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Headless Household finally releases “Holed & Hunkered Re(al)mix”

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www.householdink.com/headlesshousehold



Welcome to the cleansing, hopefully dance-inducing sound of “Holed & Hunkered Re(al)mix.”

The long story, shortened... The veteran new music beast Headless Household, Santa Barbara's strangest and almost longest-running band, was busy making plans for its 10th album in 36-ish years. The concept would have mated the twin themes of blues and the movies, altered to suit the band's genre-twisting ways.

It was 2020. The world had other plans.

It was time to dance, in our various bunkers.

enter the Headless pandemic dance tune “Holed & Hunkered,” created following the new musical plan of having each player/singer fly in tracks from their separate dance bunkers, in Seattle, Los Angeles, Ventura, Portland, and the San Roque area of Santa Barbara. (Charter Householder Dick Dunlap was unable to participate).

In the process of putting together the pieces, our fearless studio wizard/drummer Tom Lackner ran into serious health issues beyond the virus of the moment and could only muster a basic mix--drums and bass (Chris Symer), guitar (Joe Woodard), alto sax (the eminent and fiery David Binney) and Woodard's humble scratch vocal. That initial “lean, mean” was released in 2021.

Cut to now, and a fuller new mix represents the generous ensemble contributions of three actual singers – Shelly Rudolph, Liz Barnitz and Nicole Lvoff – and long-suffering Household member Tom Buckner on tenor sax.

Voila, the long-awaited “Holed & Hunkered Re(al)mix 1.” Consider it a not-so-fond send-off and kiss off to the COVID demon. Please listen up and dance at will.

Listen to what the critics are saying:

“A Covid classic! I hear Zappa, Rufus and Chaka. I really dig the funky groove and the horn lines.”

~*Andy Davis* (friend of the Household and acclaimed director of *The Fugitive*, *Stony Island*, *Steal Big Steal Little* and many more...)

Pop by bandcamp, soundcloud, Pandora, Spotify, iTunes, and other usual digital suspect locations for a sonic dip.

Headless Household albums to date, all on the in-house Household Ink Records label: *Headless Household* (1987), *Inside/Outside USA* (1993), *ITEMS* (1995), *Free Associations* (1999), *mockhausen* (2000), *post-Polka* (2003), *Blur Joan* (2005), *Basemento* (2010), *Balladismo* (2015). With luck and fate, the wayward adventure continues, heeding the headless impulse.

“Holed & Hunkered” (Joe Woodard)

“Chorus:”

*Holed up, and hunkered down
How long we gotta’ lug this thing around?
Like worried souls in the lost and found
Holed up, and hunkered down
Holed up, and hunkered down,
How long we gotta’ fear this thing in town,
Like wary souls in the underground
Holed up and hunkered, holed up and hunkered, holed up and hunkered... down*

Bridge:

*Blind-sided by the blind in charge
Side-spiraled in a world gone viral
A world gone viral*

The press notes:

Santa Barbara’s **Headless Household** celebrates 25 years of criminal neglect with a wonderful double album, *Basemento*... smart, incisive sonic meditations encompassing everything from British progressives like Henry Cow, gnarly New York downtown jazz, Weather Report’s international feel and the heady cosmic geologies of countless Grateful Dead space excursions. --*Richard Gehr, Relix, July, 2010* [link](#)

“Soundwise, it is an eclectic and surprisingly alluring program that covers a variety of genres that, while certainly experimental, remains accessible. The group’s interest in the fusion of electric and acoustic touches is seen from the outset... Overall, a quirky--in a good way--outing from a group that is certainly charting its own course.” --Jay Collins, *Cadence*

“...solid musicianship and an admirable willingness to toss in whatever strikes their fancy.” --Aaron Steinberg, *Jazz Times*

“Long-running Santa Barbara eclectic-jazz weirdoes Headless Household have simmered all their exotic flavors into a very palatable goulash called *Blur Joan* (Household Ink). Joe Woodard, Dick Dunlap and Tom Lackner really orchestrated this one, and with the help of brilliant friends (Dave Binney, Jim Connolly, Julie Christensen et al.), swing and waltz and reggae and sound effects unite – natural, warm and full of protein.” --Greg Burk, *Los Angeles Weekly*

--“Music this wildly diverse can never be properly marketed in this age of specialization, but that doesn’t make it any less extraordinary.” --Bill Milkowski, *Tower Pulse magazine*

--“No, Headless Household is not an Industrial band. They sound like Miles Davis playing with the Kronos Quartet conducted by Sun Ra with occasional vocals by George Jones and backup singers from *A Man and a Woman*. Wonderful and wonderfully bizarre. If and when Twin Peaks gets another stab at prime-time TV, Headless Household would be the perfect band to play at the lodge.” --Nick Dedina, *Rhapsody.com*

--“Headless Household achieved regional cult status by the late 1990s, thanks to their quirky and eclectic kind of new music, their relentless live shows and a string of albums....” --*All-Music Guide* (www.allmusic.com)

--“Headless Household still seems to think that a mind is a terrible thing to waste..” --Greg Burk, *L.A. Weekly*
