Introducing Sonica

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Samples: <u>Audio</u> | <u>Video</u> | <u>Photos</u> Sites and Socials: <u>https://linktr.ee/Sonicabandau</u>

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Our Story

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Formed in 2019, Sonica's sound and story can be traced back to guitarist Alan Pettigrew and Bassist Roshan Weddikkara's involvement in the Perth alternative club and music scene in the late 80s and 90s, where they separately developing a passion for post-punk, goth, shoegaze and UK indie underground at it's pre-grunge peak.

Fast-forward to 2019 and a very modern twist saw the two meet via musician-matching website Bandmix.com.au.

Their mutual interests sparked song-writing and experimentation with sound development: Alan's loud effects driven guitars influenced by The Cult, Lush, Curve and Ride, with Roshan's driving melodic basslines drawing heavily from Joy Division/New Order's Peter Hook, the Cure's Simon Gallup and the Banshee's Steve Severin.

The pair were focused on a female vocal to complement the style, which led them to vocalist Claire Turton whose varied musical background and classically coached voice offered a mesmerising and potent counterpoint to the band's sound which had begun to evolve beyond its initial influences.

France-born Sylvain Ayrault completes the sound, bringing jazz and prog influenced drums which adds a different dimension to the sound.

Although the band is most directly influenced by the classic sounds of Cocteau Twins, Lush, The Cure, Siouxsie and the Banshees and Mazzy Star, elements of Sonica's sound can been found in more contemporary outfits such as Silversun Pickups, Faith and the Muse and Delphine Coma.

Band Members

Claire Turton (Vocals)

Born in Melbourne, Published poet Claire cut her musical teeth while living in the UK on 90s stalwarts The Bluetones, Radiohead, Garbage and the Prodigy. Claire was privately taught by some of the WA Opera's Sopranos before taking a break from music. Over that time her vocal influences evolved and extend from Karen Carpenter to Amy Lee and Shirley Manson, and Enya. Developing a taste for writing, her lyrical and vocal style have found a creative home with Sonica.

Alan Pettigrew (Guitar)

Alan formed a number of alternative local acts such as Neon Rhyme, Shake Appeal, and the WAMI Nominated Veil playing bass. Turning to guitar, the advent of Sonica has reignited his interest to play live. Alan's key influences include My Bloody Valentine, The Cure, Lush, Beck, Curve, Japan, The Cult.

Roshan Weddikkara (Bass)

Roshan's passion for music stretches across diverse genres such as indie-rock, shoe-gaze and dream-pop, to goth industrial, synth-pop, IDM electronica, ambient, drum'n'bass, reggae and ska. His key bass influences include tonal and style inspiration from Peter Hook (Joy Division) Simon Gallup (The Cure) and Steve Severin (Siouxie).

Sylvain Ayrault (Drums)

Sylvain's deep musical history takes in stints in jazz and prog rock bands across Europe and Australia. Sylvain joined Sonica just before the Covid19 isolation started and this has already proven to be one of the most memorable musical adventures in his musical career.

Selected feedback on Sonica's 'Wait for Me' Single Release via Submit-Hub Bloggers and Playlisters

Disco Goth wrote: "Hi Sonica, great vocals, I like the bass tone and the chorus fx on it. The song has good energy..."

Itamar Starets of Top Indie Alt wrote: "Hi there, Thanks for sending me your upcoming track. Cool track! I can see what you mean by the journey between 80s post-punk, dreampop and shoegaze genres. I can definitely hear the Siouxsie and the Banshees influence on your sound and vocals. Liking the flanger effect on the guitar, reminds me a bit of UK band Suede (particularly, a track called 'Animal Nitrate' which uses a very similar sort of effect)....".

ObscureSound of Obscure Sound wrote: "Hazy vibes with passionate vocals stirring and reminding me of Kate Bush crossed with Cocteau Twins...."

UNXIGNED wrote: "Eclectic, chill, and dreamy by design. Appreciate the deep, brooding, and cu- rious mood this gives off. It's a blend of alt-rock and dream pop, with shoegaze and lo-fi under- tones. The ambient overtones cutting through the atmosphere add a holding sense of psychedelic elements that make for a spacious, immersive tone. Clearly you have a flair for such an oddly engaging style...".



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