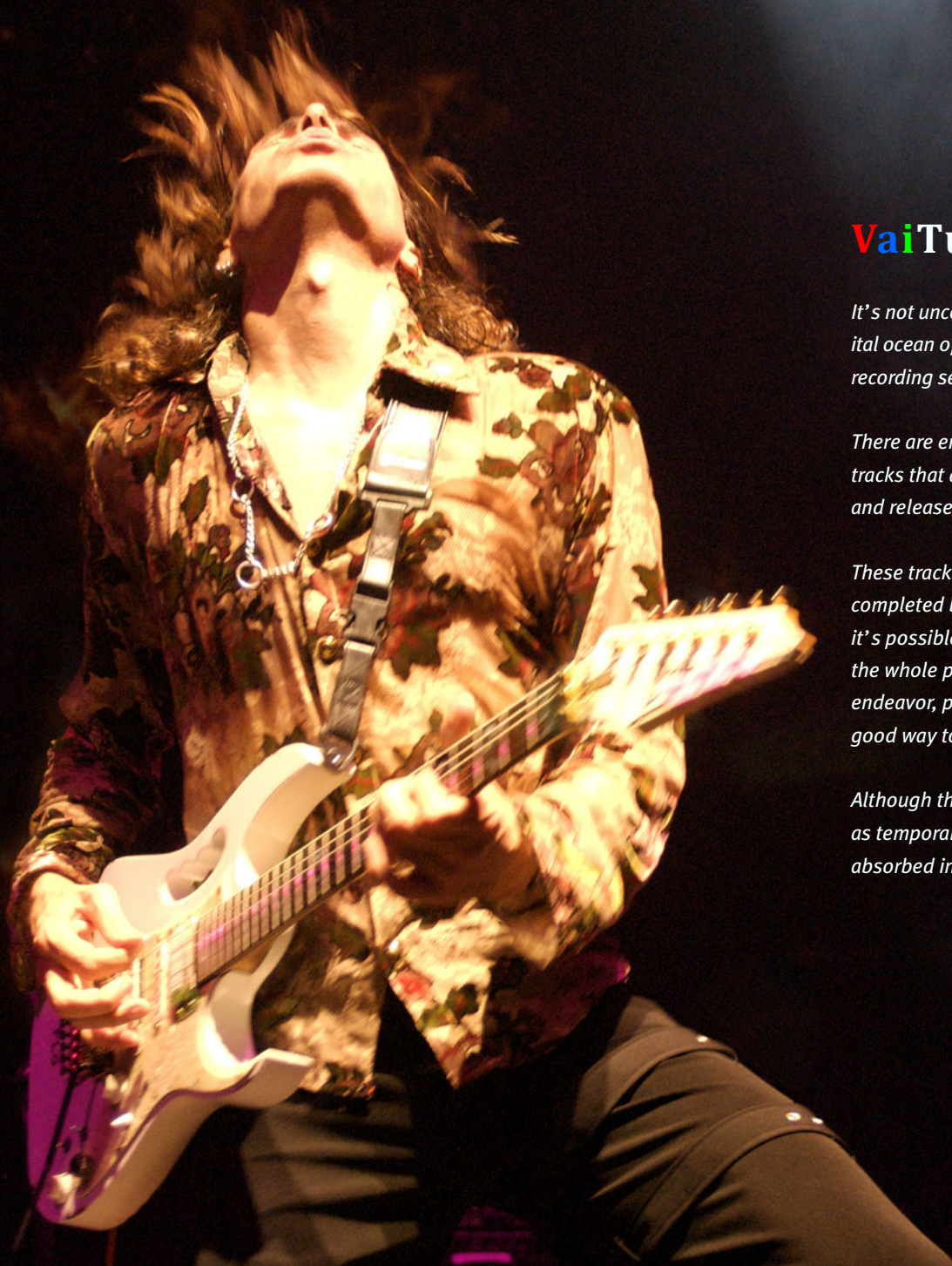




steve vai
speed
vaitunes n°3





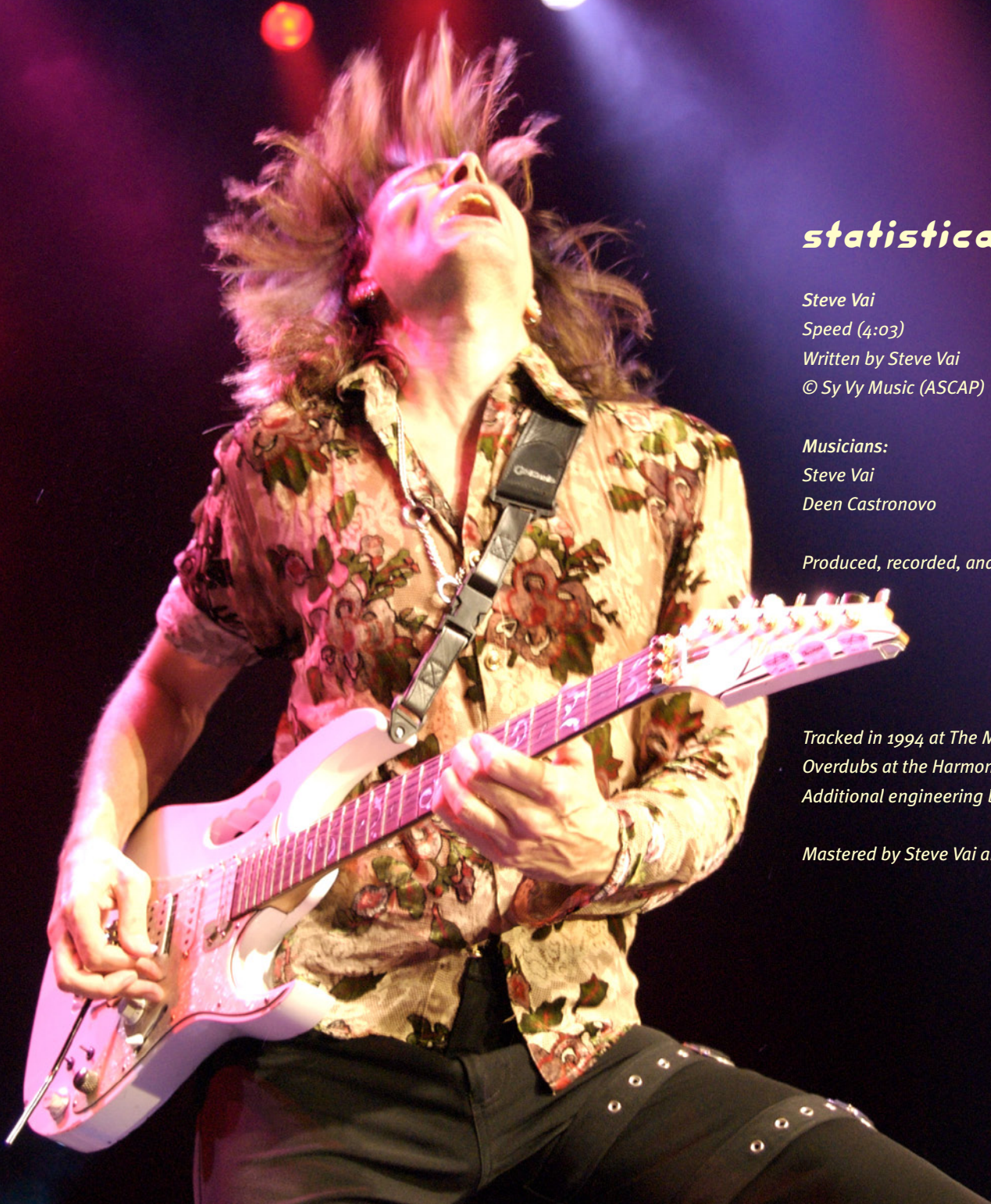
VaiTunes

It's not uncommon for a musician to record more work than they release. In my case I have a digital ocean of snippets in various degrees of completion. Some are leftovers from assorted project recording sessions, projects that were never completed, sound check jams, demo snippets, etc.

