

Full Biography

A move half way across a province, along with the death of two parents was the unexpected catalyst for the formation of Touched Fables.

Paul Anthony and Jim Roditis had been friends for years, and talked almost daily while being separated by a four and a half hour drive. The pair are both seasoned producers, who independently release techno and other forms of electronic music on various international labels. They have collaborated with each other as well as shared the bill at several shows and festivals over the years.

"We both lost a parent in the last year, but once things settled down and Jim moved to Ottawa, it wasn't long before we started talking about working together on something new. Any time you lose someone you love, you tend to pause and re-examine where you are in life. It felt natural to try something different." says Anthony.

Working outside their comfort zones, Roditis was tasked with writing synth lines, drum patterns, and playing guitar. Anthony provided synths and drum machine patterns while writing lyrics and picking up a microphone for the first time. "It was daunting at first" says Anthony. "But we both quickly settled into our new roles and tracks were completed at a ridiculous pace. It was scary how fast and how well everything fell into place. We knew we were onto something, so going full speed ahead kept us from getting bogged down second guessing ourselves. I think it benefitted the album in the end."

Their debut album "A Thousand Goodbyes", evokes cold sepia tones, brooding loss, and is steeped in half remembered nostalgia. Roditis: "We quickly came upon the idea of writing an album we wish we could have made as teenagers, but obviously had no means to create. Tapping into those awkward years where you attempted to navigated new relationships, and often had your soul crushed. " As a result, simple drum machines and the ghosts of early 1980s home studio productions were conjured as the blueprint across the disc. This is a record with one foot unashamedly planted in the past.

Anthony: "We all have a teenage memory of a time and place when we were dealing with traumatic personal issues, while simultaneously being conscious of our own insignificance in the world. With this album, we hope to instill a sense of community within the minds of the listener. It boils down to letting people know they are not alone in their past experiences and memories. Learning of shared experiences can often bring closure for those who have been carrying things around for years. It's up to the listener to choose to seek anything out of it, or to simply enjoy it as something to dance to. I know I personally worked through a lot of issues writing this album."

The duo were also mindful while producing the record to allow for the opportunity to take these songs to the stage. "From day one, we made sure to simplify, document, and be wary of

the pitfalls of playing this material live versus just having an album made from studio trickery. It would have been easy to cheat and use the latest technology to fine tune every millisecond of audio, but we chose the more difficult path. When we play these tracks for an audience, they will hear a wonderfully accurate representation of what you will find on the album. We're proud of that." say Roditis.

"Jim and I were very careful and deliberate while making this album, fine tuning the artwork and multitude of references that are embedded within. It's no easy task while tackling about such weighty subjects. We obviously want the material to resonate with a sense of purity and authenticity, while avoiding having it feeling contrived or maudlin. I think we achieved that." says Anthony. **Touched Fables - "A Thousand Goodbyes" is out August 2023 on CD, Cassette & Limited Edition Vinyl on Disown Me Recordings.**

Production Notes

- Recording sessions for "A Thousand Goodbyes" began on Thursday November 7th 2022 and ended on Friday March 3rd 2023.
- The album is purposefully the exact same length as David Sylvian's 1984 debut solo album "Brilliant Trees".
- The liner notes include photographs of both producers at the age of 17, as well as a high school yearbook photo of Anthony's girlfriend at the time. She was killed along with her new boyfriend in a traffic accident in February 1993.
- The album contains references to Lords Of The New Church, David Sylvian, Ultravox, Portishead, Talk Talk, The Fixx, Gary Numan, English poet Robert Graves, as well as to the very first album Anthony ever bought, Split Enz's "Time and Tide". "It was important to me to return to the absolute literal starting point of my love for music."
- The single backlit window on the cover is a metaphor for the people the band have lost, with a funeral bouquet on the reverse.
- The band name TOUCHED FABLES is a reference to a lyric off Brooklyn producer El-P's 2002 album "Fantastic Damage".
- While writing the album, Anthony was reading Martyn Ware's autobiography "Electronically Yours - Volume 1".
- The final album track count was capped at 10, in keeping with the Pythagorean theory of ten being a number of perfection or completeness.
- Anthony kept the fact he was a singer / songwriter on this project a secret from his wife, working late at night or while she was out of the house. His role was only later revealed to her at their inaugural live gig. Origin: Ottawa, Canada

Genre: 80s, Darkwave

Years Active: 2022 - Present

Artists: Paul Anthony & Jim Roditis

<https://touchedfables.wixsite.com/tfables>

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