



Dumbass – Modernity

www.dumbassmusic.com

Press Release

About Dumbass

Dumbass is an experimental music project from Vancouver Canada who have been pushing sonic and thematic boundaries for over a decade. Their sound moves from the harsh din of so-called "industrial music" to flirtations with jazz, rock, electronica and even folk, from pure noise to surreal soundscapes.

About Modernity

Modernity, the new album from Dumbass is an experimental sonic exploration of the age in which we find ourselves. The sounds of media saturation, uncertainty, and the quest for meaning in a seemingly meaningless world play themselves out against industrial rhythms and distressed synthesizers.

“Television will make up for actual physical presence even more so than does radio. All the more isolated will be the individual in his retreat, and the balance of trade will be correspondingly precarious: an enormous influx of riches, consumption without services in return. The pathetic hermit, squatting in his room, hundreds of miles away from the scene that he experiences as his present life, the “viewer” who cannot even laugh or applaud without feeling ridiculous, is the final product of a century-long development, which has led from the campfire, the market place, and the arena to the lonesome consumer of spectacles today.”

(Rudolf Arnheim, A Forecast of Television, 1935.)

Modernity was a project that I began way back in 2000. It was in fact a failed project. I had just finished the gigantic Misery double album, and was perhaps not ready to jump into another project. In any case, several songs were completed, including Cash, which was released as a stand-alone single in 2002, as well as the b-sides on the same single

(Profit Machine, Name Withheld, & Gripping). And several songs also ended up on Hymns of Disillusion, including: End of the End, and This Very Earth), of which Cash could have easily been a part of, but for what ever reason we left it off. Similar themes also popped up on The Me Generation, meaning that Modernity is, in a way, the completion of an unintentional trilogy of albums (Hymns of Disillusion, The Me Generation, and Modernity). In a way this is entirely appropriate. Musically the three albums are siblings, exploring related territory, and thematically they all deal with the modern world in which we live in different, yet related ways. I would encourage the listener to explore them together. Begin here and work your way back, start at the beginning and move forward, or the middle... put all three on shuffle and experience the modern world in its rapid and random confusion. Enjoy...

Zeke Mason

The album can be downloaded for free at the Dumbass website along with album artwork, information, video, and more (at www.dumbassmusic.com).

About the Modernity Movie

Directed by Zeke Mason, the Modernity film is a visual counterpart to the album experience.

Paying close attention to the principles of silent film, the Modernity movie weaves several narratives together, drawing on archival and original footage, using the album as a soundtrack that dictates the pace and flow of the action. Drawing on the same theoretical sources as the Modernity album itself, the Modernity film adds depth and colour to the picture painted, as well as views from other vantage points.

The modernity film is now available on youtube (www.youtube.com/dumbassvancouver) and is also available streaming on the Dumbass website. The film will also be available as a DVD soon.

About the Dumbass Website

The Dumbass website (www.dumbassmusic.com) is the repository of all things Dumbass. Here you will find videos, pictures, album, performance, and conceptual information, news, links, and of course, an enormous amount of free MP3s to download. At the Dumbass website you can download hours of music at absolutely no cost, from singles to complete albums.

For promotional Materials Contact:

[dumbassbh at hotmail.com](mailto:dumbassbh@hotmail.com)

www.dumbassmusic.com

www.myspace.com/dumbassvancouver

www.trashrecords.org

Trash Records

Dumbass is a proud part of the Trash Records art collective. We believe in the promotion of interesting independent art in all media.

Trash Records is an artist-run, non-profit art collective based in Vancouver Canada but with contributors from all over the world. Besides being a group of musicians, writers and visual artists, Trash Records is a non-profit record label, online art gallery, press, and store. We promote independent art and attempt to give it a forum where it can shine. Music and art for everyone.

www.trashrecords.org