

Ecton's Dessert Island Discs

Simon Taylor



Ideology :

'Minority by Green Day'. I'm ultimately living a fairly capitalist existence but my alter ego lives inside me. I really connect with the idea of rallying against what we are told to do and the recognition that we don't all want to be the same homogenous blend. Plus this is just a top tune which meets the run fast, pogo madly need we all get from time to time.

Heritage :

'Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau' - Cardiff Arms Pk/Millennium Stadium/Anybody good'. I'm English, but with critical Welsh and Irish bits of my jigsaw. For whatever reason I have always connected with Wales and in a way wanted to be Welsh. If ever you need a stirring piece of music to get the goosepimples raging this is it for me - Pure magic and with restored Welsh rugby pride in recent times belted out with even more gusto.

Childhood :

2 here, firstly 'Requiem 820 Latham by the 5th Dimension'. I think they missed most people's radar in the 70's, but in the Swindon household of the Taylor family it was and still remains a classic. Great blend of Orchestra production with soulful lyrics - Awesome. Secondly would be 'Give it up by KC and the Sunshine Band'. Summer holidays were always the best times and I can clearly picture happy sunny days in Cornwall with this on somewhere in the background.

Love :

What do you do when you want to say loving/romantic things in your wedding speech. Easy, just pull up the lyrics to 'If by David Gates and Bread'. I came across this song through Sarah's Dad and if you ever want to really tell someone how much you love them this does it in circa 3mins - the 5 second high note on the 'way' bit of 'away' at the end is a challenge, but hey who said love was easy !!

Love and Elation

'Baddiel and Skinner - 3 Lions 1996' - Tunnel End of Wembley Stadium, England have just walloped Holland 4-1 and after about 10 minutes of singing 'It's coming home, it's coming home' with 30,000 others I turn to Dad and suggest we go - remarkably he said 'shall we not just stay for a few minutes longer'. It was the precise moment that my Dad became my mate !

Progeny :

Summer 05 was our first real summer in Ecton and Isabella was born in July. That month saw our grass go brown with the dry conditions. We tried to temper the dry spells with a glass or two of cider and then a few more to celebrate the arrival of Isabella. 'Jack Johnson's - Better Together' was everywhere at the time and I used to sing it to her when she cried to help her sleep - sometimes it even worked !!

I wish I was..... :

I've been in a band before so in a very small way I have experienced the adrenaline/euphoria of entertaining people. More recently I was watching Glastonbury 2006 and Brandon Flowers and his band the 'Killers' were performing 'Somebody Told me'. It's a great song and the look of bewilderment on his face during that set blew me away, it was like 'Wow, 2 years ago nobody knew us and here we are with 40,000 people singing my song' - Fantastic !

I don't know why...:

'Vanessa Paradis - Be My Baby' - I think this topped the charts in 1990 and it reminds me of my first proper week surfing in Woolacombe. I had a car, had just bought my first board and this song seemed to be on Radio 1 all the time. It's not a classic, but if I hear it I just have to smile !