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LE WEBZINE QUI TE DÉBOUCHE LES OREILLES

Interview of The Morning Benders : Big Echo d'exquis egos

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- **What was your reaction when you received the 2008 iTunes' price for the best indie/alternative album ? Did you expect it ?**

We had no idea. It was quite an honor.

- **Did playing last year in support of Grizzly Bear and The Kooks learn you things ?**

Definitely. Grizzly Bear are quite inspiring. We watched their set every night, and you actually notice something new and different every night, which I don't think you can say for most bands.

- **How did you work for this record ?**

We hope to try something new on every record, otherwise it gets boring. For this record we had the idea to try to incorporate a very diverse set of sounds and emotions. Basically trying to fit everything we could onto a 40 minute pop record.

- **How could you define the job of Chris Taylor, from Grizzly Bear, on this new album ?**

I think he did an amazing job with helping us focus on the things we really wanted to say. He ended up making the album a lot more powerful and dynamic.

- **How would you describe your music?**

At the same time happy and sad.

- **Big Echo has a very charming old-fashioned touch, is it something you are looking for ?**

I think it sounds old-fashioned at times, but also modern at other times. We hope to be both.

- **To me, the opening track "Excuses" is a real hit, delightful, harmonious, insistent and poetic. Do you have the feeling of having performed something more accomplished with this song ?**

We thought "Excuses" would be a great opener, and when we finished writing and recording it, we knew it was quite a catchy tune. We also knew we wanted to make an album that had 10 very different songs. No other song sounds like "Excuses" or like any other song on BIG ECHO. That part is very important to us, and I think makes each song more powerful.

- **The recording video of "Excuses" is truly magic. There is a superb and touching musical emulsion on this video. Is it always like that when you record ?**

We always try to incorporate our space and mood into every recording and song.

- **Do you prefer lives and tours or the process of creation ?**

Couldn't pick one. The actual act of creating music is very gratifying for me, but that is a completely selfish sense of accomplishment. I like playing live because I feel like we are giving something to people in real time.

● **Who does inspire you the most (on both musical and lyrical levels) ?**

Arthur Russell, Damon Albarn, and Bill Callahan

● **What is your favorite album of the moment (except yours, of course)?**

Probably the XX record. Or the new Joanna Newsom.

● **What could we wish you for the future?**

Happiness and long life.