

ePop 026:  
Kids on Bikes



Kids On Bikes

**EardrumsPop** is a label where we release free digital singles of our favourite artists. Every single will include two original songs and in addition a cover-song that deserves more attention. The cover art will be made by our favourite illustrators, and we like to see the single as a split-release between the band and the illustrator.

The singles will vary in style, from acoustic folk-songs to noisy indiepop, everything in between and more, but always warm and melodic.

## Tracks:

1. Transference
2. Not Quietism
3. A Boy Needs a Bike

»» Track 1 and 2 written by Sean Mahan/ Kids On Bikes. Track 3 originally performed by Annette Funicello as “A Girl Needs A Boy”, and slightly rewritten by Sean Mahan. All songs performed by Kids On Bikes.

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# Introduction to the band: **Kids on Bikes**

is the electronic-surf-folk band from Neptune Beach, Florida that is sweet on riding bicycles. Sean Mahan writes each song as an introspective adoration to the many wondrous aspects of getting on a bike. For the past 10 years Kids On Bikes has been working on the forthcoming record set “77 songs of cycling”, an epic 4 LP veneration to schwinn stingrays, raleigh collapsibles, and powder blue beach cruisers.



# The Cover Art Designer: Sean Mahan

## » Can you give us a short presentation of yourself and your art?

I live in Neptune Beach, Florida where I have a studio space in the front of my house. I like to make figurative paintings with graphite and acrylic washes on wood to depict a sense of wonder about innate human sweetness.

## » What are you working on right now?

I'm working on a series of paintings of children on wood. I'm particularly interested in how a quiet inward pause is reflected in facial expression and how that expression reflects the gentle and empathic aspects of human nature.

## » Who / what are your greatest visual inspirations?

I love and have always been inspired by Kathe Kollwitz' printmaking. I think seeing her woodcut prints at a young age shaped my interest in art sharing a social narrative. Also, I am inspired by record art and really love doing it. I think it's a really cool relationship -- pairing art and music together.

## » What are your future plans? Any exciting things you are looking forward to?

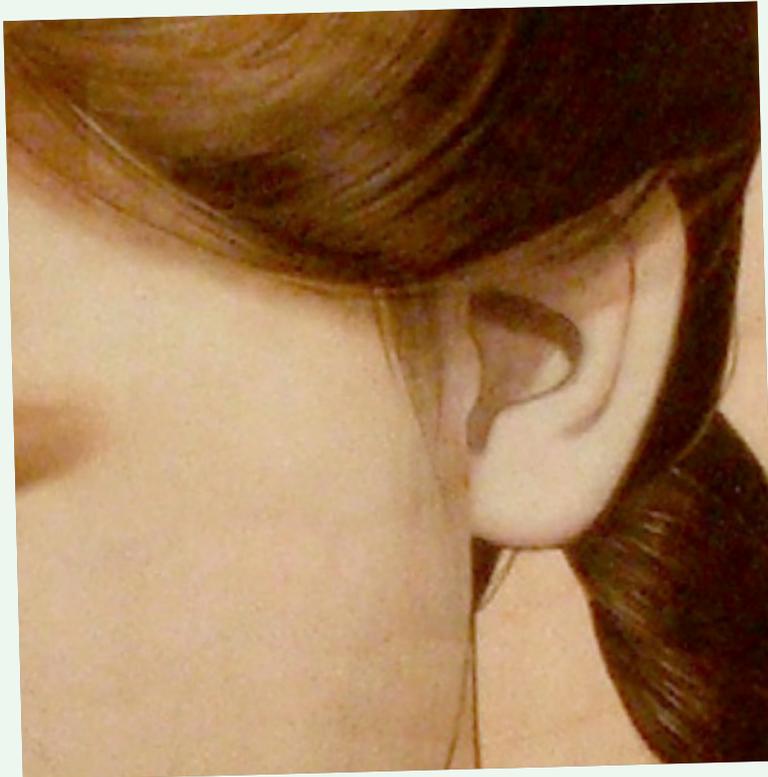
Right now, I'm working with Erin Tobey on curating the Plan-it X Fest art show in Bloomington Indiana this month. After that, I'll be busy making paintings for a solo show next March and making songs for the forthcoming Kids On Bikes record set "77 Songs Of Cycling". Other than that, maybe a future art show somewhere in Norway?

