

Press Release**Artist: Controller.Controller****Title: 'History'****Format: CD Mini-Album****Label: Sink and Stove Records****UK Distributor: Cargo Records UK****Catalogue No.: SASR #15****Release date: February 21st 2005****Website: www.controllercontroller.com**Top Floor Office
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Distributed by Cargo Records UK
A British Underground Label
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"Controller.Controller have pulled together a deftly funky debut, as full of thoughtful songcraft as pure kinetic energy. And that's really what separates 'History' from the dance-rock pack—it's not just something to sweat to, it's something to sing along to and something to come back to. 8.3. "

Pitchfork
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"Sceptical readers are entirely justified in an age where 'the next Rapture' is as ubiquitous a rock critic cliché as the egregious 'American Radiohead', but listen up: Controller.Controller is one of the most promising dance-punk acts out there. 'History' is a twenty-four minute document of a group brimming with shakeworthy bass lines, replete with commanding punk riffing and a knack for surprisingly memorable melodies. Believe the hype"

Stylus Magazine
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" A superb debut 'History' is quick, relentless, and instantly memorable, not letting up for one minute. The title track is dark and hypnotic; 'Bruised Broken Beater' combines a jittery guitar riff, a punchy beat, and the unlikely rave-up chorus of "V-one-five-point-eight-five" (according to the band, it's a medical chart code for a certain sexual dysfunction). The fabulous 'Disco Blackout', though, is the CD's standout; the band delivering a dark, pounding sound, the most intense they've sounded on the record, as Basnayake sneers away, seeming to address her American neighbours: "You wanna hear about parallels/ How about the 49th/ What keeps you down there?/ What keeps you up at night?". Evoking the feeling of a sweltering summer night, she then sings, "This city's getting so hot/ They're gonna cut the lights," perhaps an allusion to the great Eastern Seaboard blackout of 2003, repeating the line like a mantra. It feels so tightly wound, on the verge of frantic, the kind of exhilarating music that can incite an entire room full of people to move. Controller.Controller are indeed the band to watch. "

Pop Matters



Controller.Controller came together in the fall of 2002 in their home city of Toronto, when then-guitarist Ronnie Morris put out a call. Colwyn Llewellyn-Thomas heard first; then came drummer Jeff Scheven. After deciding to add a second guitarist, Morris moved to bass to make room for longtime friend Scott Kaija. The final piece of the puzzle tumbled into place with the addition of frontwoman Nirmala Basnayake. Basnayake was a friend of Llewellyn-Thomas' who hung around during early Controller.Controller jam sessions before stepping to the mic.

Hardly romantic; hardly mysterious. Pretty real.

The band played their first shows in the early months of 2003. Despite this humble beginning, C.C did something few manage; they got a Toronto audience to dance. Controller.Controller's sound is an energetic, rhythmic post-punk rock, taking a cue from late 70's/early 80's bands like P.I.L., The Slits and Joy Division, but departing significantly from there. It's about tension and opposition, juxtaposing discordant and jagged rhythms with disarmingly pretty melody and counter-melody. They wed propulsive, angular rock structures with minimalist death-disco accents and grooves that seductively embrace sometimes sweet and sometimes barking vocals.

Their famed live shows in off-the-radar venues, often lit by a dark red backlight earned the band much critical acclaim in Canada, prompting acclaimed indie upstart label Paper Bag Records to step in and offer Controller.Controller a deal. Paper Bag has been the launch pad for the likes of Broken Social Scene, Stars and Matthew Barber. 'History' was released in Canada, and then the US earlier this year. Now the record finally gets a UK release via Bristol indie Sink and Stove. Controller.Controller will be supporting Death From Above 1979 on their UK tour in February 2005.

Not much of a mystery, only History now. This is Controller.Controller.

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