mark Twain

In a computer simulation, UNL researchers measured both libs' and cons' reactions to "gaze cues," which are a person's proclivity to follow another's eye movements, even when it's irrelevant to their current task -- and found startling differences. Liberals responded strongly to the prompts while Conservatives did not, leading researchers to suggest that conservative values regarding personal autonomy makes them less likely to be influenced by others.

"We thought that political temperament may moderate the magnitude of gaze-cuing effects," explains assistant psychology **Prof. Michael Dodd**, the lead author of the study, "but we did not expect conservatives to be completely immune to these cues." In addition, the results add to growing indications that biology also plays a role determining one's political bent.

"Getting things done in politics typically depends on competing viewpoints finding common ground,"

writes another. "Our research is suggesting that's a lot tougher than it sounds, because the same piece of ground can look very different depending on which ideological hill you view it from." **READ MORE**

■ **CONTINUED**

"If you are not liberal when young, you have no heart; if you are not conservative when old, you have no brain."
~ Anon and on...

GOING POSTAL

Our mailman, **Charlie Marko**, is a Firesign fan and recently told me a story he heard from a fellow worker.

Picking up the mail on his route, a postman found an unstamped letter addressed to God and decided he should see what it was all about.

"I'm too old to believe in Santa Claus," it started, "but I still believe in You and I need Your help. We're so broke this Christmas we can't afford a gift for our little boy but if we had even ten bucks we could get him something nice."

The postman was very moved by this, so he grabbed an empty envelope, scrawled "From God" on the outside, stuffed six dollars -- all the money he had with him -- into it and drove away.

The next day, he found another letter addressed to God and excitedly opened it. "Dear God," it began, "Thank you from the bottom of my heart for responding to my prayer, but there was only six dollars, not ten, in the envelope; and I know why -- it's those bastards at the post office!"

"I thank God I am as honest as any man living that is an old man and no honester than I."
~ Shakespeare's 'Much Ado About Nothing'

AND APROPOS OF NOTHING

Back in Shakespearean times, "nothing" was another term for "pussy". (It's an O, get it?) And yes, Shakespeare was often crass and bawdy, as he had to appeal to a wide audience, from the genteel to the Groundlings....

SEE HERE

And speaking of hidden messages, **Eddie Deezen** revealed to us recently that the beloved Christmas Classic "It's a Wonderful Life" got its own FBI file in 1947 when an analyst

DOGGIE WONDERLAND

Dog tags ring, are you listenin'?
In the lane, snow is glistenin'.
It's yellow, NOT white - I've been there tonight,
Marking up my winter wonderland.

Smell that tree? That's my fragrance.
It's a sign to frighten vagrants,
"Avoid where I pee, it's MY pro-per-ty!
Marked up as my winter wonderland."

In the meadow dad will build a snowman,
Following the classical design,
Then I'll lift my leg and let it go Man,
So all the world will know it's
Mine-mine-mine!

Straight from me to the fence post,
Flows my pungent incense boast;
"Stay off of my TURF, this small piece of earth,
I marked it as my winter wonderland.

submitted the idea that the film was an obvious attempt to discredit bankers, a "common trick used by communists."

"Speech is of time, silence is of eternity." ~ Thomas Carlyle

THE GOLF 'TWEEN MAN AND WIFE

A man and his wife walked into a dentist's office and he said to the dentist, "Doc, I'm in one heck of a hurry. I have two buddies sitting out in my car waiting for us to go play golf, so forget about the anesthetic, I don't have time for the gums to get numb. I just want you to pull the tooth, and be done with it... I don't have time to wait for the anesthetic to work!"

The dentist thought to herself that this is surely a very brave man asking to have his tooth pulled without anything to kill the pain, so she asks him, "Which tooth is it, sir?"

The man turned to his wife and said, "Open your mouth, Honey, and show her."

