



MCCUTCHEON WAS WORRIED SHE'D NEVER MAKE MUSIC AGAIN

Martine McCutcheon didn't think she'd ever be "well enough" to return to music. The 'Perfect Moment' hitmaker is gearing up for the release of her comeback album 'Lost and Found' but is convinced people will think she's a "nutter" because the songs she's penned reflect her battles with depression, ME, Lyme disease and miscarriages. Speaking to the Daily Star newspaper, she said: "I never felt I would be well enough to return to music after all my health problems. It killed me not being able to do what I loved so I just started writing music for my own happiness and wellbeing. "I never thought anyone would ever hear it. It was initially just for me and that's why it is so raw and brutally honest. Now everyone's going to hear what a nutter I am. "Writing is really cathartic. It's basically therapy and helps to save you from yourself and your own destructive thoughts." And asked about the album title, she added: "In my life I have had it all, lost it all and I think you have to be a survivor. One lyric is, 'Lost my hope and all my dignity.' And that's how I felt. It's hard to keep your dignity when you make mistakes and have no privacy." The 41-year-old actress made a name for herself playing Tiffany Mitchell in the long-running soap 'EastEnders' and now has a regular panellist gig on 'Loose Women'. But she said: "I hate the pressure - being judged, being scrutinised. I have always found that side of things so stressful. Having no privacy is tough physically and mentally. It's not a normal job. I haven't got the hate as much this time and I think that's because I'm a happier person. I have a lovely family, which I adore. It's no longer a lonely existence. First time around I felt ostracised and lonely. I was known for being the 'real' girl that everyone could identify with and relate to. But I didn't feel like I could relate to anyone."

Springsteen to make Broadway debut

Bruce Springsteen is set to make his debut on Broadway later this year. The 67-year-old singer-songwriter will kick off his eight-week residency at the Walter Kerr Theatre in New York City in November, although dates are yet to be finalized. According to the New York Post newspaper's Page Six column, Bruce's set will be "a pared-down version of what he usually performs in huge arenas and stadiums." A source told the publication: "He wants to play a smaller house. He wants to try something more intimate, and he likes the idea of being on Broadway." Bruce's new gig in the big apple comes just months after more than 300 pieces of his memorabilia were put up for auction for \$7.5 million. The Ultimate Springsteen collection, as it has been dubbed by dealer Moments in Time, features an impressive collection of items from the musician's legendary career, including guitars, lyrics and clothing. Moments in Time CEO Gary Zimet told Billboard: "It's extraordinary that one person could assemble such a truly unbelievable collection." Among the items set to go under the hammer are Bruce's 4F card, which excused him from service in the Vietnam War, as well as various drafts of the lyrics of 'Born to Run'. Each item carries a set price, but Zimet has already confirmed he would consider



selling the pieces on an individual basis. Meanwhile, despite being among the best-selling musicians of all time, Bruce admitted earlier this year that he still suffers from stage fright. The icon has played in front of sold out crowds all over the globe, but Bruce revealed he is still bothered by last-minute nerves. He previously explained: "It varies from night to night but whenever you're going out in front of a crowd of any size, your body knows it. "This is what I do. This is the only thing I do. This is the only thing I'm qualified to do. So it matters how I do it at night. "There's a lot of anticipatory anxiety which then translates into a raw shot of adrenaline once you're out there. We come out to press our case very hard, about what we think about everything, I suppose, and life itself. And so it's challenging nightly."

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Wonder Woman inspired by The Little Mermaid

Wonder Woman's screenwriter got a lot of his inspiration for the film from 'The Little Mermaid'. Allan Heinberg has admitted the scenes from the fantasy melodrama influenced a lot of the decisions he made about the new DC Comics movie starring Gal Gadot as the titular superhero. Speaking to Entertainment Weekly, he said: "The story as I see it is 'The Little Mermaid', specifically Disney's incarnation. This is a woman who has been raised in a very protective, sheltered life, she's curious about what life is like outside and she wants to have her own experience. She wants to be where the people are." Meanwhile, the 32-year-old former soldier and Miss Israel recently admitted she was toying with the idea of giving up acting altogether but she's thinks the role in 'Wonder Woman' suits her down to the ground because she can be an example of a "true woman" for young girls. She said: "I feel I was born to play Wonder Woman. Boys have always had a figure to look up to, whether it's Superman, Batman or Spider-Man. For girls it was always the princess being saved. "Now we have Wonder Woman - she's fearless, proactive, she believes in herself and she believes she can do everything. That's a true woman for me." While she was shooting the movie, the brunette beauty was actually pregnant with her now-newborn daughter Maya and, although they had to work hard to hide the bump, she loves the fact her little one was indirectly part of the blockbuster. She said: "I was pregnant and



showing for some of the additional scenes we shot but they did some clever stuff with special effects to hide my bump. It didn't hinder the process, I could still do the action stuff and the physical scenes. And now, it's nice to look at the movie and know that Maya is in the movie with me in some way. I love that. She has an entry on movie database IMDB. It took me years to get mine."



