

Mp3 Ottoman - Times Like These



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Alt/Rock with a hint of jazz and plenty of pop. The furniture accessory of choice for Peter Gabriel, Prince, and Fiona Apple. 14 MP3 Songs ROCK: Funk Rock, POP: Piano Details: Ottoman is a new five piece Santa Barbara, California based band. While their sound is quite difficult to categorize, I guess you'd say Adult Rock/Alternative with a bit of Jazz and pop. Ottoman members: David Hetrick (lead vocal, acoustic guitar) has produced and engineered hundreds of local and national artists and was a member of California favorites 'Spencer The Gardener' for four years. Marianna Hetrick (keyboards, vocals) has extensive live and studio credits including: Area 51, The Choice, Robert Thomas Band, Tall Paul and most other Santa Barbara acts at one time or another. Bob Peyton (drums) is a previous member of the Ska Daddyz. David Leoncavallo (bass guitar) adds to the unique lineup with his innovative approach to his instrument and the bands sound. CD Review from the Santa Barbara Independent: The cover image on Ottoman's debut CD, Times Like These, sports a family foto of well-dressed tots by the Christmas tree, circa the late '50s. One can speculate on the connection to the music contained inside, whose lyrics sometimes refer to emotional circuitry based on nostalgia and self-discovery. But the music itself is grounded less in times like the ones we're in than it harkens back to a certain sector of '70s pop, particularly Pretzel Logic-era Steely Dan, when there was still a band sense but also smart touches of jazz chords and melodic twists. Of course, that crafty, keyboard-oriented pop line runs up through Ben Folds, too. Still, it's a badge of courage and distinction that Ottoman doesn't really fit in the current radio scene: who'd want to? Lead singer-songwriter Dave Hetrick is a handy man in the studio and behind a pen, who cooks up rockers like "Remember", Dan-esque funkies like "Don't Waste My Time", and flexes a melancholic muscle on "In-between". It's a pleasure to hear music grounded in actual keyboards, i.e. a real Rhodes, piano, and even organ, played by Marianna, whose catchy number "WhatchaGonnaDo?"

recalls the lost treasure of an album by model-turned-popster Rosie Vela (oops, that's on comparison too many). The prize here is the art-pop mini-epic of a title track, with its cleanly articulated scheme of syncopated low Rhodes chords and a bridge with a thickened plot, and actual Mellotron in the mix. For things actual here, including honest music making, we commend you! Santa Barbara Independent

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