OFFT EMPO

#2

Garrett Kelly (of Seattle, WA)

Hymen (*seattle, wa*) - This local post-post-punk improv band (Justin Legg of Shithouse, Joseph Braley of Mother's Anger, Amanda Sloan) started to inspire others to "gain the courage to live loud". Judging from the bootleg practice recordings I've come across, their particular brand of loudness sounds like: throbbing feedback over incessant drumming (think Nirvana's Scentless Apprentice but intended more as a trace-beat), with Amanda's growls & angry chants sprinkled generously over the top.
[internet presence N/A at the time of this publication]

Thropia (*seattle, wa*) - Dave Kempf, is the 53 year old artist behind Thropida. Upon first hearing his meandering soundscapes, (fumbling keyboard trumpet leads played over the built-in rhythm sounds or youtube videos of intense one man bedroom guitar shredding) I made a deliberate effort to procure as many physical copies of his material as I could. Let's just say, I have one of his 3-D animated films (without accompanying soundtrack) on my way in the mail.
[http://airplaydirect.com/music/bands/11445/index.php]

Luke Bergman (of Seattle, WA)

Chemical Clock (*seattle, wa*) - "Fucked Jazz." Their 22-minute album whiplashes between bit-crushed, demented video game music and soaring, victorious trumpet anthems. The Clock combines free improv and elements of electronica while bashing their way through the complex compositions of jazz humorist/keyboardist, Cameron Sharif. Their live shows are amazing.
[http://chemicalclock.bandcamp.com/]

Bad Luck (*seattle, wa*) - Neil Welch and Chris Icasiano's ferocious drumset and tenor sax duo. Sometimes they play acoustic, balls-to-the-wall, outer limit free jazz and other times they use electronics to make saxophone galaxies which they then charge through with tight, unison lines. They rule. *[http://www.facebook.com/badluckband]*

Lonesome Shack (*seattle, wa*) - Dance-imperative, deep-grooving Blues/Boogie duo for those getting tired of hearing bands that are only shallowly influenced by American roots music. Ben Todd's songwriting/guitar playing are direct derivatives of people like Jimmy Lee Williams, James Davis, Junior Kimbrough etc. Kristian Garrard adds fat, janky beats. If you catch them at Café Racer (in Seattle) it will be a wild dance party.
[http://lonesomeshack.com]

Rachel LeBlanc (of Seattle, WA)

Caldera Lakes (*portland, or / colorado, co*) - You know when you're a little kid, staring out to the horizon, knowing deep within you there has to be something larger than life out there? The ethereal cacophony these two women produce is basically the soundtrack for that feeling. To put it in simpler terms, someone else described their song "Volcano" as: "This sounds like Bjork singing over Merzbow." Yes!
[http://calderalakes.com]

Rose Windows (*seattle, wa*) - So, at time of this printing, Rose Windows have only played twice, both times in overly crowded living rooms, which in my opinion is where they should always play, unless they have the opportunity to play outside in the sun. They bring San Fran '67 to Seattle '11: Classic psychedelia, complete with two good lookin' chicks in the front, an organ, and joints passed around to commence the set.
[http://rosewindows.bandcamp.com]

Are You a Cat? (*seattle, wa*)- A major issue I have with most indie rock is the players usually look bored, soulless. Fortunately, these two men don't play indie rock, and if you notice what their faces are doing, you may very well think they are possessed. Pay attention to what's going on with their bass, pedals, keyboards, mixers, and whatever other noise objects they've brought along for the ride, and you will realize they actually are possessed. They bring "the funk" to noise music.
[internet presence N/A at the time of this publication]

Seth Olinsky (of the Æther)

Small Kingdoms (*portland, or*) - Beautiful dream songs from St. Johns musicians. Members of houndstooth, Inside Voices, The Threads of Grass, pioneer and Death Songs. Frequent collaborators with Shaky Hands folks. Good people great music.
[http://thesmallkingdoms.bandcamp.com]

Kenneth M. Piekarski (of Seattle, WA)

Broken Water (*olympia, wa*) - I really haven't been able to get over Broken Water since I saw them play at What the Heck? Fest in 2010. Before then I hadn't been aware that they existed. The sound projected led me to stop what I was doing outside of the building they were playing in and run inside to see the magic I was hearing. It's socially, musically, and emotionally conscious music that fills a sonic void.
[http://brokenwatermusic.bandcamp.com]

Cold Lake (*seattle / bremerton, wa*) - A group of your best friends that you know from when you were college 10 years ago, decide to start a band. It's punk, frightening, and heartwarming. Corey J. Brewer screams like a demon in an 70's era horror film about a cult that sacrifices homophobes and evil politicians to their demon god. The rest of the band (Clyde Petersen, James Burns, Jeff Mitchell) is the soundtrack. Haters beware.
[http://coldcoldlake.com]

Madonna Bangers (*vancouver, bc*) - Basically they are the embodiment of the most fun you could have at a party- they bring their [metric] 110% .
[http://madonnabangers.bandcamp.com]

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This has been created to help bring awareness to bands / musicians that may or may not be known about. More avenues of musical awareness never hurt.

About

OFF TEMPO is a multi-media archive project, record label, and many other things. It's record label focus is for things to believe in. Its archiving focus is on local and touring musicians performing in alternative venues in all-ages / DIY communities. It's been happening since 2007.

[http://offtempo.com]`