MAY TEASES UNHEARD RECORDINGS FEATURING BOWIE AND QUEEN

Brian May has teased there are still unheard recordings featuring David Bowie and Queen. The 69-year-old guitarist has recalled how the late 'Golden Years' hitmaker and his bandmate, the late Freddie Mercury, "locked horns" during the recording of 'Under Pressure', the biggest hit from 1982 LP 'Hot Space', but now he tries to focus only on the "wonderful" memories he has of that time, and revealed there is still music that hasn't "come to light" yet. He said: "It wasn't easy because we were all precocious boys and David was very... forceful, yes. "Freddie and David locked horns, without a doubt. But those are the things that happen in a studio, that's when the sparks fly and that's why it turned out so great. "[They locked horns] in subtle ways, like who would arrive last at the studio. So it was sort of wonderful and terrible. But in my mind, I remember the wonderful now, more than the terrible. "And not all of what we did in those sessions has ever come to light, so there's a thought..." After Freddie died in 1991, Queen were advised to hire George Michael as a replacement frontman, but despite the late 'Careless Whisper' hitmaker's powerful duet with them on 'Somebody To Love' at the Freddie Mercury Tribute Concert for AIDS Awareness in 1992, Brian insists it would "never have worked" with the singer. He told Mojo magazine: "George was fantastic [at the gig]. I remember hearing his voice sizzling out on our monitors, and it was very close to the way Freddie sounded. "A lot of people said we should have taken George on as singer for the band after that, but it never would have worked. George was headed in a very different direction." The 'We Will Rock You' hitmaker was distraught when George passed away in December at the age of just 53. He said: "I never thought we'd be losing George so soon. It was such a shock, and so very sad. He was a great guy."



Bananarama: We should have reunited sooner

Bananarama think it is "tragic" they have waited until now to reunite. The 'Venus' hitmakers - Sara Dallin, Keren Woodward and Siobhan Fahey - are preparing to tour for the first time ever, almost 30 years after Siobhan quit the band, and they regret that it's taken so long as they've retained their friendship for some time. Keren told Glamour magazine: "We've seen each other a few times over the past few years and we had a lot of fun." Siobhan added: "It's been just like the old days. It's tragic, really, that we never got it together until

now." But the 'Love in the First Degree' singers think their gigs will be worth the wait. Sara said: "We've never actually been on tour together so it's going to be really special." Bananarama believe they "paved the way" for other successful girl groups, such as Spice Girls and Little Mix. Keren said: "I definitely think we paved the way for other girl groups. "We did it very much on our own terms without kowtowing to all the men in the business or being told what to do by anyone. For that we feel very proud."

Amy Poehler stalked Will Ferrell on SNL set

Amy Poehler used to "follow" Will Ferrell around on the set of 'Saturday Night Live' in the hope he'd work with her. The 45-year-old actress is delighted to reunite with her former 'SNL' co-star on new movie 'The House' because she has always loved working with him as he's so funny. She said: "I love performing with him, and when we were on 'SNL' I followed him around, hoping he would want to write something with me." Amy has been enjoying working more behind the camera recently, but she is still happy to return to acting when she finds a project she loves. She said: "I've been getting most of my joy from producing, directing, writing, but I like to act too, and have the flexibility to do all those things when I want." And the former 'Parks and Recreation' star is proud to nurture other women via her Paper Kite production company. She told Glamour magazine: "It's all women in the office and we try to cultivate female show-runners, diverse voices and female-driven stories. "One is a very selfish reason, which is that those are stories I enjoy watching. There are a lot of stories that haven't been told from the female perspective and I think there's just a lot more unmined territory. "So as a storyteller, I think that's exciting. But the bigger picture is that I just enjoy working with women, I always have done. "I find, especially right now, in the US, there's a real pull for making sure that people are represented..." Also, I know so many funny women and I just want to fool around with them and make funny stories."



SAM TAYLOR-JOHNSON FOUGHT WITH E.L. JAMES



Sam Taylor-Johnson "fought over every scene" with E.L. James while she was making 'Fifty Shades of Grey' two years ago. The 50-year-old filmmaker has made no secret of the fact she didn't enjoy directing the raunchy film, based on the novels penned by the author in 2011, but has now admitted she and James, 54, had "two different creative visions" for the movie. Speaking to 'The Hollywood Reporter', she said: "Her vision versus mine... they were polar opposite. Every scene was fought over. It was tough. It was like wading uphill through sticky tar. Her thing was, 'This is what the fans expect.' I'd be like, 'Well, let's try and hit those marks but create a new universe at the same time.' And she has admitted being in charge of the film, which received a lot of criticism, did no

favours for her career and she had a period without any work afterwards. She explained: "There weren't any flat-out [job] offers straight away," she said. "It was ego-denting, which may not have been a bad thing. At the same time, I was like, 'Oh, I still have to keep fighting for stuff.' I just thought it was going to come a lot easier." Meanwhile, Sam decided not to return for the sequel to the movie and recently insisted she is completely done with the franchise and won't be watching them. She said: "I'm not going to ever watch them. I have literally zero interest. I can never say I regret it because that would just finish me off. [But] with the benefit of hindsight would I go through it again? Of course I wouldn't. I'd be mad."