Read the rest of the interview here:

<http://www.eardrumspop.com/2012/07/18/illustrator-interview-sean-mahan/>

# Kids on Bikes — a photo interview:

The innovative website [A Negative Narrative](http://www.anegativenarrative.com) has made photo-interviews with our single-artists. Visit [www.anegativenarrative.com](http://www.anegativenarrative.com) and see more bands' photographic answers to their interview questions. Here is A Negative Narrative's interview with Kids on Bikes:



- 1) Take a photo of an ear, but make it real strange, artistic or unrecognisable.



- 2) What's the most precious thing you'd smash up or break just for the purpose of taking a photo of it all broken and smashed for this interview?



3) Tell us a secret.



4) What does life mean to you?



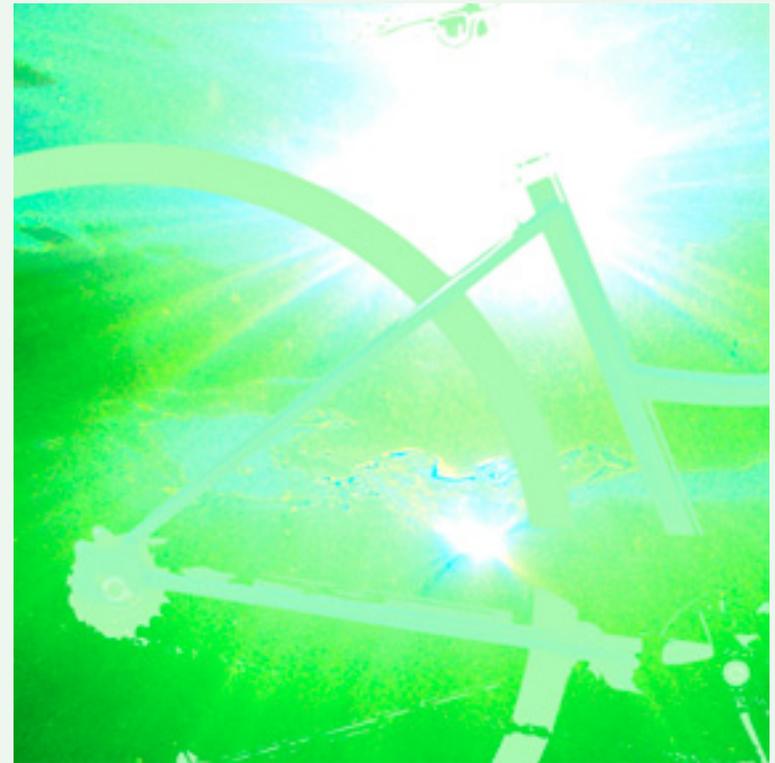
5) Define infinity.



6) How about a really colourful photograph?



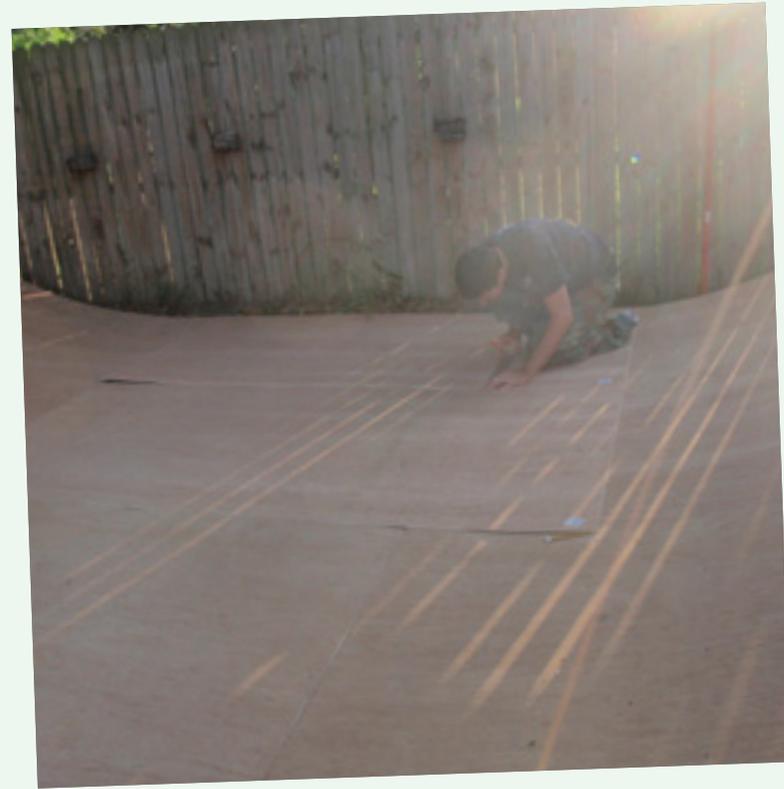
7) Photograph someone who isn't expecting it.



