## Mp3 Mid-south Disaster - Swing Shift



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Tasty Rock'n Roll with a twist of Reggae. "...This is a recipe for anything but disaster." If,"...Norah Jones and Neil Young had a love-child raised by Jimmey Buffet and Mark Knopfler ... This music would be it." 6 MP3 Songs ROCK: Modern Rock, ROCK: Classic Rock Details: Here's the deal: At long last the debut release for Mid-South Disaster is out on the street and for sale to the masses! In 2003 Mike started the project with a full length CD of previously recorded songs as a proverbial, "toe in the water." Having found the water warm(if not hot!) and upgrading the gear at Noggin Loft (the studio) this recording is all new songs written to maintain that rock/reggae style that has delighted critics and listeners alike. As you listen to the clips; remember that just one guy recorded all of the instruments (drums too), all of the vocals, engineered the recording, mixed it, mashed it, remixed it, and followed through to the finish! It was either an act of sheer determination or blind stupidity; only time will tell. Why does one guy use a band name? Well we'll get to that in a minute. The album starts with the full version of "Dreamland," Which is receiving airplay in the Mid-Atlantic on NPR and college stations. It is book-ended by "Dreamland (reprise)" which is the way the song was originally written. The song is about a couple in the 1900's that fall in love at Coney Island during its prime. The rest of the album follows a linear theme of relationships and adversity and the greatness that can be found in both. The intended singles besides the first "Dreamland" are "Unsettled" (track 4) and "Swing Shift" (track 2) although a lot of great press and listener favorites are given to, "Marigold" (track 3). While at the end (as a hidden track) there as favorite written by John Prine (sung in his style) which fits with the musical theme of the record. Take a minute to decide for yourself and visit us at mid-southdisaster. Let us know what you think, sign the guest book, and join the e-mail list! Write a review yourself by clicking on the link at the bottom left of this page. And now...The long biography... So Just Who Is Mid-South Disaster? Mike Marien is; that's who! Being in a military family and

having lived in Europe and all over the United States, Mike was introduced to music at age nine when his parents bought an old upright piano. At the time being shipped off to a blue haired piano teacher to learn various renditions of "Waltz of the Blow Toads" was terrible, but it was probably the best thing to happen. Because he was able to read music, he was always playing xylophones and other instruments for the school chorus which led to a fascination with all things percussive. Through adolescence he studied both trap and classical percussion (and of course girls) with all kinds of acclaimed instructors. After moving again to the metro Washington D.C. area he then took up guitar as at the time there was little to no jazz scene in D.C. compared to what he left in the New York City suburbs. Studying classical guitar at the Guitar Shop (founded by Sophocles Papas-cohort of Segovia in the 30's) led to learning upright bass which he played in various orchestras and groups. Living in the D.C. area the longest, Mike enjoyed a long run playing guitar and drums with a number of acts throughout his early and mid-twenties. He appeared with such bands as "Piper Down" and "Darwin's Radio" playing mainstream alternative, classic rock, and originals- and even recording several albums. Now living in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia he still plays-out in the local bar scene occasionally and teaches guitar, piano, (sans waltz of the...) and drums. Why Just One Guy? Well... recording is often a tedious process at best, and with one guy playing with himself it sure makes it go a lot more smoothly while reducing the overhead costs. (Okay maybe that wasn't the best way to say that.) Also, it allows Mike the ability to hire the folks that best fit the bill to play live, and ensures that the musical and business visions remain consistent and uncomplicated. Not to mention that "Mid-South Disaster" sounds a lot cooler and unpretentious!

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