

Mp3 New Blue Yonder - Country: Progressive Bluegrass



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The crossroads where traditional bluegrass runs into the blues and then merges with a little folk rock to create energetic and edgy soulgrass. Ultimate Americana. 11 MP3 Songs COUNTRY: Progressive Bluegrass, FOLK: Progressive Folk Details: New Blue Yonder is a dynamic group of young women with a passion for acoustic music. With a sound some have described as soulgrass, the girls of New Blue Yonder perform their unique blend of bluegrass, classic country, folk, and blues in venues all over the Midwest. The band was originally founded by sisters, Crystal Purvis Grant (vocals and mandolin), and Hilary Purvis Harvill (guitar, banjo, and vocals) from Springfield, Missouri. The Purvis girls were trained in classical piano as children, and sang gospel music with their family. One of the girls strongest musical influences was their grandfather, Ford Prewett, who played bluegrass music. By the time they were teenagers, the girls had discovered the joy of singing together, and even then, people marveled at the richness of their harmonies. In 2000, their fates were sealed when Hilary was given one month of free guitar lessons, and Crystal was given a mandolin. It was then that they discovered the distinctive charm of old-time American folk music. They began attending as many bluegrass and folk music festivals as they could, and the girls quickly learned about acoustic music through jam sessions with strong, established musicians. In 2001 the Purvis sisters started New Blue Yonder, and began playing small shows and venues throughout Missouri. Their love of performance inspired them to expand their group, eventually adding bass and fiddle. 2003 was a great year for the band, because the search for a bass player ended when the Purvis girls met Jenna Skyles English. Jenna, originally from Mountain Grove, Missouri, had played with several bands before moving to Springfield and pursuing her musical interests further. Through mutual friends, the Purvis were introduced to Jenna, who was playing bass in a rock band at the time. With her commitment to excellence and easygoing personality, the girls instantly hit it

off, and Jenna came on board as the third member of New Blue Yonder. New Blue Yonder played as a trio for a while, but knew deep down that they would never be complete without a permanent fiddle player who could step up and work the sound they had established. In October of 2004 Jenna met Melody Church, a fiddle player who had been trained and developed her skill while playing in Mountain View, Arkansas at the Ozark Folk Center. After one jam session, the girls of New Blue Yonder knew that they had found their perfect fiddle player and thus, their dream of an all-female acoustic quartet was realized. The girls have since stayed busy playing at fairs, festivals, and special events all around the Midwest. In May of 2006 the girls had the opportunity to travel to Shanghai, China to participate in the International Music Carnival, a week long music festival. Also in May 2006 New Blue Yonder released their first CD on the Timber Wind label, under the production expertise of Chad Sigafus. To book New Blue Yonder for your event or venue, please call 417-844-0724, or email the girls at newblueyonder@yahoo.com.

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