## **Mp3 The Lonetones - Canaries**



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I have no idea what to call the Lonetones. They're acoustic musicians who don't always play acoustic. They're folk musicians with a love of modern psychedelia. Whatever they are, they're great. -Wayne Bledsoe, Knoxville News Sentinel 11 MP3 Songs in this album (48:42)! Related styles: FOLK: Alternative Folk, FOLK: Folk-Rock People who are interested in Wilco Gillian Welch Donna the Buffalo should consider this download. Details: We're a Knoxville, TN band that plays original, Appalachian roots-based music that goes well beyond the "tradition." We've been called modern folk, Americana, folk rock, "an Appalachian Belle and Sebastian"... We've been accused of having a unique sound and strong song writing. But it doesn't really matter what anyone else says, take a listen for yourself here or on our regular or myspace site. SOME COMMENTS ABOUT THIS CD "Its disarming, beguiling, sometimes hypnotic." -Jack Neely, Metropulse "I have no idea what to call the Lonetones. They're acoustic musicians who don't always play acoustic. They're folk musicians with a love of modern psychedelia. Whatever they are, they're great. "Canaries," the group's third album, stretches the Lonetones' borders a little more. Married couple Steph Gunnoe and Sean McCullough anchor the group with their consistently fine songs and vocals. Stand-out numbers include Gunnoe's beautiful and delicate "Gone Again" and McCullough's "Blue Vinyl" - a song that is so lyrically minimalist that it has no right to be so lovable. Bassist Maria Williams, drummer Steve Corrigan and accordionist/pianist Lissa McLeod help flesh good songs out into something purely beautiful." -Wayne Bledsoe, Knoxville News Sentinel "'I think there's something really pleasing about dissonance,' Gunnoe told The Daily Times this week. 'I think we're really melodically driven musicians, but it's so pleasing to somehow wed something really melodic with a more complex dissonance or background.' That dissonance may seem out-of-place on an initial listen to "Canaries," but repeated plays find McCollough and Gunnoe at a creative peak. The sound effects are understated -- sly

and soft, contributing to a song's mood or melody in almost indefinable ways. The layers are arranged in gorgeous stacks, like the shimmering icing of a wedding cake -- intricate, detailed and personable. Gunnoe's girlish voice is another instrument in the mix, and as it swirls and bobs on a sea of lush instrumentation, there's a dreamlike quality to 'Canaries' that's fascinating and endearing." -Steve Wildsmith, Maryville Daily Times "Sean and I are always taking issue with people putting Appalachian music in a box. We want it to be something that's living and breathing,' said Gunnoe" -from New Appalachia: The Lonetones - Band looks to bring mountain music into the modern day, Wayne Bledsoe, Knoxville News Sentinel Ive starred in a million dreams Oscar winning only made me mean How it hurts to be eclipsed Were all stars in our apocalypse. (from Trickle Down) To some, the Lonetones new album, Canaries, has the feel of a soundtrack. Perhaps its the lush musical production with layers of contrasting colors. Or maybe its the lyrical themes songs for a new Appalachia. Its not a soundtrack (at least not yet), but if it were, perhaps it would be best described as a soundtrack for life in modern Appalachia an ode to a post-Oh-Brother-Where-Art-Thou era. The album, and the bands music in general, speaks to the conflicted nature of a region steeped in tradition while blighted by Walmarts and stripmines. It speaks to generational conflicts and the inner struggles of those whose hearts and souls are tied to the mountains but also want to be set free. But the album is not simply a lament. Rather, it is a hope that the old and the new can work together as symbiotic partners. In the song West Virginia Soundtrack Gunnoe offers her assistance in this task: Ill be your midwife dark and alone, Ill help you bear whats never been born. And in Here In The South, she promises to this end that here in the south, aint gonna shut my mouth. The production of the album also reflects the conflicted nature of modern Appalachia (and contemporary Appalachian music). The band still has the partial look of an old-time string band with acoustic guitar, banjo, mandolin and upright bass. But even these instruments arent always played in a traditional manner and the addition of drums, accordion, keys and vibes takes the music in new directions. In a recent Knoxville News Sentinel interview, Gunnoe stated that "people expect you to be an old-time band when you have these instruments. Sean and I are always taking issue with people putting Appalachian music in a box. We want it to be something that's living and breathing." To this end, on Canaries, they also mix together electronic and found sounds (dissonance at times) with acoustic instruments. Steve Wildsmith of the Maryville Daily Times describes it this way: That dissonance may seem out-of-place on an initial listen to 'Canaries,' but repeated plays find McCollough and Gunnoe at a creative peak. The sound effects are

understated -- sly and soft, contributing to a song's mood or melody in almost indefinable ways. The layers are arranged in gorgeous stacks, like the shimmering icing of a wedding cake -- intricate, detailed and personable. But amidst all of that, Gunnoes voice remains at the center of the bands sound of the mountains, but not satisfied to be just that. Jack Neely of Metro Pulse says of her voice that its overt innocence sometimes seems to conceal some deeper melancholy beneath the surface, a singing through trauma. Gunnoe and McCollough still work closely together with the band to create the unique arrangements that they have become known for, searching for just the right instruments to compliment each song. Maria Williams still provides a strong backbone with her upright bass and harmony singing. And Steve Corrigan on drums and Lissa McLeod on accordion and keys provide fresh voices to round out the lush sound of band.

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