PARACHUTES MUSIC

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EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

SPARKLEHORSE's Mark Linkous
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On the album, you sing, play guitar, optigan, melotron, use samplers, and a
host of other instruments - which do you enjoy the most?
*My favourite is the optigan, my first time I found it most endearingly warm,
and really experimented with it.*

The album was recorded in Virginia, New York, and Barcelona - did the
different locations affect the music in any way?
*The music goes with me wherever I go, though there was a small fear of it
going suddenly urban in New York.*

How was it working with Dave Fridman (producer)?
*He was a great collaborator, great to work with. Nothing I suggested was to
weird for him.*

You also worked with PJ Harvey, Tom Waits, Nina Persson from The
Cardigans on the album - what was that like?
Excellent, I have the upmost respect for them and they were all fans too.

If you could work with anyone, living or dead, who would you choose?
Probably Bill Oldham or John Marshall

Who would you say have been your main musical influences?
*A great range of artists - from the Stanley Bros., to Sex Pistols, to Tom
Waits, and loads of others.*

Which one record has influenced you the most?
*I wore out Johnny Cash quite a lot, but it's probably 'Billion Dollar Babies' by
Alice Cooper.*

What was the first record you ever bought.
'Billion Dollar Babies' by Alice Cooper.

What was the first gig you ever went to?
My first proper concert was Blondie, when I was 17.

What made you choose 'It's A Wonderful Life' to be the title track?
There's just a little irony to it really.
Is there any connection to the film?
*'It's A Wonderful Life' is one of my favourite films, but the album's not really
related to it, no.*

How did you come up with the name 'Sparklehorse'?
I just put the two words together and it sounded good.

What is the best song to wake up to in the morning?
Grandaddy - 'He's Simple, He's Dumb, He's The Pilot'.

Interview by **Will Martin**

The album 'It's A Wonderful Life' is out now.