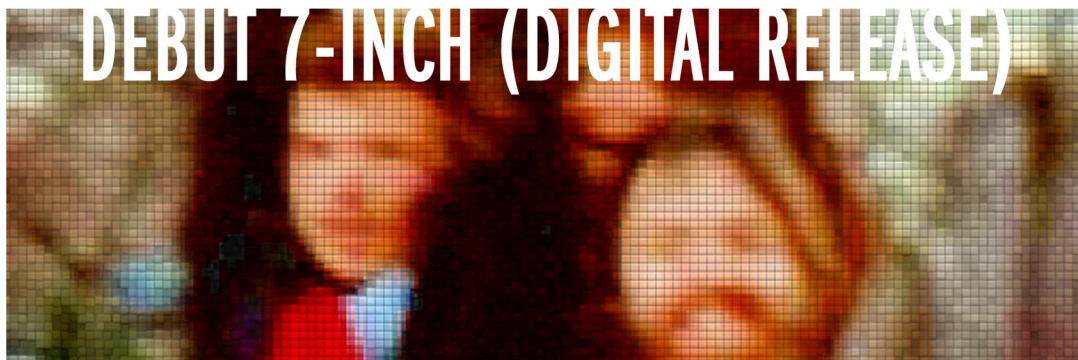


THE MORNINGSIDES

DEBUT 7-INCH (DIGITAL RELEASE)



DIGITAL RELEASE DATE:
SEPTEMBER 18TH, 2007
via iTunes, Napster, Rhapsody

ORIGINALLY RELEASED:
MAY 18TH, 2004

FOR FANS OF: Pavement, Big Star, Bob Dylan, Silver Jews, The Rolling Stones, Richard Hell

CATALOG # REC001

TRACK LISTING:
01. Summer Song
02. A Molehill Is A Mound

Suggested Tracks: BOTH!

FCC CLEAN

UPC: 859700289297

LABEL CONTACT:
Hannah Horovitz
Recommended If You Like Records
P.O. Box 2318
Times Square Station
New York, NY 10108
hannah@riylrecords.com

PRESS / RADIO CONTACT:
Ian Crowther
RIYL Promotion
P.O. Box 2318
Times Square Station
New York, NY 10108
info@riylpromotion.com

BOOKING CONTACT:
Steve Nimm
Central Booking Agency
info@centralbookingagency.com

Hello! We'd like to tell you about the debut release by **The Morningsides**, a two-song single originally issued exclusively on vinyl back in 2004. Once a hard-to-find item, New York City's **Recommended If You Like Records** is re-releasing the single via iTunes, Napster and Rhapsody - much to the delight of digital music junkies everywhere. "But, wait, who are The Morningsides?" you ask. They're just three old friends from NYC who enjoy playing music together. This is what they do:

Johnny Dydo plays the drum kit and sings backup from time to time. **Sam "Grossman" James** and **Chris Maher** sing a bit more than Johnny and switch between bass and guitar. When they recorded this single at **Marcata Recording**, Sam played a keyboard, Chris played a toy xylophone and **Walter Martin**, who plays in **The Walkmen**, played with the recording equipment.

Sam once said that The Morningsides are like chocolate-coated **Pavement** or **The Monkees** covering **Edgar Allen Poe**. Chris and Johnny don't disagree, but do feel that "Summer Song" sounds a bit like **Chuck Berry** and fancy "A Molehill Is A Mound" because it reminds them of the original "Summer Song" by **Chad & Jeremy**. One time, someone said they sounded like **The Wonders** and everybody laughed.

When they are not The Morningsides, each member does his own thing: Johnny records as **The Johns** and plays in **The WoWz** with Sam. Sam plays by himself sometimes, and so does Chris, who also plays with an **ever changing backing band** (which, to no one's surprise, often includes Sam and Johnny). The Morningsides are not sure what kind of fun they'll have next, but it's certain they'll be having it together!

