

HERCULES

THE MAG

inside this issue:

Review of current Face to Face tour with Set List

Inside Woodside

David Furnish's weekends

Review of new Yellow Brick Road DVD

Up Close & Personal - by the fans

Plus
News, Tour Dates, Your letters, gossip and more!



Issue No. 58
MARCH 2002



*Hercules is a registered member
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Fan Clubs*

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FAN CLUB INFORMATION

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MEMBERS

From 1st January 2002, membership rates will be charged in Euro. Fees will be:

Europe: Euro 20 Rest of the World: Euro 35

Please be sure to change any standing orders accordingly if you are paying into one of our accounts.

Annual membership fee for the UK is £14 if paid by Standing Order/VISA/Mastercard. By Cheque/Postal Order it is £15. For the rest of Europe it is £14, and for the USA it is 17£/US\$30. Please note that your renewal date is printed on your address label in European format day/month/year.

Membership passes are available from your local HERCULES department: send a small photo of yourself when requesting your pass.

Please don't send enquiries or **fan mail** to the Elton John management, but to HERCULES Coordination. Letters will be passed on if necessary.

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Member participation is always welcome. We are thankful for your submissions of any kind: reports, articles, photos, drawings, and suggestions. Please send them to the Editor, Tammi Law. Please understand that we cannot always publish all contributions. All photos will be returned.

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HERCULES Chief Editor
Tammi Law
49 Horseshoe Crescent
Peatmoor
Swindon SN5 5AX
UNITED KINGDOM
HerculesEd@eltonfan.net

Editorial Assistants:
Barbara Turner, Michael S English

Design: Turnstyle Design

Translations:
Sabine Asenkirschbaumer
Mireille Mölbret

For subscription details, please write to your local HERCULES department or to HERCULES Coordinator:

HERCULES Coordination
c/o Stephan Heimbecher
Berg-am-Laim-Str. 87
D-81 673 München,
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 48900369
Fax +49 (0)89 48900370
stephan@eltonfan.net

HERCULES Fan Adviser
c/o Mireille Mölbret
Zaunweg 11
D-80805 München,
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 3244146
HerculesFA@eltonfan.net

HERCULES USA/Canada
Barb Crowley
PO Box 692392
ORLANDO
FL 32869-2392
HerculesUSA@eltonfan.net

HERCULES U.K.
c/o David Wright
100 Winkworth Road
Banstead
Surrey SM7 2QR
UNITED KINGDOM
HerculesUK@eltonfan.net

HERCULES Benelux
c/o Tim Blezer
Pastoor Pendersstraat 8
6262 PA banholt
NETHERLANDS
Tel. +31 (0)43 4571703
Herculesblx@eltonfan.net

HERCULES Italy
c/o Luca Zerbini
Via Scheiviller n.9/A
I-20139 Milano, ITALY
HerculesIT@eltonfan.net

HERCULES Nordic
Urpu Kallio
Uudenklänpolku
05200 Rajämäki
FINLAND
email: urpu@eltonfan.net



FROM THE EDITOR...

Welcome to issue 58 of The Mag. Elton is as busy as ever, with loads more dates being added to both his current Face to Face Tour (with Billy Joel), and his own forthcoming Tour with the band later this year, which will visit many countries. See page 27 for details of the dates, and to follow Elton's progress around the world!

There are loads of good things in this issue – reviews, opinions, set lists, and of course, all the latest news of what Elton has been up to in the last 3 months. On page 8, there is an overview of the current Face to Face tour which many of our readers in America have been enjoying.

An interesting article about the history of Elton's home in England, Woodside, together with some lovely pictures, can be found on page 22.

I'd like to draw your attention to an important article on page 24 which gives details about the future of the Hercules Fan Club, and the fanzine. Please take time to read this as it affects all of you, and some of you may need to change your payment arrangements if you pay by Standing Order. If you have any queries on the article at all, please do not hesitate to contact your local Hercules department (see page 2 for the relevant contact details).

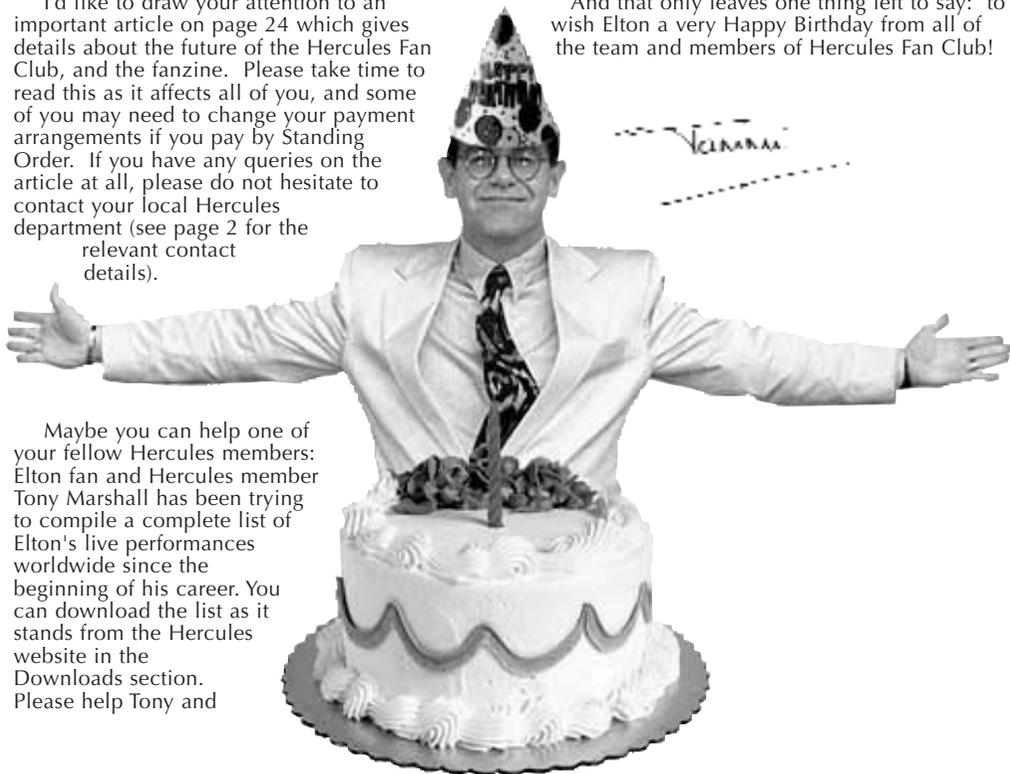
Maybe you can help one of your fellow Hercules members: Elton fan and Hercules member Tony Marshall has been trying to compile a complete list of Elton's live performances worldwide since the beginning of his career. You can download the list as it stands from the Hercules website in the Downloads section. Please help Tony and

check the list for missing or wrong dates. You can contact Tony directly (via our website) to report any amendments, or contact your local Hercules department who will pass your details on. Thanks for your support!

We know many of you don't have internet access, and therefore find it difficult to obtain good tickets for forthcoming Elton concerts. Unfortunately we were unsuccessful in obtaining tickets for this year's UK shows on your behalf. This was not for the lack of trying and we are sorry to anyone who has been let down. It really was outside our control, but we are pleased that we were able to offer excellent tickets for a lot of the European shows.

We will all be celebrating Elton's birthday at the end of March with various gatherings around the world – see page 25 for more details.

And that only leaves one thing left to say: to wish Elton a very Happy Birthday from all of the team and members of Hercules Fan Club!



EJ NEWS BULLETS...



Full details of the following news items have appeared on our Website

KICK OFF "FACE TO FACE"

TOUR 2002



The two piano men, Elton John and Billy Joel, kicked off their "Face to Face" Tour 2002 in Washington DC on January 13, 2002. The three-and-a-half hours show at the MCI Center was pretty much the same "style" as those during the last leg of the "Face to Face" tour in 2001. However, Elton performed three songs from Songs From The West Coast during his set. During the final part of the show, Elton and Billy sang Here Comes The Sun as a tribute to the late George Harrison.

Elton and Billy first toured the successful "Face To Face" tour in the United States in 1995 and again in 1996. The tour was extended to Japan, Australia, New Zealand and Europe in 1998. The 31-date "Face To Face" 2001 tour grossed \$59 million.

Early sales for the Elton John/Billy Joel "Face To Face" 2002 tour of the American northeast immediately set box office records, selling out eleven shows in four cities with additional shows added at each location and new cities being added to the itinerary. See page 11 for full details of the Face to Face shows.

MARY LOVES A HUG!

When Mary J. Blige was asked by a teen magazine this year to name one of her "Faves" she said.....Elton John. She says: "When I see him, he hugs me. It's like when a grandparent hugs you (with) this hug that assures you that they love you."

APOLOGY TO HEAR'SAY

Elton has apologised to UK pop band Hear'Say after calling them "the ugliest band he has ever seen." Elton visited the band's dressing room at The Royal Variety Performance at the end of last year. According to Hear'Say's Noel Sullivan, Elton said he was "really sorry." Noel told Heat magazine: "He came down and said he was really sorry and that an artist of his calibre should never have said that about a new band. The criticism doesn't hurt." Hear'Say also said that Elton had summoned them 'upstairs' to his dressing room so he could apologise, but they said no, if he wanted to apologise then he had to go to them..... which he did!

CAN YOU REMEMBER THE

WORDS TONIGHT?

Elton had a blush- inducing moment at a New York party in February. He was performing at a bash for the brokerage house Lehman Bros for the World Economic Conference and had performed the usual repertoire. Then Elton announced "I'm going to sing the song that won me an Oscar, the one that brought me closer to (Disney mogul) Jeffrey Katzenberg and his great family". He began playing Can You Feel the Love Tonight, and then stopped, stammering : "I'm so embarrassed .I can't remember the words!" We bet Tim Rice is overjoyed!

BRITNEY IN NEXT VIDEO?

Elton has announced that he would like to play Britney Spears's father in his next video, for the forthcoming single Original Sin. As we know, Britney's boyfriend, NSYNC singer Justin Timberlake, is currently featured in Elton's latest video for "This Train" and plays a young Elton in the 70s.



Elton explains in the report on Britney Spear's website, "I like the concept of the This Train video and my director wants to do a continuation of the same night - the same era but from a fan's perspective. Justin will come onstage and we want to use a girl, get it from a fan's perspective. If we do it, my personal favourite would be Britney Spears. I want to play her dad in the video. That would be incredible. It'll be along the lines of...I won't let her out and she wants to go to the concert and she runs away."

