

EYE MIND

The Saga of Roky Erickson and The 13th Floor Elevators, The Pioneers of Psychedelic Sound

by Paul Drummond
Foreword by Julian Cope

"One of the most exhilarating and important
rock 'n' roll stories ever told."

—Julian Cope

The trailblazing 13th Floor Elevators released the first "psychedelic" rock album in America, transforming culture throughout the 1960s and beyond while following their own cosmic agenda—to change society by finding a new path to enlightenment. Their battles with repressive authorities in Texas and their escape to San Francisco's embryonic counterculture are legendary.

When the Elevators returned to Texas, the band became subject to investigation by Austin police. Lead singer Roky Erickson was forced into a real-life enactment of *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* and was put away in a maximum-security unit for the criminally insane for years. Tommy Hall, their Svengali lyricist, lived in a cave. Guitarist Stacy Sutherland was imprisoned. The drummer was involuntarily subjected to electric shock treatments, and the bassist was drafted into the Vietnam War.

This definitive biography, nine years in the making, breaks decades of silence of band members and addresses a huge cult following of Elevators fans in the United States and Europe. The group is revered as a formative influence on Janis Joplin, Led Zeppelin, Patti Smith, Primal Scream, R.E.M, and Z.Z. Top.

About the author: Paul Drummond is the manager of the Roky Erickson archive. He has worked with a varied range of people as a set designer and art director in the music and fashion industries, including Erasure, Karl Lagerfeld, and Alexander McQueen. This is his first book.

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BY **PAUL DRUMMOND** FOREWORD BY **JULIAN COPE**



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