SH! THE OCTOPUS THE CARROT CHASE

Singer/songwriter Randy Bishop and his creativity trod somewhere between a smoky French café and the Great Plains of America. His once solo-project, now multi-instrumental and multi-vocal ensemble shake the glassy foundations of Pop-Americana. At once foot-tappingly upbeat and sequentially pissed-off, this quintet searches thoroughly through their roots all the while peering down a long corridor that they know is the future – seemingly mining all that is pop and beautiful to unearth the cherished coin: integrity.

Sh! The Octopus' first full-length release, *The Carrot Chase*, embodies the ideal blend of poetic storytelling, protest music, and hook-laden pop anthems that we'll be singing in line at the local coffee shop wondering why they aren't the featured artist of the month. Behind the light and airy strings, succinctly plucked by both Bishop and Andy Stachowiak, crawls a rhythm section stalwartly held forth by bassist Chris Sesta and percussionist Joel Pearson. Their backbone is so immediate and full that one cannot help to hum right along while tapping the table waiting for your third latté, or your third microbrew. Above all this sails the occasional harmonica, the piano, and last but certainly not least, the exquisitely understated yet requisite keys and backing vocals of Christine Baxter.

As Sh! The Octopus unveils their debut recording it is abundantly clear that the present is everything – and the present is the amalgam of memory, experience, and vision. Be quiet and listen.

The Octopus

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