

## Ad Vanderveen – Bio

Ad Vanderveen was born in Hilversum, Netherlands on 21<sup>st</sup> September 1956. His mother had played organ in church when she was a young woman, and at home his father played piano. Ad was given his first guitar at the age of seven, and would also attempt to play the family piano. When he began listening to records, it was to The Beatles, Rolling Stones and the Kinks. Later, Ad discovered the music of Neil Young and numerous other singer/songwriters. Around 1970 Ad and a group of school friends would jam as The Young Neils [a quarter of a century later they became The O'Neils]. His high school band was called Room Service, and changing the name to Brinker they cut a pair of pop singles. Vanderveen's first country rock band, The Cotton Brothers, subsequently mutated into Personnel.

Personnel, also featured Philip Kroonenberg - another renowned Dutch singer/songwriter, and their debut album on the Boni Records label was titled "**On Strike.**" Three years later C&W Records issued "**Off The Record,**" which was credited to Ad Vanderveen and Personnel. Recorded in Switzerland, "**Personnel Only**" was the band's breakthrough recording, and this Polydor release featured the hit single "Everybody Knows." The follow-up album, "**Continuing Stories,**" recorded in Nashville and produced by Bill Halverson, featured guest appearances by Al Kooper, Flaco Jimenez, Al Perkins and Leland Sklar. Ad then decided to leave the band.

Vanderveen launched his solo career in 1993 with the mini-album "**Travel Light,**" a Polydor release. The full-length recording, "**Sooner Or Later,**" on Via Records, was greeted with critical acclaim, while David Olney was a guest on "**Brand New Everytime.**" "**Wonders Of The World**" closed with a fourteen minute long rendition of Neil Young's "Cortez The Killer." The latter cut presaged Vanderveen's next project, which was to form the O'Neil's with three old school friends – Roel Overduin [drums], Matijn Van Donk [bass] and Hans Minkema [guitar]. The quartet's self-titled 1998 album on the Dutch imprint, Inbetween Records, featured eleven songs penned by Ad, most of which were performed as hard rock numbers – *all rattle and hum* – in the vein of a Neil Young electrically charged excursion with Crazy Horse. Well almost, as a couple of lighter acoustic numbers topped the set off. The following year Vanderveen released a couple of CD EP's. The title track of "**Eyes Never Lie,**" featuring Ad and The O'Neils, was teamed with two solo cuts and a live recording, while the three track "**Star Of Bethlehem**" by Ad and Sonya Hunter, took its title from Neil Young's song.

Working out of his home studio, and sub-titled "*Songs From The Basement,*" Ad next project "**Here Now,**" recorded in 1999, found him once more in an acoustic setting. Iain Matthews, who settled in Holland in the Spring of Y2K, following almost three decades as U.S. resident, appeared on the tracks "Lasting Kind Of Peace" and "Darkness Under The Sun." Prior to Matthews' relocation to Europe, in early 2000, Ad had been in Texas for the initial recording sessions of what became the trio recording "**More Than A Song.**" The trio consisted of Matthews, Vanderveen and Eliza Gilkyson. Subsequent sessions took place in Norg, Holland in early 2001 and the album appeared in Europe that Fall. The trio undertook a lengthy tour of Holland in February/March 2002 which resulted in the live album "**Witness,**" plus a documentary DVD titled – "**Witness**" !!!!!

Backtracking a little, recently returned from Texas, in Amen, Netherlands on February 6, 2000, Ad recorded the *solo/live* album "**One On One.**" The fifteen songs he performed, spanned Ad's career from Personnel through his five solo discs and work with The O'Neils, and the collection included a pair of previously unrecorded songs. On the recording, Ad displaying his diversity by accompanying himself on guitar, dobro, piano and harmonica. A couple of months later, on May 7<sup>th</sup> 2000, at the Café De Amer in Amer, Holland the duo recorded a fourteen song *duo/live* album that they subsequently titled "**The Iain Adventure.**" The duo toured the UK that fall and again in the Spring of 2002. Stateside, Iain and Ad performed at the September 2002 Americana Music Conference in Nashville. In the Spring of 2003, Vanderveen was the support act on Plainsong's UK tour to promote their latest album "**Pangolins.**"

Ad's latest solo album "**The Moment That Matters**" surfaced in the Spring of 2003, and features ten original songs and two covers. David Olney guests on his classic composition "If My Eyes Were Blind," and The O'Neils [Tiimon Van Heerdt [guitar] replaced Hans Minkema], Eliza Gilkyson, Astrid Young and Iain Matthews contributed to the sessions.

Discography :  
Albums :

with Personnel : **“On Strike”** [1983] ; **“Off The Record”** [1986] ; **“Personnel Only”** [1990] ;  
**“Continuing Stories”** [1992] :  
with Iain Matthews : **“The *Iain* Adventure”** [2000] :  
with More Than A Song : **“More Than A Song”** [2001 Europe/2003 U.S.A.] ; **“Witness”** [2003] :  
Solo : **“Travel Light”** mini album [1993] ; **“Sooner Or Later”** [1994] ; **“Brand New Everytime”** [1995] ;  
**“Wonders Of The World”** [1997] ; **“The O’Neils”** [1998] ; **“Here Now”** [2000] ; **“One On One”** [2001] ;  
**“The Moment That Matters”** [2003] :  
DVD : **“Witness”** [2003] :

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