# LIMAHL FANS WORLDWIDE

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Limchl Fon Macarzine

## FAN STORY

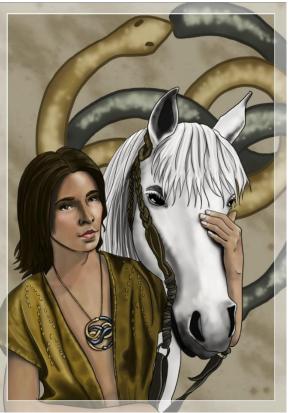
Art Design & more
Noah Hathaway
COLINTHURSTON
"Limahl did the vocals first go!"

Art Design & More



## Art Design & More The Neverending Story





### KAJAGOOGOO – Zeche Bochum 2008 (Germany)

© by D. Vorndran

#### LIVE-REPORT

When the news came up that KAJAGOOGOO would re-unite for a tour in original line-up in November 2008, it was a total surprise for me and one thing was sure: I needed to see that! Grown up with their music and hits like 'Too shy' in the eighties, I never ever had the chance before to see them live on stage. Very exciting to have the chance now! The people gathering in the Zeche Bochum were obviously also grown up in the eighties, the average age was at least mid-thirty. One after another, the band member had left the band and 1985 it was totally over. Now, after 25 years absence from German stages, all five together were back to rock the Zeche and even present some new songs.

While TOKIO HOTEL are the musical heroes providing for the boost of the editions of the teen press these days, KAJAGOOGOO took their place 25 years ago. Barely another group in the 8os could win the hearts of their female fans in such short time and simultaneously causing a stir with timeless hits. With the chorus "Too shy shy hush hush eye to eye" a whole generation was brought up.

After the group with singer Limahl split up for good in the mid-eighties, came the big surprise in on the English television channel VH1. KAJAGOOGOO and Limahl reunited for one single performance. But the hope of the fans wasn't fulfilled and the matured boys went their own ways again. With the release of a single with only three of the "Kajas" in summer 2007 again caused a huge interest of the media and paved the way for a performance on a retro festival.

The enormous success was the initial spark for the unbelievable. In February 2008, the first photo shooting of the reunited five-piece with Limahl took place. And in June it was finally time on the Esbjerg Festival (DK). KAJAGOOGOO in their original line-up with Limahl, Nick Beggs, Steve Askew, Stuart Neale and Jez Strode presented their first live gig after 25 years and not only thrilled old fans. Until the release of the new album in 2009, the five guys in their original line-up will excite the fans and I was happy that KAJAGOOGOO were coming to Bochum where I got to see them. KAJAGOOGOO is Limahl (vocals), Nick Beggs (bass, chapman stick, vocals), Jez Strode (drums), Steve Askew (guitars) and Stuart Neale (keyboards & programming.

Even though the Zeche was not totally sold out, the hall was very well filled when at 8.15 first Nick Beggs and then the band one after another entered the stage to the spherical intro music Limahl being last wearing a big smile on his face. The small wrinkles around his eyes showed that he was not the youngest anymore but still he wore a smile in his face making him looking like a little boy.

The show started with older songs, 'K-A-J-A-G-O-O-G-O-O' being first which was enthusiastically welcomed by the audience, followed by 'Interview Rooms', 'White Feathers' and the big hit 'Big Apple'. After the latter song, it was time for the singer to thank the audience - of course in German - and also show tome comedian talents. "Great to be back in Germany again as KAJAGOOGOO. It is the first time for 25 years. We're 25 years older bit still with hair and teeth." The following 'Hang on now' was started by Nick Beggs on vocals before Limahl joined in and Steve presenting some guitar solo.

The funky 'Shouldn't do that' was next on the list and was loudly accompanied by the audience. After this song it was time for more small talk by Limahl... "In the eighties we had all crazy hair" ... yeah, a picture he held up showed that perfectly... and then he stated that such a hair style would also fit Barak Obama.

Then he announced the upcoming "fast" love song 'Only for love' which was accompanied by Mr. Begs shaking his hips causing some screams within his fans. 'Lion's Mouth' and 'Ooh to be Ah' were following, latter starting with a wonderful piano intro. Then it was finally time for a change. "We are so excited to present you our four new songs", stated Limahl. Furthermore, he said that it was only natural to write new songs after the re-union. All four songs will soon be released as an EP.