HEAR THE FULL SINGLE AT
MYSFACE.COM/THEMORNINGSIDES



Time Out

New York

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June 10-17, 2004 Issue No. 454 \$2.99

Park city

Saturday 12

Rock, pop & soul

★The Wowz and Chris Maher +
Duende + David "Voodoo" Cahill +
Fenton Lawless + Jaymay

Sidewalk Café. 7:30pm, two-drink minimum.
The Wowz's Sam Grossman and Johnny Dydo join songwriter Chris Maher in the Morningsides, a quirky trio that will celebrate the release of its debut seven-inch tonight (Recommended if You Like Records). The album's two antifolk ditties wouldn't sound out of place on the *Rushmore* soundtrack. The Wowz and Maher will play both separately and together tonight.

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The Morningsides *Summer Song* 7" (Recommended If You Like Records)

A fine little trio that plays vaguely discordant lite pop. Kinda like early Young Fresh Fellows--if the boys never tuned up. I suppose that might annoy some folks, but I find such nonchalance charming. The songs themselves are gorgeous little gems. Quite a nice piece of green marble vinyl.

indieville.com

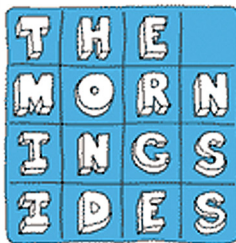
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the mainstream
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august 2007

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The Morningsides

Self-titled 7"

[RIYL Records](#)

Genre: indie pop,
indie rock

RIYL Records
PO Box 2318
Times Sq. Station
NY, NY 10108

May 2006

opinion

I'm sure the **Pavement** comparisons are laid on thick with this band. Right from the opening strokes of "Summer Song" we can see the **Malkmusian** verbosity and tin-can-songsmithing influence. It's cheery, we're-having-fun pop that's very unassuming and all the better for it - could have been recorded in a garage, but that's exactly where you'd expect to hear this type of music coming from. "A Molehill Is A Mound" is a softer and lower in energy, and charming in its laidback melodic charm. It's music for a lazy Sunday afternoon, rolling along on a comfortable bassline while the singer keeps things moving with his vaguely Southern drawl. Nice stuff from **The Morningsides**, I wonder what's coming next...

MP3s (from [riylrecords.com](#)): [Summer Song](#)

80%

Fun Fact: This record is limited to 500 copies, on swirled colour vinyl.

[Matt Shimmer](#)

[Vitals: 2 tracks, distributed by [the label](#), released 2004]

THIS IS WHAT DEMOCRACY LOOKS LIKE: PROTESTING THE RNC

punk planet

ISSUE #64 | NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2004 | \$4.95 US
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notes from underground

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Morningsides, The – Summer Song / A Mole Hill Is A Mound, 7"

The first song on this release was rocking pop in the vein of Pavement if Pavement were more influenced by an early Rolling Stones. Side B offered up a slower xylophone-laden pop ditty that had a nice melody. Although it doesn't offer anything exciting, this was a highly enjoyable release. (KM)

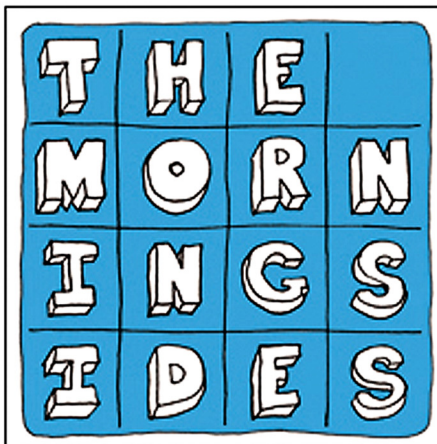
Recommended If You Like Records, 148 College Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603,
www.recommendedifyoulikerecords.com



ARMISEN

PUNK ROCK'S CLOWN PRINCE GETS SERIOUS

The Morningsides: Self-Titled 7" single [RIYL]



Well, when you include a sticker in your press kit that usually sells me its fun for me and it puts your name somewhere on something that I might one day own. However, an even easier way to get to your reviewers and your audiences heart is to put your first couple of songs to ever be released on powder blue, white and black splotched marble wax AND hand number a limited 500-copy pressing. I must admit, I do feel special. If you're not interested in just picking up records for their pretty aesthetics, then I'll move on and try to explain to you these two songs off the Morningsides new 7.

