

## SHINEOLA REVIEWS



Review Roots Highway, Italy

<http://www.rootshighway.it/>

Reviewer: Marco Poggio (02/08/2012), Italy

### The Shineolas

Album: **Quirkphony** [DMI Records 2012]

Quirkphony, debut album on behalf of Bruce Gerrish and The Shinolas. The Canadian by adoption, but American by birth, is not in fact a rookie, having on his shoulders a career more than thirty years, but only now comes to the much-coveted goal of the work before. What interests us most of his musical personality is obviously the first aspect, the songwriting blossomed at an early age and honed with the passage of time, also because of a life spent largely on the road. Intense years with the guitar as the only faithful traveling companion, during which many faces and many stories are paraded in front of the singer-songwriter, originally from Minnesota. Stories that Gerrish has internalized and then transpose them on staff, giving rise to a handful of compositions finally go to make up the backbone of Quirkphony. The result of this long process of writing are thirteen songs that draw equally to the country, to roots rock and the Texas Swing, to witness how the roots of our music are firmly in the tradition of their country of origin. Already in the opener **I wanna new life**, with lap steel and mandolin now on display and more than infectious refrain, or runaway and electrical **Man down**, shows his preference for sounds of country roots, recalling in more than one juncture that Robert Earl Keen, with whom Gerrish seems to have much more of an affinity. **Definite maybe**, and **You do not know shit from Shinola**, they turn instead toward the Texas Swing: the first piano and lap steel to dictate the time, while in the second large space is left in a horn section in great form. Winds that we find, this time however impression mariachi, even **I said I do but** that, with lots of accordion, apparently written to be played in some forgotten bar Tjuana. The singer-songwriter side of Gerrish emerges when times are slow, as in buffettiana and solar power, beginning with the title, **A sunny place for shady people**, or in the ballad night, for solo acoustic guitar and piano, **Tonight**, which refers to the Lyle Lovett more intimate. musical influences of a long stay in the New Orleans' experience in sound crazy experiment **Jumbo shrimp**, in which the joyful atmosphere of the "Big Easy" merge with stylistic country, a bit 'like Willie Nelson and his

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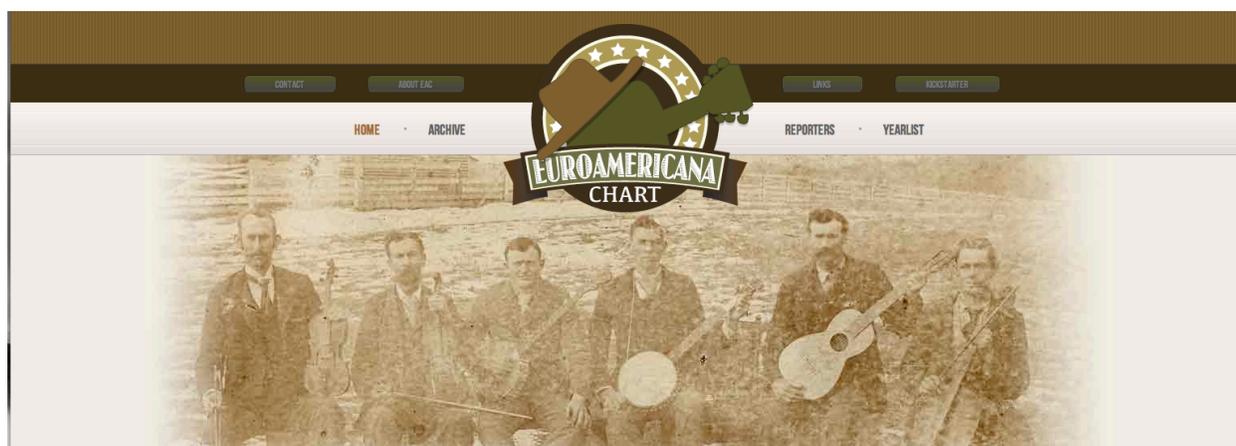
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Laatste wijzigingen

- ◆ MIKE ZITO & THE WHEEL - Gone To Texas
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- ◆ STATUS QUO - Bula Quo !
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- ◆ Deas Clubby - Unusual

Family Band unite, during the celebrations of Mardi Grass in a wild jam on horns of the Dirty Dozen Brass Band. At the end of the latter, almost unnoticed, appears an unexpected hidden track, a small acoustic reprise of A sunny place for shady people , able to far surpass



in beauty and intensity that present in the tracklist "official" album . A hard honest and sincere Quirkophony , which relies on the contributions of a swarm of valid instrumentalists, united under the name of The Shinolas, expertly directed by the experienced producer Bill Buckingham. A name to pinning for the future, to Bruce Gerrish, hoping to not have to wait a long time before you can listen to his new production.

