

# FUNCTION GIG THERAPY

Chris Mapp

I should have paid to download it instead of streaming it last time, but I came over all cheap. And I missed the last group viewing because of work. Maybe I should have at least ordered it from Amazon and now I'd have a copy; probably would have cost the same as having to stream it.

There must be a way around it. I'm determined not to pay again.

YouTube. There must be some of it on YouTube.

Search: "american graffiti high school hop"

Yes! Got it, this is it.

No it's not. There's a load missing. This is just the band playing that

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Man, I've done so many gigs like this. Going through the motions whilst everyone else enjoys themselves.

The crowd, not the band.

Although sometimes that too, depends on the band.

I wonder if anyone really enjoys these things or they just pretend to because they've seen so many people pretending;

so many times;

in so many movies.

And weddings.

I mean, these guys aren't really playing in the room. How can they really be enjoying it

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Ah, here we go. A bit more of it. Still...

...not all of it....

...maybe on Netflix...

Those zoot suits. At least ours were black, although I was never sure if they really *were* zoot suits. Do Matalan *se*//zoot suits?

Simon had that song, "Zoot suit riot! (Riot!)" I vaguely remember it. A kind-of authentic rock n roll tune about our kind of authentic suits which we played at kind of authentic

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Removed in 2018?!

Why do they do that with Netflix? What epiphany did George Lucas have in 2018?

Okay, Google to the rescue.

... *(Riot!) something, something bottle of beer. Zoot suit riot. (Riot!)...*

Vimeo! I'd forgotten about Vimeo.

Here we go. 1:52:30, the whole movie. Scroll along....

... *something something out of here...*

This looks like the right scene.

... *"Braz - il - ian." (Putal)...*

Maybe I can still get something from it. I watched City of God, and the *whole* of City of Men.

Actually, this is okay. Even if I only know Portuguese swear words.

The tropes are there, I've seen this before.

Not just last month, but hundreds of times.

Repeated endlessly on screen, and from countless gigs from the stage.

The band pretends to play.

Everyone pretends to dance.

They all pretend to have fun.

We all pretend to have fun.

Toilets never explode like that in real life.

Maybe at a function gig they could. It's not real after all.

Curt in the corridor.

On the outside.

This is more familiar territory. Reminiscent of Countless backstage rooms, lit brightly, separated physically, and spiritually. Moving in and out of reality from back to front. Glimpsing the happiest moments of the happiest days, playing over and over in reality, from backstage, on screen, front of house.

players

perpetually

pretending

promenading

pirouetting

pint-drinking

posing

pulling

pint-drinking

perving

pint-drinking

plummeting

pissing

puking...

This isn't my real gig.

**Chris Mapp** is the Head of Music at the University of Warwick's Music Centre. He is a bass player, improviser and composer living and working in Birmingham. His work falls somewhere between composition and improvisation, using sound, music and electronics to satisfy his own sonic curiosity. As a bandleader he has worked with Arve Henriksen, Maja Ratkje, Mark Sanders, Leafcutter John and Dan Nicholls with the ensemble Gonimoblast. He also leads the trio stillfelt alongside Thomas Seminar Ford and Percy Pursglove. As a key member of the Birmingham improvised music scene, Chris has worked with many UK based and Internationally recognised musicians such as Rachel Musson, Ken Vandermark, Paul Dunmall, Jan Bang, Erik Honore and most recently as part of the trio CollapseUncollapse. Chris' artistic practice uses written material as a way of igniting improvisation within an ensemble context combined with electronics, sound spatialisation and visuals. Written themes then become points of departure, destinations or fragments of group improvisation.

