

SOULCO



THE SOUL COMPANY

LIVE!

The Power of Soul

A NEW BRITISH ROCK ALBUM FROM A NEW BRITISH ROCK BAND

AVAILABLE IN STORES MARCH 2005

BROUGHT TO YOU BY TOWNSEND RECORDS
AND THE UNIVERSAL MUSIC CORPORATION

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go to www.soulco.org see press page

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“There is a giant super-tanker of indifference plowing its way through the oceans of this corporate culture we're all drowning in. I believe it's gonna take one small shove on the rudder and this super-tanker will slowly start to arc around. I hope in 2005 folks will realise it's ok to be aware and active.”

Bono – Band-Aid 2004.

The Power of Soul

THE POWER OF SOUL...IS THE STUNNING DEBUT ALBUM FROM NEW BRITISH ROCK BAND 'THE SOUL COMPANY' - **THE FIRST FULL ALBUM RELEASE IN MORE THAN 10 YEARS FROM ALARM AXE-MAN DAVE SHARP.**

THE POWER OF SOUL.....IS DUE FOR RELEASE EARLY 2005 FROM TOWNSEND RECORDS AND THE UNIVERSAL MUSIC CORPORATION.

THE POWER OF SOUL...IS A SEARING SLICE OF INTELLECTUALLY HARDHITTING BRIT-ROCK FORGED FROM JOE STRUMMER GLOBAL GO-GO CHIC AND DEEP SOUTHERN DELTA SAVVY.

THE POWER OF SOUL....IS A BRITISH ROCK BARE -KNUCKLE CHALLENGE TO THE STATUS QUO THAT BURNS THICK WITH THE STICK-INCENSE OF AN EAST FLORIDA CANE FIELD SMOKE-DOWN AND LEAVES AN AFTERTASTE JUST LIKE PURE SUGARLAND PETROL STRAIGHT FROM THE CAN. IT IS A MOLOTOV COCKTAIL FLUNG DIRECTLY INTO THE WRECKAGE OF A MUSIC INDUSTRY FORCED TO IT'S CREATIVE KNEES BY A TOXIC CLOUD OF NEW MILLENNIUM CORPORATE MYOPIA AND WHILST THE BOSS MAKES HOO-DOO RADIO JU-JU, **THE SOUL COMPANY** DELIVERS THE JUNK TO DE-BUNK THE VOO DOO.

IT IS NO ACCIDENT....THAT THE POWER OF SOUL WAS LAID DOWN ON THE NORTHWEST'S LEGENDARY WIGAN PIER JUST LIKE IT WAS NO ACCIDENT THAT WIGAN PIER LAID DOWN THE POWER OF SOUL FOR AN ENTIRE DISENFRANCHISED 60'S GENERATION...THE SOUL COMPANY, SIMPLY PUT, IS AND ALWAYS WAS . . .

A BAND MEANT TO HAPPEN!!!

RIGHT FROM THE GET-GO...THE SOUL COMPANY ACCELERATES AROUND A ROLLERCOASTER OF BLUES DRIVEN, CHILLED-OUT GUITAR LICKS AS EX-ALARM MANCHESTER AXE MAN AND SOMETIME POET **DAVE SHARP** LAUNCHES INTO A VITRIOL AS MERCILESS AS A BARRAGE OF 6.00 CNN SOUNDBYTES BROADCASTING INTO A WORLDWIDE TERRORIZED TWIN TOWER WAR-ZONE. **NO GIMMICKS OR GIZZMOS** REQUIRED HERE!!! NO HIGH DOLLAR, HARD SELL NEEDED!!! THIS ALBUM CONTAINS 45 UNCENSORED MINUTES OF **BLISTERING ROCK MUSIC**, 10 HIT SONGS, AND ONE BRITISH ROCK BAND FIRED UP ONTHE POWER OF SOUL!!!

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BAND HISTORY AND BIO

Following **THE ALARM**'s 1989 U.S. Winter Tour, Manchester born, **DAVE SHARP**, co-founder, co-writer and lead guitarist, headed for New York City's Lower East Side to record his first solo album, **HARD TRAVELLIN'**, with legendary, maverick record producer, **BOB JOHNSTON** and Grateful Dead engineer **TOM FLYE** at the **HIT FACTORY**. He little realized that what was intended to be an experimental side-project during an Alarm sabbatical would turn into a full-blown solo career taking him on a monumental 15-year journey across the U.S., back to the U.K., and to the present day. **Hard Travellin'** was released on IRS Records in the Summer of 1990 to much critical acclaim at both press and radio and accompanied by a sell-out U.K. tour.

