Sans Souci Quartet

Two years after the release of their debut album (*Knock Yourself Out*), *Sans Souci Quartet* has announced the release of their second studio album, *Lemming*. The new album continues to push the traditional music envelope while combining a blend of American roots and modern string band music.





Lemming (2011)

Lemming was crafted by heartache and hard living mixed with a tinge of laughter. The album's opening track, PGOAT, features the unmistakable fiddle style of guest musician Ryan Young (Trampled by Turtles) and wistful lyrics by the band's mandolin player and influential song writer, Eric Larson. On Tires, guitarist and singer/songwriter Zach Gusa howls, like the backing steel guitar of Shane Akers (Doug Otto and the Getaways), about loss and redemption. Midway through the album, the quartet takes the listener on a deliberately spacey instrumental journey. Spud's Dream features a lonely banjo, played

by Eric Roberts, that first evokes a dream world and later progresses toward a full crescendo anchored by Adam Lutz on upright bass. Throughout *Lemming*, the ensemble provides the listener with a mix of soft melodic interludes, driving vocal harmonies, and arpeggiated mayhem. With the guiding hand of producer Ian Thomas Alexy (*The Hobo Nephews of Uncle Frank*), *Lemming* is sure to resonate with listeners old and new.

"Sans Souci Quartet attributes their success to the strong acoustic music scene in the Twin Cities area. The group has established a niche somewhere between the bluegrass and Americana/roots music scenes in this region, playing traditional instruments while pushing the traditional music envelope."

