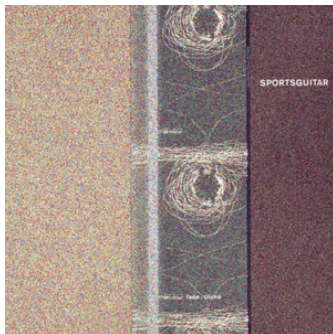




RELEASE INFORMATION

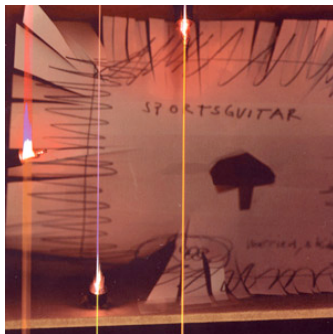


Artist: Sportsguitar

Title: **Fade | Cliché** (1994 Sportsguitar, 1996 Derivative)
Married, 3 Kids (1997 Matador)
Happy Already (1998 Matador/Sony JAP/Glow)
Surface (2000 Glow)
Cicadas´ Chirping (2003 Glow)

Format:: Digital

Cat.No.: KYD07012 **Fade | Cliché**
 KYD07013 **Married, 3 Kids**
 KYD07014 **Happy Already**
 KYD07015 **Surface**
 KYD07016 **Cicadas´ Chirping**



Barcodes: 4260131864490 **Fade | Cliché**
 4260131864513 **Married, 3 Kids**
 4260131864506 **Happy Already**
 4260131864520 **Surface**
 4260131864483 **Cicadas´ Chirping**

Release: 03.08.2007

Style: Gitarren-Pop

Sportsguitar

All Albums



The early 90s gave us the grunge rock sound typified by the turn on, tune in and drop out mentality of the 60s psychedelic movement. Bands such as 'Grifters', 'Smog' and 'Pavement' played guitars that were as un-tuned as the raw emotions they were singing about. Oliver Obert had been a past master of this scene and sound for years yet it was not until 1993 that everyone else caught on to this musical movement. Obert took control of guitar, bass and drums and recruited Roland Saum for the strings.

1994 saw SPORTSGUITAR off to a pretty glamorous start. Three months after their self-released debut album **Fade | Cliché** the reputation of the legendary grunge label Subpop in Seattle reached the band. Having worked wonders for label mates Nirvana and Afghan Wigs Subpop finally released two gems (GongGong b/w Tits) as a 7".

They were now being simultaneously praised by the scenesters and acclaimed by the press but nevertheless they managed to keep a cool head as they toured extensively in the US, notching up 30 shows in 31 days. In 1996 **Married, 3 kids** was released. During the second US tour the A&R departments of both major and minor labels were keen to get a piece of the action and a juicy deal beckoned. Shown the cold shoulder by Warner and Island, SPORTSGUITAR

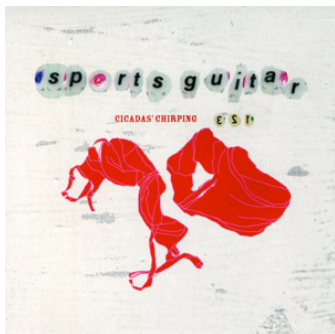
opted for a worldwide deal with Matador, still one of the most sought after large independent labels today.



Meanwhile Japan was also hot on their heels and SPORTSGUITAR signed a deal with Sony Japan. In 1998 their third album **Happy Already** came out on Matador US, Matador UK, Sony Japan and Tudor/Glow in Switzerland. 60 shows followed and two US tours. It was possible to see SPORTSGUITAR play Tokyo live three times. They were also causing a stir in Europe and toured across the continent, having a particularly large fan base in Scandinavia and being a constant hit at the festivals. The band were at the absolute pinnacle of their success.

In 1999 things cooled down a bit – their deal with Matador /Warners came to an end and half of Matador's catalogue went adrift which affected SPORTSGUITAR too. The longstanding relationship between mastermind Oliver Obert and co-guitarist Roli Saum also came to an end.

So when SPORTSGUITAR started producing some more rock inspired sounds again in 2002 they even surprised themselves. Rather than recording in Lucerne, Switzerland as they'd always done before, **Surface** was recorded in the Zabisikie Point Studio in New York with Joe McGinty, Clem Waldham and George Rush and with this album SPORTSGUITAR ironically toyed with the mainstream.



Nearly three years later at the end of 2003, their fifth album **Cicadas' Chirping** was released. It was then that Oliver Obert, by now the one-man-band behind SPORTSGUITAR, invited the brothers Stephane and Jerome Ballmer from the Jivaros Quartet into the studio. This last album of theirs is in many way a home coming after the wild days ten years before and the hard times in between.

The SPORTSGUITAR chapter would have probably come to an end had Raik Hölzel from Kitty Yo not recalled the band's great albums at the end of 2006. The Swiss duo had already come to Kitty Yo's attention in 1996 as a result of Oliver Obert and Roli Saum's unique guitar sound. 10 years later Raik Hölzel got in contact with Oliver Obert and both parties agreed to re-released all five albums and to close the circle which began at an independent music fare in Freiburg.

<http://www.kitty-yo.com/wp/artists/sportsguitar/>