

Mp3 The Whatnot - What You Make Of It



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If you like music like Guster, Dispatch, O.A.R., and The Beatles, The Whatnot will surely please your ears. "What You Make Of It" is an upbeat CD that combines three-part harmonies and great pop/rock for a unique, yet very familiar sound. 10 MP3 Songs POP: Today's Top 40, POP: Beatles-pop Details: This acoustic trio, based out of Portsmouth, NH, successfully blends acoustic and electric instruments to create a sound that is extremely sophisticated and much larger than the sum of its parts. The style is clean but powerful and the setup is extremely versatile. With Chris Mathews on percussion, Matt Junkin on bass, and Patrick Curry on guitar, the group not only combines to drive a set, but also contributes their vocal talents to the songs as well. And while making use of similar instrumentation as another bongo-riffic college rock band, The Whatnot uses their intellectual style of songwriting and familiar lyrics to separate themselves from the copycat stigma. During the summer of 2003 the band tracked their debut album entitled "what you make of it" in Portland, Maine at Big Sound Studio. The disc was engineered and co-produced by Jonathan Wyman (Jeremiah Freed, Paranoid Social Club), mixed at Boston Skyline Studios by Grammy Award winner David Leonard (Toto, Barenaked Ladies, Jump Little Children), and mastered by the talented local Duncan Watt. The songs on "what you make of it" are not new by any means. Most of these songs have been played night after night in the more than 150 shows this group has played together. The Whatnot played 103 shows over the course of their second year together, with dates from Boston to Atlanta to Chicago and back. The band has shared bills with such national acts as O.A.R., Howie Day, Virginia Coalition, Lost Trailers, Matt Nathanson, Fighting Gravity, Ari Hest, and more. They are no strangers to schools either, playing many college and prep school dates along the way. Derek Grandmaison of Foster's Daily Democrat describes the band's debut record as, "Moony, as in doe-eyed, making out in the kitchen, floating around the house, domestic romance - moony. This 'moony

effect' places The Whatnot in the company of Nick Drake, Cat Stevens, Al Green, Matthew Sweet and acoustic Beck - the cadre of male singers that makes my life more pleasurable." Hannah Smalltree of the Portsmouth Herald states, "Their songs range from hopeful romantic to deep introspection, built on catchy chord progressions and dynamic rhythms." And Sam Pfeifle of the Portland Phoenix adds, "They use their voices as instruments in all the right ways." As we head into 2005, the group continues to sell "what you make of it" at shows, online (thewhatnot.com), and in local record stores. Do not be surprised if within the next few months you find yourself tuning to a local radio station and bobbing your head to a song from the band.

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