*There are enough lonely unreleased notes in my world to fill an "infinity shelf." **VaiTunes** are tracks that are culled from this melodic abyss, brushed off, sometimes severely hosed down, and released as digital singles.*

These tracks may be specific to a particular project that has never had the chance to be a completed big picture, but now, with the advent of all this digital technology and distribution, it's possible to release a variety of tracks from a potential project without having to complete the whole project itself. Eventually, if there are enough tracks completed that fall into a precise endeavor, perhaps they will be compiled and released as a cohesive CD. In any event, it's a good way to release a constant stream of music.

*Although the plan is to continue to create whole, full-bodied CD releases, **VaiTunes** can serve as temporary pacifiers for some delectable melodies to be sucked through the ears and absorbed into the soul.*



statistical info.

Steve Vai

Speed (4:03)

Written by Steve Vai

© Sy Vy Music (ASCAP)

Musicians:

Steve Vai

Guitar and Bass

Deen Castronovo

Drums

Produced, recorded, and engineered by Steve Vai

Tracked in 1994 at The Mothership, Hollywood, CA

Overdubs at the Harmony Hut (Encino, CA)

Additional engineering by Neil Citron and Greg Wurth

Mastered by Steve Vai and Greg Wurth at Audio Laundry Mastering Lab



speed 4:03
song juice

I had just finished the Sex and Religion tour and was considering my next record. I always get ideas when I go running so I headed for the Hollywood Hills and sure enough I was flooded with inspiration.

At that time I had already started the planning stages for what was to become Fire Garden but I knew it was going to be a huge undertaking and I was pining for a simple project that had some stripped down, kick-ass guitar tracks.

During that run in the hills I decided I would record an instrumental trio EP and while I was running I came up with the idea for one of the first songs, which later turned out to be "Kill The Guy With the Ball". I started working on the track the moment I returned to the studio from the run in the hills. The song was broken down into three parts. The first part ended up being a piece called "Speed", the second part "Kill the Guy With the Ball" and the third part "The God Eaters".

I decided not to release "Speed" and eventually sent this track to the late Munetaka Higuchi, who was the drummer for the Japanese metal band Loudness. Although Deen Castronovo was the original drummer on this track, Munetaka re-did the drums with Dream Castle – for the album Free World [1997].

When I was looking for tracks to fill Archives Vol. 3, I took the original version of "Speed" with Deen on drums, spiffed up the guitar track and released it under the name "Speeding".

In the winter of 2010 I received a license request from Guitar Hero for this track. As much of a documentarian and audio pack rat that I am, we could not find the completed multi track masters for this track. I believe I may have inadvertently sent them to Sony with the other Alien Love Secrets masters. I had to actually re-record the guitars because all we could find was the drums and some rhythm tracks. I changed the form a bit and here it is, relatively similar to the version that came out on Archives Vol. 3, but different enough.

This song is about traveling so fast that it feels as though your lips are being peeled back around the top of your head. Just like in this picture here.



Gear

Guitar used:

Evo (Ibanez Jem) for rhythm

Flo III (Ibanez Jem) for leads

Amp set up:

For rhythm, from the guitar into a Bad Horise Wah, into a boss distortion pedal, into the front of a Bogner head.

The send from the back of the Bogner was sent into a TC Electronics G-Force and a bit of stereo delay was used. The stereo return from the delay was sent back to the return of two Bogner heads.

(2) 4x12 cabs with 30 watt celestions were used.

For the solo sound, Flo III into a Cry Baby, into a Jemini distortion pedal, into a Legacy II amp.



Academics

Management: Ruta Sepetys for SEG, Inc. - www.sepetys.com

Label: Light Without Heat, Inc.

Production Management: Pamela Dancy & Lindsey Hess

Art Direction and Photography: Michael Mesker - www.mesker.com

Vai.com and Online: Michael Mesker

Booking: Brian Greenbaum & Chris Dalston at CAA

*Legal: Gerald F. Rosenblatt, Law Offices of Gerald F. Rosenblatt;
Chris Corabi, Law Offices of Chris Corabi.*

Financial Management: Staci Robley & Margaret Robley at R&R Business Management

Steve used: Ibanez Jem Guitars; Bogner Amps; Morley Bad Horsie Wah &

Little Alligator Volume Pedals; DiMarzio Evolution Pickups; Ernie Ball Strings.

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