Side A tracks the song Summer Song. I'll just go ahead and deem this a piece of the power-pop variety. But man, what a fine specimen of power-pop this little number is, reminiscent of Big Star and those other sad rock n rollers from the 60s and 70s. It sounds like something lifted from a Quentin Tarantino soundtrack. While the music is uplifting, cheery, bouncy, catchy as hell and quite pleasant, the lyrics spiral into darker wastelands of teenage boredom and apathy. Darkness embeds itself into its sing-along-ability. It truly is one of those sunny, summer, beach rock songs you can't help singing to yourself as you walk down the street (but for some reason you just can't help feeling sad). Brilliant.

Side B captures the song A Mole Hill Is a Mound. This is another catchy little number which seems to deal more with alienation and coming to terms with your own small existence while keeping a bit of a sarcastic bite. The music is almost juvenile and innocent with a little bit of simple xylophone pinging, a rolling bassline, and minimal guitar and piano work; but the catch and hooks lie in the vocal melodies. In turn, this draws more emphasis to what the singer has to say. Again the listener is a bit thrown off by the music and lyrical content not quite matching up. It creates this wonderful dynamic which fills the song with intrigue.

That said, if you dig the smart, dark pop or beautifully colored wax, then pick this up. You will not be disappointed.

-Chaz Martenstein
11/29/04

EDITOR'S PICK

[The Morningsides — Summer Song 7"](#) [Buy it at Amazon](#)

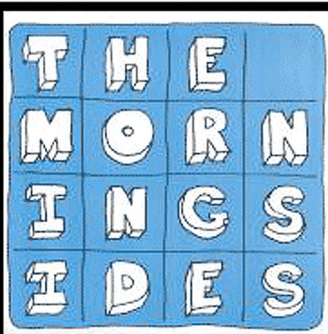
[iTunes](#)

[Buy it from InSound](#)

You know life isn't fair when you realize you've been awake since 6am on a weekend and more people haven't been gushing over The Morningsides. Brimming with garage rock enthusiasm but without all the bells and whistles and annoying over-production that so many indie artists are blasphemously Pro-Toolin' away at, "Summer Song" is not only the perfect debut for a band but also for the aptly titled Recommended If You Like Records. I like records and I like The Morningsides and I'll be recommending both fervently.

- J-Sin





The Morning Sides
Summer Song
 R1YL

Format Reviewed: 7"

Soundclip: "Summer Song"



Recently, a friend of mine opined that bad technique, whatever your art medium, is difficult to replicate, and is something that cannot be taught: instinct in this case takes over for established templates and theories. I completely agree, and as evidence, I present The Morningsides. The trio is terrifically sloppy, altogether out of tune, lazily mixed and completely intriguing, like an early Rolling Stones, or Sebadoh, or Sex Pistols. The A-side, "Summer Song", burns in the ashes of the aforementioned artists, fusing punk, blues and twang into a messy, last-call haze. Pounding toms and dirty guitars set the stage while the characters gradually introduce themselves: vocalists Chris Maher and Sam Grossman join back-up "ooo-woo-woo" "harmonies" (I use the term loosely), coming together in a charming blend, gently recalling "Sympathy for the Devil". More guitars and bass jump into the head-nodding mix, every player careful to step on his neighbors' toes and fight for the spotlight. Hypnotic, flippantly creepy stoner lyrics about bodily fluids, and about "Jamie" threatening her boyfriend with a knife because he won't stop listening to "the Summer Song", seal this perfect deal.

☒ Though it follows a different path, "A Molehill is a Mound" is equally fun and catchy. Xylophone, toy piano, barely audible jazz drum brushing and lilting guitars push the song into Wes Anderson soundtrack territory (i.e. a scene where Max Fisher first communicates with an unrequited crush, prior to the obsessive stalking scene). The ensemble lays low, carefully following a mid '60s Simon and Garfunkel-style vibe, while sustaining the A-side's innocent first-take aesthetic.

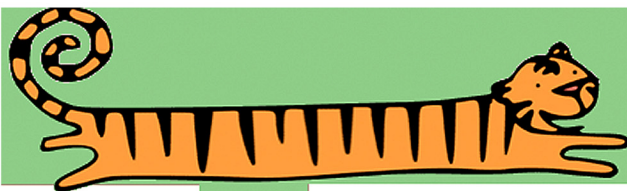
☒ This music, which ignores what it *should* do, is often imitated but rarely successfully realized. The Morning Sides know that music based on honesty and a who-gives-a-fuck attitude is far more interesting and endearing than playing by the rules.

