

Mp3 Epigene - One Bright Sign



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Modern pop/rock with the elements of 70's pop R&B. The kinetic energy of new wave and the guitar dynamics of Brit pop. 14 MP3 Songs POP: British Pop, POP: 70's Pop Details: Epigene is a word used to describe a formation occurring just under the surface of the earth; like a crystal found in bedrock. Epigene can also describe the music and lyrics of Seattle based songwriter Sean Bigler. His songs contain a lyrical depth and melodic sophistication rarely found among today's modern rock/pop contemporaries. His elastic tenor recalls early Sting or Stevie Wonder and adds it's own electrifying element to the music. In 2002, All Music Guide gave the bands debut album, One Bright Sign a four-star review and wrote: "...Epigene's ability to marry their more modern rock impulses with an uncanny sense of R&B makes for an invigorating listening...significantly, (Sean) Bigler has a knack for writing story songs with a personal bent that nonetheless express universal truths." Epigene was originally formed in the spring of 1999 when Sean teamed up with former SF/Oakland funk rock/fusion musicians Darrell Grey and Edgar Allen. The band released their self-titled EP that summer and later added keyboardist/harmony vocalist Bonnie Lykes. The band gigged locally for a year before playing an MP3.com/Angelcity showcase in LA. Following this experience, Epigene went into hibernation for a while but not before laying down drum bass tracks for the new album. Several months of painstaking home recordings followed and after mixing and mastering the songs at Rainstorm studios, in Seattle, "One Bright Sign" was completed in November 2001. The album's 14 immaculately arranged songs cover a lot of ground both emotionally and musically, from the frantic melodic punk of "Night Rally" (think pre-orchestral XTC) to the languid, trance-like "Sleeptime." "Lonely Together Forever", the album's opener, is funkified driving rock about a miserable couple too afraid to break up. In contrast, "You Bring out the Best in Me" is a piece of Stevie Wonder-inspired R&B positivity about true love using a classic Rhodes, sequencers and swirling

backwards pianos playing over a layered groove. "Mr. Action Fast" is a slice of modern rock and a character sketch about a certain big budget Hollywood entertainer. Finally, "Troubled Man" is dark, brooding hip-hop jazz-rock reminiscent of Steely Dan. The troubled man in the narrative was inspired by Jack Nicolson's lonely, tormented character in the movie Five Easy Pieces. Indie Music Review wrote that: "One Bright Sign rocks, bops and grooves with easy melodic lines suspended over sophisticated musical ideas...Bigler and his band understand how to meld the nuances of radio friendly hooks with engaging, interesting tunes." In the spring of 2002, new bassist James Burkman and guitarist John Geisler joined Epigene and the band became a five-piece with a highly dynamic live sound. Epigene gigged regularly in the Seattle area during the year, gaining exposure and expanding their fan base. Also, the band hired The Planetary Group for national radio press promotion and over 55 college stations added One Bright Sign to their playlists. The album charted as high as #16 and had several CMJ adds. Currently, Epigene is busy rehearsing and recording tracks for a new album and is booking shows for the winter and spring. One constant attribute of Epigene's music is a highly developed and creative sense of melody. The result is a near-perfect synthesis of past musical styles into a modern, compelling sound with a vulnerability that won't leave you chilly.

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