MORE TOUR DATES FOR 2002

While Elton works hard touring with Billy on another "Face to Face" tour, new dates are still being added to his European tour with the band in summer 2002. See the Tour Dates on page 27 for a complete listing of Elton's forthcoming performances.

EJ NEWS BULLETS...



TWO BRIT AWARDS NOMINATIONS

FOR ELTON

Elton has received two nominations for the Brit Awards 2002. He has been nominated in the category 'Best British Male Solo Artist' together with Aphex Twin, Craig David, Ian Brown and Robbie Williams. His video I Want Love has been nominated for the category 'Best British Video'. Elton first won the title 'Best British Male Solo Artist' in 1991. In 1995 he was the winner in the category 'Outstanding Contribution'.

THE TONIGHT SHOW

December 10 marked the return of Elton John to The Tonight Show on the NBC TV network with a performance of I Want Love and a candid interview with host Jay Leno, who asked him if he'd ever posed nude for a magazine photo shoot during his "hey-day" of the 70s. Elton said he hadn't, because stars didn't really do that sort of thing back then. Concerning his announcement then retraction of quitting the recording industry, Elton explained that it was just another one of his tantrums because he was upset ("pissed off") at something, but he didn't really go into details.

ELTON IN RYAN ADAMS VIDEO

Ryan Adams has completed shooting a video for Answering Bell, the second single from Gold, which features guest appearances by Elton, Adam Duritz and Leona Naess. The video has a Wizard Of Oz concept and features Naess as a Dorothy-type character, and Elton as a sort of Good Witch. "By the end of the whole trip, through my eyeglass, I see Leona. I sing to her, we kiss, Elton waves the wand, and the whole thing goes crazy" explained Ryan.

HERO AWARD 2002



In celebration of World AIDS Day, the UK Coalition of People Living with HIV and AIDS (UKC) announced Elton as the first recipient of the UKC Hero Award. The award recognised his outstanding contribution towards the continuing fight against HIV and AIDS in the United Kingdom. Elton personally collected his Hero Award at a celebrity Gala dinner held at The Dorchester Hotel, London on January 9. Elton said: "I am honoured to receive the UKC Hero Award in recognition of my commitment to support the work of my Foundation, here in the United Kingdom. With an expected 50% rise in new infections within the next five years, it is important to focus our attention on the lives of those people infected and affected on World AIDS Day. I accept the Hero Award with gratitude, but more importantly in the acknowledgement of the 30,000 positive people here in the UK today". In a TV interview after the ceremony, Elton said: "As a gay man I'm very lucky not to be infected. My concern nowadays is that young people think they are invulnerable, but they're not."

BARBARA AND MARVIN DAVIS'

CAROUSEL BALL

Elton will be at the Barbara and Marvin Davis' Carousel Ball, on October 15, 2002, at the Beverly Hilton together with Sting, Jay Leno, and Sidney Poitier. The Davis Center for Children's Diabetes treats 4,000 kids a year.

THE CONCERT -

20 YEARS WITH AIDS

Elton hosted and headlined the Aids Project LA benefit show at the Universal Amphitheatre in Los Angeles on December 12, with many surprise guests. Sting opened the show with a set a familiar, fast paced tunes. Elton hit the stage at 10 o'clock; and it was reported that the band looked like they were having fun during Bennie And The Jets. Rufus Wainwright joined Elton on American Triangle, Jon Bon Jovi and Ritchie Zambora joined the band on the the last two songs, with Bon Jovi sharing lead on Levon, and everyone trying to get their voices heard on The Bitch is Back.



Jon Bon Jovi joins Elton

ELTON ON GERMAN TV

Elton was a guest of German TV show "Wetten dass...?" on December 15. The programme is one of the longest running and most popular on German television. The show was broadcast live from Messe Dresden, and Elton performed This Train Don't Stop There Anymore. Earlier in the show, he was interviewed as the composer of "The Lion King" which opened in Hamburg a few weeks before.

EJ NEWS BULLETS...



Full details of the following news items have appeared on our Website

ELTON REMEMBERS

GEORGE HARRISON

In a tribute issue of Rolling Stone magazine in January, many stars paid tribute to the late George Harrison. The issue featured tributes from Elton, Tom Petty, Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Yoko Ono, and Bob Dylan. Elton's article reminisces about hanging out with Harrison in the late 1980s, staying up all night recording and partying, and after one all nighter, Elton asking George to play Here comes the Sun, and he did it. Also, during the same period, Elton was trying to re-style Bob Dylan, trying to get him to wear some Versace shirts and jackets that Elton had around. As you can imagine, Dylan was aghast by this attempt. As everyone else was at the time, Harrison was cautioning Elton about his drug problem.

ELTON PERFORMED AT THE

NBA ALL-STAR GAME

NBA All-Stars shared centre court with Elton who performed live at the 2002 NBA All-Star Game, at the First Union Center in Philadelphia, on February 10. Elton performed Philadelphia Freedom as part of specially choreographed introductions of the 2002 All-Stars before the Game's tip-off. Halftime featured Elton's special performance of This Train Don't Stop There Anymore and I'm Still Standing, which the crowd thoroughly enjoyed. The 2002 NBA All-Star Game and halftime performance was broadcast live on NBC in the USA and CTV in Canada. Fans in more than 750 million households in 210 countries around the world were able to watch the game and Elton's halftime performance!

ELTON JOHN TO PERFORM FOR

QUEEN'S JUBILEE?

It is rumoured that Elton may be involved in a concert in the grounds of Buckingham Palace in London, to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee. Coming to Her Majesty's aid will be pop legends including Paul McCartney, Rolling Stone Mick Jagger and ex-Genesis drummer Phil Collins in a one-off show on June 3, 2002. Guest singers including soul diva Aretha Franklin, Stevie Wonder and Bryan Adams are also tipped to appear before more than 12,000 fans and all senior members of the royal family. Robbie Williams and Elton may also be in the lineup, but this is not confirmed.

BERNIE WRITES FOR WILLIE NELSON

Country music legend Willie Nelson has headed out on the road again to promote his latest album, The Great Divide, which was released on January 15, 2002. The CD features a collection of duets with a diverse range of recording stars, including Lee Ann Womack, Sheryl Crow, Kid Rock, and Bonnie Raitt. The album also draws on the songwriting skills of producer Matt Serletic, and Bernie Taupin and Nashville composer Mickey Newbury. His duet with Womack on Mendocino County Line, written by Taupin and Serletic, is the album's first single.

ELTON NOMINATED FOR

TWO GRAMMY AWARDS

Elton has received two nominations in top categories for the 44th annual Grammy Awards: Best Pop Vocal Album: Songs From the West Coast, and the first single release from the album, I Want Love, has been nominated in the category Best Male Pop Vocal Performance.

DON'T LET THE TREE FALL

DOWN ON ME

A karaoke fanatic involved in an accident sang 'Don't Let The Sun Go Down On Me' while he was rescued. Richard Taylor from Scotland suffered a broken back when an 80ft tree fell on his car during gales. Firefighters told the 30-year-old to focus his mind to prevent him losing consciousness, and he chose to focus on Elton!

ELTON APPEARED ON "LARRY

KING LIVE!"

Larry King sat down for an hour of music and in-depth conversation with Elton on January 25, 2002 on American television. Elton performed I Want Love, This Train Don't Stop There Anymore and Your Song solo during the show. Larry spent some time discussing Candle In The Wind 97 and Princess Diana's funeral, and also asked Elton about the name change from Reg Dwight. Elton didn't seem to want to dwell on this, and instead preferred to focus on the work of the Elton John Aids Foundation.

FACE TO FACE SHOW

POSTPONED - BILLY ILL

Elton & Billy's "Face 2 Face" performance at the Boston Fleet Center due on February 2, was postponed and has been rescheduled for Wednesday, April 3, 2002. Hold on to your tickets, as tickets for the Feb 2 performance will be honoured at the new rescheduled date. Although more than 19,000 fans were in the mood for a concert, Billy Joel wasn't and cancelled the concert, according to Fleet Center President Richard Krezwick. Billy Joel notified Fleet Center officials that he was sick all morning and requested the performance be postponed, Krezwick said.



ALLY MCBEAL

Elton played himself making a cameo appearance in Ally McBeal at the end of November. In contrast to all of the other "walk on" parts that Elton John has provided for USA TV series programs over the years, this appearance was a refreshing change from the usual scripted dialogue. For this episode, Elton was not given any speaking lines or direct contact with any of the principle players of the show, but was instead showcased as the featured singer in the bar lounge of a law firm building. The premise was that Elton wanted to test out some new material in a small venue before embarking on a world wide tour with his band.

GRAHAM TAYLOR HONOURED

Former Watford Manager Graham Taylor, and friend of Elton, was been awarded the OBE in the Queen's New Years Honours list.

ELTON'S 53RD GARDEN SHOW



On his second night at New York's Madison Square Garden in 2001 on November 28, Elton broke the record for the most shows ever performed by a single artist or group. The concert marked his 53rd show at New York City's famous concert arena. The pictures show Elton standing next to a display as he is honoured for breaking the record.

WOMEN TALKING DIRTY

SOUNDTRACK

The soundtrack for Woman Talking Dirty is now available in the UK. The CD contains the previously unreleased Elton John song Sofa Love which has been especially written for the Rocket Pictures movie.

BITE YOUR LIP!

Elton is to pucker up as the advertising face of a new lipstick. He will help promote cosmetic company MAC's new Viva Glam IV, the latest in a line of lipsticks sold to raise money for the firm's AIDS fund, the company said on December 13. Elton will be joined in the ad campaign by soul singer Mary J. Blige and Shirley Manson. The fundraising drive will launch in February with the launch of a "closely guarded" advertising campaign by celebrity photographer David LaChapelle.

"THIS TRAIN" SINGLE DETAILS

The official release date for Elton's second single from Songs From The West Coast was delayed; This Train Don't Stop There Anymore was released on January 14, 2002. As usual the single was available in two versions in the UK. It features the previously unreleased track Did Anybody Sleep With Joan Of Arc as well as live tracks recorded as part of the BBC Radio performance in September 2001:

CD single part 1 – This Train Don't Stop There Anymore; Did Anybody Sleep With Joan Of Arc; I Want Love (live from BBC Radio)

CD single part 2 - This Train Don't Stop There Anymore; American Triangle (live from BBC Radio); Philadelphia Freedom (live from BBC Radio)

ELTON SAYS NEW ALBUM IS LAST...

