

COVINGTON

Devised Without A Plan

Chris Charlton: vocals/guitar
Kevin Schmidt: bass/vocals
Drew Bogner: drums/vocals



Covington - Devised Without A Plan
All Songs written by Covington © 2005
All Songs © 2005
The Promise of Somewhere Better Music (ASCAP)

TRACK LISTING:

1. The Longest Day
2. Introvert
3. Days Spent Counting Hours
4. Flight 326
5. Form and Divide
6. Six Months Strong
7. Black Eyed
8. Mission State

COVINGTON's debut album, *Devised Without A Plan*, will be released this November 15th. Fans of tense, muscular punk and rock will be slobbering all over this disc when it finally hits the streets.

The culmination of nearly two years of hard work in the studio writing and recording, the album is an exercise in control. The band slaved away, battling several setbacks prior to its completion. They were halfway through tracking when the studio they were working at closed its doors. Like true friends, they waited for the dust to settle from the construction of Tiberius' own beloved Candyland Studios to begin again from scratch.

The results of time spent and re-spent are mesmerizing. Bogner's drums crush, urgent, yet precise. Schmidt's bass thunders along, deep and fervently pulsing. Chris Charlton's guitar lines weave in and out of the hammering rhythms laid down by his band mates to steer the tunes to careening highs and lows. The songs nearly burst off of the disc, pushing, pulling and building tension before exploding. The music calls to mind bands like Pegboy, Hot Water Music, Jawbox, and Someday I with its uncompromising mix of melody, off-kilter song structures and solid musicianship.

Although this is their first proper release, the band has been hashing out their songs for the last few years around the Midwest, with their first recorded work appearing on last year's *Organelle* compilation (Tiberius/Save Your Servant/State Bird). The featured track, "Six Months Strong", hinted at the depth, song-craft, and raw power this three-piece possesses. *Devised* delivers the rest of the goods.

Prior to Covington, Kevin, Chris and Drew were three of the four founding members of the Cincinnati instrumental band Ampline. Although they cut their teeth playing music with no lyrics, they all sing this time around. It ain't Peter, Paul and Mary, but their voices blend and buoy each other about as good as three guys playing punk rock ever could or should.

Ignore the album title: this record has been thought, re-thought and absolutely poured over. Covington has done what so few bands can; convey on tape what they hear in their heads.

LABEL SUPPORT:

- 1) Print advertising with total circulation 350,500 including Punk Planet, Big Takeover
- 2) Promotional copies sent to over 350 notable, amusing or otherwise interesting internet-based zines and radio stations
- 3) Promotional copies and posters will be sent to all key retail outlets and distributors.

Press/Publicity:
HEADPHONE CONTROL
c/o Susan Brennan
headphonecontrol@yahoo.com



PO Box 14267
Cincinnati, OH 45250
www.phratryrecords.com
phratry@phratryrecords.com



4280 Catalpa Dr.
Independence, KY 41051
www.tiberiusrecords.com
info@tiberiusrecords.com

REVIEWS

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Though most '00's punk is a dime a dozen (like the 90's groups who were already a generation late to an emptied party), every now and then you hear one that has more to offer. It's not just that this Cincinnati trio can play, having formerly been in the instrumental group Ampline. It's that, oddly for former instrumentalists, they can really sing. The bio comparisons to Pegboy and Jawbox are correct, even if Covington is much more hardcore on their debut LP. But with so many harmonies plus strong lead vocals that sound like Mission of Burma's Roger Miller, they really have a lot of Moving Targets in them too. (They should cover "Always Calling.") That and Chris Charlton's post-Tom Lyle (Government Issue) blizzard guitars go so far beyond the three chords and an attitude lobby. And the sound/production is hot, too.

—Jack Rabid

THE BIG TAKEOVER Issue 57

Long one of my favorite indie labels, Kentucky's Tiberius Records have made it their trademark to sign and promote great indie rock bands. Covington is no exception to that rule. Without compromising on delivery, Covington writes rangy, edgy punk rock in the lines of Hot Water Music and Jawbox. Guitars bounce throughout the mix with pogo goodness and the drums are frantic yet restrained enough to hold a steady diet of rhythm. Punctuated by the fact that their past includes Ampline, an all-instrumental and no vocals band from Cincinnati, Covington realizes that it's not all about the singer but are blessed with the best of both worlds—tremendous songwriting and performance with lyrical wit and intelligent vocal arrangements that include all of the members.

—J Sin

SMOTHER .net

Devised Without a Plan, a joint release from area labels Tiberius Records and Phratry Records, immediately brings to mind adjectives like "explosive," "relentless" and "searing." But, while fitting, those descriptors belie the depth, rhythmic nuances and glass-shard textures present in Covington's soaring, brawny sound. The trio has the gas pedal glued to the floorboard, but there's a clear direction and they'd just assume blow through a cornfield or jump a couple of bridges to get to their destination in lieu of sticking to the boring ol' interstate. Covington features three of the four founding members of Ampline, an excellent, mostly-instrumental group, so you know the musical ducks are in a row as they somewhat echo that band's captivating grasp on winding structural surprises. But vocally, Covington adds even more weight to their impact, enhancing strong lead melodies with tantalizing harmonies. Falling somewhere between Quicksand, Naked Raygun and a more streamlined Fugazi, Covington have a lot of the qualities that are on display in the music of bands drawing mainstream attention right now -- octave-guitar trills, heavy, propulsive rhythms, precise harmonies, heart-spilling vocals. But it's Covington's sense of dynamics and what they do with the pieces that makes their puzzle more satisfying and artful. Emo? Oh no.

—Mike Breen

CITYBEAT Magazine

I like surprises. Nice ones obviously; I'm not so keen when people spring a nasty surprise. When Covington's latest eight-tracker arrived on the doormat it didn't fill me full of excitement - I've never heard of the band before and I like to think I'm pretty clued up when it comes to who is sneaking up on the radar and releasing quality records. But this is where the surprise bit comes in, because 'Devised Without A Plan' is a quality blast of Hot Water Music-meets Good Riddance style punk rock. The opening blast of 'The Longest Day' sealed the deal for me, with guitars exploding from the speakers and drums rattling off like machine gun fire. There's a Face To Face vibe about 'Days Spent Counting Hours', with its thick melodic edge shining through the passionate and intense vocals. In recent years this type of music seems to have taken a back seat in favour of bands going down the ultra pop-punk route or down the dyed-black-hair- and-screaming route. Covington will make no apologies that they sound like they've come straight out of 1998 and they have absolutely no need to - this is a quality little record and a nice little surprise.

—PUNKTASTIC.COM