THE MOTHMEN-----

GENRE?? GOD'S HEARTSTRINGS HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A GUITAR AND A CELLO IN THE SAME ROOM? KAILY AND JULIAN, LOCAL CHAMPIONS AND SHRINE MINISTERS OF SOME RANDO'S VANITY RECORD COLLECTION, BRING YOU A SOUND THAT IS JUST AS WHOLESOME AND UNIQUE AS THEY SEEM. KAILY HAS BEEN A LONG TIME DJ ON WUVT, STARRING IN THE SEEMINGLY **EMBLAZONED-ONTO-EVERY-WALL LONG TIME** SHOW, THOMPSON AND THOMPSON. LISTENING TO THE MOTHMEN IS UNLIKE ANYTHING ELSE IN BLACKSBURG, AND YOU'VE GOTTA DO YOUR RESEARCH TO BE ABLE TO CATCH A PERFORMANCE OF THEIRS. THEY DID A SET FOR THE LOCAL ZONE BACK IN DECEMBER AND WILL BE PERFORMING AT XYZ ART GALLERY ON FEBRUARY 14TH.



---- SHOWS IN TOWN (BOLD = WUVT SPONSORED EVENT)

2/9 GRYZZLE/BACH LAVA/UNOWN/HAUSMUG @ XYZ ART GALLERY

2/14: MOCKTAILS, MUSIC, AND THE **MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE @ XYZ ART GALLERY**

2/15 KALI MASI/WHAT'S YER SIGN?/RILEY GOLSKI @ XYZ ART GALLERY

2/15: VTDITC VOL 7: THE HOUR CHALLENGE **@ NEWMAN LIBRARY**

2/17: SWS TRAVEL TEAM SHOWCASE @ SHE-SHA CAFE & HOOKAH LOUNGE 2/22 GOLD CONNECTIONS/WILD ROSE/ROMAINE @ XYZ ART GALLERY



CATCH THE LOCAL ZONE ON WEDNESDAYS FROM 7-9PM ON WUVT 90.7FM OR ONLINE AT WUVT.VT.EDU/LISTENLIVE

SÓLO BASURA----

GENRE?? "LOCAL TWANG" A SOUTHWEST VA NATIVE, YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD KEVIN WOOD IN PASSING, AS HE IS FREQUENTLY SEEN PLAYING MUSIC ON THE BENCH OUTSIDE OF BOLLOS (IN WARMER MONTHS, SPORTING A KILT). HIS MUSIC SOUNDS LIKE EMPTY GRAIN SILOS AND NICHE PASTRY NOVELISTS, AND IS PERFECT, TO LISTEN TO WHILE EXCAVATING EMPTY BARNS TO SELL BREAD OUT OF. HE WAS FEATURED ON THE LOCAL ZONE SEVERAL CLASSES WITH CAM, I NEVER GROW OLD OF THE BACK IN OCTOBER, WHENEVER HE SAID SO MANY PUNS THAT WE KICKED HIM OUT OF THE STATION. HE NOW RUNS A HOUSE VENUE THAT FEELS LIKE ONE GIGANTIC GROUP HUG. YOU **CAN FOLLOW HIS MUSIC ONLINE AT**

FACEBOOK.COM/SOLOBASURAMUSIC.

ANY FOG THOUGH, THIS FOG IS ALIVE SOMEHOW. YOU FEEL SUFFOCATED. SMOTHERED. YOU CAN'T MOVE AS YOU FEEL YOURSELF SINKING DOWN, SLOWLY INTO THE **GROUND. SOMETHING IS OUT THERE, BUT YOU** CAN'T TELL WHAT IT IS, YOU JUST KNOW THAT THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME REMAINING AS THE SLOW, HEAVY FOOTSTEPS APPROACH. THIS IS THE SOUNDSCAPE THAT HELM MASTERFULLY

IMAGINE YOURSELF WALKING ALONE IN THE

THICK FOG IS ROLLING IN. THIS ISN'T JUST

FOREST, IT'S GETTING DARK OUTSIDE, AND A

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CREATES ON THEIR EP, VOID OF LIGHT. IT'S A RELENTLESS PUMMELING FROM START TO FINISH, AND I LOVED EVERY SECOND OF IT. THE GENRE IS DIFFICULT TO PIN DOWN EXACTLY, BUT THE FOREBODING FEELING OF CREEPING DOOM IS REMINISCENT OF OBSIDIAN KINGDOM, OR A BETTER DEAFHEAVEN. TAKE A FEW MINUTES OUT OF YOUR DAY TO CLOSE YOUR EYES, TURN OFF THE LIGHTS, PUT THIS ON, AND REALLY EXPERIENCE THE ATMOSPHERE. EVJEN IF YOU AREN'T MUCH OF A POST METAL FAN, IT'S A TRIP THAT'S ABSOLUTELY WORTH TAKING.

