



## CROOKS AND CHILDREN

Crooks and Children is Will Bulka, Greg Hayes, Ben Huey, David Polsky and Justin Scheck. Formed in Chicago during the summer of 2006, each member of the band performs as a multi-instrumentalist both on recordings and during live shows. Crooks and Children use traditional rock instruments augmented with organs, lap steel, trumpet, mandolin, synthesizers and samplers to form an ever-changing instrumental atmosphere.

Crooks and Children released their first self titled EP in August of 2007, followed by a second EP, "Piecemeal" in early 2008. Spring of 2009 finds them finishing up their third effort, a full length album entitled "Night Is A Good Child", a lush display of sounds and textures clocking in at just under 50 minutes. With the completion of their first full length album, the band is eagerly looking to add summer shows to its schedule which already includes an August 20th date at the Double Door. Crooks and Children was featured on Chicago filmmaker Paul Marcus' recent film "Wandering Stars", scored by Mucca Pazza's Mark Messing. Filmed in New Mexico, the soundtrack also features Califone (Thrill Jockey Records) and M Ward (Merge, Matador Records). In addition to this collaboration, Crooks and Children have shared the stage in the past with Chicago hip hop darling Psalm One (Rhymesayers Records), Folk Lore (bumbleBEARRecords), Michael Zapruder's Reign Of Frogs (Sidecho Records), and Coltrane Motion (datawaslost records). Chicago venues played in the past include the Double Door, The Hideout, Beat Kitchen, Elbo Room, Ronny's, and Phyliss'.

"Crooks and Children, the product of refined individual talents, and the result of diverse musical apprenticeships, defy most comparisons and combinations through a succession of surprising aural innovation. This surprise arises from suspending historically beautiful vocals above such immaculate instrumentation. During live shows, the artists rotate instrumental roles frequently.... It's this shared and versatile accomplishment which allows Crooks and Children to offer something more than most bands. They offer sincerity through diversity. If you're looking for music that sinks into you, it's here."

-DAVID KRUMP

Arts Administrator, Pump House Arts Center  
Winner of the Ruth Lilly Poetry Fellowship

"Crooks and Children creep out indie-rock with haunted house theatrics as they carpetbag tidbits of dead Americana."

-TIMEOUT CHICAGO

"Crooks and Children will make you wonder why they're not famous yet."

-CHICAGO GOING.COM

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