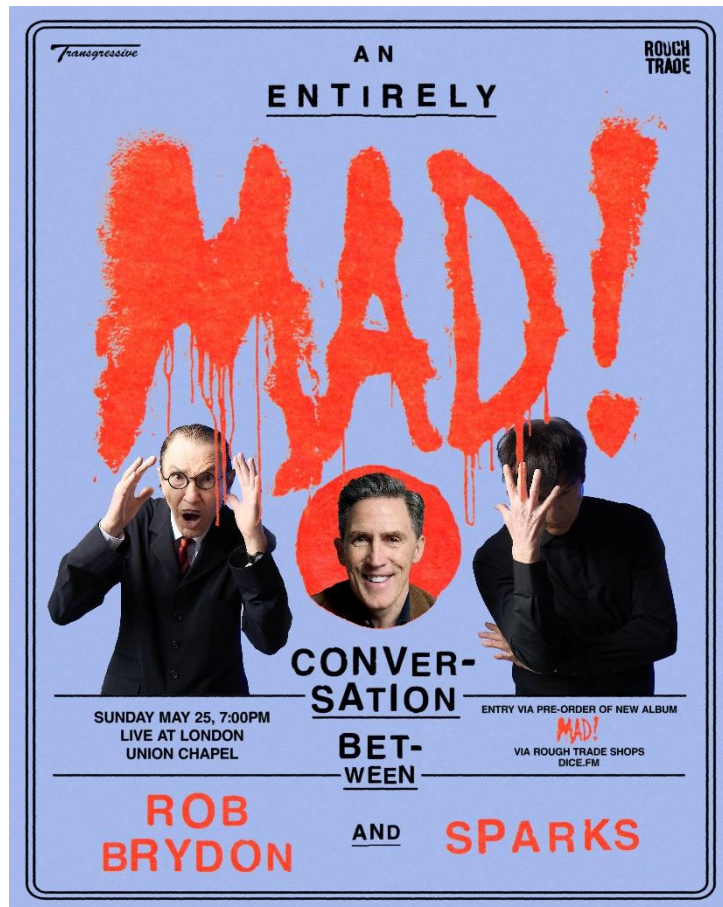


**Rough Trade Shops and Transgressive Records Present**

**AN ENTIRELY MAD! CONVERSATION BETWEEN  
ROB BRYDON AND SPARKS**

*"I still have the cassette of Propaganda, a present on my ninth birthday. Since then Sparks have held a very special place in my heart. They are the epitome of creativity and musicality. I am so looking forward to meeting them and having a MAD! discussion."* Rob Brydon



Rough Trade Shops and Transgressive Records are excited to present **An Entirely MAD! Conversation Between Rob Brydon and Sparks!** This unique event will take place at the **Union Chapel, Islington, London** on **Sunday May 25<sup>th</sup>** and celebrates the release of the band's 28<sup>th</sup> album, **'MAD!'**, on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Tickets for the event include a physical copy of the MAD! album on CD, cassette or vinyl and can be purchased via <https://link.dice.fm/W9b908f3d0f7>. **On sale Mon, April 28th, 10:00 am (BST).**

Ahead of their MAD! Tour this summer, which includes dates in London, Manchester, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Wolverhampton, Sparks - Ron and Russell Mael - will join actor, presenter and

comedian Rob Brydon for an evening that promises to be insightful and illuminating, containing fresh perspectives on a career that has spanned in excess of five decades.

Speaking about the event Ron and Russell said, *“As we’ve never had the honor of meeting British Royalty, we are extremely excited to be in discussion with Rob Brydon, MBE and, incidentally, one of the funniest people alive.”*

Despite the efforts of Edgar Wright's superb 2021 documentary *The Sparks Brothers*, which introduced the duo to a wider audience than ever before, the exact creative dynamic between Ron and Russell Mael remains inscrutable.

The one thing we know for certain is that Ron Mael is one of our most acutely perceptive observers of social mores. In a different discipline – dramaturg, cartoonist, novelist, cineaste, chronicler – he'd be a Moliere, a Hogarth, a Fitzgerald, an Altman, a Swift. He just happens to work within the medium of popular song. His brother Russell Mael has the asset of a talent to put those observations across in a uniquely arresting manner, captivating as a frontman and gifted with a countertenor voice of extraordinary range. The alchemy between Ron on keys and Russell on vocals is simply what they do. And they've rarely done it better than on *MAD!*.

