



Fire On Your Sleeve bio

Fire On Your Sleeve started in late 2004 as a studio project to flesh out the songs of singer/songwriter Ryan Matzen and guitarist Sean Williamson from their now defunct band P.H.P. started in 1999. This recording project culminated with the band Standing Noise, a seasoned group of improvisors, session players, and songwriters, as the backing musicians. The combination of players serves to transform Ryan Matzen's exceptionally solid instincts into otherworldly compositions. Live shows combine pop sensibility with tasteful improvisation through feel shifts and altered chord voicings. Live vocal harmonies are stellar and haunting with a reminiscence of The Beatles and Crosby, Stills and Nash. This is a low-cost band to run in that they are highly experienced studio players and tech all their own gear.

-Vocalist/Guitarist Ryan Matzen is the former bassist of the Kill-A-Watts, a national touring punk band on Rip-Off Records. He writes music and lyrics from a heartfelt standpoint and draws upon his experiences of pain and loss. Matzen's lyrics are always story-telling. His instincts are on the money as he tends to write very little throw-away material. His approaches are reminiscent of The Beatles, David Bowie, Pink Floyd, Led Zepplin, and more.

-Bassist/Vocalist Sam Malaj comes from the former band Buddha which had local history as a very dangerous band. Buddha was locally acclaimed as a cross between the Red Hot Chili Peppers and Soundgarden and had upstaged countless local and regional acts with its wall of sound approach. Sam has been in every kind of band from hard rock, emo, funk, heavy metal, prog., and art/rock experimental. He also plays and builds digeridoo tuned to specific notes.

-Guitarist Sean Williamson comes from Mendrevelin, a jam band with a local contingency in the Marquette area. Sean's expertise lies beyond the typical jam band schemes. He is versed in lapsteel, fretless guitar, classical, jazz, and finger style as well as many other techniques and styles. Sean's influences range from David Gilmour, Trey Anastasio, Jimmy Page, Jimi Hendrix as well as other greats.

-Drummer Chad Clausen is a seasoned veteran of the local scene. From such bands as Lockjaw, Versa, G Fuzz, Drowning Star, and Tin Pan Alley among others, Chad has a special liquid-fire quality. His influences range from Keith Moon, Stewart Copeland, Chad Smith, Josh Freese, and John Bonham just to name a few.



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