

# DARKUS

2020 Showcase Series



# DOCKSUNS

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## 2020 SHOWCASE SERIES

### EDITORS MESSAGE

If there is one band who perfectly combine their love for their local roots and their passion for music it would have to be Sunderland based band, Docksuns.

Since first coming on to many people's radar in 2019 when they released their debut single *Lost Without You*, the band have wasted no time in getting showing music fans around the region just some of the treats they have on offer whether it be their collection of super fresh and feel good songs or one of their energetic and vibrant live performances.

With this in mind this showcase is an opportunity to dig a little deeper into 5 guys who are increasingly becoming one of the North East's much loved newcomers. So make yourselves comfortable as we enjoy some summer vibes with Sunderland's very own, Docksuns!

*Thushara X x X*



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**Thank You To Docksuns**

**Unison Music And Events**



# WHEY AYE MAN, IT'S THE DOCKSUNS!

Answers By Adam Dawkins (Bassist)

*You may not have heard of Sunderland, Indie outfit Docksuns, but after hearing their new tune 'Dancing On The Radio', you'll soon be dazzled with their electric, Britpop inspired sound. We spoke to the likely lads all about their favourite Glasto set, life in the Wearside and the possibility of the first Docksuns record...*

**How have you all been finding lockdown, have you put the time to good use by writing new material?**

Lockdowns been a bloody bizarre time hasn't it? I think we'd fall smack bang in the middle, probably could have done more but haven't sat round wishing our lives away. We've recently got back in the studio recording new material and have a few new tunes waiting to get their turn on the operating theatre, if you like.

**You've released your new single 'Dancing On The Radio' which has a dreamy Brit Pop sound to it. Were these the kind of bands you were listening to whilst growing up?**

I suppose, I don't know a kid that was born in the 90's that didn't have Brit Pop shoved in their lugs by their parents in all fairness! Oasis, Blur, Pulp and The Verve are all firm favourites amongst ourselves so I suppose there will be inspiration from each of them.

**When it comes to writing your material, do you work alone or together as a band?**

Each song has its own way of putting itself together. Jimmy, Neil or Steve usually come to the studio and are like 'lads I've got a new tune', they'll strum it to us acoustically and have a little sing song and off we go. Some songs write themselves in 10 minutes, others we've been working on for over a year!

**You talk lots about Sunderland and how important it is to you. You're very proud of your Wearside roots. Have you ever considered writing an anthem celebrating your hometown?**

Whey aye, Sunderland is a special place for a number of reasons! There's usually a few lines in each song that show off our hometown. The tune 'Lost Without You' written by our very own Mr Douthwaite whilst he was living in Newcastle, isn't actually about a lady...

**In Sunderland, I'm assuming the feedback has been great, through playing Airshows and local gigs. What has the response been like playing outside of your area, since you're a newly formed band?**

It's always tough going for any unknown band on the road, we try to take our entourage with us which helps create a bit of a rowdy atmosphere which is what we love when we play. We done Manchester and it was canny, Newcastle is always lush to play as we get our rabble mixed with the Geordie rabble and it creates a special evening.

**What would be your dream collaboration with any band/artist if you were given the opportunity?**

I think at the minute we are bang into Tame Impala, the bloke is an absolute god with his magical tones & sounds. DMA's are very very high on that list too, what a sound man!



**Can you remember the first time the band played live and how was it?**

Oh aye, it was a Thursday neet! We won't forget it as Glenn (the twat at the back on the drums) advised us that he wasn't going to make our gig as he had tickets for the Spice Girls who were playing at the Stadium of Light the same evening.

Few words were exchanged and Glenn found his senses. The night was a storm we flogged out a bar in the city centre with family friends & music lovers alike and had class night!

**One of your biggest ambitions is to play Glastonbury. I'm sure you've been watching the highlights on TV recently. What's been your favourite Glasto moment?**

It's got to be everyone's ambition, the greatest stage on earth! Arctic Monkeys in 2007 is a truly special set, I've just got goosebumps just writing about it! Florence always puts on a very special show too.

**You write your own material but what have been your favourite artists to cover whilst playing live and which covers go down well with the crowd?**

We've only ever done two covers as a band. We thought we'd chuck in a few for a Christmas special at our local boozer, The Avenue. We done Oasis 'Morning Glory', blew the roof off. Also done Slade, you know that Christmas banger.

Covers always get a better reaction than original unknown music, purely for the fact more people know it so it's exciting when we get to do something like that because the reaction is magic. Slade man, it was possibly the best few minutes of my life, pints getting slung, santa hats on, tops off, pure magic.

**I'm sure there's been talk amongst the band about recording an album in the future. Has there been any ideas thrown in the pot for that possibility or is it still early days for Docksuns?**

An album is certainly being spoken about, there may even be a track list put together but who am I to spread rumours ey!

**Big thanks to Docksuns for taking the time to chat with us all about their experience so far as a band. Make sure to check out their music and for all you Indie loving Northerners... make sure you get down to one of their gigs!**





## 'DANCING ON THE RADIO' OUT NOW

Have you ever pressed play on a piece of music that you are listening for the very first time, and automatically are filled with pure excitement as the music takes over and you find yourself bopping away? Well my friends, if you want to experience that sensation for yourselves let us introduce you to the debut single, Social Skills by North East duo, Bohemian Machines.

What you will find, especially when you compare it to other tunes out there, is that the vibe of Social Skills is unlike anything you have heard for quite some time, especially within the north east music scene.

While our region can sometimes be known for its eclectic mix of indie and guitar based music, what this creation by Bohemian Machines does is blow that out of the water as they take us back to the mid 70s in New York which was known for its Indietronic scene.

Add in a touch of the duo's own edge and special style and what you have is a very refreshing song which leaves you hooked though out.

You might be thinking to yourself – what even is Indietronic in the first place? The beauty of music is that sometimes we don't always need to know all the answers, and with the case of Social Skills it will just give you more excitement each and every time you press that replay button.

While this may be Bohemian Machines' debut release, it is nevertheless a strong and inviting introduction to their world and the vibe they are trying to create. Best of all Social Skills is the type of song which lyrically will resonate with you in seconds but in a sonically way keep you on your toes, make you say "ooooo" and no doubt give you a strong desire by the end of the song singing along at the top of your lungs. Don't know about you, but that's my kinda music!

So start following Bohemian Machines and start listening to Social Skills right now as you get a taste for the latest exciting addition to the North East music scene!

*Article By Thushara*



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