Fans cheered his music, but sighed in disappointment when Elton announced that Songs from The West Coast will be his last. "It's the last record that I ever make," he said on November 30, from the stage at the sold-out Verizon Wireless Arena in USA. "I'm fed up with it. I like playing to you guys but I hate the record industry," Elton said. "I've made 40 albums and it's about time for me to get out."

...THEN SAYS IT ISN'T...

Asked to comment on December 5, 2001, Elton said, "I think it was my time of the month. I always say these things on stage when we're having a bad night." Elton, who was in Sacramento to host the "Smash Hits" tennis tournament, which benefited a local AIDS charity, did say that his heavy workload is taking a toll. "I'm 54 now, and the CD probably has another year's life in it because we're going to take three or four more singles from it," he said. "It's not the making of the record that's hard, it's the promoting of it. ... I've got to take stock of my life and find out when I'm going to slow down a little bit. I'm not saying I'm never going to make another record again, but I'm really going to take a look at my life."

Elton said he recently spoke with Carlos Santana, who typically spends three months on the road and follows it with three months at home. "I do 11-and-a-half months on the road and half a month at home, and that's not good enough," Elton said. "You miss the people you love, and sometimes things may be a little bit more important than making records."

THE DYNAMIC DUO

AN OVERVIEW OF ELTON AND BILLY'S FACE TO FACE TOUR

by Reggie Zippo

Since 1994, the sporadic pairing of superstars Elton John and Billy Joel as the dynamic duo act of the Face To Face (F2F) stadium tours has grown to such legendary proportions that their performances, which are peppered with energetic antics and music to match, have been described as both refreshing and ground breaking, not to mention very profitable. Even though a top ticket price can reach upwards of \$175 or greater, it is still quite a bargain for a three and a half hour concert of pure, raw music, over 36 hit songs, and a powerhouse of star quality not easily matched by any means. If truth be told, this joint venture has proven to be one of rock's most successful and memorable franchises.

Putting their best feet and fingers forward, Elton and Billy embarked on another edition of the F2F tour at the beginning of 2001. Instantly, tour dates were sold out in succession before the ink even dried on the concert tickets. Thus began a string of concerts that injected their brand of showmanship into USA arenas that were filled to the brim with hungry fans from both camps.

In contrast to their 1998 formula of Billy performing a set then Elton emerging as the main attraction with the lion's share of allotted stage time, they kicked off the first 2001 concert at the Cox Arena, San Diego, California, on January 19. Beginning with three songs that were usually reserved for encores ("Your Song", "Just The Way You Are", and "Don't Let The Sun Go Down On Me"), the sweet sounds of the piano men wafted through the air as the duo presented their true talents to an ecstatic crowd. All of the usual

hits from previous incarnations of the F2F tours were sung with great passion and Billy's personal interaction with the audience was in full force. One tends to think that his "antics" were all well scripted because Billy repeated the exact same comical comments and actions at future venues. As for the finale, Elton offered "Candle In The Wind" and Billy sang his version of "Piano Man". Throughout the rest of January and all of February, the tour travelled up and down the western states of the USA before heading eastward to Colorado.

By April 9, Elton and Billy found themselves in Denver when a small catastrophe occurred. Billy decided to show off a bit more flare when he began to dance enthusiastically with his microphone stand while he sang "It's Still Rock And Roll To Me". Since he did not need to play the piano during this number, Billy decided that he was going to do a little light foot work with the stand, but something went wrong and it hit him square in the eye. Within minutes, a noticeable swelling started to close his eye shut and there was an obvious discomforting look on Billy's face, but he stood fast and continued to perform. For the remainder of the program, Billy kept an ice bag on his eye to keep the swelling to a minimum. Out of deep concern for his friend's welfare, Elton cut several songs from his set list to shorten the concert so that Billy could allow paramedics to attend to his injury. People tend to learn from their own mistakes, but not Billy; by the next performance on April 12 in Kansas City, Missouri, he was seen again dancing around with that same microphone stand.

April 17 found the piano men camped out on stage at the New Orleans Arena, where it was noted that Elton seemed a bit reserved while Billy was extremely animated and interacted a lot more with the front row fans than at previous shows. At one point, Billy chose a woman out of the audience and brought her up on stage. He gave her two long kisses before sending her swooning back to her seat. He would repeat this same scenario at other shows as well. Conservative Elton bowed to an eccentric Billy, but Elton was not without his share of comical moments. During this particular concert, a male doll with an apparent erection was tossed up on stage. Without dropping a beat, Elton quickly scooped up the doll and proceeded to show it off to all of



the band members before placing it as a trophy on top of his piano. The rest of the evening went on in the same manner. While it was noted in the press that Elton was the true victor in performance, Billy was voted as the clear winner in the entertainment category. His close camaraderie with the audience was undoubtedly a huge factor, but Elton John fans would beg to differ that Elton is the true winner in both categories.

The tour spent the rest of April in Charlotte, Nashville, Atlanta, Louisville, and Greensboro. After a stint in Montreal, Canada on May 3, the boys came back into the USA for a tremendous show in Syracuse, New York on May 5.

By May 16, the 2001 tour wrapped up at The Target Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Elton and Billy went their separate ways, but not before raking in \$59 million from the 31 concert engagements. Elton and his band started to promote the upcoming release of "Songs From The West Coast", while Billy planned several autumn solo concerts to promote his classical "Master

Class" series.

As news broke of a forthcoming 2002 tour, there was a repeat show of support and thirst for Elton and Billy, with fans quickly snapping up the F2F concert tickets in record time. Many fans had to be turned away because the venues were selling out faster than ever now. To compensate, more tour dates for same cities were quickly added. Some arenas scheduled 4 and 5 nights of the dueling piano men, but that didn't solve the problem as those dates were quickly sold out as well.

As in past concerts, the beginning of the first 2002 show on January 13 at the MCI Center in Washington, DC, started with the two signature black pianos emerging from a platform below the stage. As "Yankee Doodle Dandy" played from the amplifiers placed around the stadium, Billy entered from stage right. Elton appeared from the opposite side as "God Save The Queen" was blared to the excited audience. The two men quickly went into their usual routines and the set list was much of the same from the previous year, but Elton

did add 3 songs from his new album ("I Want Love", "This Train Don't Stop There Anymore", and "Ballad Of The Boy In The Red Shoes"). It seemed as though there were more Billy fans in the audience than Elton fans for this first show, but Elton was undaunted. He tickled the ivories, which pounded the fan's hearts with such force of feeling and conviction that he was sure to have converted a lot of Billy fans that evening. Throughout the show, Elton changed his costumes (suits) 3 times, while Billy remained dressed in the same black outfit. Davey Johnstone was back in the band again and everything seemed to fall right into place without a hitch. After that first show, the tour travelled to Penn State University for a January 16 concert that repeated the same previous performance, but Elton and Billy soon found their way back to Washington for 2 more sold out events.

From Washington, the tour packed up the buses, vans, and trucks to make their way to Boston for 4 sold out concerts on January 22, 24, 29, and 31. A



fifth show was scheduled for February 2, but for some unknown reason it was rescheduled for April 3. After Boston, the pair dipped into Connecticut to perform 4 evenings at the Hartford Civic Center. It was noted that both Elton and Billy were fighting minor flu symptoms at this concert and their girth was discussed among Internet fans, but everyone marvelled at how much better Elton was than Billy. Quite a number of fans were appalled and disappointed when Billy decided to swear excessively whenever he talked. He wasn't upset or anything of that nature, but for some reason Billy decided that the use of foul language was acceptable. Also during one of the Hartford shows, a bra was thrown up on stage and Elton became cutely embarrassed by the whole ordeal. The press noted that the Hartford receipts easily amounted to more than \$7 million and that Elton and Billy set a record by selling the most number of tickets for a single event in Connecticut's history. It was the quickest and biggest sell out to date.

The tour is currently setting record sell out dates in many cities in the eastern portion of the USA with more stops in Philadelphia, Fort Lauderdale, Tampa, New York, Uniondale, and Rutherford. Beginning in the middle of April, however, Elton will embark on the second leg of his world wide tour to continue promoting his new album. Many fans will not get the opportunity to see Elton and Billy perform together this time around, but there is always the hope that the beginning of 2003 will see them FACE TO FACE once again!



For an example of the set list of the F2F tour, we have included here the complete set list of the Boston show on January 24, 2002: The set list has sometimes varied very slightly during the tour.

Your Song (EJ&BJ)
Just the Way You Are (EJ&BJ)
Don't Let the Sun Go Down on Me (EJ&BJ)

Funeral For A Friend/Love Lies Bleeding (EJ)
Someone Saved My Life Tonight (EJ)
Philadelphia Freedom (EJ)
I Want Love (EJ) • Rocket Man (EJ)
Take Me To The Pilot (EJ)
Ballad Of The Boy In The Red Shoes (EJ)
Levon (EJ)

I Guess That's Why They Call It The Blues (EJ)
This Train Don't Stop There Anymore (EJ)
I'm Still Standing (EJ) • Crocodile Rock (EJ)

Scenes From An Italian Restaurant (BJ)
Allentown (BJ) • Vienna (BJ)
Anthony's Song (BJ)
Prelude/Angry Young Man (BJ)
Lullabye (BJ) • River of Dreams (BJ)
Miami 2017 (BJ)
New York State Of Mind (BJ)
I Go To Extremes (BJ)
We Didn't Start The Fire (BJ)
Only The Good Die Young (BJ)

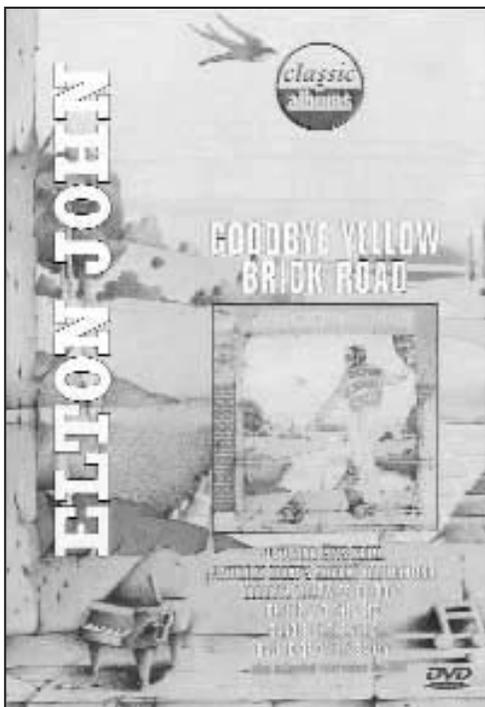
My Life (EJ&BJ)
Here Comes The Sun (EJ&BJ)
The Bitch Is Back (EJ&BJ)
You May Be Right (EJ&BJ)
Bennie And The Jets (EJ&BJ)
Great Balls Of Fire (EJ&BJ)
Candle In The Wind (EJ&BJ)
Piano Man (EJ&BJ)

GOODBYE YELLOW BRICK ROAD

Goodbye Yellow Brick Road is part of a series of DVDs, which focuses on various artists and tells the inside story behind the making of Classic Albums.

