

DISTANT LIGHTS – THE PINE HEARTS



“Distant Lights” weaves together spirited anthems about holding on despite the troubles of the world.... Fans of Old Crow Medicine Show, will likely fall in love with The Pine Hearts. ~ **Missoula Independent**

The Pine Hearts are an Alt-Bluegrass trio from Olympia WA featuring Joe Capoccia (guitar/vocals), Lob Strilla (banjo/vocals), and Derek McSwain (mandolin/vocals). Playing particularly upbeat original tunes, the Pine Hearts sing with sincerity and pick with deliberate dedication. Their brand new album "Distant Lights" was just released and is winning over music lovers across multiple genres and generations. Their soulful songs of hope and happiness despite sunken spirits, broken hearts, and love never dared to be tried, make crowds dance and twirl the night away, forgetting all about their own troubles. The trio masterfully takes you on a musical journey ranging from hard-driving and foot-stomping, to smooth and sultry utilizing their tremendous picking prowess on guitar, banjo, and mandolin to envelop their audience in a comforting blanket of notes.

Together for only a short six months, the Pine Hearts are an amalgamation of three of the Northwest's finest pickers and songwriters who are no strangers to the West Coast roots music scene. Joe's pop/punk sensibilities (The Pasties) and roots driven Americana (The Blackberry Bushes), mix together with Lob Strilla's bluegrass (Head for the Hills), and rockier edges (The Tilted Stilts). Blend in Derek McSwain's traditional bluegrass licks (The Oly Mountain Boys), and you have a "recipe to be cheerful," as alt-weekly Olympia Power & Light recently remarked.

As the story goes, in the summer of 2012 Joe and Lob, who had known each other for years, got together with Derek to form The Pine Hearts. Sparks immediately flew and the three knew they were onto something special. "Distant Lights" like the Pine Hearts, came together effortlessly and quickly. After three months and thirty shows the "Hearts" hit Bob Schwenkler of Bicycle and K Records, home studio in Olympia Washington. "Distant Lights" was recorded and mixed in five energetic inspired days. Seven of eleven songs are written by Capoccia with three contributions by Strilla, and one traditional, the instrumental "Big Sciota." The lead off anthem-esque track "Don't let the Stars Bring You Down," is driven by an infectious melody, catchy chorus and Capoccia's breathy vocals. "Ok Ok" also written by Capoccia, has a similar sing-a-long feel, while "The Heartache Or The Whiskey," "Virginia," and "Alright Fine," show off more of Capoccia's and "The Hearts" lamenting side. Strilla's bluegrass driven "Last Man Standing" showcases the trio's expert picking, and relaxed harmonies, urging all "to take it easy."

Derek's solid, well-versed bluegrass chops, mixed with Joe's punk background, and Lob's rock edge, make up the distinctive sound of the Pine Hearts and the songs heard on "Distant Lights." This powerful acoustic trio, although only together a short while, are already hard at work at their second album. The Pine Hearts are dedicated to singing soulful original songs that may seem like punk, possibly rock-and-roll, and often times bluegrass or country, but no matter the case, people agree that it always goes down easy.

Song Titles:

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| 1. Don't Let The Stars Bring You Down (3:41) | 7. Somewhere Between (3:01) |
| 2. Paralyzed By Fate (2:47) | 8. Virginia (4:07) |
| 3. On Our Own (3:28) | 9. Last Man Standing (4:20) |
| 4. Alright Fine (3:58) | 10. Ok Ok (3:26) |
| 5. Heartache Or The Whiskey (3:19) | 11. When It Comes To You (4:04) |
| 6. Big Sciota (3:00) | |

Focus Tracks

#1 Don't Let The Stars Bring You Down

#8 Virginia

#9 Last Man Standing

10 Ok Ok

Genre: Bluegrass, Americana, Alt -Country, Folk

National Release Date/Going for Adds: March 15, 2013



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