

In the garage of a south side Chicago home, three young highschool boys formed a band. Dennis DeYoung and twins John and Chuck Panozzo were laying the foundations for Styx.

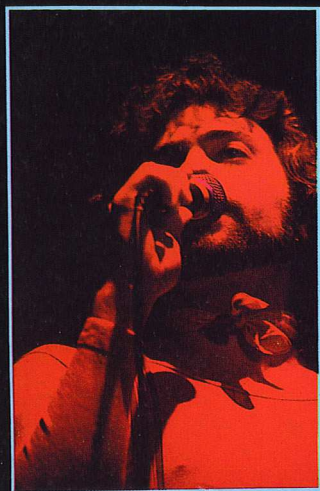
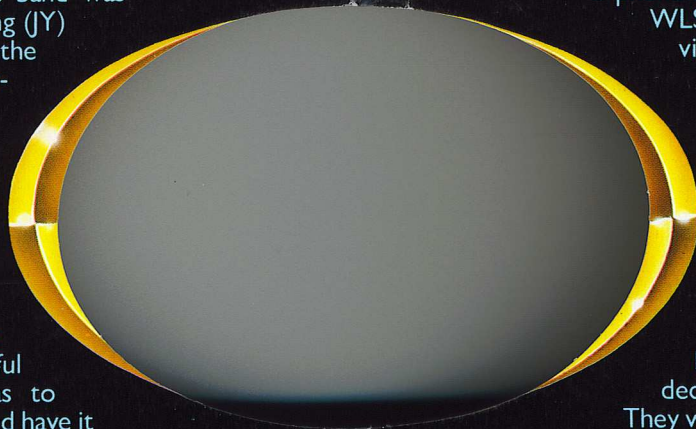
In those early days, the band was known as TW4. James Young (JY) joined them to complete the line-up, bringing a progressive rock influence to their sound. "He was the best guitar player we had ever heard", bassist Chuck Panozzo comments. "When we were appearing locally", Dennis explains, "audiences only cared about the easily recognizable music of already successful artists. The real test was to perform original material and have it accepted."

The next test was to get on record. Signed to Chicago-based Wooden Nickel Records in 1970, the group changed its name to Styx. The group's first album was introduced in the summer of 1971. "Styx I" recieved critical

raves but little nationwide airplay. Their next album, "Styx II", showed their musical progression and refinement of their raw talents.

Suddenly, "Lady", a cut from "Styx II", started getting a phenomenal number of requests at WLS in Chicago, breaking all previous record requests. The programme director began playing the song once a night. The unexpected response sparked the official re-release of the single. It blossomed into a national hit and thrust "Styx II" into certified gold status. But the success of "Lady" did not propel the band to stardom. So the group decided to change their approach.

They went 'label shopping' and were signed by A & M. "Equinox", the band's first self-produced album, soon followed. "Until that point", drummer John Panozzo remembers, "We had been searching for our own niche in the music business. 'Equinox' is that niche defined".



DENNIS DE YOUNG
Keyboards, Vocals and Synthesizers.



JOHN PANOZZO
Drums, Percussion and Vocals.

