



By
ANNA GAULT

AT The Drive-In frontman Cedric Bixler-Zavala hopes Harvey Weinstein's fall from grace will spark a purge in Hollywood.

The singer reported his wife Chrissie has been sexually abused – and even penned the song *Incurably Innocent* about abuse and speaking out about such experiences.

Cedric said: “I thank God that Harvey Weinstein's exposure has happened because that is the biggest domino of all of them.”

“You'll start to see the other ones falling now.”

“The song is for my wife.”

The band have returned with their latest album, *Inter Alia*, which features *Incurably Innocent*, following a 17-year break from making music.

It's exciting to be back together, we are a team

Cedric, 43, thinks the song will become even more relevant as more women come forward with their stories. He said: “Our world's culture in general is designed to keep women scared and unfortunately it seems that it's only when a man steps up and says something about it, people take notice.”

“I never once had a conversation with my wife saying, are you sure?”

“She is not out to ruin people's lives.”

“It's a big giant for a woman to face so the best thing I could do was write a song about it and have the lyrics be cryptic but slightly obvious in a weird way. I think in time we will see more about what it is about because Harvey Weinstein is just the first one to fall.”

The band is back with a bang after spending almost 20 years battling to stay together.

Their last album, *Relationship*

Best way I could help my wife was to pen a song

Says At The Drive In frontman

CEDRIC BIXLER-ZAVALA

Of *Command*, was released in 2000 and enjoyed great success and the group played on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* and the *Late Show With David Letterman*.

The band split in 2001 with Cedric and guitarist Omar Rodriguez-Lopez going on to form *The Mars Volta*. But the lure of *At The Drive-In* proved too strong and, after a few false starts, the band finally reunited to play live shows last year.

Cedric, from El Paso, Texas, said: “It's exciting to be back together and do things like a group huddle which we never in our history did – it's like we are a sports team.”

“We give each other pep talks and tell each other how much we love each other and how appreciative we are of life giving us this opportunity.”

Cedric and Omar returned with original members Paul Hinojos and Tony Hajjar but guitarist Jim Ward was quickly replaced by

Keeley Davis after leaving the band again. With such a rocky past, Cedric admits becoming a dad to sons Ulysses and Xanthus, four, changed his outlook.

Cedric said: “The people that were sceptical of us recording an album aren't in the band anymore. Even when people disagree and argue and butt heads, it's part of the process.”

I love it here, ever since we played in King Tut's

“You just have to be able to trust that everyone will check their ego at the door and nothing is going to be held personally as you are all working for the greater good of the record.”

The band are supporting *Royal Blood* at *SSE Hydro* in Glasgow later this month before headlining their own show next year at the city's *O2 Academy*.

Cedric insists they don't mind being the warm-up act again.

He said: “We often do our best in an opening slot.”

“It couldn't have been any luckier for us because we thought about what band would we want to tour with and instantly everyone was already saying ‘well, *Royal Blood* is rad and then they asked us’.”

And Cedric still remembers the band's early days playing some of Scotland's smaller venues.

He said: “I have always liked it in Scotland – ever since we used to play in King Tut's.”

“We used to stay at this guy Simon's house and we have remained in touch ever since.”

“I wish more bands would tour like that, staying at a local's house instead of a hotel, you get introduced to the culture a lot better.”

●At The Drive-In play the *SEE Hydro* on November 24 and the *O2 Academy* on March 15 2018.



ATTACKED...
Cedric's wife
Chrissie

Picture: Rob Blackham



VIVE LA ROSE

WHERE: London/Edinburgh

FOR FANS OF: Fleet Foxes, Richard Hawley, John Grant

JIM SAYS: *Of A Fire On The Moon* by Vive La Rose has been a staple on my radio shows of late.

A melancholic number blending blues, Americana and alt folk, it just sucks you in. A perfect appetiser for his debut album *For She Who Hangs The Moon*, which is due out next year.

Vive La Rose is the alias of London-based Scots singer-songwriter David Luximon-Herbert. From Edinburgh he went south around ten years ago.

Previously performing under his own name, Vive La Rose first emerged in 2014 with the critically acclaimed *Don't Move, Don't Speak* EP.

He explained: “Vive La Rose has been a bit of a clean slate really, creatively and personally. It can be whatever I want from project to project or show to show, and the line-up can be fluid and change along the way.”

“The core band I have at the moment is incredible. I can't wait for our first show together on Wednesday at The Harrison in London.”

He added: “Previously, the music I have made has been dictated by the resources available. Not



NEW MUSIC

By Jim Gellatly

having a band meant that I resorted to default acoustic singer-songwriter territory.

“From the outset with this record, the mission statement was pretty clear. If I could make one record, with no restrictions on budget or instrumentation and arrangement, what could I do, and what could it sound like? And then how do we make that happen, on a budget of next to nothing?”

“The main change is that I've focussed on learning the piano over the last couple of years, and that has really opened up the writing side for me.”

The album was recorded over the past couple of years including stints at *Crows Nest* and *Air Studios* in London and *Yellow Arch* in Sheffield. David

said: “It was mostly recorded with Olly Betts of the *Duke Spirit* and *Max Harris Project*, and features string arrangements from Colin Elliot (Richard Hawley) and the *Up North Orchestra*. Nicky Francis from *Mono Club* came in on the first day to record drums and was phenomenal.”

“He gave the whole thing a great engine from the get go. There's also a couple of gorgeous brass solos, courtesy of Terry Edwards, who has worked with the likes of PJ Harvey and Nick Cave in the past. As an album, it's quite varied in terms of sound and style but hopefully it works as a whole piece.”

David is set for a special homecoming Vive La Rose show at *Assembly Roxy* in Edinburgh on March 17. He used to run an acoustic night in the converted church.

He said: “I feel like I've learned the hard way – that you really have to put in the graft and things don't happen overnight. But keep your powder dry, be patient and persistent and, if it's good, something will happen.”

MORE: vivelarosemusic.co.uk

●Jim presents a weekly showcase of New Music on *Amazing Radio* Sundays 2-4pm.

amazingradio.com, jimgellatly.com



Watch a video of the band playing at: www.thescottishsun.co.uk