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Simon Townshend

Background Sheet

A familiar name with an original sound, **Simon Townshend** is straight from the lineage of one of British music's most famous families. Born in the room that became his recording studio, Simon has been recording and performing since the age of nine, successfully self-producing and independently releasing five well received CD's.

Taking the initiative in 1996 he assisted in establishing his own label and production company, Stir Music, releasing *Among Us* (1997), *Animal Soup* (1999), *Bare Bodies Bare Assets* (live acoustic)(2000), *Ages* (2000) and *simontownshendis* (2002). In 2002 Simon added to his musical arsenal by creating a stylistic alternative to his distinctive rock sound with an alter ego, **.bom**. The alternate identity allowed his music to be heard with a level of anonymity unaccompanied by expectations associated with his family name. Successful performances were presented in New York, Los Angeles and Boston.

In addition to his own music, Simon also runs a recording studio in London, and has produced artists both there and in New York. He has performed with numerous established artists including 10 years as guitarist and vocalist in **The Who**, playing sold out tours of Europe, Asia and North America and referred to by one U.S. newspaper as The Who's "secret weapon." In 2004 Simon served as producer of **The Who's** first new, original studio recordings in more than 20 years and looks forward to playing on & again producing a new **Who** album scheduled for 2006.

In early 2005 Simon joined **Bruce Foxtton (The Jam/Stiff Little Fingers)**, **Bruce Watson (Big Country)**, and **Mark Brzezicki (Big Country)** in forming **The Casbah Club**. A back to basics, classic rock outfit the group set out on a successful Spring tour of the UK with studio recording sessions scheduled for early Summer.

Simon Townshend's music has made a significant impact. As brother **Pete Townshend** told London's *Daily Mail*, "he's brilliant." British and American papers have variously described his songs and performances as...

- o "supercharged hard rock...Mr. Townshend pushes the band to climax upon climax" (*The New York Times*)
- o "buoyant melodies...soaring vocal harmonies,...irresistible chorus hooks pushed and pulled by the refreshing optimism of Simon's voice" (*The Washington Post*)
- o "impressive" (*Billboard*)
- o "really pushes the envelope and is highly recommended" (*Amplifier*)
- o "wonderful melodic punch...truly enjoyable listening" (*Goldmine*)
- o a "catharsis"(*The Los Angeles Times*)

In short, as London's *Gig Guide* said, "you would be a fool to miss them." Recently his song, *Save Me From Me*, was featured on NBC Television's *Providence*.

A prolific composer over the last decade and **Who** sideman, Simon Townshend continues to write, create and perform his unique and charismatic work and his career is now enhanced with the formation of **The Casbah Club**.