

**Overview:**

Allow me to introduce Lockgroove and announce that their long-awaited new record, *Calm Right Down*, is finally complete and ready for mass consumption. This, their 2nd full-length, expands tremendously upon the "space rock" formulae their debut "Sleeping on the Elephant Fog" put in place. Gone are the 20+ minute noise jams - replaced instead by far more concise and potent blasts of sound combined with beautifully crafted pop. The band underwent a metamorphosis of sorts during the 3+ years spent writing, recording, doubting, slacking, and generally hammering away at their vision of this album. *Calm Right Down* is the result

of countless hours of work at Dented Head Studios, the home base of the SharkAttack! Music label collective. Additionally, *Calm Right Down* is an album for the first time entirely written, engineered, and produced by Lockgroove, and features guest appearances from a number of Boston's finest musicians.

Notes on Lockgroove:

- + Five-piece formed in 1997. Drums, Bass, Two Guitars, Keys, Vocals – and a Strobe. Currently a four-piece with original members Ryan Rex, Martin Rex, Adam Brilla and Dave Doom (see pg. 2 for a tale of great woe).
- + East Coast tours and shows with Swirlies, Sonic Boom (Spectrum), Mazarin, Bardo Pond, +/-, Bloodthirsty Lovers, Luna, Brian Jonestown Massacre, etc. Appearances at CMJ music festivals - and Terrastock Festival with Sonic Youth, Lilys, Acid Mother's Temple, etc.
- + Upcoming release features guest appearances from Seana Carmody (Swirlies/Syrup USA/Shenzou 5), Valerie Forgione (Mistle Thrush), Matt Mirande and John Rex (Charlene).
- + Helped create and organize the festival series in Boston called Deep Heaven and then The Electric Funeral - art, music, visuals and performance mixed and mingled at these mostly illegal happenings in unconventional venues - drawing bands from Six Finger Satellite to Kool Keith.
- + Lockgroove's "Calm Right Down" is the 2nd full-length released by the Boston DIY collective label SharkAttack! Music. Also the home of Charlene & Compass.
- + Lockgroove and Charlene have in the past shared members and continue to collaborate both in the studio and live. The bands are kindred spirits and have come together to support each other.
- + "Calm Right Down" was recorded, mixed, and produced by Lockgroove at Dented Head Studios in Nonantum, MA.
- + Debuted with an EP on Krave Records in 1998 followed shortly by an LP in 2000. Appearances on numerous compilations: Fenway Recordings' "In Our Lifetime" series, 84 Kingston Compilation on Sealed Fate, etc. A 7in vinyl release and 3 song contribution to SharkAttack! Music's 3.5 EPs compilation marked the beginning of a new phase of creative output, with its current level of maturation apparent in the upcoming Full Length LP.
- + Lockgroove's "Bullet With Your Name It" was recently licensed by Warner Bros. for use on their "One Tree Hill" television series.
- + Since their debut LP, Lockgroove has grown tentacles which have extended to form many excellent side projects. Bassist Dave Doom left the country for a time in 2003 to France-via-Canada, and hatched a little scheme by the name of Compass. Guitarist Adam Brilla formed the Broken River Prophet, as well as picking up a bass for Seana Carmody and the Shenzou 5. Future projects are planned with members of Charlene – stay tuned.

On a benumbed October night in a semi-legal warehouse in Boston, amongst a strange assemblage of rock bands, performers, and fans, Lockgroove play their last show as a five-piece. The show is dubbed the "Electric Funeral." It is set up in an enormous warehouse space that doubles as an animal toy storage unit. "Electric Funeral" proves an apt title, as it will be organizer and Lockgroove keyboardist Daniel Finn's last show with the band.

Strange vibe - right off the bat. You look over and see Ironlung from Scissorfight. His intense gaze is curiously inspecting the costumed Kaiju Big Battel crew, who are staging their first steel-cage match that night (where, incidentally, Uchu Chu takes a beating from Cube, but not before he crowns the Box Head with an extra long light bulb). The countless performers set up their respective "camps" in clumps specking the floor of the massive space. There's Cave In, 5ive, Cul De Sac, and Lockgroove. The DJs are setting up...I think those are the fire dancers warming up over there, and I'm pretty damn sure that's not a band, it must be the S&M act. And you know, right, that Kool Keith is going to be here soon for soundcheck? Yeah, he's headlining.



To round out the freakshow, fans take the request to dress up in Halloween garb to heart. All of this, of course, is a recipe for an amazing night. Either that, or an evening that falls ass-backwards into a shit-storm of anarchy and bad vibes. Guess which happens.

Angry and freezing fans of the 15+ divergent bands mingle outside as the Boston Police Department hover over the entranceway, casting a tense vibe over the beginning of the show - checking permits and interrogating Finn.

Even before the show, things in the Lockgroove camp are weird. Singer and Lockgroove founder Ryan Rex refuses for the first time to perform with the band due to tensions with Finn. As set times start balking and chaos ensues with the shuttling of bands on and off stage, bassist Dave Goodman, in a glowing white Tyvek suit, looks on hazily, sucking down tequila from a bottle he has adopted. He begins grinning in a shit-eating manner - the type that makes you worry. People continue to pour past the police into the show, cold, wet and pissed off.

Things become progressively degenerative as the hours pass. Too suddenly, Lockgroove is due up to play. It's 12:17 a.m. Drummer Martin Rex clips from his soporific zone and bends a lazy nod towards a nameless individual attempting to convey (at a show they set up, mind you) that there are only a few minutes for the band to play. The gentleman also alerts Martin that "You can't use your own shit - gotta use what's up there." Fucking great...

Rob Laakso from the Swirlies, who is in Lockgroove as a fill-in (and who will become Finn's replacement in seven minutes), grins his way onto stage, followed by a stumbling Finn and a semi-incapacitated Martin (not to mention a sober and annoyed guitarist Adam Brilla). The bassist and his bottle are nowhere to be found.

As far as Lockgroove shows go - a fucking disaster. What more can you expect, though, from a show where 7-ounce drafts are \$3 on one end of the bar and \$7 on the other? Where Boston P.D. interrupt the good sets and let the shitty ones fly? Where a lame-ass S&M performance features a screaming asshole on stage shouting "You ever seen any shit like THIS?!?", to which your only answer is, "Yes, quite a few times."

So they play - not much else they can do. Seven minutes later, it's over, leaving a stunned crowd screaming and confused, many wondering, where the hell are the singer and bassist?

Ryan Rex, safe and cozy at home, does not imagine that Dave Goodman is also safe and cozy, albeit in his own fashion - prostrate in the back cab of his rusty Saab with the engine running, in a soiled Tyvek suit, hugging his empty bottle of tequila like a god-damned Teddy Bear.

And that was pretty much that.