

A HISTORY OF DEL AMITRI

In 1985 Scottish band Del Amitri released their self-titled debut album on Big Star, an offshoot of Chrysalis Records. The album received critical acclaim on both sides of the Atlantic and created enough of a fan base in the U.S. to allow the band to tour (albeit on a shoestring budget) across America. By the time of the first American tour the band had parted company with Chrysalis and relied on fans to help arrange gigs and provide accommodations during the tour.

By 1988 Del Amitri had become a changed musical entity. The remaining musical members, co-founders Justin Currie and Iain Harvie, had developed their songwriting to the point that their "new" band could hardly be connected to the old one.

They signed to A&M in 1988 and released the album, "Waking Hours" in the UK in 1989 and in the U.S. in 1990. The first single, "Kiss This Thing Goodbye," was a multi-format hit and the band became known for being able to write exquisitely crafted pop songs. Their melodic, hard-edged folk-rock-pop sound could be felt with equal strength in the follow-up tracks, "Stone Cold Sober," "Opposite View," and "Nothing Ever Happens," all of which were supported by extensive tours in England, Europe, Australia, and the United States.

After finishing a successful tour in the U.S. with Melissa Etheridge the band returned to England where, after one final tour and the release of a non-LP single, "Spit In The Rain," the album went platinum in that country.

With the newest album, "Change Everything," which was produced by Gil Norton (The Pixies, Echo and The Bunnymen, Blue Aeroplanes, Pere Ubu) vocalist/bassist Justin Currie, guitarist Iain Harvie, guitarist David Cummings, keyboardist Andy Alston, and drummer Brian McDermott present us with twelve insightful compositions bursting with confidence and energy. "What surprised me most about this record," notes Currie, "is how much it sounds like *us*. I'd never really gotten that feeling from one of our records before."

In addition to spotlighting the quintet's dynamic ensemble sound, standout tracks like "Be My Downfall," "Always The Last To Know," "Just Like A Man," "When You Were Young," and "The Ones That You Love Lead You Nowhere" feature Currie's richly persuasive vocals and thoughtful, heartfelt lyrics. "All of the songs on this records are

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love songs in one way or another," he explains. "I just wanted to try writing a few songs that weren't totally down on the world."

"Change Everything" will be released in the U.S. on June 9th and the first single, "Always The Last To Know," will be worked at AOR, Alternative, and College radio on May 27th and at CHR on June 17th.