

# PHISHBILL

BOARDWALK HALL  
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY



From the makers of Roggae™



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*“There was no way I could quit cold turkey, but enough is enough. I picked up Woo-X and am doing great.”*

— Jon F., drum player

*\* Side effects include: Bill Bixby syndrome, smashmouth, lemonade mouth, vampirism, Billy Squier's The Stroke, German chocolate measles, French licks, fresh kicks, partial bluntness, Marshall Bluntness, palpable sour attitude, grave misunderstandings, iOS 7 vertigo and aggravated peevishness.*

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# BOARDWALK HALL

Geoff Gordon, *Promoter* | John Stevenson, *Promoter*

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LIVE NATION PRESENTS

## Phish in WINGSUIT

with

Trey Anastasio | Jon Fishman  
Mike Gordon | Page McConnell

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**PROGRAM ORDER**

SET ONE: **PHISH**

SET TWO: **WINGSUIT**

1. *Wingsuit*
2. *Fuego*
3. *The Line*
4. *Monica*
5. *Waiting All Night*
6. *Wombat*
7. *Snow*
8. *Devotion To A Dream*
9. *555*
10. *Winterqueen*
11. *Amidst The Peals Of Laughter*
12. *You Never Know*

SET THREE: **PHISH**

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## A LETTER FROM PHISH

# Welcome to the 2013 Phish Halloween Celebration!

This year we are breaking from tradition a bit and are thrilled to be playing an album from the future. One that doesn't even exist yet. Tonight we are going to debut a bunch of material from our new album, which we began recording in three days.

Last October, we walked into The Barn the first day with literally nothing — no ideas, no songs — just excitement to have the opportunity to spend some rare unscheduled time hanging out together with no agenda. It's particularly beautiful in Vermont in the late summer and early fall, so we left the doors wide open and watched the leaves change color while we sat together and wrote. We burned fires in the fireplace and spent a whole lot of time doing nothing, just hanging out talking, laughing, and eating too much, which was probably the best part of the whole experience. Eventually though, songs started emerging.

We jammed a lot at first, and came up with some cool musical segments that we all liked, that sounded like the beginnings of songs.

Mike had some journal entries of his favorite live Phish jams that he remembered from over the years, so we went back and listened to them, and re-learned some of those spontaneous musical moments, reconfiguring them to be parts of the beginnings of songs.

We worked on the songs together. We wrote about people from our past, we wrote about a guy that none of us had ever met

whose story fascinated us. We wrote about people we imagined or about some strange guy we saw in a picture online.

We wrote about coffee mugs. We wrote about Vlad the Impaler.

By September, we had a pretty sizable batch of songs, and at this point, we started including other songs from our circle of friends and Phish family members. We added new songs written by Trey and Tom Marshall, by Mike and Scott Murawski, by Trey and Steve Pollak (*The Dude of Life*), as well as songs written by all four individual band members.

Two weeks before this fall tour began, we were back in The Barn, but this time with Bob Ezrin, who will be producing the new Phish album. Bob is someone that we have all dreamed of working with for a long time. He produced many of our favorite albums, including *The Wall*, *Peter Gabriel* (the one with "Solsbury Hill"), Lou Reed's *Berlin*, and many others.

We had narrowed our huge pile of songs down to around 25 to play for Bob when he arrived at The Barn, and by the end of that first day we had chopped the list down to 14 or 15 contenders for the album. The decisions that we made as to which songs stayed on the list were made for a variety of reasons... sometimes simply because it felt that certain songs belonged together. Some songs were put aside that we loved, and I'm sure in the future you'll hear some of those songs too, but tonight we are going to play 12



At The Barn earlier this month. Photos by Mike.

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*“We wrote about coffee mugs. We wrote about Vlad the Impaler.”*

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of the songs that we plan to record next week.

We had such a great time writing and hanging out together creating this new material. But nothing could make us happier than having your energy and imprint on our new album. Music is a spiritual language. Your energy is obviously embedded in everything we've ever done, but what's happening tonight is more of a tangible thing. The songs always change so much as

soon as we play them together with all of you. Playing these songs tonight is a way that we can get them dirty and mess them up a little before we record them. And the live energy of a Phish audience will be directly involved in the making of our new album, as we all celebrate 30 years together.