Review Euro Americanna Chart, Holland

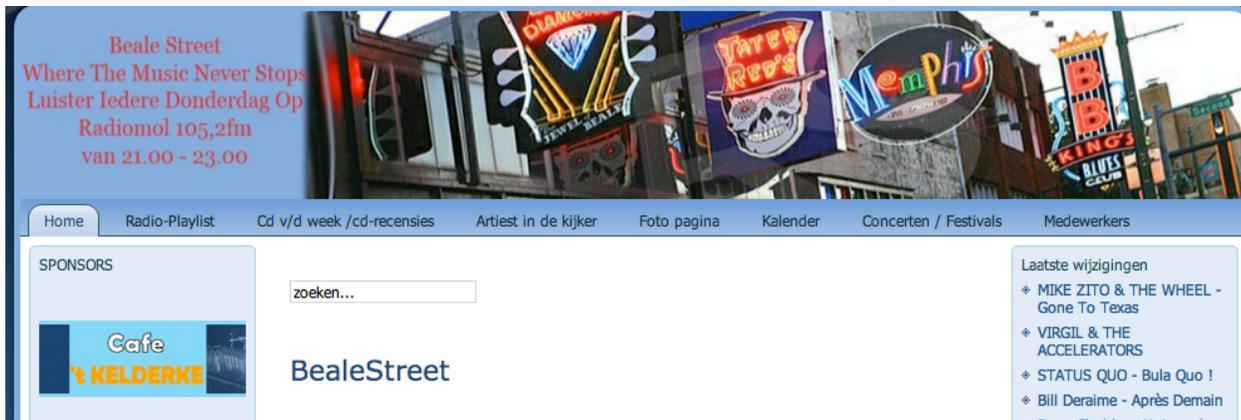
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Reviewer: Rein van den Berg (02/08/2012), Amsterdam,NL

Bruce Gerrish and The Shinolas

Album: **Quirkphony** [DMI Records 2012]

"Quickophony" from Bruce Gerrish and The Shinolas is a very good record and if you're not in the right mood to party, this record will bring you there and not many records do!



Review: Beale Street Magazine , Belgium

[www.bealestreet.be](http://www.bealestreet.be)

Reviewer: Francois (Swa) Braeken

The Shinolas

Album: **Quirkphony** [DMI Records 2012]

"Quirkphony" is a very nice acquaintance with Bruce Gerrish and The

Shinolas, a musical chameleon who ranges from the bluesy and gospel like "Red River"

to the Jazzy

"Jumbo Shrimp"

in a extra effort to musically

entertain you an

me. Mission

accomplished



Review: The Province Newspaper, Vancouver Canada

<http://www.theprovince.com/>

Reviewer: Tom Harrison

" Bruce Gerrish is a smart writer and can be funny. He share's Jimmy Buffet's generous perspective". Tom Harrison, Vancouver Province.



## Review: Rootstime, Belgium

<http://www.rootstime.be/>

Reviewer: Freddy Celis

### The Shinolas

Album: **Quirkphony** [DMI Records 2012]

Bruce Gerrish is a new name in the world of first album releases. This does not mean that he is a young, novice artist. On the contrary, he has been very much musical honing. He started like many young people making music at the high school of his city Minneapolis. After completing these studies, he moved to New Orleans to urge friends of the family to work. Friends who were the owners of the famous Preservation Hall in the French Quarter of New Orleans. During his stay there he received a musical bath immersion in jazz, cajun, country blues .... In short, everything in Louisiana of styles can be found.

For this first album, he called on a friend from Vancouver: producer Bill Buckingham and he got help from many beautiful people from the Canadian roots music scene. The most famous is of course Steve Dawson, a bit of the godfather of Canada roots music. But also a quality label. The album consists of 13 self-penned songs that contain a multitude of styles. That's just the main asset of this record: the diversity that makes this "Quirkophony" continues to fascinate. The album reminds me in terms of atmosphere and playfulness also a bit like the plates of Jimmy Buffet.

The opener "I Wanna New Life" is a joyous song with a country and gospel influence through the use of dobro and backing vocals. Strong radio friendly song. "Man Down" will continue in the same line: fast, exciting pace, few voices and a boogie feeling where Dr. Of Radio 21 would nod approvingly. Also cheerful, upbeat and with a big dash of bluegrass and boogie piano in the song "Montana Man".

But they can also be a different repertoire. For example, "Red River" a song that is more reminiscent of Little Feat. Pumping organ, backing vocals and slide guitar are the main constituents of this song.

Furthermore, these songs definitely get a mention: "Coulda, Shoulda, Woulda," a happy sounding song reminiscent of Lyle Lovett and Bruce at the end where a New Orleans brass band to show up. "I Said I Do"

a song with TexMex accordion solo best Augie Meyers tradition. One of the best songs of the album is "Treadmill" with clever guitar work of Robbie Stieninger reminiscent of Ry Cooder.

Misfits on the plate are the two final numbers. "You Do not Know Shit From Shinola" is a swinging song with pedal steel and brass that you can describe as honky-tonk country with a dash of New Orleans. Think back to Lyle Lovett and Jimmy Buffet.

**Domino pastiche.**

It has apparently taken a long time for that Bruce Gerrish his first record but that might just strength: it is a diverse album with many great songs and beautiful moments. Fans of roots music is cheerful, which is not always the case in this genre, this record should definitely give a listen.