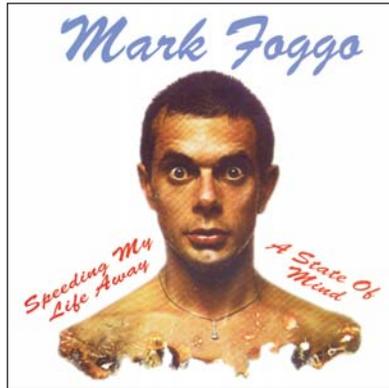


**THE MAGNIFICENT FOGGO!**

Mark Foggo's Skasters are a Dutch based band fronted by you guessed it, Englishman Mark Foggo. After having played in many bands in his native London, Mark relocated to Holland in 1979 to front the Skasters. This 7 man band has been playing fast, upbeat ska with their present lineup for over ten years and continues to be one of the hardest working European bands playing overseas today. Weird lyrics and wild antics from the Netherlands describe this relatively unknown and underappreciated band here in America. The name Mark Foggo however, has been a fixture in ska circles for near 2 decades now, having original tracks on numerous compilations which cannot be denied. In that time frame, he has built ska freaks everywhere an impressive discography. The following pages are a comprehensive look at this great catalogue. Each full length record stands out in its own, and characterized by fast offbeats and powerful melodies, this group is a good example of some quality ska you can't go wrong with. Songs are smart-alecky, the musicianship solid and all are recorded well.

In addition to being such a prolific songwriter and ska man, Mark Foggo himself has also managed to set up a record shop, the headquarters of his own Skanky 'Lil Records label. Situated in Eindhoven, this shop stocks all label releases, as well as distributing a large assortment of ska, punk, oi!, hardcore & psychobilly musics. For more information on the band and label write to Skanky 'Lil Productions, St. Catharinastraat 1G, 5611 JA Eindhoven, Holland or visit the official website at [www.iaehv.nl/users/foggo](http://www.iaehv.nl/users/foggo). It's also be of note that all these fine MFS releases are available by mail domestically from Moon Ska NYC at the import rate of \$15. Special thanks to Roel N. at the SLP office for his assistance & support in compiling this feature. *Caricature below by Dominique DuBois*





### A STATE OF MIND, 1983

38:27 / (Reissued 1999 as SL 106)

This was written by Mark Foggo while on a 2 week vacation in Yugoslavia. Both he and guitarist Koos Cornelissen arranged the songs before entering the studio with some of the Secret Meeting and other guest musicians. Here the sound was mainly ska, but still with some obvious punkrock overtones. This also marks the beginning of Foggo's soon-to-be trademark wacky bizarre lyrics.

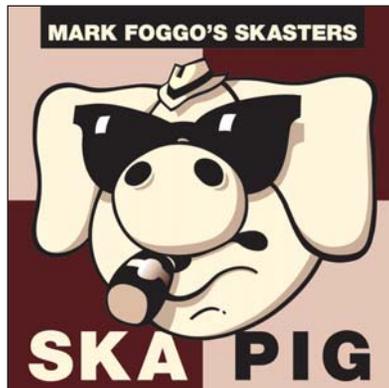
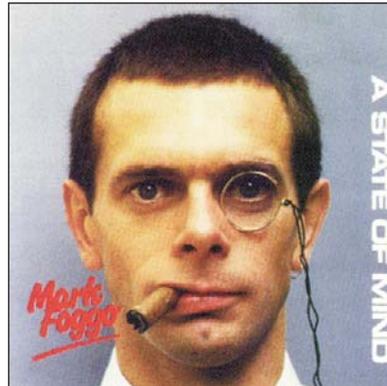
TRACKLIST: A State of Mind / You Know Who / Miss Understanding / Hold onto your Hat / C'est la Vie / You Never Asked / The Choice / The Innocence of Youth / I Do / Seems Like Years / Very Busy

### SPEEDING MY LIFE AWAY, 1980

29:21 / (Reissued in 1999 as SL 106)

Foggo's debut, backed by a group called The Secret Meeting who got together 1979. The name refers to the "secret meetings" that were supposedly held to hi-jack members of other bands. Their first single brought TV and radio coverage and they were offered a record contract leading to a release of this album in 1980. It was a crossover period between punk and ska musics resulting in an album combining both, similar to the happenings in England at the time. The next 2 years saw Foggo playing with The Secret Meeting throughout Europe. Today's reissued format has lost some tracks in the digital conversion due to space constraints.

TRACKLIST: Speeding My Life Away / New Shoes / Ace of Spades / The Religious song / The Political song / Pushing Me / It's Alright / Out of Place / Is it Wrong



### CAPTAIN SKARLET, 1990

51:54 / SL 103

A varied assortment of tracks unavailable elsewhere (until recent studio releases), cover versions and surprisingly good quality audio for a live recording.