The first of the new songs was 'Dead defying Headlines' dealing with the crazy headlines you can read in the newspapers every day. Next on - 'Space Cadet' - was about a "crazy guy who likes to smoke a little grass, to drink and who doesn't pay the bills". This very funky song was warmly welcomed by the crowd. Third new song 'Dreaming of the same Thing' dealt with religion that "has fucked up the world". Last new song was 'High life' which I liked a lot. All in all, you can say about the newly written stuff that they are still compatible to the old stuff musically, but that the lyrics are grown up dealing with more serious topics. Ok, back now to the good old stuff most people were waiting for. Before 'Turn your back on me' started, the band was introduced, and latter on it was time for a special applause for Nick's boots. Yeah!

The main set was finished with a song that was written for a movie novel and "a special gift" to Giorgio Moroder: 'Neverending Story' when people loudly sang the refrain together with the band or all alone... at the end even the music went down and you could only hear people singing. Fantastic!

What would be such a concert without any encore and especially without the biggest hit of the band? Of course, 'Too shy' was coming up as first encore when people first were singing the whole refrain all alone before the music and the whole song started.

Finally, 'Monochromatic' finished a fantastic re-union concert. At the end needs to be said that all musicians of the band got their chance to play some shorter or longer solo parts showing that all of them are really gifted musicians and not just grown-up teen idols.

## Noah Hathaway

© by Marcel Damen 2006

#### You had the two most famous "pets" in history: Falkor, the dragon and Muffit. What was your favorite and why?

I liked Muffit, because Evie (the chimpanzee) was inside and she was like my pet for a couple of years. I would visit her after we had finished Battlestar [Galactica]. I saw her a bunch of times. The animal trainer had a reserve, called "Gentle Jungle", where he had tigers, elephants and bears. So, we would go out there every now and then and go see her.

#### Do you know what eventually happened to her?

She'd gone old and passed away. She passed away a while ago.

#### What about Falkor, the dragon? Did you like that, did you like riding him?

That's was fun! The problem with that was that we would do certain scenes were it was hooked up to a motor. They would simulate it flying and the motor would overheat. It would go haywire and send me flying a good 30 foot up the air... (laughing) No, really! They had 10 feet boxes and pads and stuff, but I would get a good toss now and then.

#### Yes, because there were a lot of accidents on Neverending Story. You almost got killed several times...

Almost, yeah...

You were thrown of a horse and stepped on, pretty much drowned in the Swamp of Sadness, you almost lost an eye in the fight scene with the Gmork...

That's true! They beat me to death in that movie.

#### So why did you do your own stunts then? Were there no little stunt guys then?

Well, what it was... Wolfgang Petersen was notorious for his actors doing their own stunts. His actors are always getting hurt, because he wanted... Audiences are very savvy, you can cut away and show the back of somebody and show the stuntman doing their stunt. And everybody knows that, so he wants his actors to do as much as they can for the realism of the movie. Accidents happen and actors aren't stuntmen. That's why they have stuntmen, because if someone gets hurt, they're "expendable". And some of the times, they're just more careful... I just ended up paying.

#### Because nowadays agents won't allow that!

#### Noooo...!

"It's when you're running through the track setting up record levels, that you say to the band 'I've got your individual sounds, but we'll just run through it once and check everything'. Then its straight into record, automatically. I don't care if they stop halfway through. On the Bowie album Heroes, for example, there were so many edits and parts of songs. The musicians heard the songs once which was just me on drums. Tony Visconti on bass and David Bowie on keyboards; no vocals. They heard it once, and walked in and played it. Machine straight into record. Amazing!"

#### Because the actor is like "the God" on the set.

Right! See, the problem is that, yeah, the agents won't let them, but the actors have big egos, so they want to do their own stunts and everybody has to pull the reins back on the actors, because... you know... They live in this little dream world; you know what I mean? Yes, they don't like actors really doing their own stunts. They try to keep it minimal.

#### Have you read the book of The Neverending Story?

Couple of times! It's wonderful.

#### The story had a message for both children and adults; children should more like grown-ups and grown-ups more like children. What do you think of a message like that?

It's not like so that kids should be more like grownups, because you don't want to lose your innocence. You want to lose The Wonderman. When you get older everybody... you become jaded and life happens and life is hard. And they say, don't lose that, don't lose your childlike innocence. Try not to let life jade you.

## I meant like children should read more and that kind of grown-up stuff instead of playing video games.

Right, right... and that's what I tell my kids... READ! Read a book, don't sit in front of the TV. Read a book, use your imagination!







## Kajagoogoo came back to Germany with Limahl

#### by Dietmar Schwenger 2008

In November 2008, the Bochum promoter Lars Berndt Event brought the band Kajagoogoo, which was especially successful in the 1980s, to Germany in its original line-up with singer Limahl for eight concerts.

Kajagoogoo returned to Germany 23 years after their last concerts in this country, where they celebrated great successes with songs like "Too Shy", "Ooh To Be Ah", or "Big Apple".

