

PRES RELEASE

Just over a year since the release of his critically-lauded second album *Pale Green Ghosts*, and with numerous Best Album of 2013 accolades and a Brit Award nomination to his name, **JOHN GRANT** has announced news of one of his most exciting ventures yet. This November will see the former Czars frontman embark upon a seven-date tour accompanied by the **Royal Northern Sinfonia** in which John's celebrated catalogue will be reworked and reimagined with a sumptuous orchestral setting, alongside the world premiere of some especially written new songs. John Grant's creativity, unique songwriting and wonderful vocals combined with thirty four musicians promises a one-off musical experience. The tour will be orchestrated by Fiona Brice who has provided arrangements for the likes of Roy Harper, Vashti Bunyan, Anna Calvi, Midlake, Placebo, as well as John himself. As the UK's only full-time chamber orchestra, Royal Northern Sinfonia has built a reputation as both fresh-thinking and versatile and has in recent years collaborated with artists as diverse as Pet Shop Boys, Joanna Newsom, Efterklang and Spiritualized. The tour will visit some of the UK's most prestigious venues and is produced and presented by Music Beyond Mainstream (MBM), the UK's national network of large scale music venues working together to bring audiences something a little bit special. Dates/info below:

Saturday 22 November – LIVERPOOL – Philharmonic Hall www.liverpoolphil.com

Sunday 23 November – MANCHESTER – Bridgewater Hall www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk

Monday 24 November – BIRMINGHAM – Town Hall www.thsh.co.uk

Tuesday 25 November – BRISTOL – Colston Hall www.colstonhall.org

Friday 28 November – GATESHEAD – The Sage Gateshead www.sagegateshead.com

Saturday 29 November – EDINBURGH – Usher Hall www.usherhall.co.uk

Sunday 30 November – LONDON – Royal Festival Hall www.southbankcentre.co.uk



Critical acclaim for *Pale Green Ghosts*, the second album from John Grant, out now on Bella Union:

"it's hard to imagine a more enjoyable and rewarding hour of music being released this year than *Pale Green Ghosts*: self-obsessed but completely compelling, profoundly discomfoting but beautiful, lost in its own fathomless personal misery, but warm, funny and wise.

The Guardian – 5 Stars *** (Album Of The Week)**

"an exhilarating musical progression... "Pain it is a glacier... creating spectacular landscapes," he sings on 'Glacier': a truth his career makes self-evident."

The Independent On Sunday – 5 Stars *** (CD Of The Week)**

"an album that, rather than juggling empty pop-song clichés, opts to expose the rawest emotional nerves: truth and beauty, rather than lies and blather."

The Independent – 4 Stars ** (Album Of The Week)**

"The abrupt changes between lush vintage balladry and stark electro ensure that *Pale Green Ghosts* is not as instantly cohesive as *Queen Of Denmark*. But it is arguably more satisfying, in its artistic courage, its refusal to meet expectations, and its willingness to paint a brand new picture of a gay demi-monde where the triumphs and tragedies have a deeper resonance than simple melodrama or camp... A masterpiece"

UNCUT – 8/10

"As piano and strings crescendo, concluding *Pale Green Ghosts*' uncommon vistas of seriousness, levity and disco dancing, you can imagine the singer departing in triumph"

Q – 4 Stars ****

"Several of the tracks here top the majesty of those on the debut... a bold, distinctive and genuinely excellent record"

Clash – 9/10

"Grant's rich voice dovetails beautifully with the silvery synths of 'GMF' and 'Vietnam' ... This is audacious stuff from one talented motherfucker."

NME - 8/10

"After initial surprise, *Queen Of Denmark* fans should soon grow to love the album"

Sunday Times (Album Of The Week)

"as starkly beautiful as it's sad"

Time Out – 4 Stars *** (Album Of The Week)**

"John Grant is best known for this emotionally raw, adult FM pop, but here he lets his love of electronica blossom into a record referencing 80's Brit synth pop, coldwave, The Moog and modern talent like Trentmøller. He's made a motherfucking exciting record, that's for sure."

MIXMAG – 8/10

"GMF sees him crooning "I am the greatest motherf*cker that you'll ever meet" ... Bonkers but brilliant.

Evening Standard – 4 Stars ****

"Here he negotiates his difficult second album with aplomb... A rich musical imagination gives his self-flagellation a strangely appealing magnetism"

Financial Times - 4 Stars ****

“Bravery is second nature to former Czars man Grant, and so it proves on his second album where tuneful but traumatised electro predominates with Sinead O'Connor adding spirited support on the heroic GMF. “

The Mirror - 4 Stars ****

“The songwriting is vintage Grant: erudite, bittersweet and catchy”

Sunday Telegraph - 4 Stars ****

“emotionally raw, lyrically imaginative and caustically funny”

Metro - 4 Stars ****

“The title track’s mix of Latino electronica and Rachmaninov is impressive. Glacier is another high, reflecting the album’s origins and relocating the amazing wounded beauty of *Queen Of Denmark*.”

MOJO

An extraordinary video recently appeared for 'Glacier', the powerful closing track from *Pale Green Ghosts*. Using footage derived from youtube clips and images online, the video is a visual pastiche of the history of the Gay Rights struggle, emotionally edited to 'Glacier', and can be viewed [HERE](#)

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