

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**"GIRAFFE RUNNING"**

NEW 2xCD Collaboration featuring Ian Williams (**BATTLES**), **Max Tundra**, Eoin Dillon (**Kila**), Agata (**Melt Banana**), Luca T. Mai (**Zu**) + Matthew Bolger (**The Redneck Manifesto**), Mike Stevens (**Groom**), **Somadrone**, **Miriam Ingram**, **Rebecca Collins** + many more!



Giraffe Running is a 2-piece instrumental band featuring Greg Barrett (bass guitar) and Hag (drums). Greg & Hag started playing together as a 2-piece in spring 2001. Someone once said they sounded like broke-beat dance music.

In December 2003, 5 instrumental compositions were recorded featuring only the drums and bass guitar. These tracks were sent to a group of friends and admired musicians around the world with the hope that each person would add their own idea(s) to the original tracks. The resulting double CD (5 original tracks and 15 collaborations) was released on the 11th of June 2007 on Red-f Records & Learn To Love Records. Some live Giraffe Running footage and a video for Mike Stevens' collaboration can be found on the DVD accompanying Daemien Frost's "Spirito Di Daemo" CD+DVD which will be released in 2007 on Red-f Records & Learn To Love Records.

CD-1 contains the original 5 Giraffe Running recordings. CD-2 contains the following collaborations:

**#1: "Sharp light" by Mike Stevens**

Mike sang and played classical guitar and violin. His current band is Groom and he previously played with Settler.

**#2: "Fuckin' funny fire / Dudeen" by Ian Williams & Hag**

Ian played electric guitar. Ian's current band is Battles and he previously played with Don Caballero and Storm & Stress.

Hag played guitar (electric & bass), keyboards, trumpet and percussion. Hag's current bands are Star & Garter and Negative Minstrel and he previously played with Daemien Frost and The Null Set.

**#3: "The second wave" by Matthew Bolger**

Matthew played electric guitar and keyboards. Matthew's current band is The Redneck Manifesto and he previously played with The Waltons.

**#4: "Piss off back to Nottingham" by Bryn Cloke**

Bryn sang and played electric guitar and keyboards. Bryn's current band is Montana Pete.

**#5: "Shafted by the light" by United Bible Studies**

UBS played all their own instruments. The track was produced by Gavin Prior.

**#6: "Drimnagh Castle / Gimme Shelta" by Eoin Dillon & Hag**

Eoin played the uilleann pipes. Eoin plays as a solo artist and with Kila.

Hag played guitar (acoustic & electric) and harmonophone. Hag's current bands are Star & Garter and Negative Minstrel and he previously played with Daemien Frost and The Null Set.

Unknown: Voice sampled from "Slow Melody [Bulgaria]" from "Songs of the earth" CD (Unesco).

**#7: "Feline in full effect" by Agata**

Agata played the electric guitar. Agata's current band is Melt Banana.

**#8: "Comic strip" by Rebecca Collins**

Rebecca sang and played keyboards and computer. Rebecca plays as a solo artist.

Red F Records  
[www.redfrecords.com](http://www.redfrecords.com)

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[www.LearnToLove.net](http://www.LearnToLove.net)  
[hagshag@gmail.com](mailto:hagshag@gmail.com)

Daemien Frost  
[www.DaemienFrost.com](http://www.DaemienFrost.com)

**#9: "I reach for pictures" by Hugh Holmes**

Hugh sang. Hugh previously sang with The Waltons.

**#10: "A Vaguely Distant 'Oh Yeah' / Fratrified / Fight and repeat" by Ben Jacobs (Max Tundra), Paul Roe & Sadie Outlaw**

Ben Jacobs played Piano. Ben releases his own music under the moniker "Max Tundra".

Paul Roe played bass clarinet. Paul plays as a solo artist.

Sadie Outlaw sang. Sadie's current band is Star & Garter and she previously played with Dakota Floyd and Palomine.

**#11: "The fever hospital" by Miriam Ingram**

Miriam sang, used homemade samples and played a synth. Miriam plays as a solo artist.

**#12: "Babington" by Rockcoach (Andrew Clarke)**

Andrew played electric guitar. Andrew plays under the moniker "Rockcoach" and he previously played with The Connect Four Orchestra and Palomine.

**#13: "Liars tears" by Somadrone**

Somadrone played Jen synthtone 2000, banjo, acoustic guitar, Baldwin upright piano, shakers, pots and pans, toy reverb microphone and MAX/MSP. Somadrone plays as a solo artist, with The Redneck Manifesto, and previously played with The Connect Four Orchestra and Palomine.

**#14: "When Michael Jackson started Celtic Frost / Popcorn Rex" by Luca T. Mai & Hag**

Luca played baritone saxophone. Luca's current band is Zu.

Hag played electric guitar and a Rhodes keyboard. Hag's current bands are Star & Garter and Negative Minstrel and he previously played with Daemien Frost and The Null Set.

**#15: "Lionisation of the squishy hoops" by King Camera (Diarmuid MacDiarmada)**

The track was produced by King Camera.

