

NOW WE'RE TALKIN'

Interview with Julian Lennon "Everything Changes"

By Helen Marketti

Julian Lennon's creative talent speaks to the soul and heart. We have all gone through our life's journey with some bumps and scrapes that bring us where we are now and Julian is no exception. His new album, "Everything Changes" (Music From Another Room, Ltd) is a collection of 14 songs that encompasses everything we feel and can relate to along the way. It is his first album in 15 years and has been worth the wait. The song "Someday" is a duet with Steven Tyler (Aerosmith) which in part the lyrics, "one love, now and forever" give the vibe of what we all hope for with life and the world.

"Lookin' 4 Luv" is another beautiful track that we can identify with in relationships. Julian shares his thoughts about the song, the specific lyrics, "why do you look the other way when I try to see your soul" and getting to know people. "I believe we are all responsible for doing this because we are afraid of the unknown, especially where love is concerned. When you have been hurt before then you don't really know if a situation will be right again. It's about having those walls that are closed off and how scary it all can be sometimes. At certain points in one's life, that is the best all to end all of everything. The moment of an introduction, the openness from heart to heart or mind-to-mind, it's an important one. I have been in those situations before, as we all have, and you're afraid to let go. There is no question that as we get older it becomes much tougher because you are more guarded."

Julian continues, "The last relationship I was in had lasted for ten years and I thought we were going to get married. It ended about seven years ago but we are still dear friends and love each other immensely. I have met many incredible people since then but it goes back again to not being sure if it's the right thing to do or if it's the right situation."

The album allows the listener to draw their own thoughts from their own experiences in life. "For me, it has never been about shoving ideas or thoughts down people's throats," said Julian. "It's my observation of life. I try to write so what I am expressing is relatable. I feel that I write simply but there is also a lot of depth to it as well. We all have options to take from the lyrics. It's what *you* feel are the emotions of the song."

Julian no longer feels pressure to keep cranking out music to satisfy the industry. He works on his material at his own pace and releases his work when the timing is right. "I think it all stems from the fact that after I had done my first album (Valotte) and the first world tour, I had to be right back in the studio for the next album. It goes back to the old saying; you had most of your life to write the first album and then two weeks to write the next. (*laughs*). It was very much that scenario for me and I thought it was crazy. I had just finished a world tour and needed time to breathe for a second. I wanted a moment to write some decent songs. At the time, I felt I was pushed into it and it was more like a collection of demos, not a finished album in the way I would have liked. I knew I never again wanted to be in that position."



Photo By Deborah Anderson



Midnight Smoke

~Continued on Pg. 14

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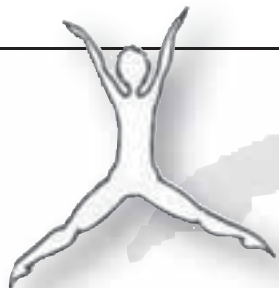
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~Continued from Page 5

"It's not about the machine; that's not what art is in my mind. I try to stay true to myself," explains Julian. "I write when I feel it's time. I've tried to force myself to write material in the past and it just doesn't work. It's not the right thing to do. Those are my thoughts on a personal level. I know there are others who like to work under that kind of pressure but that doesn't work for me. "Everything Changes" was totally an organic album. There were no time constraints and no pressure to get it done. It was all about the work and allowing it to flow naturally. It ended up being a collection of songs and recordings that I prefer more than any other work I have done."

Photography is another creative outlet that Julian enjoys and has had several gallery exhibits over the past few years. "The landscapes were my primary focus. I have always loved the beauty of clouds, the shapes and the light. It's all about capturing the moment. It's like when you are



sitting on a plane or relaxing at home; you can think more clearly and make decisions or just be and breathe without thinking about anything specific. The landscape imagery works for me in that way."

At the time of the interview, Julian was in France working on a film project. "I have started getting more into portrait style photography. I have been working as an artistic still photographer on a movie. The movie is called, "The Price of Desire" about a woman named, Eileen Gray. She was the first Irish woman modernist, architect in the world. Her life story is quite amazing. Her last piece of furniture that she created was called a Dragon chair. It sold for something near \$23 million."

"I have been brought on board for this film project to do the portraits and stills of the movie to be made into a book, box set or an exhibition," said Julian. "It has been a first for me and an incredible journey. I have absolutely fallen in love with this project. It seems with my music, photography and The White Feather Foundation, my office never closes!"

The White Feather Foundation was created to assist with environmental and humanitarian efforts. "The White Feather Foundation was born out of two incidents," explains Julian. "One of them being, I was approached by an Aboriginal group in Australia. A tribal elder walked up to me in the lobby of a hotel, handed me a white feather and said, "You have a voice. Can you help us?" I spent ten years making a documentary about them called "Whaledreamers". We did manage to win eight independent film awards so that was great. People are still getting to see it slowly but surely, which is the important thing. I wanted to figure out a way to give back to them if the film made money to continue to support their education and culture. One of the projects we are working on now is for people to have clean water. There have been new wells and pumps put in for villages and towns throughout Kenya and Africa. I have been working with different NGO's (Non-Governmental Organizations) to help us help them."

"The other poignant thing that happened was my dad once said to me if he ever passed away, he would let me know he was OK by using the sign of a white feather. I took it as a sign when the Aborigine elder handed me the white feather. I felt I had to step up to the plate and do some good to help others."

For more information on Julian Lennon's album, photography, The White Feather Foundation and other projects, please visit: www.julianlennon.com
"Everything Changes" is available at Amazon and iTunes.