The band had released a few albums in the first half of the 1980s (one of them without Limahl). Now they have recorded the CD "Gone To The Moon", which will be released soon, according to the English formation's homepage.

## Zeche Bochum - Germany 2008 KajaGooGoo

SET LIST:

- Kajagoogoo
- **Interview Rooms** - White Feathers
- **Big Apple**
- Hang on Now
- Shouldn't Do That
- Only for Love
- (Limahl song)
- The Lion's Mouth
- Ooh to Be Ah
- Death Defying Headlines
- Space Cadet Dreaming of the Same Thing
- **High Life**
- **Turn Your Back on Me**
- Lies and Promises
- The NeverEnding Story (Limahl song)
- Encore:
- Too Shy
- Encore 2: Monochromatic

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Limahl: "In Germany doing a pre-recorded interview which had a few technichal issues - Nick started pulling

some of his great crazy faces then we completely lost it

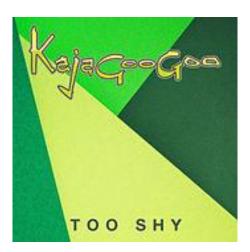
© by the owner/LimahI

## **Record Producer COLIN THURSTON**

by Janet Angus (8os)

The man who turned the music of Duran Duran, Kajagoogoo, Human League and Magazine into hits, discloses his hit-making formulae, recording methods and wellequipped home studio.

Colin chose two tracks to speak about in more detail: Rio from Duran Duran and Too Shy from Kajagoogoo:



#### Vocal's TOO SHY – Limahl

"One thing that I really love to do is record everything first time. When the band are

running through something, I record it. Because (red light syndrome) they think they're not being recorded, they tend to be totally at ease and play things that they probably wouldn't do if the red 'record' light

was on."

#### "That brings me on to Limahl from Kajagoogoo on the single Too Shy. The final

vocal used was actually the run through. I was getting the vocal sound and he reached the end and I said 'Limahl, come and listen to your vocal.' He said: 'Oh no, it was only a run through.' 'Yes, I know, and I recorded it and it's brilliant.' He asked for a couple more goes because he thought he could do better but halfway through the second take he stopped and said, 'no, I can't do better.' At the very beginning of the song, you hear him getting his voice in pitch and it all went on tape. I got so used to hearing it that I left it on." "It's when you're running through the track setting up record levels, that you say to the band 'I've got your individual sounds, but we'll just run through it once and check everything'. Then its straight into record, automatically. I don't care if they stop half-way through. On the Bowie album Heroes, for example, there were so many edits and parts of songs. The musicians heard the songs once which was just me on drums. Tony Visconti on bass and David Bowie on keyboards; no vocals. They heard it once, and walked in

played it. Machine straight into record. Amazing!"

"I learned that track off Visconti - record everything no matter how bad or how good, there'll always be some priceless gem in there somewhere. You say 'play those notes you played before' and they say 'what notes?' So, you play them back to him: 'Oh, those notes.

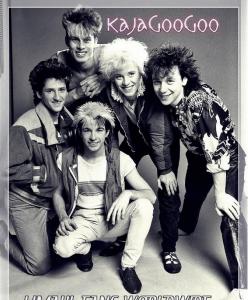
They're nice!' When they're relaxed most musicians don't actually listen to what they're playing which helps them play better.



""On Kajagoogoo's Too Shy, it was one of the few times that Jes actually played the drums and it all went straight down on tape. It was a run through with the bass player that I recorded. One- or two-timing problems are evident here and there, but that's only because they couldn't hear themselves on the cans properly. Limahl did the vocals first go. He's got an absolutely superb voice to record from an engineering point of view. When you hear it coming out of the mic you don't actually need to add anything or take anything away from it. The top end is there, the middle range is there, the bottom end is there, and he doesn't blow into the mic either when he sings. He's really got it taped." No pun intended I'm sure. "There's the inevitable touch of harmoniser behind the voice which was on there and that's all I did to his voice to record it."

#### KAJAGOOGOO (without Limahl)

"Only once did I record something and regret it later, and that was on one of the tracks off the last Kajagoogoo album. On Nick Beggs' voice I used a repeat delay. I thought I should maybe record that on a separate track at the time, but I actually needed those two remaining tracks so I couldn't really let one go, and of course it was always there. Towards the end of the album when I heard it, I thought 'Dammit, I wish I hadn't done that.'



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But to ask Nick to go and re-sing it just for the sake of it (and he put a lot into that vocal), was too much... I tried gating it and it just kept breaking through slightly - so I decided to leave it. It was their single Turn Your Back on Me.

