



Shit Horse

They Shit Horses, Don't They?

Odessa Records ODE-08 Cassette EP + DD

Release Date: May 4th 2010

Danny "Magic" Mason : Vocals * Josh Lajoie : Guitar, Vocals, Effects * Justin Blatt : Bass, Vocals, Effects * John Jaquiss: Drums, Vocals

Song Listing: 1. Twelve Horses 2. Don't Smell Too Good (But It Keeps Me From Burning) 3. Get Out Of My Face 4. Floating / Drifting 5. Days Of Noah 6. Thirteen Horses (Psychedelic Reprise) 7. Shit Horse (Is Gonna Ride)

* Debut record!

*Recorded at home by the band live to cassette 4 track and mixed by Jerry Kee at his awesome Duck Kee Studios

*Amazing cover photo of singer Danny "Magic" Mason and horses

* Shit Horse came together by chance and debuted with an impromptu live show on the street during Mergefest XX, quickly becoming a local sensation. They have been performing regularly ever since!

* Shit Horse plan to tour the US throughout 2010

*Available on Cassette only with free digital download included

*Bio, hi-res photos, MP3s, one sheets and more available on Odessa website

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They Shit Horses, Don't They? starts strangely enough with a snippet of what sounds like a choir, which just as quickly cuts off into a ghostly, reverb drenched guitar pattern. A few more seconds, and a group of both low and high voices repeatedly intones a chant of "I wish you twelve horses when you die". But nothing prepares you for the 50 second mark, when the drums kick in and singer Danny Magic croons over the chant "I wish you...twelve horses ... *...When you Die!!!*". His singing is intense and his vocal chords seem to be shredding—or at least shredding the microphone. But far from merely screaming, this is a man who can *sing*. One minute in, and Shit Horse have already identified themselves as something special.

But lets rewind. Shit Horse formed one serendipitous night in July 2009 as a last minute fill-in for Chapel Hill band Pipe when they had to cancel a pre-Merge Fest show at The Cave. The four piece of Josh Lajoie (Guitar & Vocals), Justin Blatt (Bass & Vocals), John Jaquiss (Drums & Vocals) and Danny "Magic" Mason (Vocals) tapped into something special that night, and it was just the beginning. They continued playing through the summer with a string of spur of the moment shows that were admired for both their intensity and unpredictability.

Wanting to capture the spark while it was still fresh, they gathered at John's house in September and recorded seven songs to an old cassette four track. *They Shit Horses, Don't They?* was tracked live in two days with only vocal overdubs. The result is a satisfying mixture of each member's influences. Josh plays his guitar with an equal mix of psychedelic effects, fractured blues leads and frenetic post punk chords. Justin fills in the low end with dub inflected, droning bass lines. John's heavy hitting drum style swings and twists, all building an exciting soundtrack for Danny's heartbreakingly soulful and direct vocals. They used the old Beatles method of bouncing all the instrumental tracks down to one and then having three tracks left for vocals.

Once finished recording, the guys took their tape to Duck Kee Studio in Mebane, NC. Jerry Kee's light touch and encyclopedic knowledge of music brought a clarity and warmth to the mixes that balances out its humble, lo-fi beginnings.

Don't Smell Too Good (But It Keeps Me From Burning) may be Shit Horse's answer to "Satisfaction" and their catchiest number, a stomping riff heavy single if there ever was one. *Get out Of My Face* is an upbeat and searing indictment of the gulf between worker and boss. The EP's emotional center may be in *Floating / Drifting* where Danny sings, "There are so many ways / You try to change us / But it doesn't matter what they say / 'cause you didn't make us". A line that could almost be a reference to the band itself and the expectations people may have based on judging the proverbial book by its cover. Again at the end of the same song he belts in defiance: "You thought you was going to hear me sing the blues...!" The next song *Days of Noah* is a Justin Blatt composition and sincere homage to classic Dub. *Thirteen Horses* is pure psychedelia; a mostly instrumental re-imagining of the lead off track. Finally, their theme song, *Shit Horse (Is Gonna Ride)* closes out a perfect and tight 20 minutes with a joyful sing-along.

From beginning to end, whether it be their live show or recordings, Shit Horse is a band that sometimes confounds, often confuses, but always entertains and delights.



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