



## **LIKE PIONEERS: Piecemeal**

### **August 17, 2010 (Abandoned Love Records)**

(Bobby Gallivan, vocals/guitar/bass; Daniel Radzicki, bass/keys; Janie Porche, vocals; Jesse Woghin, guitar/vocals/bass; Dan Fleury, guitar; Darren Garvey, drums/percussion/pump organ/harmonium; Matt Holland, drums)

**Like Pioneers** started in December of 2009 as a simple excuse to hang out with old friends. Members of Bound Stems and the Narrator had seen their nearly decade old bands end, and saw their lives shift in a way that put music on the backburner. Gallivan, formerly of Bound Stems, contacted his friend, producer/engineer Manny Sanchez, to book a long weekend at IV Lab Studio in Chicago and invited some familiar faces to join him. After loads of file sharing, a handful of meetings at their practice space, and a long weekend at the studio, an album's worth of songs had taken shape. Some of the songs were prepared, and others were improvised on the spot, but ten new songs were fully developed for the aptly titled album, *Piecemeal*.

Listening to *Piecemeal*, you'll hear familiar elements from the both Bound Stems and the Narrator. Chris Harden mixed the record, and brought together plenty of divergent ideas. The opening track, "Some People", features Radzicki's pitch bending keyboard lead, while Gallivan's vocals push the song toward a lush chorus introducing the voices of both Porche and Woghin. "English Garden" fits a cluster of ideas into a tight, three-minute pop song, ending with a wall of voices shouting, "We'll take this morning's information in stride." Fleury's guitar starts and ends the album's third track, "Gift From a Holiday", which again ends in a joyous sing-along. The album slows a touch for the dreamy, mid-tempo track, "Exit Row". Finally, Woghin's vocals lead the short burst of pop in "Crop Circles Plus Legs" to close out the first half of the record.

The second half of *Piecemeal* begins with "Polkadot", a guitar heavy track, that ends with a Hammond B3 accompanied waltz, transitioning the album to its quietest track, "Teakettles No. 1", where Darren Garvey lays a bed of sound under Gallivan's vocals. Woghin again takes the lead on "Ike", a song that builds tension throughout, and finally cuts loose as Porche's vocals float in and around. "Metal Oscar" begins with Fleury and Radzicki's guitar and bass interacting almost illogically until Garvey's drums fit the song tightly together. The song ends with the only moment all members of the band play together at once. Finally, the album closes with "Crab Candy", a wall of sounds and textures dissolving into chaos that seemed the appropriate way to close the band's experience making this record. A fun, powerful rush of energy caught quickly, the flashbulb of creativity.

*Piecemeal* is the result of friends re-introducing themselves to the idea of making music together. The goal of Like Pioneers is to keep that very energy they created on that first weekend in December. The band operates as a loose, amorphous collective, with members checking in and out. When the band is operating at full strength it has as many as seven members on stage, but any given night you could see only four, or five parts of Like Pioneers performing songs from *Piecemeal*. A band that came together as a result of a three-day reunion of friends, a name that came about from a self-deprecating joke, and an album that exists with the help of many makes perfect sense. The members of Like Pioneers are thrilled to be making music again, and are proud and bit surprised to present to you their first LP, *Piecemeal*.

For additional information on **Like Pioneers**, please contact:

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