The first part of this DVD is the programme as broadcast on British TV last year. After this are 'bonus interviews' in some ways more enjoyable because they are more complete with fewer cutaways to film clips of the early 70s.

There is input from Elton, Bernie, Gus Dudgeon, Nigel Olsson, Davey Johnstone, Paul Gambaccini and Tim Rice.



"It wasn't hard, it wasn't an effort, it was a pleasure"

Elton John, referring to the making of GYBR

on DVD

reviewed by David Wright

While many fans' attention was focused on the long awaited DVD release of One Night Only, another, arguably more interesting, release crept out at the end of October.

Elton's contribution includes him performing part of Funeral For A Friend and Goodbye Yellow Brick Road. He, Bernie and Davey reminisce how they went to Jamaica to record the album, following the Rolling Stones among others, but found an ill-equipped studio and a frightening situation as they escaped to the airport.

They went onto Chateau D'hierouville where Bryan Forbes was filming his documentary (Elton John Says Goodbye To Norma Jean and Other Things) from which the footage of the time was taken.

The weak part is the going over of old ground; Elton meets Bernie, plays the Troubadour etc but there are some new facts. For example I didn't know that Saturday Night is unique in that Elton

didn't record the piano part until later, singing the vocals leaping around while the band played.

One of the treats is Gus Dudgeon sitting at the mixing desk talking through the different layers of a song, highlighting the vocal harmonies on Candle In The Wind, the live effects in Bennie & The Jets and Dee Murray's base line in The Ballad of Danny Bailey.

Other songs analysed include Sweet Painted Lady, Roy Rogers and Harmony.

The songs would be written and recorded within a few hours but the harmonies would be recorded over the following days when "Elton would bugger off because he's a nightmare" as Davey puts it.

All in all this DVD is a fan's dream. Having had this unexpected joy, it would be nice to have the same treatment of Elton John, Tumbleweed, Madman, Captain Fantastic and Songs From The West Coast.

If you haven't bought this yet, get it now!

When Elton calls...

... a team of Atlantans springs into action to make their No. 1 client feel right at home. Last November, the Atlanta Journal reported on the preparations to welcome Elton home.

Packages arrive daily on the 36th floor of Buckhead's posh Park Place tower, a testament to the addiction of Atlanta's most famous resident - shopping.

For weeks before each of Elton John's visits, his Peachtree Road penthouse is alive with decorators, floral designers, art dealers, custom framers and electricians. They race against the clock - "on Elton time" - to ensure all will be perfect while their favourite client and close friend is in town.

This visit - for the opening Saturday of the High Museum of Art's exhibition of Elton's photography collection - is no different. Just more stuff. Photographs, paintings, glass sculpture, clothing, CDs, you name it.

Hundreds of framed black-and-white photographs lining the walls will be removed, reorganized and rehung to make room for one new piece. Dozens of glass objects will be taken from shelves, polished and rearranged to play up a new find. Terrace trees will be swapped out so he will notice something fresh. Thousands of laser discs and CDs will be updated with new selections, and a new catalogue printed. An electrician will inspect hundreds of halogen fixtures, an audio-visual expert will check all the electronics - just in case.

ALL THIS FOR VISITS THAT AVERAGE TWO TO FOUR WEEKS?

"Elton notices and uses everything," says Fred Dilger, Elton's Atlanta interior designer. "He's such a keen shopper that everything he purchases he loves, so nothing ever leaves the apartment."

Elton surrounds himself with beauty because it is here, he says, as in his other homes in England and France, that he cloaks himself in privacy, lets art recharge his soul and braces for trusting that bigger-than-life persona back into public.

"His homes are his havens," says Monique Gibson, who with partner Dilger designed the condominium and Elton's home in Nice. "They're not museums; they're his world."

She insists the personal rewards - not just the retainer fees - are great. He's opened the door to whole new careers. He's instilled in them an appreciation for art. He calls to check on their well-being. He's taught them, in

their fast-track quests for success, to slow down and savour the moment.

"Every day I walk around the apartment and light candles. By the time I'm finished I feel like the Archbishop of Canterbury," Elton said in launching the exhibit last spring. "I wander around the apartment thinking how lucky I am that I can afford to collect such beautiful things."

The High exhibit will feature 389 of his 2,500-plus framed photographs, considered one of the world's leading private collections.

Some 350 of those photos had hung in his condo until last month, when the exhibit was installed. Properly displaying the collection is an ongoing challenge for the designers and custom framer Myott (who goes by one name).

Elton began collecting 10 years ago, just before buying the 2,000-square-foot apartment, designed by Stan Topol & Associates. It has since been expanded to 18,000 square feet, consuming portions of the 36th and 37th floors, just to keep up with the art.

"When I got sober in 1990, I began to see things from a new pair of eyes," Elton says. "It's amazing the crap you buy when you're stoned."

Many of the photographs are purchased in his travels, others at auction by Atlanta art dealer Jane Jackson. "We're very, very good personal friends, so she knows exactly what I like," Elton says.

He met Jackson in 1991 when Dilger, then employed by Topol, called her at home. She told him she was coping with the flu, but the designer asked if she would show his client pieces in her Buckhead gallery, Jackson Fine Art. Jackson snapped to, of course, and met the two, ultimately loading Elton down with photography books to read.

"We work with Elton to maintain the collection's status, keeping up to date on contemporary works before they're sold out," says Jackson, now his consultant. All of the photographs are then taken to Myott Studio Workshop for framing.

"When Elton first hired me eight years ago, I thought we'd do one little initial project. I don't think he or anyone else knew things would snowball the way they have," Myott says. "He got bit." Some 900 frames later, Elton has become his bread and butter. "We try desperately to keep up with it," Myott says. "But they come in so fast, sometimes you don't know whether you're working with an \$18,000 piece or a half-a-million's worth."

The gold and silver framed photos are displayed salon style from floor to ceiling everywhere - bathrooms, laundry room, massage room, the "shredder machine room," even closets.

"Every time Fred and I go over there it's like oh, where are we ever going to hang another group?" Myott says. "I guess ceilings are next."

Hanging framed art on walls covered in wood, fabric or mirrors is never as easy as simply adding one picture to a group; typically, entire displays must be rearranged and rehung with cantilevered hooks.

"We change things around a lot because you notice things better that way," Elton says.

"When you come back into a room, everything seems fresh."

Elton loves a surprise. His biggest occurred five years ago. Before leaving for a tour, he purchased a neighbouring unit, leaving Dilger and Gibson with a typical one-sentence instruction for the 6,000-square-foot addition: Create a modern art gallery.

When it comes to Elton, no request is too large - or too small, says Gibson, who once sampled shades of red nail polish on each finger to find just the right paint colour Elton had requested. (She then had a

custom blend of porcelain glaze made in Europe to match it.)

To Elton's delight, the designers delivered the annex he wanted, their client never knowing the lengths they'd gone to install one purchase - a pair of life-size scrap-metal horse sculptures too large to fit in the elevators.

Gibson saddled up the horses on a window washing rig and hoisted them up the 36 floors as motorists below craned their necks in awe. "It was so windy I was really nervous that we might break somebody's windows on the way up," she says.

One who's grown used to heights is Atlanta garden designer Chuck Heard. His job is to keep the home in fresh flowers and maintain its 12 terraces. That means regularly wedging 7-foot maples, limestone tiles and large bags of soil into the building's sole freight elevator.

Like other high-rise gardeners, Heard, who owns Seriously Green, battles wind and heat to keep the balconies lush. "I'm the one who's always there, watering every other day," he says, citing Atlanta's odd-even day drought restrictions. "Even Elton's not above the law."

LESSONS IN ART, LIFE

Heard's not complaining. Elton is responsible for his livelihood. They met through friends 11 years ago, and in 1995, while working in Emory University's business school, Heard ran into the singer at a party. Elton, familiar with Heard's gardening hobby, asked what he thought of the host's terrace. "I told him, yours could be much better than this," and he said, "Do it," Heard recalls.

The designer took the dare. Elton was so pleased with his work, he helped Heard start a business. "He even named it for me," Heard says.

But the Rocket Man has done far more than launch a successful new career. "He could not be nicer to work for," Heard says. "He always calls me when he gets in town to talk about things, how the plants are doing."

If Elton respects one's work, "he literally becomes like your own little cheerleading squad."

Dilger and Gibson can vouch for that. When the two left Topol to start their own business, Elton signed on as lead client. "In the beginning, he even did things like loan us his car so we could take out clients," Gibson says. "He made his manager [at that time, John Reid] interview us for a project." They got the job - and a story in *Architectural Digest* to boot.

The exposure led the fledgling designers to projects for other celebs, including John Mellencamp, Jon Bon Jovi and, most recently, talk show host Conan O'Brien. Yet, despite working for heavy hitters, Gibson still finds herself stammering around Elton. "I mean, even stars are star struck by him," says the designer, a fan since hanging his poster in her room at age 13. "We've had celebrities come to us at parties and say, 'Wow, you decorate for Elton John?' What do you say? We decorate for mere mortals, too!"

One a level far deeper than their business plan, Dilger and Gibson cite a number of lessons Elton's taught them -- about art and "celebrating the senses" by surrounding one's self with things you most enjoy. No matter whether it's a collection of pretty rocks or vintage photography, in John's case, hung even in his most private spaces.