The cover packaging was designed by Matthew Bolger (The Redneck Manifesto) and was hand-printed at Dexterity Press in Chicago by Jeff Mueller (The Shipping News, June Of '44).



**Where to buy our Records:** You can buy our records direct from us through our [online shop](#). Shops in Dublin which stock our records include [Road Records](#) (Fade St., Dublin 2), [Tower Records](#) (Wicklow St., Dublin 2), [City Discs](#) (Temple Bar, Dublin 2) & [SpinDizzy](#) (George's St. Arcade, Dublin 2). Our records are distributed in Ireland by Cavallero through RMG-Chart and rest of Europe by [Cargo UK](#).

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**ARTROCKER**

**Giraffe Running**  
**Giraffe Running/Collaborations**  
 (Red f/ Learn to Love)

A pair of giraffes running, Greg Barrett and Hag got together in 2003 and made five musical tracks. Seems like a long time ago. Anyway, these tracks were purely instrumental and were paired down (literally, drum and bass) as to be a primal force of the unconscious. Barrett played brazen bass, and Hag drummed like a crazed metronome. Later they invited other musicians around the world to collaborate on those five original tracks, hoping that they would develop and that the others would bring new things to them.

So let's start with the original five then. With names like 'Infidel Gastro' and 'Giraffe Bark', the two-piece wear their avant-garde, idea-synthesising hearts on their sleeves, no mistaking. Listening to them playing, it's difficult not to find oneself amazed at the permutations possible with just these two world-weary instruments. But permutations aplenty there are and the playing approaches the free-form playfulness of jazz in some places, while always retaining a solid foundation of coherence.

And what of the collaborators? Well, CD2 has no less than 15 further permutations of the original scripts. One of these ('Sharp Light') involves classical guitar and – steady on boys – vocals. Another ('Fucking Funny Fire') has Ian Williams of Battles playing electric guitar whilst Hag adds a bit of trumpet to his own work. What these alliances bring is a filling-out of what was once primitively skeletal.

Both CDs are included here. Despite the faint whiff of boys tinkering in labs, they're both bold and fruitful.

**Richard Davis**

**FREE METRO**  
 Thursday, July 26, 2007 Published and printed in Dublin

**Giraffe Running: Learn to Love**  
 Red-f ★★★★★




While listening to this delightfully fruity debut from Dublin duo Giraffe Running, all sorts of unlikely comparisons spring to mind: at various moments you are reminded of Sonic Youth, progressive-folkies Kíla and lo-fi poster-boys Slint. Juxtaposing traditional instruments and world music influences – Drimnagh Castle features an uilleann pipes solo and tribal chants – the song-writing team of Greg Barrett (vocals, guitar) and Dave Heagney (drums) gleefully take a hacksaw to the boundaries that divide your favourite genres.

Bouncing from experimental pop (You've Got Some Neck) to punkish noise-pop (Sharp Light), Giraffe Running show that musicians can be as avant-garde as they like so long as they remember to bring some tunes to the party. Sprawling over two discs, Learn To Love is also packed with cameos, including members of The Redneck Manifesto, Kíla and electronica composer Max Tundra. *Eamon de Paor*

**MONGREL**

Issue 33 - July 2007



**Giraffe Running**  
**Giraffe Running**  
**Learn To Love/Red-F**  
**Records**

Dublin duo GR emerge from their silence in style with an EP/collaborations album featuring, on the first disc, five of their own bass-and-drum workouts. The second CD sees them thrown to the lions. Veering from angular diddly-aye ('Drimnagh Castle/Gimme-Shelta') to disjointed stoner skronk ('When Michael Jackson Started Celtic Frost/Popcorn Rex'), wildly varying collaborators are rooted by the shared rhythm section, lending an unexpected coherence to proceedings.

83%  
 Lucas

**THE IRISH TIMES**

**THE TICKET**

**FRIDAY 06.07.2007**



**GIRAFFE RUNNING**  
**Giraffe Running Learn to Love/**  
**Red F ★★★**

Like all the best matches, Giraffe Running's new release is a game of two halves. On the first CD are five fiendishly intricate tracks from GR's Greg Barrett and Hag, a bass-and-drums duo who have sweated over various math-rock equations since 2001. On the second CD, the real Running begins with talented friends and accomplices translating the original five tracks into different languages. Such musicians as Ian Williams (Battles), electronic shapeshifter Max Tundra and a rake of Irish names (Eoin Dillon, Matthew Bolger, Somadrone, Miriam Ingram) add their ingredients to the mix. What results is an album rich in idiosyncratic imagination, oddly charming discordance and strangely realised beauty. In tracks such as *The Second Wave*, from Redneck Manifesto guitarist Matthew Bolger, and the nostalgic drift of *Shafted by the Light*, there's plenty to reward your curiosity. [www.learnlove.net](http://www.learnlove.net)

**JIM CARROLL**

Download tracks: *Shafted by the Light, The Second Wave, Liars Tears*