

the charade

A Real Life Drama

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Wearing its Swedish colors proud, The Charade lead the charge in the Swedish Pop Invasion. **"A Real Life Drama"** follows on the heels of their critically acclaimed debut with a second release of sunny Swedish pop.

The trio proves that the best is to come on this release, raising the bar on their songwriting, harmonies and song structure. As the members have "put down roots" in their personal lives, a deep grounding and growth is felt in the music. **Magnus Karlsson** contributes the jangly guitar that he perfected in the groundbreaking indie pop group **Happydeadmen**. Karlsson's vocals are more fully developed and he successfully takes the lead on the focus track, "A Tough Decision." The Charade easily blend their influences from one song to another, paying homage to 60s girl groups, Motown and the warm feelings of early 70s hits from The Carpenters to Burt Bacharach without missing a beat.

Mikael Matsson, formerly of **Red Sleeping Beauty** and **The Shermans**, adds more complexity to this album, from layers of keyboards, organs and background "strings" to the funky bass on "Rain on Your Parade." The "gorgeous and airy" vocals of singer and spouse **Ingela Matsson**, also of The Shermans, defines a beauty and space in each song. On this time around, Ingela gives words to voice through pen to paper, she wrote the lyrics to several songs on the album. On "A Real Life Drama," **The Charade maintain a perfect blend of their trademark pop hooks and deeper meanings within.**

What country breeds more "fresh, sweet pop" bands than Sweden? The Charade shows their true colors on the unofficial Swedish World Cup Soccer Team song, **"Dressed in Yellow and Blue."** Ingela sings with Swedish pride, "Don't you know that a goal can change your life? And that men can be forced into tears in summertime?"

reviews:

"right next to The Essex Green and Belle & Sebastian **as one of the highly recommended twee/powerpop releases for 2006**" Amplifier

"It seems like there's a new shiny pop group coming out of Sweden every day, though **few are as memorable as the Charade.**" Paste

"**"A Real Life Drama"** continues with the **sweet, sunny popmusic** that we know and love from their debut. I especially like the jangly guitars and the male/female vocal harmonies from singers Magnus Karlsson and Ingela Matsson - beautiful! Eardrums

"**jangle driven harmonic twee pop of the finest order**" Vanity Project

"**one of today's best indie bands**" Popchild

"**A sweet confection for fans of twee, indiepop, sixties sunshine and Belle & Sebastian**" Left Hip

street date:

June 20, 2006

cd#: SKIP006

file under:

Swedish pop



track listing:

1. My Song To You
2. A Tough Decision*
3. Dressed In Yellow And Blue*
4. September
5. Music Makes Me Sick
6. Stockholm July 2005*
7. Rain On Your Parade*
8. Sunny Winter Afternoon
9. Love Always Happens So Fast (A Real Life Drama)
10. Faith

* focus tracks

All music: The Charade

Lyrics: 1,4,7,8 & 10 by Ingela.

2,3,5,6 & 9 by Magnus.

The Charade:

Ingela Matsson – Vocals

Mikael Matsson – Piano,

organ synthesizers,

glockenspiel, bass &

programming

Magnus Karlsson – Vocals,

acoustic & electric guitars

contact:

christine jewell: christine@SkippingStonesRecords.com

ph: 203.558.1168 po box 24, oakville, ct 06779

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