"I mean, you pass through a gallery between his bedroom and bath," she says. "I love that, after years of such a public life, that space is just for him. That's the spirit of the place."

up close &

Continuing our series which details your favourite memories
Elke Middelhaue & Eddi Kadner, share

Me and my friend Eddi, who is disabled in a wheelchair, live in the South of Germany near the town of Stuttgart. We have not been Elton John fans for very long, and before we became Elton fans a few years ago, we had never really been a fan of anybody.

Elton's moving performance of Candle in the Wind at Princess Diana's funeral got us hooked. And later that year we became even bigger fans when we saw Elton's charismatic appearance on the German TV show "Wetten dass...?", which was a real contrast to the funeral performance. That is what Elton John is to us: a man of contrasts and different facets who cannot be put into just one category, and who fascinates us again and again! That was more than a reason to go and see the man live.

For the following year (1998), he was to tour with Billy Joel, and the closest venue for us was the Olympic Stadium in Munich. But our desire to see Elton and Billy live, was going to be put to the test. First of all, all wheelchair tickets had already been sold, and all our attempts by phone or fax to get hold of a spare ticket were in vain. We finally took a

risk and decided to get normal tickets instead, which were still available. On the day we wanted to pretend we did not know anything about the existence of special tickets for disabled people. Our wish to see Elton live had grown so much that we were ready to try anything!

But that was not to be the last problem we were to encounter. And it so happened that on the weekend before the concert we had to attend a family event - in Denmark! - which is about 700 miles away from Munich. And to make it worse, the main family event was to take place on the very night before the show. To the dismay of my family we were crazy enough to leave Denmark for Munich the next morning after only 2.5 hours of sleep!

Meanwhile our expectations were just focused on Elton because Billy had fallen ill and Elton was to play three hours with his band. Three hours of pure Elton! We simply had to make it. After eleven hours of concentrated driving we arrived at the Olympic Stadium at 5.15pm.

But now we had to take the biggest hurdle. Would we be admitted with the tickets we had bought? We had already worked

out how we wanted to behave and how we could move stubborn security people. We were expecting difficulties and were nervously approaching the wheelchair entrance. We were expecting to hear the big NO, and the long journey and all the hassle would have been in vain.

The man at the barrier looked at our tickets, thought for a moment and then went to one of his colleagues for advice. When he came back I expected to hear our death sentence but he waved us through without a word! We were allowed to enter the Olympiastadion to see one of Elton John's greatest concerts.

I will never forget the moment we stepped through the gate to the stadium with the feeling of having won an important battle against all odds! And our first live experience of Elton was to be overwhelming. Although being in the wheelchair area we were quite far away from Elton, we felt close to him because his music filled the whole of the stadium and stary night sky above. The music filled us, drugged us and moved us to tears. We had never before experienced such powerful music! Thank you so much, Elton, for rewarding our efforts so immensely, for strengthening and



If you would like to share your stories of being close to the stage at an Elton concert, please send yo

& personal

of seeing EJ in concert, Elton fans and Hercules members, are a very special experience with us...

inspiring us with your music and for tearing us away from everyday life!

From this day on it was a must for us to see Elton at every concert we could make and that our wallets would allow. And one wish grew with all this: to meet Elton personally, face to face. But which fan does not dream of that? To this day we have not been successful and we are still dreaming of this greatest desire of our hearts. Yet we came close to our dream – totally unexpected and funny enough during Elton's solo show at the castle in Stuttgart in July 2000, which was so close to our home! A year before that, in Dresden, we had been able to go to the stage and present Elton with a bunch of flowers, for which he had thanked me with a handshake – what a great feeling! – and Eddi with a nod and a wave. Eddi was happy that Elton had acknowledged him even though he could not reach his hands because of the high stage.

But this wish should come true in Stuttgart: On this beautiful and hot day in July we could not withstand the temptation to buy a nice red rose and a card for Elton which we were going to give to him at the concert. Although security was very tight that day,

they allowed us to move to the stage after I Guess That's Why They Call It The Blues.

After I had handed Elton the rose gesturing that it was from Eddi and me, he pressed my hand with a "Thank you", looked at my friend and gave him a wave as he had done in Dresden. Then the incredible thing happened: Standing behind Eddi I could feel the look that Eddi gave Elton, and Elton's reaction confirmed my impression. Looking at Eddi he tilted his head slightly and, without hesitation, or worrying about his clothes, he lay down on the wooden floor of the stage in order to shake hands with my friend too.

He received a massive applause and we shouted "Thank you" while Elton jumped back to his feet. When we went back to our seats the place was still filled with standing ovations and Eddi was moved to tears! Even the security guy standing near us almost smiled. This incredible event was even to get us into the local paper. We will never forget this unique gesture of Elton's!

What could have capped it all was something that happened last year, in 2001, at Elton's show in Würzburg. Despite our early booking, we only had bad seats,

but we had managed to position ourselves nearer to the front before the concert started – the security people showed more tolerance this time and even allowed us to stay in this spot during the whole concert. Elton appeared to make his usual welcoming round across the stage and walked over to the side of the stage where we were standing approx. 10 to 15 metres away. Walking over he looked at the audience and suddenly pointed his finger in our direction, looking directly at us shouting "Yeah!". We started and wondered if he had really meant us or whether this was just coincidence. But only Elton would have been able to answer this question. Well, if Elton should ever read this: Thank you so much for being so wonderful, warm-hearted and so kind to everyone of your fans and for appreciating our deep love for you and your music!"

If you would like to share your stories of being close to the stage at an Elton concert, please send your letters to Up Close and Personal, Tammi Law, (address on page 2), or e-mail tammi@eltonfan.net



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A personal review of Elton's latest unusual TV appearance

By Reggie Zippo

live by request

At precisely 5:00pm on December 3, 2001, Elton and his band mates Davey Johnstone, Nigel Olsson, Guy Babylon, Bob Birch, and John Mahon took charge of the CBS Television City concert studio in Hollywood, California to begin an evening of musical surprises for themselves and the viewing audience.

Hosted by Mark McEwen, A and E Cable Network's "Live By Request" concert series was successful in acquiring the talents of Elton for this two hour TV special that relied heavily on song requests from the fans to construct the set list for that evening's performance. In addition to the live television medium, the concert was also simulcast over the Internet.

Diehard Elton fans had been breathlessly waiting for this monumental event to finally unfold with the promise that a select few would be given the opportunity to briefly talk with Elton on the phone or via email to request ANY song of their choosing. There were no apparent parameters. Any song request would be given equal consideration. A special telephone number was created for those fans who were willing enough to repeatedly redial that number a thousand times over with the hope of making the coveted connection. For the less eager, an email address was available on A and E's Live By

Request.com web site to also submit song suggestions. This was truly going to be a cherished moment for the fortunate few who were successful in reaching Elton on stage that evening!

Minutes before the magic hour was to begin, millions of personal VCR machines around the country were queued and ready to record this special event, but then the network experienced severe audio problems just after the show's introduction. Elton entered the stage wearing a black suit and sunglasses and got the ball rolling with two selections of his own, "I'm Still Standing" and "I Want Love". Panic among the TV viewers quickly set in when an audio deficiency made for poor listening. The vocals and instruments were barely audible and what little could be heard was interrupted with pops of static and clicks. Unaffected or unaware of any irregularities, Elton beamed as he rocked and crooned through both songs. The TV network went straight to a commercial break after "I Want Love" and, by the time the program resumed, the audio was restored to its intended volume and clarity.

With two songs under his belt, Elton finally took the first telephone request. Nani from Santa Monica, California, was so overwhelmed to hear Elton's voice that she could barely contain herself. He asked her how she was doing to which she

replied "Very delightful now!" When asked which song Elton could perform for her, Nani said "You've already done so much for me!" Eventually, she chose "Crocodile Rock".

In true form, he bounced through this classic with ease and enthusiasm, and during each chorus Elton and the band members coaxed the studio audience to sing all of the "na na na" parts. Afterward, Elton explained that the song is usually placed at the end of his concerts and by then he needs a little help from the fans to get through the chorus lines. He really did not need any help for this event, but it did add an element of camaraderie with the audience.

The next caller was Mark from Oklahoma City. He asked Elton to play Daniel, but not before asking him to explain the meaning of the song. As all Reg Heads know, the song is about Daniel, a blind Vietnam War veteran as sung by Daniel's sibling (the song never suggests that the sibling is male). Elton further explained that in their early days of writing songs together, Bernie would submit lyrics that were composed as a bunch of words on a page with no regard to lyrical form (verse and chorus). At times, these "lyrics" tended to go beyond a reasonable length. So, Elton would editorialize to reduce the song to a standard timing.

Such was the fate of Daniel. The original third verse explained the meaning of the song, but Elton felt that a 6 minute version was too much to bare, so he deleted it ("I'll just take this bit out.") Thus, the meaning was lost forever to the general public. On this fine evening, however, Elton breathed new life into "Daniel" to the point that the missing third verse really didn't matter that much anymore because it would not be "Daniel" if it had been presented any other way.

Robi from New York was next. Elton became very excited when Robi said that she was from New York, but then he became visibly solemn when she announced that

her husband, Peter, had lost his life in the World Trade Center tragedy. She asked if Elton would dedicate "Rocket Man" to Peter and all who perished in that massacre, to which he humbly devoted a full nine and a half minutes for a very memorable rendition of the song. This was indeed the highlight of the whole concert. After a failed attempt to speak to a fourth caller, Billy from Long Island, New York, Elton made the following comment when asked by the host to express his thoughts about the healing power of music:

"I think in times of joy and times of sorrow, in times of solitude, in times when you're having a party, there's nothing like music. And, in times like we've experienced, or you've experienced in this country (USA) the last two or three months, music is the great healer, whether it's any sort of music. You can find solace in anything and it's our job as musicians to go out and play, to keep doing that. And, it's no good saying we're going to cancel our tour there or I'm going to cancel it. Musicians should be out there playing for the people and that's what we do! That's what the musicians did in World War 2 and throughout the Vietnam War. They went and entertained right on the battle lines. Right on the front line! And, I get really upset when I hear about people cancelling their tours because they're too afraid. You know? You're a musician. Your job is to go out and heal and that's what you should do!"

