

Notes on your very special "Newtlegs" tracks...

"Collaborations" folder:

Betty Boop (1992)

Heather Perkins (voice, guitar) & Ole Peterson (voice) My dear friend Ole and I have been recording together since the 70s, and during the 90s we had a habit of getting together over a weekend every once in a while, and recording pretty much non-stop. From the Land-O-Newts cassette album "It's A Tacky World."

Denial (1992)

Heather Perkins (voice, kitchen gadgets, squeaky frog) & Ole Peterson (voice, kitchen gadgets, beer bottles) A kitchen-sink moment with Ole, during our marathon "Tacky World" session. From the Land-O-Newts cassette album "It's A Tacky World."

"Disappeared In This City" (2005)

Don Campau (voice, lyrics) Heather Perkins (synth, piano, beats, percussion, vocal percussion, Ebow guitar, field recordings of birds, airplane and footsteps.) This was a by-mail collaboration with DIY music legend Don Campau - I sent the music, he wrote and sang the lyrics. From Don's 2005 "Pen Pals 3" compilation CD on Lonely Whistle Music (by permission.)

"We're All Hoping For Some Rain" (1988)

Dan Fioretti (synthesizer) Heather Perkins (vocals, Casio SK-1) Another by-mail collaboration - this time with the illustrious and prolific Fioretti - featuring me rambling on during a rare Oregon drought. I can't recall the name of the cassette it appeared on, but it was on the Kitti Tapes label. (by permission)

"Heather Perkins" folder:

A Child's Adventures In Time (2006)

Heather: voice, synths, sampler, music box, ukelele, lighter....
Created for choreographer/performance artist Linda Austin as part of the 2006 George Forman Festival. We were given text, asked to pick out a few phrases, and create work around that. Unreleased track.

Chronicle (1994)

Heather (Beats, Roland SPD-11 Percussion Pads, Guitar, Ebow) Don Campau (Voice snippets)

The first and only song on a never-finished collaboration-by-mail project. I should have known better than to try and launch something like that my first year of grad school. Unreleased track (although Don Campau wrote a song around it for one of his compilations.)

Get Well Soon (1991)

Heather: Guitar/sampler, Hard drive gong

Something I did in the electronic music lab at LCC when I was working there. My girlfriend was sick, and I wanted her to get better. The hard drive gong was something I did in frustration that ended up being cool – the lab's hard drive was making so much noise it was ruining my recording, so I turned the mic on it, and it ended up being a really nice gong-like sound. Appears on the 2002 Slaw CD "Snakes And Ladders," Doubtful Palace Music.

Hello (2003)

Heather: Beats, sampler, glitch-vocals, record player

This was my first ever project using Ableton Live - which is one of the best pieces of music software ever created - and it was also my first entry in a laptop battle, the Portland All-Area Laptop Battle at Holocene. I made it to the final round! I suppose it technically belongs under the DJ NewtyNewt moniker, as it uses samples from a parakeet training record, a corporate executive training record, as well as LPs by Bruce Haak, Gong, Tetes Noires, and the Chipmunks – but I'm including it here anyway. There are also a lynx growl, sample of Ole beating on my studio wall with drum sticks. (I heard, after I did this song, that Le Tigre has used the same parakeet training record on one of their songs, and I've since heard the song – but when I did this song, I thought I was the only human on earth to be captivated by the parakeet lady. Small world!) Unreleased track.

Loveable (2002)

Heather: Found sound, whistle synth, percussion

The found sound – a little girl's voice - is from a reel-to-reel tape I found somewhere in the 80s. I was about to erase and re-use it, but when I played it back, there were amazing sounds on it. Two young girls – maybe sisters – had obviously commandeered their parent's tape deck, and were using it for their own nefarious purposes. Their impassioned version of Earth Wind & Fire's "Shining Star" was off the hook. They were hilarious – but this assessment of Susan's people skills was the capper. Appears on the 2002 Slaw CD "Snakes And Ladders," Doubtful Palace Music.

Sink (1988)

Heather: Regular and fretless guitars, lyrics, voice.

It's kind of a downer I guess, but I have a soft spot for this song. I was feeling a bit of American ennui – and also working 3 or 4 restaurant jobs simultaneously – at the time I wrote this. (It's the less-feisty, more resigned flipside of my funk/rock workout "The Hamster Wheel.") From the 1988 cassette album "Why I Did It/Binkys' Revenge," on Land-O-Newts.

"DJ NewtyNewt" folder:

"Buffalo Ladies First" (2008)

A mashup/remix of two early 90s classics: Queen Latifah & Monie Love's "Ladies First," and Neneh Cherry's immortal "Buffalo Stance," with a cameo from my favorite corporate trainer from the 50s. Er, what IS a buffalo stance? Does anybody know? Does it have anything to do with buffalo wings? (I'm kinda thinking not....) Unreleased track.

"Flash Good Money At The Ugly Superman" (2004)

This was a song I created to perform at a laptop battle in Seattle, WA. (I think.) I tried to use as many disparate samples as possible - there was a lot going on. The songs and sources for this one include "Flash Gordon," "Taken," Pink Floyd's "Money," Ennio Morricone's "The Good, The Bad & The Ugly," Donovan's "Sunshine Superman," Yello's "Angel No" and Sparks "All You Ever Think About Is Sex." Unreleased track.

"OFM" (2004)

Again with the laptop battles. This one doesn't really use any super-famous samples, but it's created entirely of things I didn't make, so I don't count it as original. It was built around a sample that my friend Ole sent me, something from an LP of German singers who sound like they are merrily bellowing "Ow, f**k me!" – hence the title. I did not even get past round 1 of the battle with this, and some yayhoo spilled a cocktail on my laptop right before I went on. But I had fun anyway. Unreleased track.

"Walking Dolly's Dog" (2007)

I did this for a "Dolly Parton Hoot," where performers were invited to give their spin on a Dolly Parton song. And I thought it would be fun to try and meld Laurie Anderson's "Walk The Dog" (a song where Dolly Parton is repeatedly name-checked) with clips from the song and the movie "9 to 5," with a snippet of "Touch Your Woman" and a secret sneak-attack of two bars from the Bollywood classic "Gunnam." It

WAS fun! And when I googled to find clips of Dolly Parton interviews, I found a treasure-trove of raw material. I think of all the things I've done in laptop performance, this was the one people seemed to like the most. And it's all about Dolly. Unreleased track.

*** Disclaimer: 'DJ NewtyNewt' isn't a psuedonym I really use, but it's a good handle to hide behind when I do remixes and/or mashups featuring famous people's stuff. Although this usage is almost certainly covered as parody, I will never release these recordings officially. They are just for fun.*