

Press Release

Artist: The Playwrights

Title: 'English Self Storage'

Format: CD Mini-Album

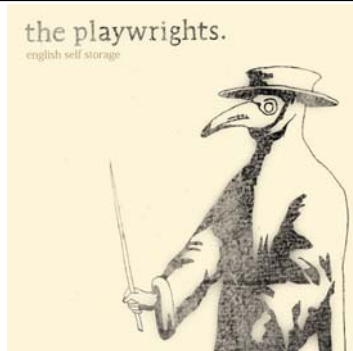
Label: Sink and Stove Records

Catalogue No.: SASR #20

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Top Floor Office
53 Coronation Rd
Southville
Bristol
BS3 1AR

Tel / Fax: + 44 (0) 117 9076931
Mobile: + 44 (0) 777 3304565
Cellphone: + 00 (1) 646 338 5706
Email: info@sinkandstove.co.uk
Website: www.sinkandstove.co.uk



"Have we mentioned that we fucking LOVE The Playwrights?"

Rolling Stone
□□□

"Recent slots with The Organ and The Rogers Sisters have lifted The Playwrights' intelligent post-punk songwriting into the spotlight, and they're well worth checking out."

New Musical Express
□□□

"Time to dance your ass off. The Playwrights are one of this country's finest ensembles. Stunning stuff, don't come crying when they are massive."

Losing Today
□□□

"The ones to watch."

Record Collector
□□□

"Warm, rewarding, simply brilliant; one of the very best bands out there."

Organ Magazine
□□□

"Fine art-pop. The Playwrights offer an angular, accessible, essentially English sound well worth investigating."

The Independent
□□□

"The kind of sound that Franz Ferdinand are making in their dreams. We should clutch The Playwrights close to our hearts and never let them go."

Tangents
□□□

"Step aside Hot Hot Heat, Interpol and Franz Ferdinand, we love you all but we love The Playwrights more!"

Logo Magazine
□□□

"The Playwrights are now where the Futureheads should be!!! By expanding on that post punk sound, retaining that oh so essential *Englishness* and demonstrating that you are not a one trick pony the band should now get the exposure they deserve."

Indie MP3



It's all about timing. The Playwrights are a majestic indie-rock band from Bristol, England. 'English Self Storage' is released on guitarist Benjamin's acclaimed indie imprint Sink and Stove (responsible for The Organ, Chikinki, Gravenhurst, and Leave Land For Water), following a run of limited edition releases on 7" vinyl, compilations and CD. Formed in 2001, The Playwrights' progress has been stunted by bad luck and enforced breaks, caused by frustratingly shifting line-ups and personnel changes. But the band persevered and early 2005 saw the line-up settle, and develop sonically into something harder and more aggressive, as the recent relentless live shows attest.

Such is the renewed vigour 'English Self Storage' (recorded in a paranoid London in August 2005 by producer Brian O'Shaughnessy), feels like The Playwrights first proper release. Songs such as 'Why We've Become Invisible', 'Fear Of Open Spaces' and a new version of 'Dislocated' showcase the band's classy combination of simpatico guitar interplay, busy but funky basslines and solid but expressive drumming; with the addition of Aaron's refreshingly English vocals and The Playwrights now trademark splashes of cornet and dubby melodica. The lyrics are arty but not inaccessible, being about common themes and often reflecting the band's native Westcountry. Full of jilted passion, the songs turn absence into substance. A craft has been honed also - apparent in the more relaxed but powerful vocals, tightly focused songwriting and sophisticated arrangements for brass and strings - coupled with bursts of noise, slabs of guitar feedback, squeals of theremin or an arresting passage of spoken word lyrics. Special guests on the record include Suzi Gage from labelmates You & The Atom Bomb contributing vocals and James Banbury, formerly of The Auteurs on cello.

This willingness to experiment is a key point. Unfairly lumped in with the current resurgence of new wave post-punk styled bands, The Playwrights palette is broader. Echoes of Burt Bacharach, Captain Beefheart, King Tubby and Michael Nyman are equally at home in The Playwrights music as those of Gang of Four, XTC, The Fall and Joy Division. Influences range far and wide; from English acts like Nick Drake, The Cure, The Smiths, The Auteurs, Blur and Hood to American bands such as Talking Heads, Fugazi, Pavement, The Sea and Cake, Tortoise and Les Savy Fav. The Playwrights have toured with Pretty Girls Make Graves, The National and Seachange, and opened for such luminaries and rising stars as Mission of Burma, Weird War, The Rogers Sisters, Clor and Film School.

The Playwrights are an urgently needed proposition for indie rock. They take their tales of everyday life and turn them into angry and arty but immediate and hope-filled anthems, bristling with intelligence, hooks and a conviction and independent spirit rarely seen these days. Their time has finally come.

The Playwrights are Aaron Dewey (Vocals, Cornet), Nathan Edmunds (Guitar), Tom Mills (Drums), Hector Peebles (Bass) and Benjamin Shillabeer (Guitar). The band will be touring in early 2006, visit www.theplaywrights.co.uk or www.myspace.com/theplaywrights for listings.

Bookings + Management: ben@sinkandstove.co.uk.

UK Press+ Radio: info@sinkandstove.co.uk.

US Press: Becki Carr - Yarr! PR: tel + 001 313-483-1373 or email yarr@yarrpr.com.

US Radio: Sara Dempsey - Advanced Alternative Media: tel + 001 212-924-3005 or email sara@aaminc.com.

UK Distribution: Craig Gogay - Cargo Records: tel + 44 (0) 207 731 5125 or email craig@cargorecords.co.uk.

US Distribution: Ryan Dimock - Redeye Distribution: tel + 001 877 733 3931 or email ryan@redeyeusa.com.