Since they were not able to connect with Billy from Long Island (not to worry, he resurfaces after the next song), Elton was invited by host Mark McEwen to play another number from his new album. "This Train Don't Stop There Anymore" was Elton's choice as he explained

that it would be the next single to be released. Elton matched the album version of "This Train...." note for note for a tremendous performance. Finally, Billy from Long Island was on the telephone. As soon as Elton heard Billy's voice, he asked, "Shouldn't you be in bed by now?" Billy indicated that he was in fact in bed. This prompted Elton to ask who he was sharing his bed with, or as Elton put it "Who's your latest floozy?" Billy said that he is without a girlfriend right now, but Elton quickly offered to help him find one during the next Face To Face tour at the beginning of 2002. "A man like you should be cuddled every night", Elton demanded. Billy Joel was a complete surprise caller for Elton. His request was to hear "The Bitch Is Back", which they perform together during their dueling piano tours. Elton gladly complied and even mimicked Billy by jumping up on top of the piano toward the end of the song. Also, during the bits when Elton sang "I'm better than you!", he pointed his finger at the camera. Perhaps he was sending a personal message to Billy? We all know it's true without question.

Mark from Manalapan, New Jersey, asked Elton to play "Philadelphia Freedom" for the next song. Elton performed the classic version flawlessly, although the 80s version with the extended intro would have been a nice surprise. It has been many years since he has performed that version, but one can only hope that Elton will reinstate it for future set lists.

Anna from Brazil, by far the winner of long distance callers that evening, wanted to chat with Elton more than to request a song. Elton politely ended the conversation after she blurted out her request because he probably

sensed that if he allowed her to continue talking she would want to be on the phone with him forever. Don't we all? "Don't Let The Sun Go Down On Me" was served as brilliant as ever and Elton wasted no time injecting his brand of emotions and color into this heartfelt song.

The next caller on the telephone was another celebrity surprise. Sting called from the set of the TV talk show "Live With Larry King". At first, Sting said he had always wanted to hear Elton sing "Roxanne", one of Sting's earlier hits. It looked as if Elton was about to comply before Sting asked him to sing "Sorry Seems To Be The Hardest Word" instead. It was quite obvious throughout their conversation that these two entertainers are very close friends because nearly every other word out of their mouths sounded intimate. "Darling" and "Sweetheart" were passed back and forth several times. Elton also asked "You sexy sod, how are you?" and "What can I do for you, you fool?". Sting's song choice was eventually served by Elton, but since a guitarist would not be needed for this particular number, Elton's long time guitarist, Davey Johnstone, left the stage to wait in the shadows. The song was, as always, a very moving piece.

For the next request, the host was given an email that had been sent to Elton via A and E's web site. It came from Patricia in Hewitt, New Jersey. "Songs From The West Coast is awesome! I especially love "Ballad Of The Boy In The Red Shoes". I think I've just about worn out this CD." Even though a lot of emails were received, this was to be the only one used for the show. All other requests that evening came via telephone. Ever since Elton publicly announced the meaning of "....Red Shoes", it seems that

all TV hosts are quick to ask Elton to retell the meaning of this particular ballad. And this was no exception. Elton said that it is all about a man who is dying of AIDS. Elton further explained that the plight to find a cure or offer assistance was totally ignored by the Reagan Presidential Administration of the early 80s. "I know because I was there!", Elton exclaimed. The true showman that he is, Elton gave another stunning performance of this song. He is sure to play this bittersweet melody for many years to come.

The next call in request came from Mark in Phoenix, Arizona. He told Elton about his wedding day 14 years ago when Mark and his future bride played "Your Song" during that special event. Mark wanted to hear Elton play it live just for the happy couple. And perform it he did. Elton seemed rather touched that the song was used in such a happy setting. For this number, all of the band members resigned themselves to the shadows behind the drum kits, speakers, and other stage props to allow the spotlight to shine on Elton alone as he performed this song solo. Some of the band mates stood, while others sat in chairs, but quickly returned to their original positions during the applause at the end of the song.

The final caller of the evening was John from Richmond, California. He asked Elton to play "Take Me To The Pilot". It started out in the usual slow form, which escalated to a rocking finish, but the length was whittled down for a shorter version as time was running out on this two hour special presentation. Elton really put all efforts into the performance, though, and was seen beating his chest like some deranged gorilla at the very end. No, he was not having problems with his pacemaker. He was just enjoying the excitement of the

moment.

Even though John was the last caller, the host offered to let Elton pick the final song to round out the evening. With that in mind, Elton said "Alright, let's rock out, boys!" Then the familiar sounds of "Saturday Night's Alright (For Fighting)" began to set everyone off into a dancing frenzy. To add further excitement to the mix, Elton was forced to extend the song a bit longer than expected. As the credits for the program scrolled across TV screens in America and over the Internet, the song was nearing it's triumphant end. Elton must have noticed that he still had more time to fill. So, they ended the song with the shout of "Saturday Night's Alright!", then they all jumped right in again to repeat the ending chorus without missing a beat. The second time around proved to be just enough time before the network switched to a commercial advertisement.

Thus ended Elton's debut on "Live By Request". Many fans no doubt were thoroughly disappointed by not being successful in reaching their beloved star by telephone or email, but Elton was only given two hours.

One final note. By the middle of the program, it seemed painfully clear that the requests were all going to be "hit" type songs and nothing from obscurity. As a viewer, it would have been quite exciting to see if Elton and the band could pull off a rendition of "Hercules", or perhaps "Cold As Christmas". Personally, I tried to get through on the telephone to request something a bit more festive like "White Christmas" and/or "Rudolph, The Red Nose Reindeer". Both of which have been performed by Elton in the past. I suppose I will just have to settle for my CD copies of those earlier performances. Nevertheless, this concert was indeed a thriller to witness.

JUST FOR FUN

LYRIC QUIZ

Have a go at our popular lyric quiz. We give you a line - see if you can name the song!
(Answers on page 27)

- 1 **He said now hey blind man that is fine
But I sure can't waste my time**
- 2 **And I'm so afraid your courtiers
Cannot be called best friends**
- 3 **And she's far away somewhere in her eiderdown
And she dreams of crystal streams**
- 4 **Empty living on this highway
Can you see me mother earth**
- 5 **I'm an old hayseed harp player
I'm the hit of the country fair**
- 6 **About the way the mirrors lie
When the beauty's only skin deep**
- 7 **If you can't comprehend
Read it in my eyes**
- 8 **And now I know what lovely means
I used to give so little and gain everything**
- 9 **I getta hungry man
When I can't get what I want**
- 10 **Heard they got you going round the goosecreek shed
Trying to fill your belly full of buckshot lead**
- 11 **Lookin' for an exit
Sleepin' on the concrete**
- 12 **And who could you call your friends down in Soho
One or two middle-aged dykes in a go-go**

LYRIC QUIZ

ELTON EXPECTS BILLY JOEL TO START WRITING SONGS AGAIN



The on-going Face To Face tour gives Billy Joel a chance to perform his catalog of hits with Elton, even though he gave up writing pop songs after his 1993 album *River Of Dreams* (his most recent release is the classical collection *Fantasies & Delusions: Music For Solo Piano*). However, Elton tells us that he doesn't think his friend and touring partner is finished with pop music just yet: "He seems to say, 'Well, I can't do this anymore, I can't do this anymore.' But, you know, he's not a rock-and-roll artist--he's a great songwriter, and great songwriters always write songs, and there'll be songs coming from Billy Joel's piano again. I'm always saying, 'Come on, come on, come on, come on,' but in good time, he'll do it again.

In the meantime, he's gone off and done something else, and he goes and does lectures and stuff like that. He's enjoying himself. You know, he'll admit, 'I'm just coasting at the moment,' but I don't think that he's gonna be happy coasting."

Elton might feel that way, but Billy's not so sure, and he tells us that the process comes much easier to Elton than it ever did to him: "I once watched Elton write a song, and he had a copy of some lyrics, and he started writing music to the lyrics. And I said, 'How the hell do you do that?' I write 180 degrees the other way--I write music, and then I stick lyrics into it. So it's, everybody, to each his own."



DAVID FURNISH'S WEEKEND

horse-riding and curries

David Furnish, who has been Elton's partner for the past eight years was recently asked what he likes to with his time on a typical weekend.



Here's what he told UK newspaper The Daily Express...

I often go out to dinner on a Friday night in London. Janet Street-Porter and I got into going to The Ivy at the end of a busy week. We'd have a really great chat, then I'd go back to Windsor for the weekend. It's a beautiful house and it helps me recharge my batteries. It kind of feeds your soul because there's so much history there. The original house was built in 1066, for William the Conqueror.

I have a horse in livery by Windsor Great Park, so a treat for me is to spend Saturday morning riding round by myself. It's a chance to blow out the cobwebs.

As Elton is away so much on tour, the nicest thing is to have friends down for the weekend .We watch movies, play tennis or go for a swim. We also love playing games - from karaoke to charades!

My ideal Saturday night would be to get a takeaway curry .I could eat curry seven days a week - and so could Elton. We bonded over curries! Like Elton, I'm a vindaloo man, though I like a little korma on the side to put out the fire.

Elton and I love to have kids to stay. My two brothers' kids are really great, and lots of our friends have kids. They go crazy here - there are cars, a pony, a donkey, and all the doggies. Some of the rooms have secret doors.

It's like Disneyland! Brooklyn Beckham came down recently with his mum and dad (Victoria "Posh Spice" Beckham and England Football Captain David Beckham) for Sunday lunch. They really enjoyed themselves.

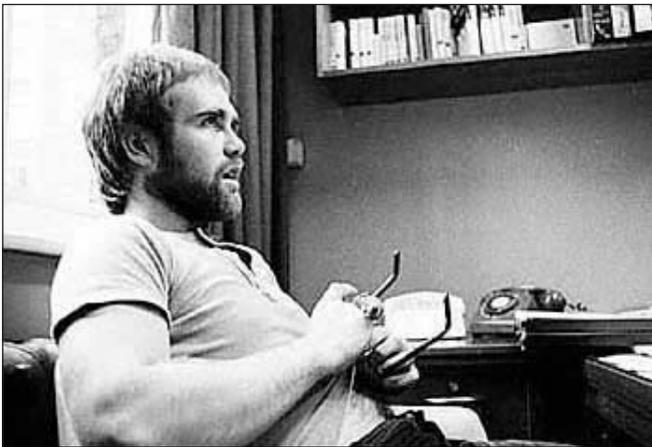
idol

by Reggie Zippo

He said: I Want Love.