*With much love,  
Fish, Page, Mike, Trey*



# WINGSUIT

By  
Josh Baron

*Nothing lasts, nothing stays  
Caught in this procession of unchanging days  
What's new is old, what's old is gone  
You're pushed up to the edge  
So put your wingsuit on*

**O**N THESE HALLOWED EVENINGS of anticipated Phish performances, fans have come to expect the unexpected. Rest assured that this will be one for the history books. As the above lyrics foretell, change is afoot.

Tonight, you'll hear twelve brand new, never-before-heard songs that, for the moment, comprise the majority of the Phish's new album, tentatively titled *Wingsuit*, that will be released next year.

"It's our 30th year and we want to make a statement that we are a vital, creative force still and, in a lot of ways, more so than ever," says Page of the band's decision to not only break with their previous Halloween tradition but to debut this amount of new material on an unsuspecting audience.

There are precedents for this moment including a Providence, RI gig from 1991 where they debuted three tunes from *A Picture of Nectar*, a two-night stand in Portsmouth, NH in 1992 with seven debuts from *Rift*, the Lowell, MA show from 1995 when the band dropped six new songs (three that would appear on *Billy Breathes*) and the friends-only "Bradstock" from 1997 where they previewed fourteen new numbers (four would end up on *The Story of the Ghost*; three would find a home on *Farmhouse*). But none of those get close to this: an entire set of new music, the majority of

which will end up on the new Phish record.

As fans, there are key pieces of information to consider when you put your listening ears on for tonight's second set: six of these songs came out of a process in which the band truly wrote music together for the first time in their 30-year history; not since the mid-'90s has the group listened back to jams as a means to catalyze song creation; they're going into the studio to record the new album three days after this show.

"The writing process never happened so much as a group," says Page in reference to Phish's eleven previous studio albums. "By the time we got to the studio, the songs were more than just sketch ideas—they were songs with choruses, verses, beginnings and ends. This process is completely different where we started with nothing." (The set also contains two new Mike and Scott Murawski collaborations in addition to four contributions from the long running Trey and Tom Marshall songwriting partnership.)

*Wingsuit's* sonic journey began last October when the band convened at The Barn. Though they're unanimously emphatic about how agenda-less that rendezvous was, the idea of making music together was always at the fore.

Whether or not that music became anything other than a private activity shared only by these four longtime friends was another matter.

For them, the experience recalled the early '90s when they'd spend countless hours practicing and hanging out together in Trey and Fish's living room in Winooski at a time of unbridled creativity and determination.

In November, they returned to The Barn, this time armed with Mike's audio journals of favorite jam moments. While many of Mike's

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- Fish***

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reference points were post-hiatus, he also selected a particularly energetic band practice tape from 1993 for further analysis.

"It was great how Trey encouraged us to not just build upon the jam but to replay it, rethink it, add sections and subtract sections," the bassist says of the process. "He's been good at keeping that as the central theme: we play together well; let's do that in our songwriting." The typical kind of jams they were listening to for possible song seedlings were ones that featured all four members playing in fluid equilibrium where no one was overplaying or underplaying. From these they would discern patterns or concepts which to further explore.

The members then came back to The Barn in April and May to begin building out their "vignettes" with lyrics and structure and then spent a solid month after this past summer's

tour doing more of the same before bringing in producer Bob Ezrin.

"People often react a little strongly and crazily when they hear us play something new," says Trey. "Every time we've put out a new Phish album—literally every time—a certain contingent of fans has felt that the band they know and love is coming to an end. It's never true." He chuckles at a memory of being heckled by fans at The Front in 1989 after debuting "Reba."

What all four resolutely believe is that sharing the album tonight will impact the final recorded version of this material. "In a sense, it's almost like we're bringing all the people from Halloween with us into the studio because they're in our cells and in our blood from having revved it up with us," says Mike.

Trey wants to keep his mind open to the fact that the Atlantic City Halloween audience will have a tangible effect on the music. "We'll play it with people in the room and things will be revealed," he says of the album's ever-evolving material.

Page adds a simple but noteworthy comment: "There's no guarantee that all of these songs will be played again. Some of these songs may only be played this once."

Tonight is not only a culmination of a year's worth of work but proof that 30 years into their career Phish continues to deliver on their commitment to deliver the unexpected.

"None of the Halloween albums that we've done in our entire career so far even remotely approach the excitement level that I have for doing this one," says Fish of performing this new music for the first time. "I'm more excited about debuting these songs with our audience on Halloween than I ever could be playing somebody else's album."





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