

# miranda sound

Being unique in a field of pretenders is certainly an accomplishment, and testimony to the fact that Billy Peake (voc/guitar), Dan Gerken (voc/guitar/cello/keys), Sean Sefcik (bass/keys), and Dan Bell (drums) have forged their own distinct sound. But it's a curse because you, dear writers, can't convincingly attest that "This Columbus, Ohio four-piece sounds like [insert current indie darling here]" and be done with it. You're just going to have to give *Western Reserve* repeated listens. (Don't worry: you'll want to anyway.)



Western Reserve

*Western Reserve* is Miranda Sound's third full-length since 2001. The band's albums have continuously met with favorable reviews, and their dedication to using every non-working, non-school-attending moment to hop in a van and play shows throughout the Midwest has earned them a respectable following in cities from Chicago to Boston.

However, minor success hasn't come without some setbacks and freak accidents. They were hampered by the departure of their original drummer during the height of *Engaged in Labor*. They were also slowed down when their touring van was smashed by a tree during an electrical storm. The biggest setback, a car-on-bike accident involving multi-instrumentalist Dan Gerken during the summer of 2003, wound up providing the band with new breath and new inspiration. The accident is documented in the song, "Close Calls." With the rare distinction of having co-lead vocalists, Miranda Sound is often able to tell a story from two different points of view; "Close Calls" is one of those songs. Peake recalls, through his lyrics, the accident which nearly cost his bandmate his life: "Dan destroyed an Oldsmobile / with his forehead / His bike's crushed, his head's a crimson mess / When he wakes up he will guess / how he got there." Gerken recollects in first-person: "You should have seen me when they strapped me in / Blood in my hair, with beet-red irises."

To document these poignant moments on *Western Reserve*, Miranda Sound enlisted the talents of J. Robbins (Jawbox, Burning Airlines, Government Issue) who has previously lent production talent to the likes of The Promise Ring, Clutch, The Dismemberment Plan, and Shiner. The band met Robbins at Workbook Studio in Columbus during summer 2005 to start recording, with engineering help from Neal Schmitt and Jon Chinn (The Sun, New Bomb Turks). Robbins' influence both as a producer and musician can be heard on such standout tracks as *Western Reserve's* opener "Jackson Milton," "The Lull of Youngstown" and "Control" which features Gerken on cello. As much as Robbins played an integral part in the final output, the band retains its own clear sound throughout the dozen tracks. In all, *Western Reserve* is as honest and real as it gets. It's a true, thoughtful, yet accessible record with dark and memorable riffs, appealing melodies, and lyrics that accurately but obliquely reflect what it's like to realize that you're an adult.

#### TRACK LISTING

1. Jackson Milton
2. Close Calls
3. The Lull of Youngstown
4. My Surname's An Airplane
5. Take It Where You Can Get It
6. Calculator for Words
7. Control
8. We're Making Amends
9. To Partner and President
10. The World Is Not a Stage
11. Workbook Light & Power
12. Death of the Party

#### STREET DATE

July 10, 2006

#### PRESS

Skyscraper Media  
Peter Bottomley  
303-544-9858  
skyscrapermedia@hotmail.com  
skyscrapermedia.net

#### PRESS

"Miranda Sound are good enough to cure a hundred thousand indie rockers of their jadedness...(the album) is the complete package: unmatched pop hooks, compelling lyrics, pristine production, glorious harmonies. You name it, Miranda Sound have got it."

Action Man Magazine - **Michael Wojtasiak**

"When you have wonderfully delivered lyrics like this bundled up in some of the most vibrant and interesting music released this year, all signs are good. Very, very good."

Skyscraper Magazine - **Michael Hukin**

"Like their 2001 debut *Baby Inertia*, Columbus, OH's Miranda Sound are the real deal. Breaking out of the indie ghetto with charging tunes and variety, the foursome sound like Lotion if they borrowed Fugazi's or Poster Children's rhythm section."

Big Takeover - **Jack Rabid**

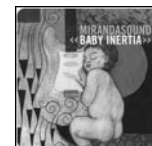
#### ALSO AVAILABLE



Donewaiting.com Vol. 1:  
Tiara vs. Miranda Sound  
Released 2.5.2005



Engaged in Labor (LP)  
Released 10.22.2002



Baby Inertia (LP)  
Released 3.23.2002