REVIEWED BY MICHAEL SECRIST

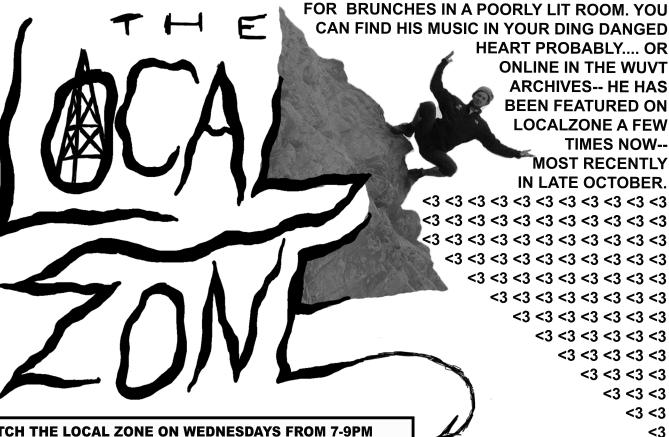
HELM

CALEB FLOOD----->

LIGHT // HELM

VOID OF

GENRE?? SPRITE TEARS DRYING ON A HANDMADE FLUTE CALEB'S MUSIC WAS MADE FOR THE INTERSECTION OF CAVES AND SWAMPS, BUT ONLY IN THE BEST SORT OF WAY. IT'S ALSO MUSIC FOR LYING ON A RUG WHEN YOU'VE EATEN TOO MANY PIEROGIS, MUSIC FOR CAPTURING STINKBUGS IN THE LATE AFTERNOON, AND MUSIC



WILL I EVER STOP LISTENING TO MARBLE BERRY SEEDS? NOPE. WILL I EVER SKIP A MARBLE BERRY SEEDS SHOW THAT I'M IN TOWN FOR? NOPE. WILL I ANNOY ALL MY FRIENDS WITH HOW MUCH I LOVE MY GOOD GOOD BOIS? MOST DEFINITELY. FOR ME, THE MOST STRIKING FEATURE OF MBS IS CAM WHEATLEY'S LYRICS. HAVING BEEN IN WAYS IN WHICH HE TWISTS WORDS AND ANALOGIES INTO SOMETHING SURPRISING AND NEW. DESPITE OF (OR PERHAPS BECAUSE OF) THE INITIAL MOMENT OF "WAIT, WHAT WAS THAT METAPHOR", THE LYRICS COMMUNICATE A FEELING THAT PERFECTLY RESONATES WITH

LISTENERS. TAKE THE OPENING VERSE OF THE FIRST TRACK, "KEEPIN' BUSY": "I WAS A FAX MACHINE YOU DUMPED IN THE TRASH! THE PLACE YOU GO TO TRADE GOLD FOR CASH / AN AEROPLANE THAT STALLED AND CRASHED IN A FIELD IN EASTERN EUROPE / IM A JUG OF MAPLE SYRUP" -- WHAT AN OPENING. I WON'T GO ALL ENGLISH MAJOR ON YOU AND BREAK IT DOWN, BUT I HIGHLY RECOMMEND READING ALL THE LYRICS TO THEIR SONGS - THEY'RE ON BANDCAMP ALONG WITH THE ALBUM! YOU'LL GAIN A MUCH DEEPER APPRECIATION OF THE BAND IF YOU READ THE LYRICS LIKE POETRY. THEIR SOUND IS GRIMY AND CRUNCHY AND GRAND, WITH CAM'S RASPY, ALMOST DESPERATE VOCALS AND THE SOARING BACKING FALSETTO OF JOSEPH TURNER. I'M NO EXPERT ON DRUMS, BUT IT'S SAFE TO SAY THAT BEN JACQUES'S SKILLS ARE STRONG. CAM STRIKES A FASCINATING BALANCE BETWEEN RAW, SHAKEY VULNERABILITY AND CONFIDENT SOCIETAL CONDEMNATION IN HIS LEAD VOCALS. I LOVE THE CHOPPINESS OF HIS VOCAL RUNS, WHICH PUT SUCH A UNIQUELY "CAM" SPIN ON A TECHNIQUE THAT'S A SIGN OF A STRONG VOCALIST WITH A LOT OF CONTROL. THE RANGE OF EMOTION CAM PACKS INTO EACH SONG JUST THROUGH HIS VOCALS IS MASTERFUL. AND ADDS A DEPTH TO EACH TRACK THAT I RARELY FIND IN OTHER BANDS. THEY DESCRIBED THEIR GENRE AS "BRIGHT PUNK AND NIHILISM" ON BANDCAMP, WHICH IS GREAT DESCRIPTION OF THEIR VIBE. IT'S THE KIND OF MUSIC THAT WRAPS YOU UP AND OVERWHELMS YOU WITH THEIR SOUND. CARRYING YOU ALONG WITH THEIR INFECTIOUS ENERGY. IT'S MUSIC FOR PREPPING FOR PROTEST RALLIES. IT'S MUSIC FOR LAYING ON A GRASSY HILL ON A MISTY NIGHT. IT'S MUSIC FOR BLACKSBURG AND MILLENNIALS AND PEOPLE WHO THINK COOK COUNSELING IS SHIT. BASICALLY, IT'S MUSIC FOR ALL OF US, ABOUT ALL OF US - ABOUT OUR ANXIETIES AND OUR ANGER AND OUR WORRY, ABOUT OUR LOVE AND OUR MEMES AND OUR DEPRESSION, ABOUT OUR LIVES. IT'S A SOLID FIRST ALBUM, AND I'M SO GLAD MARBLE BERRY SEEDS GOT TO SHARE IT WITH US.