

MOMUS: TIMELINE

- 1960: Nicholas Currie born in Paisley, Scotland. Childhood mostly in Edinburgh, educated at Edinburgh Academy.
- 1969: Family moves to Athens, Greece, where his father is working for the British Council.
- 1971: Family moves to Colchester, England.
- 1973: Family moves to Montreal, Canada.
- 1975: Family returns to Scotland.
- 1978: Nick leaves the Edinburgh Academy and begins attending Aberdeen University, studying English Literature.
- 1981: Taking a two-year hiatus from Aberdeen University, Nick forms a band called The Happy Family with ex-members of Postcard Records group Josef K.
- 1982: The Happy Family record an album, *The Man on Your Street*, for independent label 4AD.
- 1983: Nick returns to Aberdeen University, graduating with a First Class Honours degree in English Literature in 1984.
- 1984: Moves to London and re-invents himself as Momus, a solo artist.
- 1985: The first Momus EP, *The Beast with 3 Backs* ("three songs about threesomes") is recorded in Brussels for the él label.
- 1986: The first Momus album, *Circus Maximus* ("the old testament to the new instruments"), is released. An EP of covers of Jacques Brel songs receives positive press, and Momus leaves él to sign with Creation Records.
- 1987: The first Momus album on Creation is released, entitled *The Poison Boyfriend*.
- 1988: An album called *Tender Pervert* is released.
- 1989: *Don't Stop The Night*, with Momus music becoming more electronic. The single *The Hairstyle of the Devil* is an indie chart number two, and much played on daytime Radio 1.
- 1990: Creation release the Momus compilation *Monsters of Love*, featuring three new songs.
- 1991: *Hippopotamomus*, an album bearing the influence of Serge Gainsbourg (who dies that year) is released.
- 1992: Two albums are released this year, a synth-pop album of "science fiction melodrama" called *Voyager* on Creation, and an album of Brechtian cabaret songs called *The Ultraconformist* on Richmond / Cherry Red.
- 1993: Momus produces an album called *Shyness* for Nippon Columbia artist Poison Girlfriend. His own album that year is *Timelord*. He ends his association with Creation Records and re-signs with Cherry Red.
- 1994: Marries British-Bangladeshi girlfriend Shazna Nessa in Glasgow and moves to Paris. The *Daily Record* runs a two-part story on the couple

entitled "Runaways wed in fear". Begins writing for and producing Kahimi Karie, with whom he has a string of hit singles in Japan over the next five years.

1995: Album for Cherry Red: The Philosophy of Momus.

1996: Compilation album Slender Sherbet sees some of the Creation-era material reworked. Momus also produces a CD-ROM called This Must Stop. He begins annual tours of the US, releasing records there via Le Grand Magistry.

1997: Momus separates from his wife Shazna, returning to London to produce albums for Laila France (Bungalow Records) and Jacques (Setanta Records). His own album that year is Ping Pong. After touring in Greece and Italy, Momus develops a serious eye infection in his right eye called acanthamoeba keratitis and is treated at Moorfields Hospital.

1998: More US tours, and the release of The Little Red Songbook album. A song on this about trans-sexual electronic composer Wendy Carlos leads to legal action.

1999: Momus pays legal bills run up settling the Carlos dispute by selling portrait songs for \$1000 each. The resulting double album is called Stars Forever.

2000: Momus moves to New York, initially to perform a cabaret entitled Electronics in the 18th Century at the Knitting Factory. Takes an apartment on Orchard Street in the Lower East Side.

2001: The album Folktronic is released, extending ideas explored in the first Momus art show, Folktronia, held in October 2000 at LFL Gallery in New York's Chelsea district.

2002: Momus leaves New York and moves to Tokyo.

2003: An album written and recorded in Tokyo, Oskar Tennis Champion, is released. Momus moves to Berlin and collaborates on an album of "electronic folk music" with Anne Laplantine called Summerisle. Begins writing a regular column for Wired.com.

2004: Otto Spooky is previewed on the Momus blog, Click Opera, before being released on CD.

2005: Works in The Future University, Hokkaido, as artist in residence. In New York Momus holds his second art show at Zach Feuer Gallery, a collaboration with Mai Ueda entitled I'll Speak, You Sing.

2006: An album produced by Rusty Santos, Ocky Milk, is released. Momus appears daily for three months as The Unreliable Tour Guide, a performance artist in the Whitney Biennial, New York.

2007: Momus begins writing The Book of Jokes, his first novel.

2008: Writes a weekly column for the New York Times website, The Post-Materialist. Releases an album, a collaboration with young Glasgow breakcore musician Joe Howe, entitled Joemus. Writes The Book of Scotlands, a series of delirious glimpses of parallel world Scotlands.

2009: Another performance art show at Zach Feuer Gallery in New York, Love is the End of Art, is a collaboration with Aki Sasamoto. The Book of Scotlands and The Book of Jokes are published.