Mp3 The Shed - Pop: Pop/rock



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Pink Floyd, Neil Young, The Sundays, Grandaddy and the bastard child of Phil "wall of sound" Spector and Brian "sing it from the sandbox" Wilson crammed into a shed. 13 MP3 Songs POP: Pop/Rock, ROCK: Progressive Rock Show all album songs: The Shed Songs Details: Q. Who are The Shed? A. The Shed are a Cork, Ireland based band/collective with a floating membership of up to ten who offer up a most organic take on the melange of music you might expect from a group whose influences range from Leadbelly to Lil Kim and every two-bit staging post in between. Q. That doesnt tell us much - where are The Shed from? A. The Shed are mostly from Cork, however, one of their most fragrant and hirsute members, Kirsty Stewart hails from Johannesburg. Q. What are they like live? A. Well, for a band who sit down in concert (dont rush to judgment; Jerry Lee Lewis also sits down in concert, technically speaking.) they sure make a most racous and rootsy noise much beloved of the punters, especially those at their now legendary series of gigs at The Roundy, in Cork. (Their first live outing was at a friends wedding. It was a truly disastrous affair and nearly ruined the whole ocassion. Luckily, an old trooper from the cabaret scene was on hand to rescue the night and soon had the wedding party engaged in a most exhilerating conga to the Birdie Song. The Shed prefer not to reflect on this particular performance and now pretend it never took place. Honesty and integrity are so often the first casualties in the cutthroat world of rock and roll.) Q. But their album sounds a much more polished affair than what you are describing? A. It certainly does and thats because producer Froggy is quite possibly the bastard child of Phil Wall of Sound Spector and Brian Sing it from the sandbox Wilson. Most of the album was recorded in his studio in Minane Bridge, in Co Cork. Other members of The Shed firmly believe that Cormac would put Phil and Brian in the hapenny place when it comes to obsessiveness in the studio. Q. Look, this is all very well. Every press release comes up with some variation on this type of schtick but really, who are

The Shed? (And dont spare the horses, man! Give it stick!) A. OK, settle down children. Is everyone sitting comfortably? Well, then lets begin. Twenty-odd years ago, most of the Shedheads flirted with local bands for a season or two before (a) retiring to the country or (b) descending deep into the bowels of the earth to toil on the factory floor. Any dreams of stardom or even a shot at recording a decent album were placed in a lead-lined trunk and buried 12 feet underground at the far end of Dursey Island until many moons later, now-bandleader Johnny B threw the rakes and hoes out of the clapped-out wooden structure at the end of his garden and invited Mick Stupp around to share a few chords and a couple of bottles of cheap red. Gradually, word got around the town and soon the idea of hooking up in The Shed on Thursday nights to drink a little wine and knock out a few tunes seemed to make it that bit easier to get up the next morning and resume respective slots on the chain gang. Over time, the diet of cover versions by the usual suspects and the suspicious unusuals came to be leavened with originals as, one by one, members of The Shed took the first tentative stabs at writing original material. It was with the arrival of Cormac Froggy OConnor that things stepped up a gear. The only member of The Shed who had remained in the music business for all those years, Cormac is a highly respected musician and sound designer for the theatre but he claims to have been blown away by the simple, raw pleasure of playing music for fun and in subsequent weeks told more than a few citizens around the town that it was one of the best nights of my life and that he was going to record their first album. Cormac initially ruffled feathers with a rather anal insistence on technical fripperies such as tuning up and playing in time but soon The Shedheads were in agreement that indeed a sweeter honey was now flowing from the rock. Gradually, the only sign of wine in The Shed was their national anthem, a cover of the Handsome Familys So Much Wine. Q. But surely The Shed are far too old to be getting up to these kind of high jinks? One of these days, somebody is going to have a bad fall and break a hip, mark my words! Doesnt all this smack of a bad case of midlife crisis? A. Well, The Shed say that on average they are probably about 15 years older than The Libertines and 48 years younger than the Rolling Stones. The Libertines are shit, so that one is easily dealt with, and when the Rolling Stones were the same age that The Shed are now, they were still making good records. Indisputable logic, indeed! As one of The Sheds more glamourous chanteuses, Jim Corrigan, is wont to venture in most argumentative tones: Midlife crisis? Whats all this shit about a midlife crisis? Im not having any fucking midlife crisis! Jim has recently grown a most magnificent set of sideburns and is taking a stab at a flowing mane not seen since Werner Herzog goaded the already

insane Klaus Kinski into his most demented performance of all, in Cobra Verde (1988). Smells like Midlife Crisis to me.

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