

# PLAY GUITAR



Montreal quartet Play Guitar formed in Halifax in 2006 as a collaboration between Christian Simmons (Burdocks), Kerri Landry, and artist Lindsay Dobbin. After issuing their Y/T 7" (Black Mountain Music 2007), the members each departed from Halifax, with Simmons and Landry finding themselves in Montreal's hustle and bustle.

By 2008 the current lineup, now including younger Simmons brother Jef (Special Noise), and Jackson MacIntosh, had refined the enigmatic post-pop approach found on the Cold Crystal Shield cassette single (Campaign for Infinity).

Drawing from countless sessions over two years with Halifax engineer Charles Austin, the band produced a seamless and engrossing full-length S/T debut, subtitled the album's sides "Shields" and "Don't Worry About Death" respectively. Mastered by Chicago legend and hero-to-the-band Bob Weston (Shellac, Polvo, Eric's Trip, Nirvana, Fiery Furnaces), the record is a sonic accomplishment, moving from entrancing drones and noises to top-shelf art-indie with patient, fascinated vocals and - as the name boasts - ingenious, acrobatic guitar work.

Though more likely to draw comparison to Let's Active or My Bloody Valentine than to bands from their Eastern Canadian home, Play Guitar possess and carry forward the Maritime ethos of integrity, humility and anonymity, which brings such a grounded and moving element to their concerts. The couple's harmonies make poignant entrances, which offset and in some ways hide behind the instrument-heavy arrangements, but carry the spirit of the band, presenting an empathetic and dire identity.

A recent signing with German label Corialle, for the release of their first full-length indicates that Europe is in the band's future, and the home turf release on labels NoYes and Youth Club maintain the band's proletariat approach to album releases, which now straddle 6 different imprints.

*"Canadian trio with a solid outside fix on pop dynamics. They have a jittery edge that recalls The Feelies a bit, but it's wrapped in something both doughy and disjointed. Does that mean it sounds like The Bongos? Not really." -Byron Coley, WIRE.*

*"There was a time when scores of bands made singles reminiscent of this one, one with a scholarly yet ragged approach to rock, one that didn't have anything to do with choruses so much as cascades into another of their songs' advanced, calculated parts."*

*- Doug Mosura, Dustedmagazine.com*

Artist: Play Guitar

Title: S/T

Barcode: 3015900814

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Labels: Youth Club Records, Noyes, Coraille

[www.myspace.com/playguitarplayguitar](http://www.myspace.com/playguitarplayguitar)

[www.theplayguitars.tk](http://www.theplayguitars.tk)



- 1 Cold Crystal Shield
2. Celebration
3. When She Was Kids
4. Love Song For The Dead
5. How You End
6. Sleep Standing Up
7. Sunrise
8. Cut Into Shapes
9. Finality
10. Afterlife

