Original Music Mick Harvey

Music Supervisor  Jacqui Dennis
Music Editor      Chris Pettifer
Recorded at      Platinum Studio
Engineered by    Ross Cockle

'Don't Fence Me In'
Performed by Frankie Laine
Composed by Cole Porter © 1944 Warner Bros. Inc. (ASCAP). All rights reserved
Courtesy of Prestige Records (UK) Limited
Licensed from Rajon Entertainment Pty Ltd

'Black & Blue'
Performed by Chain
Written by Taylor/Manning/Sullivan/Harvey (Festival Music Pty Ltd, Australia)
© 1971 Festival Records Australia Pty Ltd
Licensed from Festival Mushroom Group

'Sweet Love'
Performed by Renee Geyer
Written by Geyer/Sullivan/Logan/Tell/Punch (Mushroom Music Pty Ltd)
Courtesy of Mushroom Records Pty Ltd

'Bad Boy For Love'
Performed by Rose Tattoo
Written by Ian Rilen (© 1977 J Albert & Son Pty Ltd)
Courtesy of Albert Productions

'Forever Now'
Performed by Cold Chisel
Written by Steve Prestwich (© 1982 Big Bang Music Publishing Pty Ltd)
All rights administered by EMI Music Publishing Australia Pty Ltd
Courtesy of Warner Music Australia Pty Ltd

'Release The Bats'
Performed by The Birthday Party
Written by Cave/ Harvey (Mute Song/Mushroom Music Pty Ltd)
Courtesy of The Birthday Party Pty Ltd

'Stuck On You'
Performed by Rose Tattoo
Written by Anderson/Leach/Cocks/Wells/Royal (© 1977 J Albert & Son Pty Ltd)
Courtesy of Albert Productions

'Senile Dementia'
Performed by The Saints
Written by Chris Bailey (Mushroom Music Pty Ltd)
Courtesy of Lost Records/Luxborough Ltd
'Ever Lovin' Man'
Performed by The Loved Ones
Written by Clyne/Humphries/Anderson/Lovett/Lynch (Mushroom Music Pty Ltd)
Courtesy of Mercury Records Australia
Under licence from Universal Music Australia Pty Ltd

Soundtrack CD available on Liberation Music
Liberation - logo

**CD release:**

A CD of the soundtrack was released, with some editions having a sticker noting that the disc offered bonus movie footage:
CD LIBERATION/MUSHROOM LIBCD2003.2  2000 (Enhanced CD - Includes movie footage - MA15+)

Composed and Performed by Mick Harvey
Film Music Supervisor: Jacqui Dennis.

01: The Theme 0'30"
02: The Plan 0'43"
03: Don’t Fence Me In (Cole Porter) 3’04” Vocals: Frankie Laine
04: The Average Man 0’09”
05: Everloving Man (Lovett/Anderson/Lynch/Clyne/Humphries) 2’08” Vocals: The Loved Ones
06: The Stabbing 2’39”
07: Sweet Love (Geyer/Punch/Sullivan/Logan/Tell) 3’17”Vocals: Renee Geyer
08: The Release Theme 0’27”
09: Forever Now (Preswich) 4’25” Vocals: Cold Chisel
10: The Girlfriend 0’28”
11: Stuck on You (Anderson/Cocks/Royall/Leach/Wells) 3’54” Vocals: Rose Tattoo
12: The Gate 0’27”
13: Release the Bats (Cave/Harvey) 2’27” Vocals: Birthday Party
Lyrics:

There is an opening title card:

This film is a dramatisation in which narrative liberties have been taken. It is not a biography.

Chopper is in a prison cell with a couple of warders, watching himself being interviewed on television.

A title introduces him as “Mark Brandon Read 1991”, and the interview ends with Chopper talking about how the average person thinks he’s a freak and the interview is a freak show, and says “I'm just a bloody normal bloke, a normal bloke who likes a bit of torture,” followed by a deep laugh.

Music begins as a title announces Eric Bana as Chopper and head credits roll. The song is Frankie Lane singing Don't Fence Me In, running over time lapse photography of prison images. The lyrics as heard in the film:

Oh, give me land, lots of land, under starry skies above
Don't fence me in
Let me ride through the wide open country that I love
Don't fence me in.
Let me be by myself in the evenin' breeze
An' listen to the murmur of the cottonwood trees
Send me off forever but I ask you please
Don't fence me in
Just turn me loose, let me straddle my old saddle
Underneath the western skies
On my cayuse, let me wander over yonder
'Till I see the mountains rise
I want to ride to the ridge where the west commences
And gaze at the moon 'till I lose my senses
And I can't look at harbours and I can't stand fences
Don't fence me in ...

(The song runs longer in the recorded version, but ends here in the film as credits finish, and a card pops up, white lettering over black, reading:

H Division
David Field’s Keithy George then introduces Chopper to the concept of a line in a prison recreation area, and it’s on …)

Composer Mick Harvey:

Mick Harvey is a veteran of the Australian music scene, and is too well known to detail at length here. He started with Nick Cave back in the days of The Birthday Party, and even managed to sneak a Birthday Party track on to the soundtrack, along with a few related songs from the time, such as The Saints and Chain. Harvey has a relatively detailed wiki listing here.

While there are many references and interviews available by googling, Nathan Bush does a good overview of Harvey’s career at Allmusic here, with this excerpt noting Harvey’s work for film:

Using any idle time between his two day jobs, Harvey composed soundtrack music for the documentary Identity - Kid and Gisa Schleelein’s Totes Geld (both 1987). This would become the pattern for Harvey as he would bide time between Bad Seeds and Crime albums with film work (Alta Marea & Vaterland collects projects from 1987-1992), production duties, and guest appearances, all the while remaining one of the few constants in the Bad Seeds’ fluctuating lineup. Harvey’s most significant solo work came in 1995 with Intoxicated Man, a tribute to Serge Gainsbourg. A culmination of his craft, Harvey shifted easily through a number of settings, from the rollicking tribute to American outlaws "Bonnie and Clyde" to the dripping sentimentality of "Overseas Telegram." 1997 brought greater change for the Bad Seeds as Cave wrote a group of piano-led ballads for The Boatman’s Call. Harvey contributed to most songs, but the sparse and reserved material called into question the necessity of the group.

Harvey released Intoxicated Man’s companion, Pink Elephants, the same year, and in 1999 curated the Bad Seeds’ Best Of collection. He composed his tenth collection of film music for Andrew Dominik’s Chopper, in 2000. A few years later, Harvey created the original score for Australian Rules, a 2002 film by director Paul Goldman. In 2005, Harvey resumed his solo career with One Man’s Treasure. A selection of his film scores appeared as Motion Picture Music 1945-2005 from EMI in 2007, followed later in the year by a new studio album, Two of Diamonds. Harvey left the Bad Seeds in the late 2000s.

Three tracks from Chopper made it into the CD collection of Harvey’s film music:
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All tracks composed by Mick Harvey except "Papua/New Guinea" (U2, "With or Without You"). "Killer (Harvey/McLachlan)" and "End Titles (Parenti/Harvey)" and "The Farewell Song" (Caves/Harvey).

All songs published by Benefit Party Pubs. String/arrangement by Rockwell.

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(Below: Mick Harvey, first in a suitably Chopper-related pose, and then later in life)