Women are like phones:

They like to be held, talked to, and touched often.
But push the wrong button and you are disconnected!
~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

BLESS ME

One day while he was at the track playing the ponies and all but losing his shirt, Mitch noticed a priest who stepped out onto the track and blessed the forehead of one of the horses lining up for the 4th race. Lo and behold, that horse - a very long shot - won the race. Before the next race, as the horses began lining up, Mitch watched with interest when the old priest stepped onto the track. Sure enough, as the 5th race horses came to the starting gate the priest made a blessing on the forehead of one of the horses. Mitch made a beeline for a betting window and placed a small bet on the horse. Again, even though it was another long shot, the blessed horse won the race.

As the races continued the priest kept blessing long shot horses, and each one ended up coming in first, so by the last

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race, he knew his wildest dreams were going to come true. He made a dash to the ATM, withdrew all his savings, and awaited the priest's blessing as true to his pattern, the priest stepped onto the track for the last race and blessed the forehead and then the eyes, ears, and hooves of an old nag that was the longest shot of the day. Mitch knew he had a winner and bet every cent he owned. He then watched dumbfounded as it came in dead last!

Mitch, in a state of shock, made his way down to the track area and confronted the old priest. 'Father! What happened? All day long you blessed horses and they all won. Then in the last race, the horse you blessed lost by a Kentucky mile. Now, thanks to you I've lost every cent of my savings -- all of it!'

'Son,' he said sympathetically, 'that's the problem with you Protestants, you can't tell the difference between a simple blessing and last rites.'

*"Faith is taking the first step when you don't see the whole staircase."
~ Martin Luther King*

BEEFHEART BEATS NO MORE

Maverick musician and surreal artist-provocateur **Don Van Vliet** just passed away, but his original avant-garde records influenced many performers, including Firesign Theatre, who share a place with Captain Beefheart and his Magic Band on Rolling Stones' 500 greatest albums of all time. **Tom Waits**, who was encouraged in his

career by Van Vliet's gruff singing voice, wrote a cool eulogy in the LA times Obit:

"He was like the scout on a wagon train, He was the one who goes ahead and shows the way. He was ... a transcendental composer (with an emphasis on the dental)... He drew in the air with a burnt stick. He described the indescribable...He was the only one who thought to bring matches...He's the alpha and the omega - the high water mark. He's gone and he won't be back."

And finally, scientists have successfully taught a gorilla that he will die some day.

See the amazing video [HERE](#)

"Reality is when you stop believing in it and it's still there." ~ Philip K. Dick

FRIEND ME

Jayne Stahl, Richard Laible, Ruth Olafsdottir, Michael Bell, Victor Kopcewich, George Riddle, Scott W. Langill, M.C. Gwynne, H. Lee Kagan, Mitch Krayton, Richard Laible, Nick Oliva, Garry Margolis, Alan Myerson, Laurel Jones, Thomas O'Neill, Jim Reynolds, Richard Alan Miller and Richard Fish. And a special Holiday Greeting to my Cris Kringles – Planet Webmaster **Cristofer Morley** and Planet Maker **Cristofer Gross!** And Happy Holidayze to all!

In Congress, 261 of the 535 members are millionaires ~ Phil's Funny Fact\$

**"Merry 01000011 01101000
01110010 01101001 01110011
01110100 01101101 01100001
01110011"**

**CLICK THE WORD TO
GO TO THE SITE**

SEND ME

iCAROLS

12 DAZE

TREED

DOGSLEDS

CATTIECAKE

LALALA

JEWSMAS

XMAS FLASH

DOMINO THEORY

CUP-SIZE=XMAS

ANIMALS

DIGITALXMAS

RUDOLPH

JOHNSON

GRISWOLD

GET HIGH

TSA

MILK

SISTINE

CANCAN

ACTING

ACTING

"To feel young, you must work as long as you can." ~ Dino De Laurentis

FIRESIGN CDs: <http://www.laugh.com>

FUNNY TIMES: <http://www.funnytimes.com>

BEARWHIZ BEER <http://www.eagletshirts.com>

FST: <http://www.FiresignTheatre.com>

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