

Mp3 Feathermerchants - Unarmed Against The Dark



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Guitar, bass, drums, percussion, and piano combine with ethereal female vocals to create richly-crafted, seductive music that gently mesmerizes the listener. The melodies are complex and original. 11 MP3 Songs ROCK: Folk Rock, ROCK: Modern Rock Details: "A soothing exercise in simple, laid-back pop, Unarmed Against the Dark is certain to impress Triple A fans." - CMJ New Music Report "Intricate arrangements and expert musicianship ... permeate the entire album. ...The guitar playing is subtle yet entrancing, the vocals compelling and the song ('Dan') provocative -- a perfect recipe for Triple A." - Friday Morning Quarterback "Feathermerchants dust the ears with a light, adult alternative approach on Unarmed Against the Dark. Fans of Cowboy Junkies and Beth Orton will feel kinship, especially in Shannon Kennedy's vocals. - Knight-Ridder News Service "(Feathermerchants') excellent cover of the Psychedelic Furs classic, 'Heartbreak Beat' ... captures a warmth and tenderness that the original glosses over." - CMJ New Music Monthly August 2003 "Distinct and Hypnotic" - Album Network "Unarmed Against the Dark .. is one of those special efforts that dazzles the lisistener with its shimmering ethereal delivery and lilting spiritual sensibilities. And anyone who hears it will immediately fall under its spell." - South Florida's Entertainment News Views "One of the more well-rounded modern rock acts to emerge from New York" - Hartford Advocate "Feathermerchants have crafted an exotic musical atmosphere ... (Their) folk and pop sensibilities gel ... to be at once eclectic and cohesive." - Amazon.com "Haunting" - Philadelphia Daily News "The melodies (on Unarmed Against the Dark) are complex and original, the words veering on the mystical and the deft production touch ... is subtle and rich without ever losing track of the vital backbone of each song." - New Britain Herald "Absolute brilliant production, dream rock songwriting and stirring performances. ... Unarmed Against the Dark is poised to crack the big time." - Muzicafe "Charmingly lite-rocking." - Philadelphia City Paper "This band has ... a gift for weaving

heavenly musical threads into messages of social observation and sadness." - Indie-Music "Evocative and gripping. ... Those who seek something different should investigate." - Collected Sounds

Feathermerchants create richly-crafted songs that paint American soundscapes journeying deep into a common human psyche. Founded in 1998 by former Wall Street junkbondsman Pete Veru, Feathermerchants feature the ethereal, taut vocals of Philadelphia-native Shannon Kennedy, who can phrase lines with an uncanny sense of imagination and strike a mood with the resolve of Margo Timmins (Cowboy Junkies). After 17 successful years in the world of commerce, Veru chunked it all to pursue his lifelong dream of songwriting and guitar playing. Fortunately for us, Pete's aspiration was not one of escapist folly, but instead reveals a deep level of artistic skill that makes one wonder how he managed to keep his musical vision bottled-up for so many years. Adding greatly to Veru's vision is guitarist and producer Jim Chapdelaine, whose own musical skills won him an Emmy for writing and producing the music for the PBS documentary Making of "Amistad." Although known in Hartford, Conn., as a guitar legend who sits in with Les Paul, Chapdelaine's national reputation comes as a highly-prized producer featured in both EQ and Mix magazines. As one might suspect, Jim's expertise adds not only a level of guitar virtuosity to Feathermerchants, but also an unbeatable sonic production quality to their recordings. Joining Feathermerchants on drums from Jim Chapdelaine's studio is Jon Peckman. Nothing comes out of Chapdelaine's impeccable studio sound without Peckman's drums and the band is fortunate to have such a high-level percussionist. Feathermerchants' new sophomore album, Unarmed Against The Dark (Innocent 12th St. Records), has already received a substantial nod from the music industry as the renowned record label Rykodisc made a rare move in picking up this indie band's new CD for national distribution in July, 2003. General Manager of Ryko Distribution Jim Cuomo says: "This is a major step forward for this band in both songwriting and production value. A very mature body of work." In addition, the usually keyboardless Feathermerchants were able to recruit ex-Allman Brothers/current Rolling Stone Chuck Leavell to play on two tracks (All the Way Home, Brooklyn Ferry). Says Veru, "I met Chuck through a mutual friend and gave him a copy of the record at the Stones show in New York. He had a listen and liked it a lot. Next thing we knew, he was able to fit in a session during the Stones down time in December and just like that, he was on the record. It is a true honor to have him on this project." Although Unarmed Against The Dark is receiving early praise from music executives, high marks and popular support are something Feathermerchants have learned to live with from the start. The band's 1999 self-titled debut

received international praise, coming from music industry trade magazines like CMJ and Album Network's Totally Adult, the Hartford Advocate, the UK's Phantom Tollbooth, and Mexico's Enfonia.

Feathermerchants CD was also broadly accepted by radio, receiving airplay on over 300 college stations, 40 public radio stations, and 2 commercial R&R stations. Additionally, the disc stayed at #1 in New York City on the AmazonIndie Music Chart for an unprecedented 90 days. The album's song "Water and Dreams" was on the soundtrack to the film "Above Freezing," which won the Audience Choice Award at the Seattle International Film Festival, where the band was also invited to play live.(Veru even makes a cameo in the film, portraying a gangster.) Before Feathermerchants even had a record, the band was invited to perform at New York City's immense Intel Music Festival, where they came in 4th out of 300 acts (including Freedy Johnston, Jules Shear and Joey Ramone) in its Best Band poll. Armed with their new Unarmed Against The Dark CD, which is "a major step forward" from their highly praised debut, Feathermerchants are primed to take their distinctly delightful and insightful songs to a broader audience at new heights with even more stellar achievements. In Store: July 8th 2003 Label: Innocent 12th St. Records/Ryko Distribution Tour: Various dates in the Northeast

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