She said: This Train Don't Stop There Anymore!



USA Convention

COME CELEBRATE

ELTON'S 55TH BIRTHDAY

WITH HERCULES!

WALT DISNEY WORLD,
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

Our celebration will take place at Walt Disney World's Cast Recreation facility. A barbeque-style "Meal Ticket" will be provided by Disney caterers - burger, dogs, lemonade, cookies, birthday cake, etc. We'll have a memorabilia swap, music, videos, and lots of fun!

Cost is \$36.50 per person, and although the cut off date for registration for attendance was officially February 16, you can still contact Hercules USA's Barb Madruga for information regarding the party. E-mail Barb, barb@eltonfan.net, or via regular post, P.O. Box 692392, Orlando, FL 32869-2392. All proceeds after expenses will be donated to the Elton John Aids Foundation, in honor of Elton's 55th birthday.

The Disney World Cast Recreation Facility is located very near the intersection of I-4 and State Road 535 (behind the wonderful new Premium Outlet Mall).

We look forward to seeing as many as possible of you there - don't miss out on this one!

... THIS IS MY HOUSE,



Hercules member Jeremy Rowbottom looks into some facts about Woodside,

For many of Elton's fans, the name Woodside is just a passing label for the main place of residence for Elton; however, the history and development of the place that Elton calls 'the hub of my soul' is long and varied. In this article, I will attempt to shed more light on the history and development of Elton's main place of residence since 1975.

The search for a more substantial main property for Elton began in 1975, when it was decided that Hercules, Elton's bungalow in Virginia Water was not large enough for Elton and his various collections. Opting against Wargrave Manor, a 75 acre estate, not far from Hercules, Elton made the decision to purchase Woodside, a 37 acre estate set away from the main road between Windsor and Englefield Green.

The first recorded owner of the property was Gilbert Marriot in 1066, Bishop of Lisieux and clergyman to William the Conqueror. In the 14th Century the land was sold to Thomas Walton, valet and butler to King Richard III. Other recorded owners include the doctors of both King Henry VIII and William

the Conqueror, depending on which source you read. Construction on the present house began in the Elizabethan period, not long after which a fire destroyed the third storey, which was later restored.

The house has in fact been burnt down three times since it was first built, the last time after World War II in 1947. The post-war period was important in the re-building and architectural development of the house because post-war restrictions on building materials meant that the ceilings were built at a cramped eight foot six inch height.

The house stayed pretty much the same up until Elton purchased it in the mid-1970s, when the 8 bedrooms, 5 reception rooms and 6 bathrooms were decked out in art-deco and art nouveau and various conversions were made to include an indoor swimming pool, squash court, disco, cinema, pool room, recording studio, record library of 25000 plus discs and an indoor lift. The upper floors were converted into six self-contained suites, including Elton's private suite, to accommodate anyone staying at the house.

External to the comfort of the

main house, the grounds came complete with an 18th Century Orangery, which was formerly the gatekeepers house and can be seen to the left of the front gates at the end of the driveway. In addition, the grounds included 8 acres of woodland to the south of the gardens, a vineyard and three lakes, the main ornamental lake being filled with 3 million gallons of water and stocked with carp upon its refurbishment. On top of this, stables which were converted into a 36-car garage.

Incidentally, Woodside originally had a series of cottages in its grounds, one of which was upgraded in the 1750s to a Dower house. Now a separate residence with its own grounds, this property belongs to the golfer Nick Faldo (handy if Elton should ever need a cup of sugar!!).

March 1988 was an important time in the development of Woodside because Elton decided to divest himself of nearly three decades of possessions by clearing the house and putting nearly everything up for auction at Sotheby's; a sale to be held in September 1988 which raised £14.8m for Elton.

Following the clearing of the house and the Sotheby's auction, Elton could begin the process of

THIS IS WHERE I LIVE



Elton's UK home.

refurbishing Woodside at the same time as his own personal internal refurbishment from alcohol and drugs. The transformation of the house and gardens would take nearly three years at a cost of £5m, not including the acquisition of new collections of art, antiques and photography to grace the re-designed interior of the house. London-based designers Andrew Protheroe and Adrian Cooper-Grigg were brought in to oversee the work on the house, whilst Guy Cooper and Gordon Taylor were in charge of the garden work, bringing in Rosemary Verey to create themed areas in the grounds, including the white garden, scented garden, English cottage garden, secret garden and a rainbow border, with the Italian garden and Roman terrace to be added later by Sir Roy Strong.

Most additions to the property recently have been to the gardens, although since the property was purchased by Elton in 1975, many of the interior features have changed from Elton's original specification. Despite rejecting the original idea of the design team to turn Woodside into an art-deco tribute to Hollywood, Elton did

embrace many of the innovative features with enthusiasm at the beginning of the 1990s. Such interesting design features started with the front-to-back entryway into the house, to enable a glimpse through the house into the enchanting gardens at the rear. Other notable features are the shell-room in the swimming pool annex in the rear gardens. Apparently this took four months to create from original Penzance shells. The seemingly endless list of fascinating design features also includes plaited Norfolk rush flooring in the library (which requires watering to prevent drying out) and the David Linley-designed parquetry-covered chest surrounding the master bed, said to house Elton's contemporary spectacle collection.

On a larger scale, the disco has been converted into the drawing room, the cinema has been converted into a sitting room, the dining room has been re-constructed from two smaller rooms, the recording studio has been converted into a gym and bar area, the squash court is now a combined library and double-height skylighted art gallery, the 25000-disc record library has been transformed into a vast CD storage area, and to literally top

all this, the attic eaves hold part of Elton's collection of thousands of pairs of glasses, these mostly being sunglasses from the 1970s and 1980s.

Other than the main house, the Orangery (a favourite place of Elton's) was totally gutted after Elton's grandmother died in March 1995 and transformed into a quiet place of reflection in her memory, including a chapel, a comfortable sitting area and a small library housing a collecting of 18th/19th Century books. Despite all the seriousness and purposefulness that Elton and his interior designers and landscape gardeners have put into the re-design of the property, true to Elton's personality, elements of humour remain and can be found in aspects such as the stable for ponies designed as a folly based on the lines of Windsor Castle, a fibreglass model of a tyranosaurus rex called Daisy housed in eight acres of woodland, a red telephone box nearby apparently with a line to the house, and a tram purchased by Elton in the mid-80s whilst on tour in Australia.

The countrified ambience of Woodside was what Elton set out to achieve over a decade ago; in Tantrums and Tiaras, Elton described his main property as being a really comfortable home where people can come to stay, and it would appear that this has been achieved. Elton has been quoted as saying that Woodside is the hub of his soul; it is a place which I think reflects Elton's inner peace, contentment and enjoyment in collecting things, and being able to find a balance to life away from a hectic celebrity lifestyle. I sincerely hope that Woodside continues to provide this balance and will in some form continue to inspire the wonderful musical talent and charitable person that is Sir Elton John.

THE FUTURE OF HERCULES

Last September we wrote to you explaining changes being made at Hercules. Having listened to your feedback we have revised and simplified these changes.

In 2002, our fan club will be celebrating its 14th birthday on May 8. A lot has changed since we published our first fanzine back in June 1988. In the early days, we barely managed to fill just one page in the fanzine with the latest news about Elton John. Today, we are having a hard time filtering the news items from the past three months in order not to exceed five pages in our publication.

Technology has improved quite significantly over the past few years, and while it has made many things regarding fanzine production a lot easier for us, it has also had some negative effect on our publication in general.

Our Member Audit conducted in summer 2001 has clearly shown that most of our members (80% of the respondents) do surf the Internet. Our website www.eltonfan.net is receiving a growing number of currently more than 500 unique visitors each day. Hence, the fanzine is old news for many of its readership in today's world, where communication has become so fast that we are able to e.g. bring you a review and complete set list of a concert within minutes after Elton leaving the stage.

In other words, the fanzine is no longer able to compete with the Internet, and also costs more to produce than it generates in revenue. It is no longer possible for us to produce the fanzine economically without a huge increase in subscription rates.

The results of the above mentioned Member Audit, the great success of our website, and the continuing decrease in fanzine subscribers has finally led us to the decision which we already announced at the end of last year: **The Hercules fanzine will cease to be published, with**

the final edition being No. 60 (September 2002). Meanwhile, the Hercules Team has decided to additionally publish a "Farewell" issue in December 2002.

With the fanzine no longer being available, **all Hercules memberships will end on December 31, 2002.** If your renewal date was January 1, 2002, and if you have paid your dues, you are all set. If your renewal date is on April 1, July 1, or October 1 this year, we kindly ask you to adjust your renewal fee according to the following spreadsheet:

<i>Renewal Date</i>	<i>Europe</i>	<i>World</i>
April 1, 2002	euro 15.00 or £10.50	euro 26.25 or US\$ 26.25
July 1, 2002	euro 10.00 or £ 7.00	euro 17.50 US\$ 17.50
October 1, 2002	euro 5.00 or £ 3.50	euro 8.75 US\$ 8.75

If you are paying by credit card or direct debit, we will automatically adjust the membership fee for you.

ATTENTION UK MEMBERS:

The bank has advised us that you must cancel existing Standing Orders individually. If you are currently paying by Standing Order, please cancel it and arrange for a one-time payment according to the above spreadsheet.

Starting January 1, 2003, Hercules will only offer fan services on the Internet via its website www.eltonfan.net. The current Web Member area will continue to exist, and it will even be improved with many of the former fanzine content becoming part of those password-protected pages on the website.

As a first step towards the Web-only focus of Hercules, we have combined the Hercules

Web membership with your existing fanzine subscription free of charge in October 2001. From January 1, 2003, with the printed fanzine no longer being published, we will **lower the rates of the Hercules Web membership to euro/US\$ 10 worldwide.**

We are of course aware that some of our current readers do not have access to the Internet (yet). In order to keep these fans up-to-date about the latest Elton news, **we will offer you a Newsletter Service for a limited period.** All you have to do is to send a self-addressed envelope plus two IRCs to the Hercules Department next to you. In return, we will send you a print-off of the current news pages and tour schedule on the Hercules website.

We are sorry to disappoint some of you by the above announcements, but we would like to assure you that they are the result of a very long discussion about the future of the Hercules fan club within the Hercules Team. Speaking of which, it has been impossible for us to find successors for any of the Hercules positions which also causes us to cut down on some parts of our services.

