

Vestal man films anti-war song video

Is it possible that the 2nd-best anti-war song video of all time was filmed in Vestal? Dave Elder would certainly like you to think so, and he readily admits that, but he doesn't want you to simply take his word for it.

"Watch the video," he suggests with a smile. As with all things YouTube, it doesn't cost anything to view it, and in this case, it only takes about 3 minutes to see the whole thing, from start to finish, other than whatever commercial segment YouTube chooses to add.

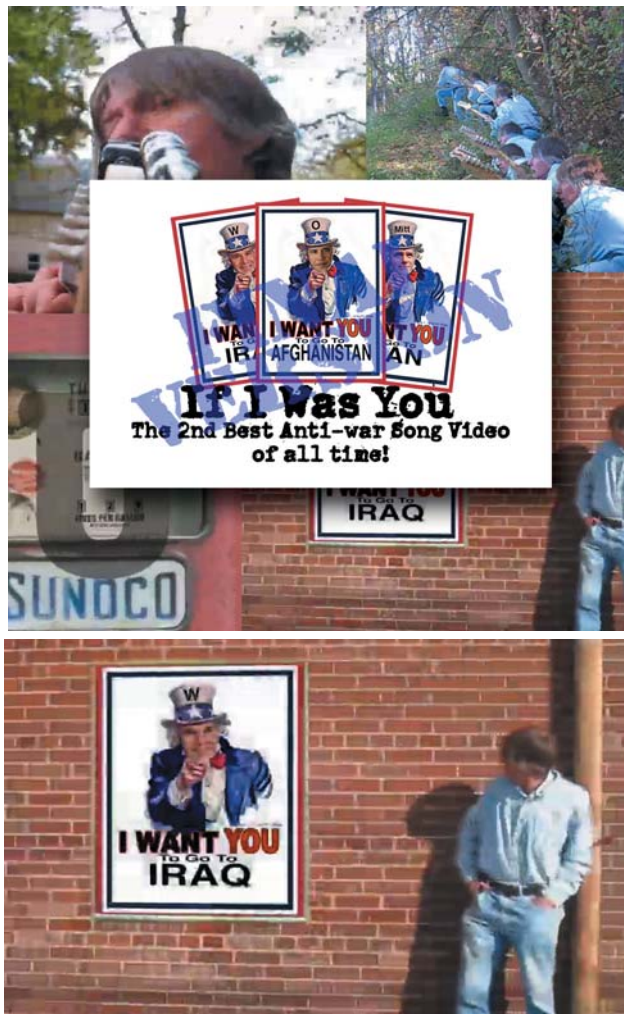
"I'm not trying to tell you what to think," says Dave, slyly referencing the chorus line from the song "If I Was You" that drives the video. "Maybe you've seen better anti-war song videos, and if so, I'd like to hear about them. Leave a comment on my Facebook music page (Dave Elder) or send me an email (contact info on the daveelder.com website).

So what can viewers expect to see in this anti-war song video? Scenes like "The Charge of the Light String Brigade" in which, through the magic of digital editing, Dave charges out of a trench with Fender in hand. Another scene with a similar concept features the Fender firing squad. In a different sequence, Dave stands next to a brick wall, reacting to changing Uncle Sam posters next to him. That segment likewise benefitted from magical digital editing (the poster wasn't actually on that wall), but Dave has to admit that this particular brick wall wasn't in Vestal — the images were actually filmed in Endicott, next to the DMV.

Dave will also confess that the antique gas pump that shows up in the video wasn't a Vestal native, but stood next to Route 267 a bit south of the PA border back when he got the pictures of it, and the pump may still be standing there, though Dave hasn't taken a drive in that area for a few years, so he couldn't say for sure if it's there or not. If you happen to be driving in that area and spot a gas pump that looks similar to what you see in the video, but it doesn't quite match, you're probably at the right place, because, once again, the gas pump scene similarly benefitted from some magical digital editing.

Additionally, Dave concedes that the video does include other stills from places far from Vestal, such as anti-war protests in NYC, D.C. and Texas, plus some photos of mock military vehicles near Manhattan's Madison Square Park that were used as props during the shooting of the 1998 version of Godzilla. He strongly maintains, though, that all of the indoor shots come from Vestal, as well as a majority of the outdoor stuff, plus every single minute of the countless hours of digital editing.

So... mostly filmed in Vestal, and definitely made in Vestal but, is it truly the 2nd-best anti-war song video of all time? Dave would gladly like you to decide if you agree with him, or not. Here's the YouTube link where you can watch that video:



<http://youtu.be/wgYTiaY99Ys>

You can also find links to the "If I Was You" video on the home page, and many other pages, on Dave's website at daveelder.com.



Kevin Ludwig featured in April 8 Coffee House Series

The Coffee House Series at the Vestal Museum will feature singer/songwriter Kevin Ludwig on April 8th from 8 to 10 pm. There will be coffee, tea, and various refreshments. The event is free but generous tips for the musician are encouraged and a donation of \$5.00 is suggested to go toward the museum.

Kevin Ludwig showcases smooth, raspy vocals and wise lyrics well beyond his years. Growing up in a "smoky kitchen", listening to his family members jam on acoustic guitars, Kevin learned from an early age that raw music is derived from the heart and soul of an individual. At 15 years old, Kevin wrote his first song, and has not slowed down. With a repertoire of over 40 original songs, Kevin is writing new material everyday. Hailing from Binghamton, Kevin is currently working with a new project, "Kevin Ludwig and the Several Sons." This group features Kevin's songwriting in full band format, which allows his songs to take on a whole new sound.

Konya Margai of Vestal To Be Peer Advisor at UAlbany

Konya Margai was selected by the Advisement Services Center at the University at Albany to be a Peer Advisor for the spring 2017 semester. Peer advisors are a highly select and comprehensively trained team of students who seek to assist in the college transition. UAlbany peer advisors advocate for students and provide peer-to-peer support as well as direction to campus resources.

To learn more about the Advisement Services Center, visit: albany.edu/advisement.



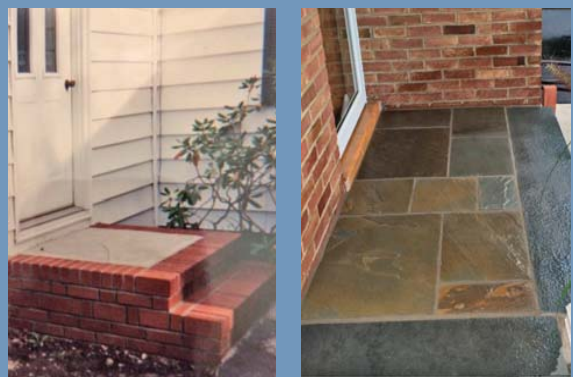
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