

Francis McGrath



Poet
Composer
**Multi-
Instrumentalist**
Arranger
Sound-scaper

Unique
Creative
Individual
Exceptional
Eclectic
Unconventional
Spiritual
Spirited

After sixteen years in the Austin music scene, Francis McGrath has released his first album, "No Less Days". He is also bringing his music to Austin stages with his band, The Frequency Mods.

Growing up listening to bands like The Alan Parsons Project, Rush, Yes, Pink Floyd, The Who, Styx, Queen and Kansas, Francis developed a very open mind. "Those bands would try anything if it felt right for the song, and I really respect that. I loved getting one of their new albums, listening to it with headphones while reading the lyrics and checking out the artwork. It was a complete experience." Since then, a growing number of artists have ended up in his CD collection, including Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, Suzanne Vega, Sarah McLachlan, Seal, Dave Brubeck, Abra Moore, They Might Be Giants, Weather Report, Philip Glass and a huge number of soundtracks.

One of the keys to his style is his writing process. "Most of my songs start as poems. In fact, most of my poems haven't been set to music. But sometimes a poem makes it clear to me that it wants to be a song and the poem dictates the style the music will be." The writing of the music is facilitated by the fact that Francis is a multi-instrumentalist.

While Francis performed most of the instruments himself, the album also includes appearances by Austin singing legend **Maryann Price** and **Will Taylor of String Attached**.

When asked what's next, Francis laughed and said, "Right now, I only have ideas for about seven more albums. I'm also really enjoying playing live with The Frequency Mods"

Keyboard

Bass

Guitar

Drums

Penny Whistle

Dulcimer

Trombone



"No Less Days": the stunning debut album.



Francis McGrath Live

People Francis Has Played With

The Greatest American Heroes

(Austin's Favorite TV Theme / Surf Band)

The Rock Art Replicants

(a cover band that specialized in artists like Pink Floyd, The Moody Blues, Kansas, Genesis, Yes, Rush, The Alan Parsons Project, Styx, Queen and many others)

Lee Edwards (singer/songwriter)

Billy Goerd (singer/songwriter)

The Big House (original jam-band)

Unzipped (funk band)

Castanear (jazz band)

The Consistency of Jew (experimental fusion band)

Dozens of cover bands

Places Francis Has Played

The Saxon Pub
The Carousel Lounge
Central Market
The Salt Lick
The Dell Diamond
All over 6th street
Most neighborhood bars
Bookstores
Museums
Churches
Landfills
Fire drills

Francis McGrath In the Studio

Francis performed and recorded most of "No Less Days" in his home studio. Though this is the first album released in his own name, he has years of studio experience, including:

Music for Student Films
Music for Short Films
Music for CD ROMs
Demos for various bands

He has also recorded new age style music to back meditation CDs. This has led to a very exciting project where he improvises music to accompany an author reading her poetry.

Recently he arranged and recorded all the parts for a musical based on the biblical book of "Esther".



Francis McGrath And The Frequency Mods



The challenge of the Frequency Mods is to bring Francis' original music to the stage. Each musician in the band has wide-ranging experiences, including rock and jazz, and brings their expertise with their instruments to these challenging songs. The result is an organic, flowing, musical experience full of creativity and improvisation.

The band also brings their own original material and their favorite classic-rock cover tunes. On any given night, you will hear rock classics from such artists as The Moody Blues, The Talking Heads, Peter Gabriel, Fleetwood Mac, Jimi Hendrix, Warren Zevon, Jackson Browne and more.

Meet The Frequency Mods

Steve Gavigan **Drums, Vocals**

Steve Gavigan--dynamic, multi-style drummer for the Frequency Mods-- took up percussion in 1985, several years after relocating to New Orleans from Massachusetts. His diversity can be heard in his live performance and recorded sessions with bands of varying musical genres, including jazz, Latin, big band, second line, Cajun, Americana, brass band and children's music. Since moving to Austin in 1998, Steve has recorded and played with various Texas bands, and continues frequent musical road trips back to New Orleans. He recently completed a yearlong residency as drummer for Glenn Yarbrough and the Havenstock River Band, a tour that kicked off on the main stage of the Kerrville Folk Festival.

Chris La Cava **Guitar, Mandolin**

Chris La Cava has over 15 years experience playing guitar in an eclectic span of projects. His musical roots are firmly established in the experimental indie rock scene that grew out of the North East during the 1990s. Now located in Austin, Chris is part of various projects ranging from Latin Jazz and European folk music to composing and performing music for local Austin theatrical performances. Among the accolades he has received is The Austin Theater Association's Best Original Musical Composition 2004.

Brad Mock **Bass**

Brad Mock (aka BassBrad) has been playing bass for over 30 years. He has formally studied string bass, classical guitar and percussion. His vast live experience covers blues, punk, rock, jazz trios, pit orchestras for musicals, professional chamber ensembles and symphony orchestras. His recording experience includes professional studios from his hometown in Temple, TX to New York, Nashville and LA. After being a musical gypsy for 10 years he settled in Austin. Since then, he has played and recorded for many name performers around town. Currently, Brad is playing in several bands, involved in several recording projects, and is recording a solo project in his home studio.

Quotes

“Francis McGrath possesses a singular talent for writing/arranging/playing music with emphasis on the ballad. He is capable of scoring a film, sound engineering his own projects, and playing kick-ass rock'n'roll keyboard live.”

Maryann Price – Austin Jazz Legend, The Texas Music Hall of Fame, The Western Swing Hall Of Fame, Dan Hicks And His Hot Licks, The Kinks and Asleep At The Wheel

In His Own Words

“What I’m asking of you,
I’m asking of me.”
Incomplete

“Without perpetual pavement,
I sit completely complacent.”
Nature Of Greed

“We only like to kill people we
can’t see”
For Lack Of A Better War

“Jumps onto the stage to do his
tricks in a public outrage”
My Lion

“The stars won’t respond, not by
me, not by my amends”
At Day’s End

“My room: my cell
My office: my quarry
My obligations: my guards”
I Might As Well Be In Prison

“She’s Venus in a horrid shell.
Her inner pride becomes expressed,
A nameless grace that stores
cannot sell.”
*She Limpes In Beauty
Through The Mall*

“The only things that I take with
me are the only things that I leave
behind”
No Less Days

“That boy can write! And play.”

Tary Owens – Late, great, Austin music producer, Texas Music Hall of Fame

“A sorta 80's rock/boogie/cool/synth ear-candy fusion with complete theatricality! "No Less Days" is really a gem!”

Michelle Dibucci – Film Composer (Creapshow, Wendigo)

Double Pun-ishment

Francis is a two-time World Champion Punster from the O Henry Punoff. He won Punniest-Of-Show in 1998 for his “Alphabet Song” which was played on Dr. Demento. In 2005, he won again for “Star Wars: The Musical”.

For bookings and more information:

Visit www.francismcgrath.com

Email mail@francismcgrath.com

Phone 512.468.5299

