



Black Mountain s/t

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TO AUSTRALIA OR CANADA**

BLACK MOUNTAIN

Modern Music • Don't Run Our Hearts Around • Druganaut • No Satisfaction • Set Us Free
(start of Side B:) No Hits • Heart Of Snow • Faulty Times

There is no simple life, and these are not simple times. The mythical days of clearer heads, of moral certainty, and of men and women acting with resolute spirit are behind us (if those times ever existed). **Black Mountain**, the front-line soldiers for the Black Mountain Army, an arts collective from Vancouver, British Columbia, write, perform and record music that speaks (and sings) to this realization: that solutions are rarely simple, that the world is as complex as it is ambiguous, and that music sprinkled with an inoculating dose of madness may well be the Pied Piper that takes us all back into the primordial mountain, where our hearts can be made steady and our minds can be set free.

Black Mountain is Matthew Camirand, Stephen McBean, Jeremy Schmidt, Amber Webber and Joshua Wells. Their debut self-titled record, like a space probe built of rector set parts and transmitting secret and arcane messages to earth by string, charts territories unknown yet remains grounded by the roots of classic rock and roll. It is easy to discern these roots: **Black Sabbath**, **the Velvet Underground**, **the Rolling Stones**, **Animals**-era **Pink Floyd**, **Blue Cheer**, **Led Zeppelin** and **Can**. Principal songwriter Stephen McBean's vocals are a smoother, bluesier amalgam of the voices of **Neil Young**, **Mick Jagger** and perhaps a **James Brown** loaded on cough syrup. And when Amber Webber's voice joins Stephen's, the combination brings to mind the potency and chemistry of **Richard and Linda Thompson** singing together on *Shoot Out The Lights*, or of **Meat Loaf** and **Ellen Foley** howling together on *Bat Out Of Hell*.

Musical comparisons aside, the Black Mountain full-length is one part protest song, one part pop-cultural commentary, and one part sick-groove-rock casserole peppered with mesmerizing ballads and intoxicating ditties. "Modern Music" is the lead-off hitter and counts its way to the imposing and riff-rife "Don't Run Our Hearts Around". Immediately thereafter, the sludge-rock masterpiece "Druganaut" establishes the fecund heart and tone of the record. And just when you think that things can't get any better, the songs "No Hits" and "Heart of Snow" are injected into your consciousness, clearly demonstrating that this band has no creative bounds.

Black Mountain features former and present members of **The Pink Mountaintops**, **Blood Meridian**, **Jerk With A Bomb**, **the Black Halos**, **Dream On Dreary**, **Sinoia Caves**, and **Orphan**. Their debut full-length was recorded in the winter and spring of 2004 at the Argyle Hotel and The Hive by Colin Stewart and Black Mountain. The band's currently exploitative counterpart The Pink Mountaintops, a band that also pipes into the prolific well-spring of Stephen McBean's mind, released their self-titled debut record (on Jagjaguwar as well) this past summer.

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1. Part of a mystical duality. Black Mountain's compatriots **The Pink Mountaintops** released their debut record over the summer, also on Jagjaguwar, to much critical acclaim. The artwork of Black Mountain is "connected" to the artwork of The Pink Mountaintops, linking the two in the mind of consumer. Both bands involve shared members and their respective records will feed off of each other.
2. Extensive domestic and international publicity. Extensive domestic college radio promotion. Posters, promo copies and photos available.
3. CD version is enhanced; includes a video of the hit single "Druganaut".

4. Have toured all of North America, as **Jerk With a Bomb** and the Pink Mountaintops. Will perform forty dates in the United States upon this record's release.

5. Building on the immense word of mouth they have generated with **Jerk With a Bomb** (the band's predecessor), who put out three full-length records on Scratch Records.

6. Advertisements will run in Magnet, Harp, Wire, Arthur, Copper Press, Mojo, Careless Talk Costs Lives, Exclaim, Skyscraper, Comes With A Smile, and Pitchforkmedia.com.

ALSO AVAILABLE:

The Pink Mountaintops <i>S/T</i>	CD/LP	JAG67 (Jagjaguwar)
Black Mountain <i>Druganaut</i>	12-inch single	JAG72 (Jagjaguwar)



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