Nevertheless, we are looking forward to serve the Elton John fan community in the years to come.

*Please note our special **BACKISSUES SALE:** All Hercules and Rocket Fan backissues now available for **euro/US\$ 3 each plus postage – you save 40%! Most of the old fanzine issue are already a collector's item today! Make sure to order your missing editions before they sell out. Please use order from included with this issue.***

Elton's youngest fan!?



This is Zachary Ward, possibly Elton's youngest fan! Zachary and his parents, from Burlington, NJ, USA, went to see EJ and BJ during the Face to Face show in Philadelphia on February 17. Zachary tells us that he has many Elton CDs: "My Mommy rocked me to sleep to your Love Songs CD when I was a newborn

and I've been listening to it ever since! I have many of your other CDs and listen to them all the time and especially at night when my Mommy and Daddy put them on for me at bedtime."

"One of my favorites is the One Night Only CD and video. My all time favorite song is Don't Let the Sun Go Down on Me. In

this particular performance in Oct. 2000, at the end of the song you reach over with your arm and shake it all about and I imitate this all the time for my parents."

We agree that there is a certain likeness!

lunch around the world *Gotta 'Give' A Meal Ticket*

As in past years, this March fans around the world will celebrate Elton's birthday on March 25. But this year, some fans will be adding a new twist to this cheerful event.

We would like to encourage you to organize brunches or lunches (or you could host a breakfast or a dinner, whichever suits you!) with other fans and friends and to collect funds for the Elton John Aids Foundation - or as the title of this article states: "Give A Meal Ticket".

Basically, here's the general idea, but you could adapt it to suit your circumstances. The weeks around March 25, 2002, Elton John fans from all over the world will be hosting lunches, at the place of their choice. This year Elton's Oscar Party will take place on

March 24, 2002, so it would nice to have as many Meal Ticket events as possible held on this date.

Each invited guest would be asked to make a donation to the Elton John Aids Foundation. The host could serve whatever they want, from peanut butter sandwiches to filet mignon. Each lunch can be held wherever the host chooses, from their personal homes to parks and restaurants.

As individuals, together we can make a nice contribution to the Elton John Aids Foundation. We hope you will join us as we host

lunches around the world and help to "Give A Meal Ticket".

If you decide to go ahead, have fun AND raise money for Elton's favourite charity, drop us a line and let us know how you got on. We'd like to print some details of these events in our June issue of The Mag, so send us your pics and we'll print a selection of them! Send your letters and photos to Tammi Law (address on page 2) or e-mail her at tammi@eltonfan.net

Have fun, and good luck to all the chefs!

Nancy Case

YOUR LETTERS

We always love to hear from you; after all, it is YOUR Elton John fan-club. If you have anything you would like to share with other Elton fans, then please send your letters to the Editor, Tammi Law (address on page 2), or e-mail tammi@eltonfan.net

I have an odd question, but it is something that has been bothering me for a while. It's along the same lines as "What does the Queen keep in her purse?" !! I have always wondered if EJ has anything in his pockets when he strolls on stage (whether it be for a concert or TV appearance) and if so, then what is in those pockets? Does he have a wallet, a lucky charm, some small personal memento, a used tissue, a pager?! Just what exactly is in those pockets when we see him live or prerecorded?

Dixie Lily, USA.

What items lurk in the depths of Elton's pockets when he is out in public? Our Editor, Tammi, hopes it is a photograph of herself, but the Hercules staff like to think that it is the latest issue of The Mag!

"Sorry Seems to be the Oddest Word"

An attendee of both Madison Square Garden shows, I agree with an observation from The Mag's tour review (December issue): Elton seemed contrite about including SFTWC. Perhaps he believes that fans only want to hear old hits. Wrong! My complaint was that he did not perform fresh gems like "Dark Diamond" or the particularly powerful "Love Her Like Me".

But with his chest-thumping "Take Me To The Pilot" and piano-pounding "The Bitch is Back", I found EVERY rendition to be novel and rousing. No need to apologise Elton!

Cheryl Herman, U.S.A.

The following happened a while ago but it is still on my mind. When Elton performed in Hannover, Germany, on the 19th November, I decided to write him a letter telling him how much I liked his music. When the time of the concert had come, I had mixed feelings. I enjoyed the show extremely, however, I was on tenterhooks. Finally security let me move towards the stage. I could not believe it! I held my letter up and Elton came towards me. He took it with a "Thank you" but what I had not expected was that he stopped and looked me in the eye. I wanted to say something but could not get out a single word. That was an unforgettable experience for me.

Sven Heithecker, Germany

POSTER AUCTION RESULT!

In the previous issue we gave you the opportunity to bid for a huge rare poster of Elton. The winner was Jochen Loh from Germany, with a bid of EUR 180. Thanks to all of you who entered the auction.

SMALL ADS

...are free to Hercules members.
Send yours to the Editor, Tammi
Law (address on page 2), or
e-mail her at tammi@eltonfan.net

HUGE ELTON COLLECTION FOR SALE

7-inch, 12-inch, LPs, CDs,
Tourbooks, Books, posters and
many other rare collectibles.

Contact: Matthias Wierzbicki, Im
Rapsfeld 41, 50933 Koln,
Germany, Tel: +49 221 9473160,
Fax: +49 221 9473161, e-mail:
modus@netcologne.de

FOR SALE

You are invited to browse
through Reggie Zippo's Amazing
Collectibles at

http://members.tripod.com/reggie_zippo
Reggie has a lot of cool
and unusual movie, TV, music,
sports, and various collectible
memorabilia for sale. Of course,
there are Elton John items as well.
Be sure to see the 16 Elton John
Celebrity Cels available. To
contact Reggie by snail mail, send
inquiries to Reggie Zippo, PO
Box 894, Lebanon, Ohio 45036,
USA. Reggie is looking forward
to hearing from you soon!

PLEASE REMEMBER...

ALWAYS state your membership no.
if you send a cheque to Hercules, or
pay into one of the Club accounts.

ALWAYS let us know the expiry date of
the card, and the cardholders name.

Please note that if you have paid your
Membership Fee by Credit Card, your card
will automatically be charged again for the
renewal fee, at the end of your membership
year. If your card has expired in the
meantime, or if you have switched
companies, please forward your new Credit
Card details to Hercules Coordination in time
for your next renewal.

LYRIC QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1: Son of Your Father.
- 2: The King Must Die.
- 3: Amoreena. 4: I've Seen the Saucers.
- 5: Susie (Dramas).
- 6: Fat Boys and Ugly Girls.
- 7: A Word in Spanish.
- 8: Breaking Hearts 9: Suit of Wolves.
- 10: Jack-Rabbit. 11: On Dark Street.
- 12: All the Girls Love Alice.

TOUR DATES 2002

DATE	CITY	VENUE
ELTON JOHN & BILLY JOEL FACE-TO-FACE TOUR 2002 USA		
03-Mar	Fort Lauderdale, FL	National Car Rental Center
05-Mar	Fort Lauderdale, FL	National Car Rental Center
07-Mar	Fort Lauderdale, FL	National Car Rental Center
09-Mar	Tampa, FL	Ice Palace
11-Mar	Tampa, FL	Ice Palace
15-Mar	New York, NY	Madison Square Garden
18-Mar	New York, NY	Madison Square Garden
20-Mar	Uniondale, NY	Nassau Coliseum
22-Mar	Uniondale, NY	Nassau Coliseum
28-Mar	Uniondale, NY	Nassau Coliseum
30-Mar	Uniondale, NY	Nassau Coliseum
03-Apr	Boston, MA	Fleet Center
06-Apr	Rutherford, NJ	Continental Airlines Arena
08-Apr	Rutherford, NJ	Continental Airlines Arena
11-Apr	Rutherford, NJ	Continental Airlines Arena

ELTON JOHN & BAND TOUR 2002

17-Apr	Adelaide, Australia	Entertainment Centre
19-Apr	Melbourne, Australia	Rod Laver Arena
20-Apr	Melbourne, Australia	Rod Laver Arena
23-Apr	Brisbane, Australia	Brisbane Entertainment Ctr
24-Apr	Brisbane, Australia	Brisbane Entertainment Ctr
26-Apr	Sydney, Australia	Sydney Entertainment Ctr
27-Apr	Sydney, Australia	Sydney Entertainment Ctr
29-Apr	Sydney, Australia	Sydney Entertainment Ctr
30-Apr	Sydney, Australia	Sydney Entertainment Ctr
25-May	Verona, Italy	Arena (open air)
26-May	Pesaro, Italy	Sport Palace
28-May	Paris, France	Bercy
29-May	Antwerp, Belgium	Sportpalais
31-May	Copenhagen, Denmark	Parken Stadium
01-June	Oslo, Norway	Oslo Spektrum
02-June	Oslo, Norway	Oslo Spektrum
04-June	Helsinki, Finland	Hartwell Arena
05-June	Helsinki, Finland	Hartwell Arena
07-June	Gothenburg, Sweden	Scandinavium
08-June	Stockholm, Sweden	Globen
10-June	Frankfurt, Germany	Festhalle
11-June	Rotterdam, Netherlands	Ahoy
13-June	Kiel, Germany	Ostseehalle
14-June	Berlin, Germany	Max-Schmeling-Halle
16-June	Erfurt, Germany	Messehalle
17-June	Innsbruck, Austria	Neuer Tivoli (open air)
19-June	Riesa, Germany	Sachsenarena
20-June	Duesseldorf, Germany	Rheinhalle
22-June	Stuttgart, Germany	Schleyerhalle
23-June	Munich, Germany	Olympiahalle
25-June	Vienna, Austria	Schloss Schönbrunn (open air)
29-June	Zurich, Switzerland	Hallenstadion
30-June	Zurich, Switzerland	Hallenstadion
02-July	Birmingham, UK	NEC
03-July	Birmingham, UK	NEC
05-July	Newcastle, UK	Telewest Arena
07-July	Cork, Ireland	Pairc Ui Caoimh
03-Dec	Manchester, UK	M.E.N. Arena
07-Dec	Glasgow, UK	S.E.C.C
09-Dec	Sheffield, UK	Sheffield Arena

Please note: This is not an official Tour Schedule, as it contains unconfirmed dates at time of going to press.