It just gets me every time I hear it - it's slightly out of time with the track and I think that's what annoys me. The band don't mind, it's just me being finnicky."





#### (written by Marina Schweigert)

I let myself fall into the hands of God ... And I don't know where I'm going ...

It all started before Christmas last year. For me, the topic of Covid 19 also had a lot of "positive effects". This time slows down everyday life and gives you a time to find yourself. During this time, I was again very confronted with the processing of my feelings and past. I admit a lot of pain that wanted to be seen. I felt different all my life; I was highly sensitive even as a child. But God was always with me. I have had to experience a lot of pain and suffering since I was a child. Issues of rejection, co-dependencies, bullying, emotional abuse. Why I start my story like this is because God and Limahl "showed themselves" over and over again in my life.

A big step for me to write my story down here openly. That is probably also part of the "healing of my inner child".

Limahl first appeared when I was 10 years old. At school I was bullied a lot, at home I was "my mother's mother (she was depressed), my other 5 siblings sometimes didn't make life so easy for me either ...

The topic "groups" made itself visible for the first time (school / home / circle of friends) Back then the music from Kajagoogoo helped me to switch off. But Limahl's voice made me feel safe. He was the one who calmed my child's heart.

Then came the "Break of Kajagoogoo". The "topic of group constellation's" was also clearly evident. When I found out that Kajagoogoo was separating from Limahl, it was a stab in my heart. I was sad. I felt the pain in my soul myself. But Limahl did not let himself get down.

He was and is my hero who always followed his heart and went on solo. When I heard "only for love" on the radio for the first time, I was so proud of Limahl.

A smile in my heart then Limahl released his first solo album "Don't Suppose" in 1984 and his world hit "The Neverending Story" appeared.

With no other voice than Limahl's, this song would have been so successful. This song still makes people all over the world happy to this day. Then the great album "Color all my Days" came out.

At the same time, with all of his songs, I repeatedly processed difficult experiences in my life. In between I was always caught up in everyday life and removed from Limahl. In the years that followed, Limahl kept popping up with me.

This connection is in me to these days.

#### 2008/2009

Limahl reunites with the guys from Kajagoogoo and go on tour. To experience this (the first concert for me to ever watch Limahl Live) was another important process for me.

During this time, I let go of a lot of anger in peace. I forgive the people who did bad things to me (like Limahl I probably think) Kajagoogoo met again as a band. I found the tour healing for the boys.

It was a coincidence that I was in Augsburg in 2010. There was hustle and bustle in the city. Christopher Street Day. Suddenly I heard Limahl's voice. I didn't know he was there. I was so happy about this coincidence. There he stood my inner companion. In 2012 my beloved mother passed away.

Limahl's voice and his loving face often helped me through my grief.

**In 2020** I worked through a strong heartache with Limahl's new single "Still in Love". December 2020 the song "Wish for Christmas" came out. I love Christmas and Limahl ... THANK YOU LIMAHL - you will always have a place in my heart  $\mathbb{C} \otimes \mathbb{C}$  God protect you  $\mathbb{A}$  with love

mud



"Thank you so much Marina for your wonderful Fan Story! And by the way... look at this beautiful "White Feathers Album" picture Marina created herself!!!"



LIMAHL FANS WORLDWIDE



## LIMAHL FANS WORLDWIDE MAGAZINE



## The First Saint Fan Magazine Worldwide!

The Facebook group Limahl Fans Worldwide was officially founded in September 2012 and was led continuously by the group administrator Carmen Maus.

Limahl & Kajagoogoo fan groups or clubs - a passion that has existed for almost 4 decades, has accompanied Limahl's & Kajagoogoo's career since the 80s and provides its fans with relevant information.

From the club magazines of that time to today's online portals, we've gone through everything.

In order to increase and also improve the exclusivity of the group, many projects are constantly being created. One of our latest projects is the "Limahl Fans Worldwide" fan magazine.

Of course, we have browsed the internet to determine the uniqueness. The Limahl Fans Worldwide magazine is one of the first magazines worldwide and in this constellation - facebook group + fan magazine - unique!

In this magazine we want to entertain you in an informative way - especially during the corona pandemic and all the lockdowns.



Of course, we always pay attention to the truth!

Categories like "Art Design & More" and "Fan Story" are intended exclusively for you:

Here you can publish your own fan stories or self-created art if it's about Limahl or Kajagoogoo. We are also always open to suggestions for topics for the next issue.

We publish our magazine online for you and it appears once a month on the 19th!

(don't worry, data sharing is absolutely secure!)

If you have any questions, suggestions or criticism - write an email to: office@limahl.eu

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So please understand:

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