

Some time towards the end of the first phase of The Manhattan Love Suicides, I started going by The Medusa Snare (a purposefully slight mistranslation of Erik Satie's *Le piège de Méduse*), rather than my own name, under which I'd self-released a few albums of juvenalia before meeting Darren & Caroline and being invited to play bass in their new band. I'd written half of what would be the Cinderella album when The MLS split up and the first proper show as The Medusa Snare was a shambolic affair where I played those songs on a fuzzed up acoustic guitar accompanied by former MLS drummer Eddy Lines on floor tom and snare. Eddy played drums on the recordings of those songs and then I recorded another bunch to finish what would be the album. Along the way, John Perry III and Max Broady, my band mates from The Wednesday Club joined to flesh out the live band. We did a few shows before Eddy left to concentrate on his band Downtime and now that The MLS were no more, Rachel Barker joined the 'Snare to play drums along with Daniel Morris playing bass. Just as we were ready to record some songs I left Leeds and moved to London, ushering in the next phase of the band where I was joined by Amyas Varcoe and Ryan Robinson on guitars and Lisa Bouvier on floor tom & snare. We played some shows in London and Madrid but then this version of The 'Snare also disbanded just as plans for recording were being made. At this point I decided to unofficially retire the band name and went back to self-releasing albums under my own name and with my other bands (T.O.Y.S, The Wednesday Club, the reunited Manhattan Love Suicides and the spontaneous music-group, The What I Wanted To Do's). Fast-forward to the pandemic and when contributing a new recording to a compilation Darren & Caroline were putting together, it suddenly felt right to resurrect The Medusa Snare and so the current phase began. The songs I had been recording over lockdown turned into the album, What's the Matter, released on Next Phase : Normal Records and then I thought it would be a good idea to consolidate all my material from the past decade and bring it together under one roof... and this is what you now hold in your hands. About Time is a collection of songs representing the different phases of my solo material since the birth of The Medusa Snare and includes some material that I previously self-released under my own name alongside some essential 'Snare tracks and a whole bunch of previously unreleased songs from the archives. Also included is the now-deleted album, What's the Matter, expanded to include the 6 songs recorded at the same time that didn't make the final cut of the album. It feels right to bring all this material together for the first time and I am eternally grateful to the good folk at Next Phase : Normal Records for the opportunity. My Love & Eternal gratitude also to everyone that has been involved in the recording of these songs and made The Medusa Snare possible over the years, to Pete B at The Glass Factory for diligently mastering what was a sonic disarray of archival recordings, to Daniel Kordik for allowing me to use his beautiful artwork, and to Jon Aldersea for putting the design together.

*Ma gavte la nata...*

*Adam John Miller, Sept' 2023.*

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