

## VareseNews

### Oasis' talent scout: "their splitting-up was a disaster!"

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**"I didn't support Oasis' splitting-up**, but Liam and Noel have really bad tempers, it was necessary." **Said Alan McGee, the Gallagher brothers' talent scout**, "they had become just a trade-mark, you knew what you could expect from them. Now they have separate projects and we are here to see what is going to happen."

Creation Records Manager, **Alan McGee came to town** with his "British style" for the meeting organised at Via Como Informagiovani, on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March, where he spoke in front of an audience composed of experts and bands to be.

**"I discovered them by chance in a pub in Glasgow.** That night I had to be elsewhere. My first impression wasn't positive, they played a Beatles song in a very bad way. It was only later on that they revealed their true potential." Adds McGee. Wearing a hat and sunglasses, dressed in black and with elegant shoes, McGee talked about his experience in the music world, which began twenty years ago.

He met Oasis during his career, **"they have never been easy to handle. But I have to admit that I have experienced an incredible moment with them.** They have always reached their goals one after the other in an incredible speed, " and this is also the case for other successful bands of the "britpop" genre such as Primal Scream.

A round table in which **music in a digital and downloading period** has been discussed. The latter was organised by Ghost Records for the "Notturmo Giovani" project, to which Francesco Brezzi, Giuseppe Marmina, Christoph Storbeck ( Strike managing director) and Samantha Colombo participated.

"It's not that I want to criticise technology but we have to find an agreement with the music-business" explains Alan McGee. "Free downloading is not a positive thing, the artists' job is not appreciated enough and this gives bands a very low hope for survival. When Napster was born the production companies should have collaborated. **Today, however, there are true problems:** where does the copyright end up? How will music be in the future? How can a musician get on if he doesn't earn money?"

The artist, in short, seems to be obliged to live in two different worlds: the creative and the practical ones, where the Internet is becoming a way to present themselves, to advertise their music, to find venues and promoters. " There is a new trend such as the "netlabel" which are real labels that you can only find online and that can launch successful bands" explained Giuseppe Marmina from Ghost Records. " The Internet is very useful for your contacts" explained Christoph Storbeck. **The youth have to be more dynamic and have to take initiative.** They have to stop waiting for others to do everything for them." In the end, in a world where " music is freely available" it is important to have clear ideas, to know how to surf between blogs and social networks and to be determined. But there is a piece of advice that the experts never forget: "don't copy the other bands, **have more fantasy, take risks, be**

**borderline but keep you origins”** continues McGee. “I have decided to leave Creation Records when Sony Music was created. The ideas were becoming too bland which created a pauper creativity.”

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