

THE PATHWAYS

Boat of confidence



RELEASE DATE: November 1, 2005
ADD DATE: October 11, 2005

FOR FANS OF: Pavement, The Go-Betweens, Orange Juice, Deerhoof, Winter Vacation

CATALOG # REC008

TRACK LISTING:

01. Kid Gloves on the Packet-Boat
02. Just Like a River
03. Stunning Capture
04. L'Enfant Plaza
05. Party's Over
06. Miserable In Coat + Tie
07. 7 Types of Ambiguity
08. No Cops
09. Inner-Altar
10. The Carolers
11. The Race To Invent the Airplane
12. You've Got To Look Inside Yourself
13. Productivity

Suggested Tracks: 9, 5, 8, 12, 4

FCC CLEAN!

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You know that guy in high school who was either a complete nerd or very cool, but you could never tell which? Well, guess what: he has three friends now, they're in a band and they call themselves **The Pathways**.

Ever since the heyday of R.E.M., The Feelies, and The Go-Betweens, lovers of smart, forward-thinking guitar-pop have been scraping by on a very meager diet. Enter **The Pathways**: an aural multivitamin from the cultural pharmacy of Brooklyn, NY. **The Pathways** write charmingly complex and intelligent pop songs without reference to AM radio, argyle sweaters, or nice smiles, that even people lacking advanced degrees or access to illicit substances can enjoy (not that those people are excluded - the more the merrier).

In February of 2005, **The Pathways** released their first 7-inch, *Productivity*, on **Recommended If You Like Records** - a three-song teaser that trakMARX called

"the best example of its genre since Pavement's 'Summer Babe'". Now they return with their first proper album, *Boat of Confidence*. From the opening seconds of "Kid Gloves on the Packet-Boat" - a frenzy of cymbals, shouts, and epileptic bass playing which settles into a bizarre, syncopated duet between the band's two singers - **The Pathways** show off their talent for surprising musical turns. Elsewhere, "Just Like A River" fuses The Soft Boys and Joan of Arc, "Party's Over" cops indie-soul moves from Orange Juice, and "No Cops" approximates the dynamic acrobatics of The Dismemberment Plan.

Along the way there are clarinets and saxes, frenetically jazzy drumming, guitars gently plucked and violently assaulted, sheep giving birth to baby sheep, and something called "electronics". And just when you think you know more or less what the band is up to, along comes a lyric like, "Let's correspond Quaker trains / Unearthing the days it rains" (from "L'Enfant Plaza"), and you think to yourself, 'Oh ... oh dear. Pop music *can* create a mood of ambiguity and uncertainty; pop music *can* leave you with lingering questions.'

And yet, **The Pathways** don't need to question themselves. Their music is assured enough to fly all over the map and still land safely at home. *Boat of Confidence* is at times shambolic, hissy, even a downright mess, but in the end it all makes a certain undeniable sense. To quote Alistair Fitchett of Plan B Magazine, "**The Pathways** make a glorious complex simplicity of a racket that's the match of anything you care to throw in the ring. Ignore this record and this band at your peril." QED

The Pathways are: Mike Dempsey (drums), Leo Goldsmith (bass), Evan Kindley (guitar/vocals), and David Yourdon (vocals/guitar). All four of them play (keyboards) (sometimes). Pete Shanel played (drums) on this record. He is dearly missed.

POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Members of **The Pathways** have played in **The Narrator**, **La Laque** and **The End of the World**.
- David has released two records as **Winter Vacation**, one on Asaurus and one on Dutch Courage.
- **The Pathways** have played with **Cass McCombs**, **Of Montreal**, **The Robot Ate Me** and **Matt Pond PA**.
- *Boat of Confidence* is being serviced to over 150 radio stations and 250 press outlets.
- **The Pathways** will be featured on PopMatters.com this October and *Boat of Confidence* has already received positive reviews in **Plan B Magazine** and **Pop Culture Press**.

For album artwork and band photos visit: www.riylrecords.com/promotion

