

Carbon Dating Service

Consisting of an unconventional 8-10 piece line up, this Saskatoon-based indie rock band brings together electronics with harp, viola, a 3-piece brass section, five vocalists and a miscellany of other instruments such as dobro, steel drum, melodica and mandolin, on top of a standard rock rhythm section. Songs range from quiet country gems to raging psych-rock experiments to triumphant pop symphonies.

This group started as a duo (of Teargas Recording Tree co-founders Jim Ginther and Steve Reed) under the name Awkward Silence in 2002. The band slowly expanded, growing out of it's minimalist roots to its current state as an 8-10 member pop orchestra with members joining from classical orchestras, jazz ensembles and, of course, lo-fi indie rock bands. The current lineup is: Steve Reed, Jim Ginther, Zach Low, Toby Bond, Brian Cochrane, Sarah Rutley, Tyson McShane, Mairin Loewen, Alex Loewen & Alison Whelan.

Having spent much of 2005 and 2006 writing, recording, and performing new material in Saskatoon, it's with great anticipation that Carbon Dating Service releases their self-titled debut album on June 30th, 2006. With the release comes an inaugural Western Canadian tour taking the band from Saskatoon to Victoria and back. Further touring is planned for Fall 2006. In the past, Carbon Dating Service has shared the stage with artists ranging from local electro-pop wonderkid Maybe Smith, to West Coast popsters The Winks and Immaculate Machine, to prairie powerhouses Novillero and Sylvie.



“Comprised of one viola, a trumpet, two trombones, a harp, keyboards; your standard guitar, drums, and bass, the 10-member ensemble were a sight to behold. Their repertoire jumps all over the map, drawing from alt-country, psych-revival, and noise rock in one breath.” - The Sheaf

“Carbon Dating Service tunes often begin as tinkly folk songs, featuring harp or keys along with plaintive vocals. Then the songs morph into full-on rockers with barreling drums, cymbal crashes, and both guitars and horns blaring. It doesn't try to be, but it is triumphant music.” - The Saskatoon Star Phoenix

“Layers of warm, gentle instrumentation piled on like blankets; a pretty tune with a pace in no hurry to get anywhere - this song sounds more or less exactly like what I would expect from a ten piece band of twentysomethings from Saskatoon.” – Fluxblog.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION, please visit:

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