



MANNEQUIN MEN

“LOSE YOUR ILLUSION, TOO”

If the Replacements had met Peter Sellers on the floor of a dive bar somewhere in the Midwest, they may have drunkenly thought up the Mannequin Men. Four punker-types with a penchant for getting wild at house parties and spending their free time in a CCR cover band. “Lose Your Illusion, Too” is the outcome of a few years steady of playing gigs and paying dues (They’ll play almost anywhere...almost!).

Formed in late 2003, founding members Kevin Richard, Seth Bohn, and Ethan D’ercole (And then bassist Rick Berger) began the group as an excuse to hang out together, and write songs in their dingy practice space they wished they were hearing more of elsewhere. The band self-released their “Showbiz Witch” LP in 2005 (A record that has been described as a Tubeway Army cover band fronted by an absolute American). They began playing all over the great city of Chicago and some scattered Midwest gigs, sharing stages with The Black Lips, The Circle Jerks, No Age, and the like, leaving a trail of spilt drinks and sweat stains behind them. In 2006, members Richard and D’ercole were also honored to be a part of No Wave master James Chance’s touring group, and recorded a vinyl 45 with him. In 2007, Flameshovel released their Sophomore LP, “Fresh Rot”, which was met with great reviews. Original bassist Berger left in early 2008, only to be replaced by new bassist and friend Miles Raymer, just in time for rehearsing and recording of the new LP.

Brawn and brains, these are men of courage and intellect. Braving the wilds of their own excess and creativity, they holed up in Chicago’s Phantom Manor studios in September of 2008 recording these rough hewn pop gems which are now presented to you in this nifty little Ramones’ dozen of 14 killer cuts. Quicker to smile than sneer, amidst the barn burning rockers, they also have soft spots in their collective hearts for sweet melodies and hooks as big as anchors. Sitting somewhere between the Wipers’ razor sharp punk, and choruses stripped and ripped from all those British invasion tunes that warped the minds of impressionable youth all around the globe in that era they call the “60’s”. It’s all killer-no filler rock n’ roll the way only people who truly love it can make.

This, their third full length, only does what every great third release should do...strengthen an already strong reputation as a band who can write a fuckin’ tune. Out June 9th, 2009, “Lose Your Illusion, Too”(Flameshovel) is here for your daughters...and most of your sons.

