

## Mp3 Mr. Something Something - World: African



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"Afrobeat fans, it's all here: punchy horn riffs, jazzy drums, percolating guitars and percussion galore. ...these guys rank with any Afrobeat in the world today." - Exclaim Magazine 5 MP3 Songs WORLD: African, JAZZ: World Fusion Details: A little something for the body. A little something for the mind. Mr. Something Something represents two years of composing, performing, risk-taking, improving and ultimately mobilizing the original vision of founding members Larry Graves [drums/percussion] and John MacLean [saxophone/voice]. 20 years of playing, studying and traveling passed before these two childhood friends settled on the unbeatable dance rhythms of Nigeria, Senegal, Mali and Ghana as the most natural gathering place for the elements that would ultimately make up the Mr. Something Something sound. Western instruments and concepts of improvisation are explored and layered over what used to be called afrobeat; but the term strains to contain the innovations happening in the rhythm section at every show. It also fails to express in fiery-enough terms the contributions of notable and electrifying vocalist/performance artist Johan Hultqvist. Breaks and basslines are designed to induce and sustain a state of ecstatic dancing. The horn section strikes with power and uplifts with melody. And above it all, acting as a lightning rod for the combined energies of a Mr. Something Something event, is the lyric statement of the case for change and consciousness. And dance. Mr. Something Something's self-titled debut album was released in July 2004 to critical acclaim. VIEW Magazine called it a "great debut from a solid band" and in EXCLAIM David Dacks wrote "these guys rank with any Afrobeat in the world today." This self-promoted album was also very well received by CBC Radio as well as college radio across Canada, a fact which was confirmed by the National Campus and Community Radio Report in November 2004 when the album climbed high on two of the !Earshot Specialty Charts, reaching number four on the jazz chart and number six on the 'International' ditto. Not bad, considering that the

majority of tracks on the album exceeds nine minutes! At this point the band has toured as far east as Charlottetown no less than 4 times and westward as far as Victoria/Vancouver twice for a total of over 200 shows. Along the way they shared the stage with top Canadian artists including Sarah Harmer, The Trews, Joel Plaskett, The Creaking Tree String Quartet, Matt Mays El Torpedo, Eliana Cuevas, Cuff The Duke, and The High Dials. Wildly energized and unpredictable live shows have brought Mr. Something Something a hard-earned, solid reputation as an act that really gets through to people. The fresh sound and powerful message of The Edge, the band's second album, promises an action-packed 2006.

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