

## Psychedelia is Back

**Psychedelic Music: Music that attempts to recreate drug trips obtained on LSD.**

Swirling colors, flashing lights, acid flashbacks, youths adorned in Prince Valiant haircuts, paisley shirts and Nehru jackets, day-glo mini-skirts and hippie beads. No, you're not back in the 1960's, this is 1985 and psychedelia is back.

Here's a little background on how it started. In Post-Punk England, in the late '70's and early '80's, many bands were digging their roots back to the '60's and mixing them with contemporary sounds. Bands such as Echo and the Bunnymen, Siouxsie and the Banshees, and the Psychedelic Furs pioneered the neo-60's revival. In 1980-81 a small American psychedelic revival was trying to raise its drugged-out head among the flooded ranks of synthesizer pop bands and the still ever-present punk noise. The American scene was different from the English one, however.

The American bands in general seemed to stand true to their 60's roots and not adapt to the more current sounds. The bands were trying to recreate the music that recreated the mind expanding drug trips using echoed vocals, farfisa organs, and vintage Vox guitars. The American youth of the 1980's have some unexplained romantic fixation on the culture of the 60's. They buy vintage instruments, records and clothing, and wear 60's style haircuts.

In 1980-81 the scene was a relative few bands with no critical acclaim playing to a very small cult following. In 1983 the American psychedelic scene had picked up a lot of momentum though, largely due to bands like the Fleshtones, and REM, and a whole west coast scene called the Paisley Underground. The Paisley Underground was getting considerable airplay on college stations with bands such as Rain Parade, Dream Syndicate, Bangles and the Three O'Clock.

By 1984 there were psychedelic and garage bands throughout the entire country. There are many garage bands now playing their own style of 60's punk music, influenced by the classics like the Standells, the Chocolate Watchband and the Music Machine. Some of these bands are the Vipers, from New York; the Miracle Workers, from Portland; Yard Trauma, from Arizona; and the whole new Paisley Underground scene in L.A., to name a few.

Currently the psychedelic music scene is on the verge of becoming the most powerful force in new music. Here at KCPR the likes of Plasticland, Rain Parade, the Prisoners and Thee Milkshakes have been found in current rotation. The record companies are pouring out the psychedelic records, especially the independent labels like Pink Dust, Vox, Dionysus/Bona Fide and Frontier. So, KCPR will definitely be playing lots of new psychedelia during regular format hours, in addition to the 120 Minute Technicolor Dream [see the article].

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The new psychedelic movement could give depressed L.A. clubs the shot in the arm that they need. The L.A. club scene is starting to see a flood of new bands: The Pandoras, the Forgiven, Hidden Peace, the Things and more. The bands are playing enthusiastic sets and the feeling's like the 1960's L.A. and San Francisco scenes all over again, with trippy special effects like projecting slides over the band. The audience adds greatly to the club shows, most of them neo-hippies, neo-flower children or whatever one calls the 60's-influenced youths that show up. They come wearing paisley or day-glo psychedelic clothing, which seems to have made a comeback of its own. It's riot on the Sunset Strip all over again.

We at KCPK are trying to keep you in touch with the flowering psychedelic scene by playing the freshest new bands around. I'd like to strongly recommend that you check out the music, buy the records, go see the bands, be a part of the scene and be one of the groovy people.

9 - Jason Well  
The Paisley Warrior

### 120 Minute Technicolor Dream

An orange jello tidal wave washes over tragic telescopic tunnels that pierce your glowing purple soul and scream out in electric bubbles that float past your sliding glass mind. Liquid lizard tongues of blue and green slither through molten lava linoleum and cherry flavored psychopathic popsoles drip warp speed through your inner ear. You have arrived!

The 120 minute technicolor dream Absolutely the only place on the Central Coast to melt your mind to psychedelic and garage music. I'll be your guide on a weekly two hour voyage into the uncharted realm of psychedelia. The show attempts to parallel the current psychedelic movement to the original revolution of the 1960's. A balance of music from each movement is played, with interesting facts about the music and information as to where the newer bands call their roots. In addition, there will be a weekly psychedelic feature, with biography information on certain bands and subcultures, and a 3-5 song highlight of their music. The 120 Minute Technicolor Dream Tries to experience the listener with some of the world's trippy-est music and most obscure music, but of course we play your fave psychedelic tunes too, and requests are always welcome.

I think you'll enjoy the music, and find interest in the correlation between the groovy 1960's and the newest force in alternative music. So why just listen to the music when you can experience it on the 120 Minute Technicolor Dream, each and every Saturday from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm? So tune in, drop out, and experience the 120 Minute Technicolor Dream. And don't forget to keep wearing that paisley...

- The Paisley Warrior