8) What would your music look like if it was visible to the human eye?



9) What makes you really, really, stupidly happy?



10) Photograph something illegal or naked.

**The cover song:** We have encouraged the single-bands to make a cover version of a song they think deserves more attention. Kids On Bikes have chosen to cover »A Girl Needs a Boy«, originally performed by Annette Funicello and rewritten by Kids On Bikes as “A Boy Needs A Bike”.



### **About Annette Funicello**

Annette Funicello (born October 22, 1942) is an American singer and actress. She was Walt Disney’s most popular cast member of the original Mickey Mouse Club, and went on to appear in a series of beach party films.

Annette had a number of pop record hits in the late 1950s and early 1960s, mostly written by the Sherman Brothers. They were released by Disney’s Buena Vista label. Annette also recorded „It’s Really Love“ in 1959, a reworking of an earlier Paul Anka song called „Toot Sweet“; Anka reworked the song for a third time in 1962 as „Johnny’s Theme“ and it opened The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson on television for the next three decades. Funicello announced in 1992 that she suffers from multiple sclerosis, and she opened the Annette Funicello Fund for Neurological Disorders the year after.

# About EardrumsPop, the label:

EardrumsPop is a net-label closely related to the music blog Eardrums. We love warm and melodic music of all kinds, we believe in beautiful things you can see and hear, and we believe in working together, helping each other and getting good music and good art out to the public.

We HOPE that you can visit the websites of the bands you like, buy their releases, go to their concerts or just spread the word about these wonderful bands. All our releases are made in close collaboration with the artists and illustrators.

[www.eardrumspop.com](http://www.eardrumspop.com)

## Contributors to the project:

- »» The **booklet-template** is designed by Julia Pax. Visit Julia at [www.visuellezeiten.de](http://www.visuellezeiten.de). You can also read our interview with her at [www.eardrumspop.com/about-2/our-illustrators/julia-pax](http://www.eardrumspop.com/about-2/our-illustrators/julia-pax)
- »» The **booklet** is put together in Adobe InDesign by Lisle Mitnik
- »» The **text in the booklet** is put together by the EardrumsPop team
- »» The **project** is run and managed by the EardrumsPop-team, Stefan, Tim and Knut. Visit us at [www.eardrumspop.com](http://www.eardrumspop.com)
- »» The **photo-interviews** are managed by the website A Negative Narrative [www.anegativenarrative.com](http://www.anegativenarrative.com)

If you want to participate in any way, either with music, art or help us with the project, please contact us at [team@eardrumspop.com](mailto:team@eardrumspop.com).

You can also join our Facebook group: [www.facebook.com/eardrumspop](http://www.facebook.com/eardrumspop).

# Next singles in this series:

» ePop027: Cape Canaveral

If you enjoyed the single, please tell your friends about it! Write about it in your blog, on Facebook, Twitter, Last.fm etc. Play it on your radio show, your podcast or as loud as you can on your stereo with your windows open. Spread the word about the single and help us let lots of people hear it!

You can help us develop the label, pay some bills for us or buy us a beer, by donating a small sum via our PayPal.

<http://www.eardrumspop.com/donate/>

**Thank you.**