



Photo: Brennan Cavanaugh

M SHANGHAI

String Band

Front (from left): Philippa Thompson, Austin Hughes
Back (from left): Richard Morris, Rose Thomson,
Harrison Cannon, Matt Schickele, Corin See,
Glendon Jones, Dave Pollack, Patty Hughes,
John Shanchuk



The M SHANGHAI String Band of Brooklyn, New York, have been playing together since 2002, when they first started their monthly get-togethers at the M Shanghai Bistro & Den. Their debut album, "Up From the Ground Below", recorded in one day in the restaurant's dining room, set the mission in motion: timeless original songs played with a sense of abandon, captured completely live. On the night of the album's release party, the MSSB performed four sets to a capacity crowd: Brooklyn's best-kept secret was out.

"The banjos spit fire, the acoustics soothe the soul, and the vocals tell honest tales- every song from "Up From the Ground Below" is a perfect combo of old time American folk and the music as it stands today... a musical performance that is enduring."
-Chris Lewis SHUT EYE

With an adventurous take on Americana, the MSSB are not easily classified. They belong with their progressive contemporaries (Gillian Welch, Jolie Holland, Be Good Tanyas,) who emphasize distinctive songwriting above the constraints of genre. Lyrically smart and modern, their songs feel both classic and new.

"The M Shanghai String Band have first-rate original songs. There are several songwriters in the band and they all contribute their own unique and special touch. Their performances are highly entertaining, like a modern day medicine show. Please check them out -you'll have a great time."
-Tommy Ramone, of the RAMONES and Uncle Monk

The players are from diverse musical backgrounds and landed in Brooklyn from both sides of the Mason Dixon (and the U.K.). The MSSB are an extended-family ensemble. Ranging from 5 to 11 players on any given night, they always deliver a fiery performance. The band's choreography around a single microphone is a must-see!

The MSSB have recently been picked up by the renegade Red Parlor Records (Chris Whitley, Jake Zia), who will be re-releasing "Up from the Ground Below" in fall 2006. The follow-up full length "From the Air" will hit the streets in early 2007. The M SHANGHAI sound is spreading far and wide, evident by their recent sold-out concert at the MASS MoCA Summer Music Series 2006. The MSSB will be touring nationally to support their upcoming Red Parlor releases.

For hi-res press photos, or more info: mshanghaistringband.com

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RED PARLOR

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