

Par Crone
Par Crone

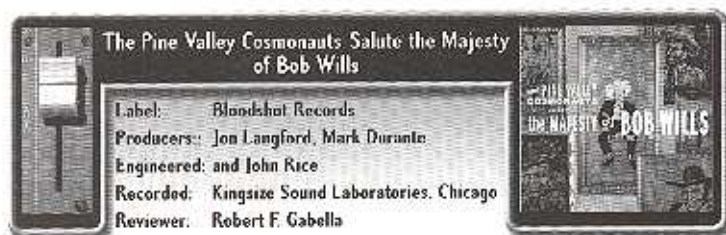
Engineers: Greg Curvey and Patrick Halliwell
Recorded: Sparrow Sound Design, Chicago, IL
Producers: Greg Curvey and Patrick Halliwell
Reviewer: Alan Papier

When human beings colonize the Moon, Mars, and subsequent celestial bodies, we're going to need some new anthems. Outer space conquering anthems. Par Crone offers up an album full of potential candidates. The songs take the form of stadium guitar rock, bubbling with spaceship, laser gun sound effects. If these songs aren't adopted as the score for the space program, then I'll take them as a full dose of psychedelic rock.

Par Crone has melted from the polar icecaps of Greg Curvey's mind. He is responsible for the full scope of Par Crone's sound: vocals, guitars, bass, synths, and production. He also came up with the hand drawn art in the packaging. Joe Furlong plays drums and cymbals on the self-titled album.

The music moves along at a brisk pace, combining elements of the Beatles and Pink Floyd with a mastery of layered synth effects. The analog tape used in the recording lends a vintage authenticity to these songs, tricking the listener into thinking that Par Crone was in the studio 25 years ago. As a result, the effects blend into the sonic landscape as opposed to decimating it. On "We Come," the album is opened with acoustic strumming and an electric chorus, thick with swirling bleeps off the dashboard of the starship kearus. The music never gets too heavy as to be intimidating, but it is mighty enough to induce some mild head banging. The summit track, "Arp Angel," catches a tight, dashing groove over a rolling, gelatinous synth bass before losing itself into an implosion of sounds and a wicked guitar solo. "Watching You" and "Hypnotized" are highlights of the energetic rock that Par Crone does so well.

Contact: Northport records 3501 N. Southport, Chicago, IL 60657
773.281.8510



The Pine Valley Cosmonauts Salute the Majesty of Bob Wills

Label: Bloodshot Records
Producers: Jon Langford, Mark Durante
Engineered: and John Rice
Recorded: Kingsize Sound Laboratories, Chicago
Reviewer: Robert F. Gabella

The surprise of the season is *The Pine Valley Cosmonauts Salute the Majesty of Bob Wills*, a lovingly executed tribute to Bob Wills, the undisputed King of Texas Swing, who left a 40-year legacy of recorded music prior to his untimely death of a stroke in 1975. With virtually nothing to compare it to, this disc stands alone as a new benchmark for a much-neglected genre.

From "Home In San Antonio," the opening cut sung by Chris Mills, the stage is set for one great performance after another. This two-step opens with a rousing fiddle and Mills' winsome, gravelly, home-spun drawl, and quickly involves pedal steel, clarinet, and marimba in such a way that you can't help but be drawn into it. And that's when you realize that what you first thought was country is pure, unabashed swing! The trumpet complements of Poi Dog

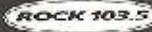
House of Blues

329 N. Dearborn • (312) 923-2000

SATURDAY • OCTOBER 3

JIMMY CLIFF
WITH THE PILLS

THURSDAY • OCTOBER 8

GUITARIST FROM TRIUMPH
RIK EMMETT
WITH FULL ON THE MOUTH 

SUNDAY • OCTOBER 11

HERBIE HANCOCK 
& THE HEADHUNTERS

SUNDAY • OCTOBER 18

KINGS X
WITH GALACTIC COWBOYS 
& ECONOLINE CRUSH - 18 AND OVER!

WEDNESDAY • OCTOBER 28

JUDAS PRIEST WITH MOON DOG MARE 

THURSDAY • OCTOBER 29

AL DI MEOLA
ELECTRIC BAND 

SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 7

GEORGE JONES

Tickets available at  Charge by Phone: (312) 559-1212
Also available through House of Blues at (312) 923-2000 • 329 N. Dearborn

METRO


3730 N. Clark in Chicago • 773.549.0203

Miller
MGD MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

FRIDAY, OCT 2 SHOWTIME 6:30PM ALL AGES
**MUSTARD PLUG * THE ECLECTICS *
RUDER THAN YOU * 1ST GRADE CRUSH**

SATURDAY, OCT 3 SHOWTIME 10PM 18 & OVER
**DUMMY * PRESCRIPTIONS *
SOUBALL * MERCURY**

SUNDAY, OCT 4 SHOWTIME 7PM ALL AGES
FRANK BLACK & THE CATHOLICS * REID PALEY

TUESDAY, OCT 6 SHOWTIME 6:30PM ALL AGES
New Music Tuesdays... **GLORITONE * TEXTBOOK** 

FRIDAY, OCT 9 SHOWTIME 10PM 18 & OVER
ELLIOTT SMITH & QUASI * QUASI

SATURDAY, OCT 10 SHOWTIME 10PM 18 & OVER
SWIMMER * SOLAR TRIBE

SUNDAY, OCT 11 SHOWTIME 9PM 18 & OVER
**GIL SCOTT-HERON & THE AMNESIA EXPRESS *
TERRY CALLIER * DJ DANIEL GIVENS**

FRIDAY, OCT 16 SHOWTIME 10PM 18 & OVER
ACUMEN NATION

SATURDAY, OCT 17 SHOWTIME 9PM 18 & OVER
**ARCHERS OF LOAF * BUILT TO SPILL *
CREEPER LAGOON * 764-HERO**
In SMARTBAR... SHOWTIME 10PM 21 & OVER **MILES MAEDA**

