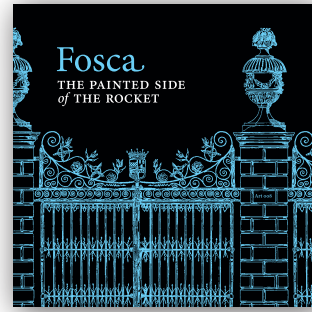


# Fosca

## *The Painted Side of the Rocket*



Fosca is the eccentric UK pop band fronted by Highgate-based dandy and wordsmith **Dickon Edwards**. Since forming in 1998, they've released four singles and 3 albums, toured several times across Europe, received BBC radio play by **John Peel**, and found their lyrics quoted in a Swedish novel (Martina Lowden's *Allt*).

After leaving the slightly acclaimed group **Orlando**, Mr Edwards started Fosca with a revolving line-up of London musicians, recruited partly down to their musical prowess, but mostly on what he thought of their dress sense at the time (Mr Edwards still has a strict 'no trainers' rule, believing running shoes are for running in, not for playing guitar in). However, some members have managed to stick around for the duration, notably **Rachel Stevenson** (keyboards/vocals).

From 2000 - 2002, Fosca were signed to **Shinkansen Records**, recording two albums with **Saint Etienne** producer **Ian Catt**. The results won fans all over the world, with NYC label **Secret Crush Records** taking their name from the Fosca single *Secret Crush On Third Trombone*. Two unofficial videos were made by separate groups of fans - both from Sweden - for *Secret Crush* and for the obscure b-side *Confused And Proud*. Given its curious popularity beyond its status, this latter song has now been reworked and re-recorded for the third album.

For the last five years, Mr Edwards has concentrated on non-Fosca activities, such as appearing on BBC1's *Imagine* in his dubious capacity as a pioneer blogger; writing music and film reviews for **Plan B Magazine**, DJ-ing for dress-up club nights like **The Beautiful & Damned** (including four nights at the 2007 Latitude Festival); collaborating with the Monochrome Set's Bid for his group **Scarlet's Well**, writing a new Afterword for Jerome K Jerome's *The Idle Thoughts Of An Idle Fellow* (Snowbooks) and contributing an article about a trip to Tangier with **Shane MacGowan**, for *The Decadent Handbook* (Dedalus Books), where he was described by the *Daily Telegraph* as possessing a certain 'wonky charm'.

After much idling, bouts of ill health and general misfortune, the third Fosca album was finally completed in a Hackney basement in summer 2007, with **Tom Edwards** (guitar/programming) and **Kate Dornan** (keyboards, recorder, vocals). As Shinkansen had wound down, Sweden's But is it Art? stepped in to release the album. And no, Fosca still have no idea why their most devoted fans tend to be Swedish.

*The Painted Side of the Rocket* is released on the 28th April in the UK, distributed by Forte Music Distribution. Also available as digital download worldwide via iTunes.

#### Track listing

01. I've Agreed To Something I Shouldn't Have
02. It Only Matters To Those To Whom It Matters
03. Head Boy
04. We See The World As Our Stunt Doubles
05. Kim
06. In-Joke For One
07. Don't Be A DJ
08. Confused And Proud
09. Evening Dress At 3pm
10. Come Down From The Cross  
(Someone Else Needs The Wood)

#### Release date

28th April, 2008

#### Label

But is it Art?

#### Distribution

Forte Music Distribution

#### Catalogue number

Art 008

#### Further information and press photo

[www.butisitart.org](http://www.butisitart.org)

[www.fosca.com](http://www.fosca.com)

[dickonedwards.co.uk](http://dickonedwards.co.uk)

#### Press contact

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#### Fosca are

Dickon Edwards

Rachel Stevenson

Kate Dornan

Tom Edwards

#### Other releases from But is it Art?

Art 009 The Higher Elevations *The Protestant Work Ethic*

Art 006 Fosca *In Concert*

Art 005 Friday Bridge *Intricacy*

Art 001 *Someone To Share My Life With - the Alternative*

*Tribute to the Television Personalities*

*But is it Art?*



## DISCOGRAPHY:

*The Painted Side Of The Rocket*: CD album, But is it Art?, 2008

*Confused & Live - Fosca In Concert*: live CDR and free digital download, But is it Art?, 2007

*Diary Of An Antibody*: CD album, Shinkansen Recordings, 2002

*Secret Crush On Third Trombone*: CD EP, Shinkansen Recordings, 2002

*Supine On The Astroturf*: CD EP, Shinkansen Recordings, 2001

*On Earth To Make The Numbers Up*: CD album, Shinkansen Recordings, 2000

*The Agony Without The Ecstasy*: CD EP, Shinkansen Recordings, 2000

*Nervous London*: CD EP, Something Velvet Records, 1999

## SELECTED MEDIA KINDNESS FOR FOSCA

“*Diary Of An Antibody* is Dickon Edwards’s second revenge attack on humanity... Dickon’s couplets are relentlessly sharp...”

- Simon Price, Independent On Sunday (UK)

“Accomplished and muscular whimsy... An attractive noise... 80’s bombast saved and beyond by sharp lyrics and impeccable timing... *Secret Crush On Third Trombone* is one of those “must have” records.”

- from “Unpeeled”, the paper-only fanzine for the John Peel show.

“Some of the time, Fosca remind me of the Pet Shop Boys, except you most certainly can’t dance to Dickon’s anguished, and occasionally they sound like the Divine Comedy, only with far more excellence. “

- Everett True, New York Press

“*Secret Crush On Third Trombone* is the perfect pop song... A gleaming chorus and lyrics about schoolchild angst that glides along wonderfully. It’s sunny, fun, and brilliantly put together. “

- UK club Strange Fruit’s newsletter, “Fruitbowl”, issue 35.

“Wordy and sickly, neurotic pop music”

- Richard Smith, Gay Times (UK)

“*Secret Crush on Third Trombone*’ .. the best single of the summer... Simply a marvellous throwaway three minutes of sheer unrepentant Pop, all magnificent chorus hooks and jibes at the shaky nature of growing up and old and away from your youth.”

- Tangents Webzine

“Calculated to reignite those “New Smiths” tags ... The crucial difference is the juxtaposition of bouncy killer keyboards and arch observational narrative... Fosca do disposable pop with a twist... that it isn’t disposable.”

- In Love With These Times webzine

“Incessant and striped-candy sweet. Imagine Belle and Sebastian had grown up listening only to the insane, gaudy Euro-Pop they have on Eurotrash and you’ll have some idea. Fosca play outsider anthems for those in need of wit and sparkle.”

- Drowned In Sound website

“This band are winning the crown of “coolest new-wave-ish band in London” award as we speak.”

- Dagger fanzine, Santa Rosa, California

“*On Earth To Make The Numbers Up*... is singly the best record to come out of the UK in 2000.”

- Indiespinzone.com