

“Paul knows more about me and
The Groundhogs than I do.”

from the Foreword by **Tony McPhee**

This is the definitive biography and discography of Tony McPhee, and the complete history of his legendary band The Groundhogs. Fully illustrated with several previously unpublished photographs, *Eccentric Man* is the authoritative account of one of the most important and influential British musicians of the last 50 years. A pioneer of rhythm and blues in the UK, McPhee learnt his craft in the 1960s backing major American blues artists (including John Lee Hooker, Jimmy Reed and Little Walter) during their British tours.

McPhee was one of a small group of outstanding British guitarists that emerged during the formative years of rock music. He developed innovative and unique styles as a guitarist, but the factors that really set him apart were his technical knowledge of electronics, constant musical experimentation and groundbreaking recording and performing techniques. In the early 1970s Tony McPhee & The Groundhogs released two classic albums, *Thank Christ For The Bomb* and *Split*, that are acknowledged as milestones in the history of rock.

At this time he was hailed as “the British Hendrix” and described by *Sounds* in 1974 as “the definitive rock guitarist”. Today he is still recording and performing, and he is recognised as a major influence by numerous musicians, including Julian Cope, Captain Sensible, Karl Hyde, Stephen Malkmus, Mark E. Smith and the record producer Jack Endino.

The reference sections include:

- a definitive discography
- a complete Groundhogs' Family Tree, and personnel of all the other bands in which McPhee has played
- an extensive technical section with all the guitars and equipment used by Tony McPhee throughout his career
- a complete list of all his radio and TV broadcasts, with a detailed sessionography
- all chart entries, listed with dates and position
- comprehensive notes, sources, glossary and bibliography

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Paul Freestone



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