

# unpopular

www.unpopular-culture.com

December 08, 2015

## Unpopular Advent 2015 - Day 8: The Bitter Springs - 'Cuttlefish and Love's Remains'



Accordions and swears ahoj! Seven years ago I kind of re-discovered the genius of Simon Rivers and his Last Party / Bitter Springs groups through the magic of digital downloads. Some words were penned [over here](#). References were made to Shena Mackay and self-destructing tapes. Reading those words again I find myself warmed by that.

And then five years ago (what is it with [this five year cycle deal?](#)) I wrote in [this advent entry](#) that "Simon Rivers is a genius". I stand by that claim, in much the same way that Dave McCulloch once claimed that Vic Godard was God. Is that right? Time erases so many connections in my brain; makes new ones built on frayed and brittle wires, though there is also something quite appealing in that too. And yes, the Godard reference is valuable too, for there has always been something of the Subway Sect in Rivers' work, not least via the Parisian boulevard sound of swaying accordions that suffuses much of this collection of tunes.

'Cuttlefish and Love's Remains' shows that Simon Rivers remains the master of the lyrically wry and darkly humorous. We should treasure and celebrate that fact.

'Cuttlefish and Love's Remains' is available from a variety of digital outlets.