

PRESS

A SELECTION OF QUOTES/REVIEWS.

CHERRY GROVE

WWW.CHERRYGROVEMUSIC.COM

T: 07595175099 (GRANT)

E: CONTACT@CHERRYGROVEMUSIC.COM

"FULL OF SPARK & SURPRISES, THIS LOT DON'T MESS ABOUT!"

ANGUS LYON (BLAZIN' FIDDLES, HALTON QUARTET, BOX CLUB)

"CHERRY GROVE ARE HERE TO BE HEARD AND YOU WILL LIKE WHAT YOU HEAR, YOU'LL LIKE IT ALOT."

NEIL KING (FATEA MAGAZINE)

"THE COLLECTIVE PUNCH IS ONE THAT IMPRESSES MIGHTILY AND KICKS OUT THE JAMS WITH FINESSE AND ENERGY."

JOHN O'REGAN (FROOTS MAGAZINE)

THEIR SEAMLESS PERFORMANCE IS BOLSTERED NOT ONLY BY THEIR INSIGHTFUL AND SENSITIVE ARRANGEMENTS BUT ALSO BY THEIR UNCANNY ABILITY TO GIVE THE CROWD WHAT THEY WANT."

DAVID FOLEY (RURA, FOLKLUB)

FATEA

[Click here to view review](#)

CHERRY GROVE

WWW.CHERRYGROVEMUSIC.COM

T: 07595175099 (GRANT)

E: CONTACT@CHERRYGROVEMUSIC.COM

CherryGrove are one of those bands that Scotland produces on a frighteningly regular basis, full of young highly talented musicians that really know their way around their instruments because they've already got years experience behind them and because it's a shared experience musicians that can play and sing together with a natural fluency regardless if they are drawing on the tradition or spinning up their own, more contemporary songs and tunes.

It's not just that they have the places to learn and experiment, in Creative Scotland, there is an organisation prepared to back up the bands with hard cash and to allow the albums to get made and allow the bands to reach wider audiences, both North, South, East And West of the Border in a way that most English bands would give their eye teeth for.

CherryGrove are a five piece that come from a number of different parts and built up their connections through the likes of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Feis Rois and RSAMD and as well as being part of CherryGrove, all members of the band are also involved in other music projects and teaching, meaning that they are always hearing new ideas and helping to inspire musical ideas in others.

If you think that means, "No Time Like Now" is going to be quite a technical album, you would be correct, it is, but that is only a small part of the picture, most of all "No Time Like Now" is an album that runs over with a real passion for music, almost every chord, every note has a real spark of life to it. It's rich in the tradition, but not afraid to break from it either, you can hear elements of jazz and country in the music too.

More than that there is space to hear every instrument, listen to every word, there is a crisp clarity of purpose to the album, vocal, piano, guitar, fiddle, harp and accordion, amongst others, all know their place, know that it's not just the lead that's important, for a song to work well the elements must work together, that's where the real alchemy is.

"No Time Like Now" isn't a calling card, it's a debut that makes a full blown statement, CherryGrove are here to be heard and you will like what you hear, you'll like it a lot.

Neil King

Folk World

CHERRY GROVE

WWW.CHERRYGROVEMUSIC.COM

T: 07595175099 (GRANT)

E: CONTACT@CHERRYGROVEMUSIC.COM

[Click here to view review](#)

Young, talented, and Scottish: this quintet bucks the trend of Irish and Canadian ceilidh kids to bring an identifiably Scottish sound into the musical prodigy market. They're not the only ones, of course, but they are certainly among the best. The EP they released last year was promising, and their debut album (not quite full length, but decently below the knee) delivers in style. Four young ladies on fiddle, harp, piano and vocals are joined by one lad playing accordion: poor Grant McFarlane not only has to lug his piano box around, but I bet all the hot water's gone by the time he gets a turn in the bathroom. He writes a cracking tune though, as does pianist Heather Shelley, both good enough to make The Prize set alongside great melodies by Brendan Ring and Phil Cunningham. In five instrumental tracks, Cherrygrove aren't afraid to put their own tunes up against Donald Shaw, Chris Stout, Patsy Reid and others, and rightly so. My favourite is probably the exuberant Latin-tinged Ritos by harpist Sarah MacNeil, but the prize for best tune title goes to fiddler Mhairi Mackinnon's Glittery Toilet Seat. While all five members sing, lead vocals are the preserve of Marianne Fraser, already a powerful singer in her early twenties. The four songs here are all very different, none of them traditional Scottish but a mix of Americana and contemporary folk, and Marianne's expressive voice brings out the character of each one. Her equally youthful bandmates back her up strongly, and although the words are a little blurred at times the sentiments are crystal clear. Overall, there are three things I particularly like about CherryGrove's music. Firstly, they don't waste time on long boring intros: the longest lead-in here is under thirty seconds, far from dull, and most are close to zero. Secondly, they mix songs and tunes in a creative way, stringing a Brian Finnegan tune through Ain't No Grave, and combining Mhairi's reel The Boy and the Boat with Marianne's title track. Thirdly, there is just so much variety in this collection: fiddle, harp and accordion leads, songs from romantic to religious, and a wide range of accompaniment. Every member of Cherrygrove gets composing credits, and their contributions to this album are hard to separate. No Time Like Now really is a group achievement, and I'm guessing this group will soon achieve much more. CherryGrove are clearly a band to watch.

fRoots

CHERRY GROVE

WWW.CHERRYGROVEMUSIC.COM

T: 07595175099 (GRANT)

E: CONTACT@CHERRYGROVEMUSIC.COM

CherryGrove is a new Scottish band comprising former students of the National Centre of Excellence in Traditional Music and a finalist in the BBC Young Traditional Musician of the Year 2013. They have already played at the London 2012 Olympics and Lorient's Festival Interceltique. A five-piece with four female members the sound is fresh, vibrant and energetic. Musically, on Osmosis and Wild One, they have the blaze of Capercaillie with frisky accordion and fiddle pyrotechnics, while laced with the studied electroharp on Nahatlatch betraying a Poozies homage, the fire and pitch intact. Vocally Marianne Fraser impresses out front. The selection includes American old-timey material like Ain't No Grave which is given a suitably gothic treatment with big gospel harmonies and there's a dramatic take on Nickel Creek's Jealous Of The Moon. Original songs by Rachel Walker and Marianne Frazer hint at immense possibilities. The collective punch is one that impresses mightily and kicks out the jams with finesse and energy – worth watching.

John O'Regan

Herald Scotland

CHERRY GROVE

WWW.CHERRYGROVEMUSIC.COM

T: 07595175099 (GRANT)

E: CONTACT@CHERRYGROVEMUSIC.COM

[Click here to view review](#)

If CherryGrove were hoping that, by bringing in accordionist-keyboards player Angus Lyon as producer, some of the magic from Lyon's classic Eighteen Months Later recording with fiddler Ruaridh Campbell would rub off on this debut album, their wish has come true. Not long out of college, the young Scottish band has a really attractive signature sound based on bright, nimbly articulated fiddle, harp and accordion work with strong rhythmic accompaniment and Lyon's production has captured it splendidly. Tune sets such as the Irish-Scottish medley The Prize have spark, drive and punch, and harper Sarah MacNeil's Ritos is a Latin American adventure that incorporates elements of outgoing Eastern European gypsy traditions as well as delicate, sensitive expression. The songs, which sometimes tend more towards Americana, aren't quite as convincing, although the in-house gospel chorus gives spirited compelling support on Ain't No Grave, but overall this is the sound of a band that is already making headway in the international roots music market and deserves to make further progress.

Rob Adams