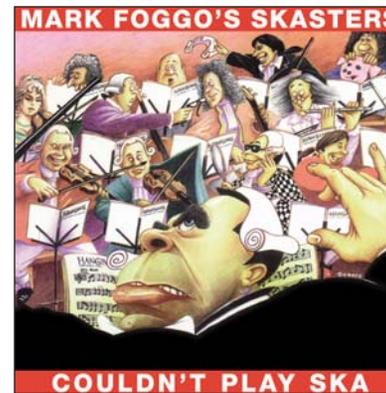
TRACKLIST: Captain Skarlet / Lucky / It's Alright / My Little Girly / Unity / Woolly Bully / Pushing / Spot the Dog / New Shoes / Piggy / Train to Skaville / Two Legs

### SKA PIG, 1989

40:06 / SL 102

Classic Foggo with many of their greatest and best known hits. Its big 80s synth & echo feel, the hearty organ predominates on many of the songs here. Absolutely fantastic! Issued at least twice on CD format, each time with different art.

TRACKLIST: Hello / Weirdos / Skadansk / Dolly / Two Legs / Ska Pig / Lucky to be Alive / Spy / Sunday / Down the Lane / Davy Crocket



### COULDN'T PLAY SKA, 1991

41:30 / SL 104

Catchy overall, this is my personal favorite for uptempos. Mark & Co. manages to cover both Beethoven and Jamaican roots like Justin Hinds, Eddy Grant, + Ansel Collins. Also appearing is their rendition of Ian Dury's "Hit me with your rhythm stick" as ska version. Lyric sheet included.

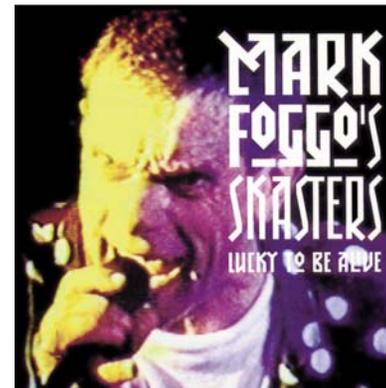
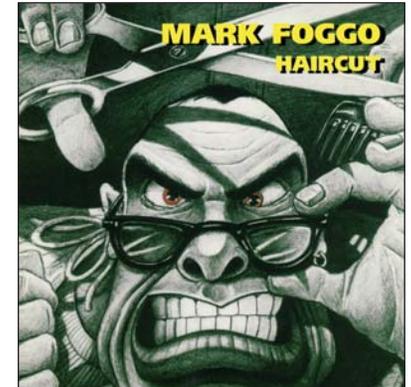
TRACK LIST: Bumpy Airlines / Ska Town / Foreign Food / Rudie Come Back / Hit Me / Rub Up Push Up / Losing Her Appeal / The Magnificent Foggo / What a Lovely Day for a Hanging / Couldn't play Ska / She will never do that again / Yakkety Yak

### HAIRCUT, 1995

42:26 / SL 101

Solo project on which Mark is assisted by Skasters' keyboardist DuBois and drummer Coenraad. More laughs with a couple doses of sci-fi themed songs, Bot Scott is astronaut on the moon. The tune "Big, Big Mouth" humorously uses the rhythm of Marley's "Small Axe". Lyrics included.

TRACKLIST: Hurricane / Haircut / Bra and Panties American a Paris / Ska in a Bar / Sore Finger / Big Big Mouth / Spaceman stuff / Not Scott / Lipso Dipso Calypso / Married a Monkey



### LUCKY TO BE ALIVE, 1995

68:05 / NON-SL (Universe)

Captured well at a home performance in Venlo, Holland. Of the two live albums, I think *Lucky* assembles the best collection of the band's most recent 4 studio recordings.

TRACKLIST: Hello / What a lovely day for a hanging / Spot / Lucky to be Alive / Rub Up, Push Up / Ramona from Barcelona / She will never do that again / Bumpy Airlines / Ska Town / Sunday / Weirdos / Ska Pig / Blue Hotel / Two Legs / Skadansk / Captain Skarlet / Goodbye

### ST. VALENTINES DAY MASSACRE, 1997

52:51 / SL 105

Their most recent release from features lots of car and driver songs, on which the organ takes more of a back seat. Fifteen tracks including the prohibition-era title cut, Adam Ant and Maytals covers. The guitar is brought out more, and the songs are each a bit longer in duration.

Lyrics included.

TRACKLIST: St. Valentines Day Massacre / A very fussy Pussycat / Big Red Cars / Fat Girl / Car on a train / Knifeman Jack / Road Rage / It's You / One / Stand and Deliver / He drives a Volvo / Ramona from Barcelona / Mama don't like / Ska street