MONDAY, OCT 19 SHOWTIME 8PM 18 & OVER
AIR * APRIL MARCH

WEDNESDAY, OCT 21 SHOWTIME 6:30PM ALL AGES
**LOCAL H * STANFORD PRISON
EXPERIMENT * THE SUPERJESUS** 

THURSDAY, OCT 22 SHOWTIME 6:30PM ALL AGES
**LOCAL H * STANFORD PRISON
EXPERIMENT * THE SUPERJESUS** 

FRIDAY, OCT 23 SHOWTIME 10PM 18 & OVER
NASHVILLE PUSSY

SATURDAY, OCT 24 SHOWTIME 6:30PM ALL AGES
**SLEATER KINNEY * THE HANGOVERS *
FLIN FLON**

MONDAY, OCT 26 SHOWTIME 9PM 18 & OVER
BELLE & SEBASTIAN

FRIDAY, OCT 30 SHOWTIME 10PM 18 & OVER
MUDHONEY & MIKE WATT * KENT 3

SATURDAY, OCT 31 SHOWTIME 11:30AM ALL AGES
SPECIAL HALLOWEEN MATINEE... **LESS THAN JAKE *
ALL * SNUFF * ANN BERETTA**

1973/75 SPW: LESS THAN JAKE * ALL * SNUFF * ANN BERETTA (1/1); MODEST
MOUSE * CALIFONE * MURDER CITY DEVILS (1/7); 0101: DUB NARCOTIC
SOUNDSYSTEM * THE BANGS (1/6); THE QUEERS * THE MR. T EXPERIENCE
* THE PARASITES (1/6); THE SAW DOCTORS (1/11); THE LEGENDARY PINK
DOTS * EDWARD KA-SPEL * TWILIGHT CIRCUS DUB SOUNDSYSTEM

Tickets available at all Ticketmaster locations. Consult
the Show Conditions, Show Events & MGTG,
change or other legal notices on the Metro
website located at www.metrochicago.com.
Inquire by
text at 773.549.0203



www.metrochicago.com

TICKETMASTER

Pendering's Dave Crawford, the clarinet by Poi Dog's Paul Mertens, and the pedal steel is courtesy of Waco Brothers/KMFDM ace Mark Durante (who is also part of the disc's production trio which includes fellow Waco Bros./Mekons axe man Jon Langford and John Rice). And these guys can play! In addition to all of the above, the line-up also includes Tom Ray on upright bass, Jane Baxter Miller (ex-Texas Rubies) on vocals, and Steve Goulding (Waco Bros., Mekons, Poi Dog, etc.) on drums.

In addition to Miller, the all-star vocal lineup includes a number of artists - not just from Chicago but from Austin, Texas and beyond.

Kelly Hogan, a Chicagoan by way of Atlanta (Rock-A-Teens, Jodie Grind) gives it her all on "Drunkard's Blues." This one gets the full roadhouse treatment with her bluesy, come-hither yowl, and will leave you howling for more!

Jon Langford himself croons a languid, playful, and somewhat hormone-charged "Sweet Kind of Love." Mertens' clarinet and Rice's fiddle are the perfect foil for Langford's vocal, which in its essence is innocence and mischief in one!

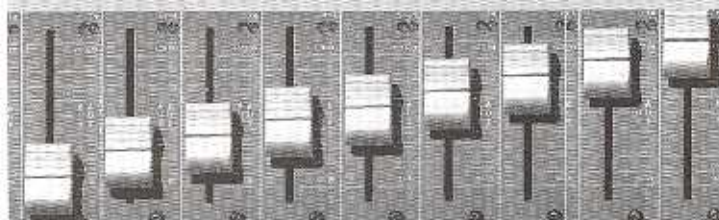
"Bob Wills always considered himself a jazz man," states author Duncan McLaren in the album's liner notes, and there isn't a cut on the disc where that isn't purely evident. From Steve Goulding's precision on drums, to Mertens and Crawford on the horns, swing is integral to the feel, the very moment, of the project. To Bob Wills, the Western part was more geographical than anything else, as he felt he had little in common with "corry country folk."

Yet when Bob Boyd takes the vocal on "Hang Your Head In Shame," his ragged baritone evokes a lonely place on the Texas plain that only a cowboy could know. And the scalding lyric on this tune alone proves that the sentiment of these songs is not always nice. In fact, if you're looking for sentimental country goo, you won't find it here! As the vocalists take on the characters in each song, the feelings run the gamut from remorse to censure, from true love to contempt, and beyond. In "Time Changes Everything", Jane Baxter Miller was broken hearted, is now resurrected, and I can't help but take her word for it.

With 17 outstanding cuts, including three instrumentals, it's hard to pick a favorite. Check out Sally Trimm's (Mekons) contralto on "Right or Wrong," or Brett Sparks on "Poly Poly." If the wildly jazzy duet of a coy Neke Case and a gravelly Bob Boyd doesn't wake you up, you're dead. Each new song is a testament, and the whole disc is a wonderful induction for the uninitiated. Hats off to the Cosmonauts, and all their musical friends, for bringing the spirit of Bob Wills back to life!

Bleedshot Records 312 W. Addison Chicago, IL 60613-4339
773.248.8709 FAX 773.248.8702

IM's Rating System Revealed



Keep working.....I like it.....A lot.....Must Own!