

Burning Hearts Into The Wilderness

Burning Hearts return with a new EP entitled "Into The Wilderness." Four songs closely attached to nature and the quietness of the Finnish Östrobothnian landscape. They felt so inspired that they relocated their studio there to record these songs and the new album. The EP continues to showcase the band's intoxicating melody and captivatingly warm sound. Their manicured pop sensibilities and finely-tuned arrangements are highlighted throughout. Of course Jessika's beautiful vocals are always worth mentioning again and again. Luckily for us, the EP is just a taste of things to come as they continue preparation for their sophomore album on Shelflife.

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Countless throughout the history of pop are the people who have remarked about the apparent effortlessness with which the Nordic countries make music whose melodiousness, grace, and sheer indelibility is beyond compare. Whether ABBA, The Cardigans, and Club 8—Acid House Kings—Legends axis (Sweden), or a-ha, Sondre Lerche, and Kings of Convenience (Norway), these are artists who, whether abiding by tradition or skewering it in previously unimaginable ways, create songs that evoke a brighter life — a life full of more drama, more comedy, more love and loves lost.

But relatively unsung amidst its northern European neighbors is Finland, despite it being home to dozens of bands that are the equals — if not the superiors — of their globally famous contemporaries. Two apt cases in point: *Le Futur Pompiste*, which released one marvelous album in 2004, *Your Stories and Your Thoughts*, before the vagaries of adult life scattered them far and wide; and *Cats on Fire*, whose debut long-player, 2007's *The Province Complains*, captivated all who were lucky enough to hear it (among them the writers at superlative U.K. magazine *The Word*). It was inevitable that this pair of bands, whose music shares a poise and sophistication rarely heard anywhere, never mind within the modest environs of Finland, would find each other. When they did, two members — *Cats on Fire* drummer and multi-instrumentalist Henry Ojala, and *Le Futur Pompiste* singer Jessika Rapo — decided to make yet more music on their own. The result is *Burning Hearts*.

Full of subtle detail and a uniformly warm sound, this is a dream of idealized pop: beautifully understated vocals, melodies as reassuring as a lover's embrace, and a tone of intimacy that could only come from collaboration that is fully simpatico.

For fans of *Le Futur Pompiste*, *Cats on Fire*, *Broadcast*, *The Magnetic Fields*, *Stereolab*, *Brittle Stars*

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"...a dreamy slice of indie pop sure to inflame the hearts of the converted...lush sonic beauty."

— Pop Matters

"synthy, jangly songs that, while they do sound familiar, have a wintry sheen that's all their own."

— All Music

"This is the stuff we think about when we talk about wanting to hear good pop music."

— The Culture of Me



Compact Disc

1. The Swallows
2. Fever
3. A Matter Of Timing
4. Into The Wilderness

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www.shelflife.com/burninghearts
www.myspace.com/burningheartsmusic

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