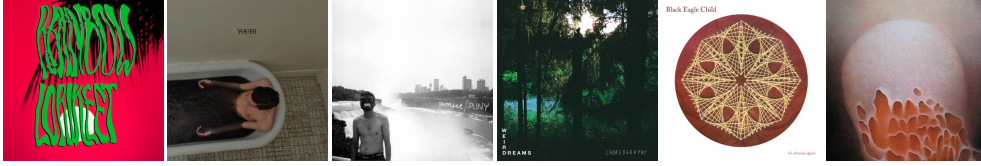


OLIVE MUSIC

REVIEWS



FLASHBACK



FEATURES

Podcast: 4/18/12
Podcast: 3/12/12
Interview: Erik Ratensperger
Favorites of 2011
Favorites of 2011: Tyler's Selections
Favorites of 2011: M@'s Selections
Favorites of 2011: Carter's Selections

TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2011

[Whoarfrost - Whoarfrost \(Engine, 2011\)](#)



As any modern music frequenter may be aware of, rock comes in a nearly endless amount of flavors these days, and the concept of blending genres together has recently become somewhat of a staple in making a band's sound definitive. From Women's drone-saturated, eidolic post-punk mantras to HEALTH's beat-heavy noise hymns, musicians have the ability to coalesce a variety of musical styles no matter how distanced they may stand on the genre spectrum. If Whoarfrost are to take pride in any composites made on their self-titled debut, it would be their fusion of math rock virtuosity and jazz interplay: a formula that, in theory, may not excite those with prior knowledge of material hailing from Ahleuchtastias or The Mercury Program, though when hearing may be another story.

Whoarfrost's jazz influence doesn't come heavy-handed by the incorporation of a saxophone, nor does their sense of composition channel the works of Davis and Coltrane; inspirations seem to be derived from the avant and spastic variety, particularly the late-80's trio Power Tools. Opener "The Youth Are Sniffing Waste" discloses the abusive musicianship with jarring guitar processed through transcendental effects, confounding bass, and disconcerting drum salvos. The trio, at first, sound as if their barrage is discharged for the sake of auditory violence. To play devil's advocate, the self-abuse is studious-- as displayed on "Love Sinks Deep" and "Slow Burn," Whoarfrost counter their frantic detours with awe-inspiring melodic syncopation.

A minor hindrance remains salient: this debut was recorded live to tape with no overdubs, save guitarist Jon Lipscomb's cathartic shouts. Though this stands as a testament to Whoarfrost's technical conquest and taste for adventure, it also thwarts a much-needed attack to accommodate the ferocity of the band's performance: while the guitar receives an emphasis, the drums-- and bass, especially-- are left muffled. A turn of the treble knob will essentially aid the dearth of sharpness on the first eight tracks. The only occurrence where the production becomes incongruous is on the 18-minute "Mandatory Psycho-Freakout" of the album, "Conscious Without Function," where much of the chaos

 Search

ABOUT

We're looking for more writers, email us! Welcome to Olive Music. If you would like to write for Olive Music or have a review of your music written please email us [here](#) or send your music to one of these [addresses](#). [\[more\]](#)

OTHER PLACES YOU CAN FIND US

[Soundcloud](#) | [Turntable](#) | [Twitter](#)

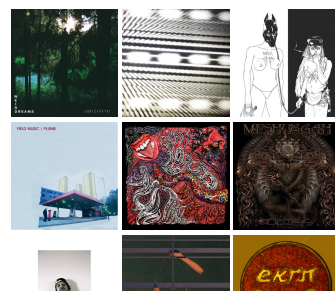
NAVIGATION

[Home](#)
[Reviews](#)
[Flashback](#)
[Interviews](#)
[Features](#)
[Podcast](#)

CONTRIBUTORS

M@
[Tyler Chambers](#)
[Andrew Fearon](#)
[Brandon Greter](#)
[David Law](#)
[John Collins McCormick](#)
[Carter Mullin](#)
[Jamie Nevin](#)
[Gary Pooni](#)
[Alisa Rodriguez](#)
[Matthew Strasser](#)
[Arthur Velez](#)

HIGHLIGHTS



is obscured by room ambiance.

As a debut, Whoarfrost have already tackled many of the detriments that seem customary for new bands: an unparalleled sound, skillful interaction, and well-traveled concepts. Fevered and abstruse yet orchestrated and perceptive, the band remains impervious to sloppiness even at their most strident. In a year where the supply of noise rock seems rather scarce, it's only necessary for a band like Whoarfrost to make their appearance and fill that void.



[\[Whoarfrost Myspace\]](#)

[\[Buy Whoarfrost from Engine Studios\]](#)

WRITTEN BY CARTER MULLIN ON 3/01/2011
LABELS: [CARTER](#), [REVIEWS](#), [WHOARFROST](#)

0 COMMENTS:

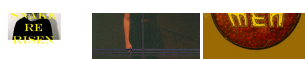
POST A COMMENT

[Newer Post](#)

[Home](#)

[Older Post](#)

Subscribe to: [Post Comments \(Atom\)](#)



[\[more\]](#)

FOLLOWERS



ARCHIVE

Archive 6

BLOGS / WEBSITES

- [7 Inches](#)
- [Agitated Atmosphere](#)
- [Animal Psi](#)
- [Anti-Gravity Bunny](#)
- [Art For Spastics](#)
- [Auxiliary Out](#)
- [Biomusosophy](#)
- [Brainwashed](#)
- [c60 Radio](#)
- [Cassette Gods Reviews](#)
- [Coke Machine Glow](#)
- [Disconcerted Sounds](#)
- [Ducks Battle Satan](#)
- [Dusted Reviews](#)
- [Ear-Conditioned Nightmare](#)
- [Fecal Face](#)
- [Fluid Radio](#)
- [Forest Gospel](#)
- [Foxy Digitalis](#)
- [Free Form Freakout](#)
- [Honest Bag](#)
- [I Heart Noise](#)
- [Impose Magazine](#)
- [Inverted Umlaut](#)
- [Junk Media](#)
- [Killed In Cars](#)
- [Matierenoire](#)
- [MBV Music](#)
- [No Conclusion](#)
- [OMG Vinyl](#)
- [SF Guardian](#)
- [Sick of the Radio](#)
- [Stereogum](#)
- [Terminal Boredom](#)
- [The Liminal](#)
- [The Quietus](#)
- [Tiny Mix Tapes](#)
- [Tome To The Weather Machine](#)
- [Total Waste Academy](#)
- [Zen Effects](#)

LABELS / DISTROS

- [Aquarius Records](#)
- [Arbor](#)
- [Blackest Rainbow](#)
- [Constellation Records](#)
- [Debacle Records](#)
- [Discriminate Music](#)
- [Divorce Records](#)
- [Drag City](#)
- [Eclipse Records](#)

Edible Onion
Experimedia
Holy Mountain
Hooker Vision
Jagjaguwar
Joyful Noise Recordings
Kranky
Load Records
Lovepump United
Mimaroglu Music Sales
No Fun Productions
Norman Records
Not Not Fun
Orange Milk Records
Parts Unknown
Post Present Medium
Rotifer
Skin Graft
Southern Lord
Time-Lag Records
Tomentosa Records
Troubleman Unlimited
Type Records
Weird Forest
Woodsist
Zum