Sparks will be on tour in June, July and September - tickets and further information available [here](#).

#### **MAD! Tour Dates:**

Sun. June 8 - Kyoto, JP @ ROHM Theatre  
Tue. June 10 - Osaka, JP @ Zepp Namba  
Thu. June 12 - Fri. June 13 - Tokyo, JP @ EX Theater  
Wed. June 18 - Thu. June 19 - London, UK @ Eventim Apollo  
Sat. June 21 - Sun. June 22 - Manchester, UK @ O2 Apollo  
Tue. June 24 - Glasgow, UK @ Royal Concert Hall (SOLD OUT)  
Thu. June 26 - Haarlem, NL @ PHIL Haarlem  
Sat. June 28 - Brussels, BE @ Cirque Royal  
Mon. June 30 - Paris, FR @ La Salle Pleyel  
Tue. July 1 - Cologne, DE @ Live Music Hall  
Thu. July 3 - Copenhagen, DK @ The Koncerthuset  
Fri. July 4 - Stockholm, SE @ Grona Lund Tivoli  
Sun. July 6 - Berlin, DE @ Uber Eats  
Tue. July 8 - Milan, IT @ Teatro degli Arcimboldi  
Sat. July 12 - Bilbao, ES @ Bilbao BBK  
Tue. July 15 - Dublin, IE @ National Stadium  
Wed. July 16 - Dublin, IE @ National Stadium  
Fri. July 18 - Edinburgh, UK @ Edinburgh Playhouse  
Sat. July 19 - Wolverhampton, UK @ The Halls  
Fri. Sept. 5 - Atlanta, GA @ Tabernacle  
Mon. Sept. 8 - Philadelphia, PA @ Keswick Theatre  
Tue. Sept. 9 - Washington, DC @ Lincoln Theatre  
Thu. Sept. 11 - Boston, MA @ Berklee Performance Center  
Fri. Sept. 12 - Brooklyn, NY @ Kings Theatre  
Sun. Sept. 14 - Columbus, OH @ The Athenaeum Theatre

Mon. Sept. 15 - Cleveland, OH @ TempleLive at Cleveland Masonic  
Wed. Sept. 17 - Toronto, On @ Queen Elizabeth Theatre  
Date tba – Chicago, IL @ Riot Fest  
Sat. Sept. 20 - St. Paul, MN @ Fitzgerald Theater  
Tue. Sept. 23 - Vancouver, BC @ Vogue Theatre  
Wed. Sept. 24 - Seattle, WA @ Moore Theatre  
Fri. Sept. 26 - Portland, OR @ Revolution Hall  
Sat. Sept. 27 - San Francisco, CA @ Golden Gate Theatre  
Mon. Sept. 29 - El Cajon, CA @ The Magnolia  
Tue. Sept. 30 - Los Angeles, CA @ The Greek Theatre



MAD! Album Artwork

[Pre-order](#) *MAD!*

[Watch](#) the Video for 'Drowned in a Sea of Tears'

[Listen](#) to 'Drowned In A Sea Of Tears'

[Listen](#) to 'JanSport Backpack'

[Watch](#) the video for 'Do Things My Own Way'

### **MAD! Tracklisting**

- 1 Do Things My Own Way
- 2 JanSport Backpack
- 3 Hit Me, Baby
- 4 Running Up A Tab At The Hotel For The Fab
- 5 My Devotion
- 6 Don't Dog It

- 7 In Daylight
- 8 I-405 Rules
- 9 A Long Red Light
- 10 Drowned In A Sea Of Tears
- 11 A Little Bit Of Light Banter
- 12 Lord Have Mercy

**MAD! physical formats - pre-order [here](#)**

CD

Cassette

Black vinyl LP

Lenticular gatefold sleeve with blue vinyl LP

Deluxe triple gatefold edition with red vinyl LP and CD (exclusive to [store.allsparks.com](https://store.allsparks.com))



#### Sparks Online:

[Official Website](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Threads](#) | [Facebook](#) | [X](#)

-ENDS-

**[Download hi-res press images of Sparks](#)**

Further information on *MAD!* and background on Sparks is [available here](#).