Following lead singer **MIKE PETERS'** departure from The Alarm in 1991, Dave Sharp made the seminal decision to leave behind the U.K. pop scene and a successful 10-year career with the band. He instinctively knew he was headed for the United States full-time to pick up the trail of folk legend **WOODIE GUTHRIE** who had provided the influence for both Dave and Bob Johnston to record **Hard Travellin'**. After arriving in the U.S. armed with just a guitar, a bag, and an "idealistic sense of troubadour bravado", Sharp soon realized his solo career would be taking him down the road less travelled. He began an intense period of growth as a solo singer / songwriter performing live shows across the length and breadth of the country and touring with musicians he had long admired like **WILLIE NELSON** and **KRIS KRISTOFFERSON**.

After more than a year on the road, including appearances at **THE GRAND OLE OPRY** in Nashville, Farm Aid and New York City's Earth Day, Sharp found himself in New Orleans, Louisiana, where he decided to put his feet up and take stock. Having amassed a collection of new songs and realizing it was time to make his next move, Sharp contacted Bob Johnston once more, who suggested he should go back into the recording studio.

Johnston invited Sharp to San Francisco where he had assembled some of California's finest musicians to provide the basis for a new band for Sharp. Sharp entered **CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL's** Fantasy Studios in July 1994 to begin work on the album **Downtown America**.

DOWNTOWN AMERICA was released in January 1996 receiving radio play across the board (classic rock, alternative radio, AAA) and even earned Sharp an appearance on Nashville's Prime Time Country television show after scoring well in the ratings at country radio. The record features **CHRIS SOLBERG** (Santana) on bass, **LARRY CRANE** and **DAVE GRISSOLM** (The **JOHN COUGAR MELLENCAMP** Band) on guitars, **PRAIRIE PRINCE** (The Tubes) on drums, **AL COOPER** (The Bob Dylan Band) on keyboards, along with performances from members of **JEFFERSON STARSHIP** and the legendary **CHARLIE DANIELS**. Once again, Sharp enjoyed extremely positive critical support from the American press.

With two excellently received solo albums and an extensive touring itinerary under his belt, Sharp began to look once again to the British music scene for inspiration. "I saw fewer and fewer U.K. rock bands able to make a lasting impact on U.S. audiences," says Sharp. "In recent years British rock seems to have lost much credibility Stateside." He decided to re-locate to the U.K. to revisit his original influences developed as a fledgling player in "post Woodstock" Manchester, England in the early '70's.

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Following his return to Manchester in early 2002, Sharp immediately began touring solo and acoustic in order to reintroduce himself to British audiences, headlining venues up and down the country, such as **THE CAVERN CLUB** (Liverpool), **THE UNDERWORLD** (London), **KING TUT'S** (Glasgow). In order to broaden his audience base, Dave took on opening slots with artists such as **NICK HARPER**, **SIR BOB GELDOF**, **JAKE BURNS** (3 Men & Black) and the late, great **LONNIE DONNEGAN**. During this time he began searching out musicians for a new band with just one criterion: "These cats have got to be seriously tested rock players who can deliver." Things came rapidly into focus after a chance meeting with one of the U.K.'s finest bass players, **KEITH ASHCROFT** (Jim Diamond, Sophie-Ellis-Bexter, Snake Davis). After Sharp laid out his plans, Ashcroft knew exactly what was required and immediately contacted long-time associate and 10cc drummer, **PAUL BURGESS** to solidify the rhythm section. Sharp, Ashcroft and Burgess knew they would need an outstanding guitarist to complete the picture, and following a lengthy search, Feelgood axeman **MOE WHITHAM** was drafted in. With the addition of guitar player **JIM HOLMES** from the Northwest soul scene, the line-up for Sharp's new band was now complete and **THE SOUL COMPANY** was born.

THE SOUL COMPANY made their debut appearance at the North Wales Conference Centre in January 2004 before an eagerly awaiting crowd of 1800 fans. The band gave an outstanding performance, which was recorded on the night and went on to form the basis of their debut album, **THE POWER OF SOUL**. A month later and February saw the band in Incentive Studios on Wigan Pier, "the home of Northern Soul" recording their first studio single, The Power of Soul. By now the chemistry and sound of the band was taking shape and a new British rock band was busy being born. Bruce McKenzie from Townsend Records stepped in at this point and the missing piece of the **SOUL COMPANY** jigsaw was finally locked into place. **THE POWER OF SOUL IS SCHEDULED FOR RELEASE IN EARLY 2005** with live appearances currently being booked for the band. At last the U.K. will have a chance to experience a brand new British rock band in full flight.

**SWITCH YOUR SATELLITE DIAL TO THE "GO-MAN-GO"...LADIES & GENTLEMEN
WOULD YOU PLEASE WELCOME...THE SOUL COMPANY!!!!!!!!!!!!**



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