— Dave Madden

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Morningsides - "Summer Song" 7" (Recommended If You Like)

This is the debut release for both the band and the label, and a good start for each. On the A-side, we have a rockin' tune that you'd swear came from Canada (the chorus in particular reminds me a lot of the Parkas), though the band is actually from New York. The recording is a little bit lo-fi, but it still sounds quite good. On the flip is "A Mole Hill Is a Mound", a much quieter song with brushed drums and bells, that sounds almost like a 50s ballad. A fine debut, and let's hope to hear more like this soon! MTQ=2/2





The Morningsides

Summer Song 7

Recommended If You Like, 2005
Buy at InSound

This is the first release from Recommended If You Like Records, an interesting new label from Poughkeepsie. The Morningsides are an NYC band featuring members of The Wowz. Summer Song has a touch of Chuck Berry's Memphis Tennessee. A bluesy, country-tinged, Stonesy, indie-rock Pavement. Really nice, slightly disheveled and loose production from Walter Martin of The Walkmen that very effectively conveys the fun, loose quality of The Morningsides sound.

The Morningsides have a sort of pathetic quality - and I don't mean that as an insult at all - in the same way that Paul Westerberg had in the Replacements, or that Alex Chilton had after Big Star, just barely bothering to struggle for the high notes and missing and doing it with a bit of a bratty snarl so that we know that they don't really care. It comes out more strongly in the B-side, A Mole Hill Is A Mound which is a quieter number with a bit of fifties/early sixties flavor, a perfect contrast to the uptempo A-side.

I'm really interested in hearing a full-length from The Morningsides! Until they put one out, if you still have the ability to play vinyl this is a great single to pick up.

Gordon B. Isnor

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The Morningsides "Summer Song b/w A Mole Hill is a Mound"

Recommended If You Like

XXXXXXXXXXXX

I have no idea where the Morningsides are from, but they bring to mind East Coast Canadian bands such as Sloan, Superfriendz, Thrush Hermit and current East Coast darlings the Novaks.

The Morningsides play what is essentially indie-classic rock; the sort of thing beloved by college rock (the local classic rock station realized that people only want to hear "Behind Blue Eyes" so many times and started to slot new songs by "classic" bands and music by new bands that sound "classic" - yes it's quite convoluted) and classic rock DJ's alike. The tunes are well written but a bit too poppy for me, still, I'd rather listen to these guys than The Hold Steady.

7/10 -- [Neddal Ayad](#) (27 June, 2006)

tasty



singles - nov 2004

The Morningsides - Summer Song / A Molehill Is a Mound (RIYL Records)

As with a lot of my reviews, this one has been a while in coming, so I suppose an apology is a pretty good way to start.... Sorry.

Although it has been a while, I'm pretty sure that the nights had been closing in for some time when this reached me. Today it is snowing. I make this point because it somehow feels slightly wrong, yet so right that I should be listening to this record in these weather conditions.... 'A long island iced tea please barman, and while you're at it pop one of those umbrellas in it!'

If ever someone had distilled the essence of summer and pressed it on to a slab of vinyl, this is it. Top class summer pop, for these cold winter nights, as I'm typing I'm moving ever closer to the radiator to give me a seasonal jump.....mmmmmm.

There are elements of many bands within the sound, but to list them would be boring and time consuming, I'm off for a dip in the neighbour's pool instead.

Drew Millward



tasty **MARK** **ISSUE**
DIST: ROCK F.ROLL **ALTERNATIVE ULSTER** **19p**

The Morningsides - "Summer Song" - (Recommended If You Like Records)

NYC's the Morningsides play 60s garage rock with the emphasis on 50s rock n roll & early Dylan. Johnny, Sam & Chris also play the field as The Wows (introspective Americana), The Johns & the (superbly named) Post-Modern Lovers. "Summer Song" sounds like Pavement sing Dylan. These boys piss all over the Kings Of Leon - & there are NO - repeat after me - NO - moustaches. Result.

www.themorningsides.com

Marquee Smith - tMx 17 - 10/04