

Rubies



Danceable folk, bedroom disco, and lost love laments; these are just a few facets of Rubies. Signed to Tellé Records for Europe & Australia (Royksopp, Datarock, Annie, Kings of Convenience), Rallye (Japan), Modern Soul (Germany, Aus, Switz), Hybris (Sweden), their dynamic sound ranges from huge, synth-led dance-floor

fillers, to more intimate pop moments. After recent tours with Jamie Lidell, Feist, and The Whitest Boy Alive, the cosmopolitan sound of Rubies is fast finding fans everywhere from avant-garde discotheques in NYC, motorik infused warehouse parties in San Francisco and Stockholm, and many a late night afterparty everywhere from Big Sur, Berlin, and Bergen, Norway.

Explode from the Center – the band’s debut – is an album of perfectly formed pop songs, born out of minimal percussion, beautiful arrangements and heartfelt lyrics. The electro tinged warmth of tracks I Feel Electric, Stand in a Line and Diamonds on Fire, sound like some celestial amalgamation of Fleetwood Mac, Feist (guest on album), Dusty Springfield, and Kings of Convenience (guest on album).

“Rubies took me to sit down cross legged in the grass with my friends during lunch hour, then drove me through the evening with the windows all rolled down, helped me hold hands with a first crush and then walk outside to look at the dance party through the glass. Watching your life like a movie, rubies is the soundtrack to your sunniest days and most first-kiss filled nights...Like fireworks inside your heart.”

- Feist

The album’s quieter, more introverted moments are no less arresting. The fragile beauty of both The Truth and the Lies and Silver Mornings could be taken off The Virgin Suicides soundtrack, whilst the Bee Gee’s-esque strings on Signs of Love exude sepia tinged heartbreak.

An instance of double serendipity brought Rubies to Europe last year: Leslie Feist, who was based in Paris at the time, asked long-time friend Simone (Rubies) to create the artwork for her recent album, The Reminder. Simultaneously, Swedish musician Karl-Jonas Winqvist (Blood Music, First Floor Power), warmly demanded that Rubies come to Stockholm to record. With Paris and Stockholm on the agenda, it seemed only natural to enlist long-time friend and former label mate Eirik Glambek-Bøe of Kings of Convenience, and book studio time in Bergen, Norway. During the Scandinavian sessions, the magnetism of Rubies attracted a small army of new and old friends including Maria Eriksson (The Concretes) and Lars Skoglund (Lykke Li, Peter, Bjorn & John).

Rubies

For both of their singles, they teamed up with some great artists. The B-side to their first single "I Feel Electric", is Gothenburg's "Studio" for an incredibly beautiful remix of "Room Without a Key." Kraut-Disco band, "Trans Am" put together a minimal basement dance remix for "I Feel Electric" on the second single, "Stand in a Line" along with a dancefloor odyssey remix by Tokyo's DJ superstar, Shinichi Osawa. Most recently, Sweden's "TieDye" did a stellar remix for NYC label 'Italians Do it Better' of the track 'I feel electric' that is receiving rave reviews.



Simone Rubi and Terri Loewenthal are serious musicians. They have been playing together for 7 years. The melody-driven, infectious pop of Rubies is a continuation of the chemistry they found in their first band, Call and Response. Their newest addition, Nicolas Dobbratz, has played guitar since he was 8 years old, learning from old motown and dub records. He is also the leader of the electro-R&B band from San Francisco, "Sugar and Gold."

LIVE: Simone Rubi (Lead Vocals, Synthesizer, Electric Piano), Terri Loewenthal (Bass, Vocals), Nicolas Dobbratz (Guitar, Vocals), and Øyvind Skarbø (Drums).



'I Feel Electric' -Single of the week- The London Sunday Times

'I Feel Electric is an indie dancefloor anthem!'- Fact Magazine UK

'Dance-floor minimalism is given a sparkling Californian makeover. Rubies make glacial folky disco that's cool' - DN- Sweden

"...It's got a Quincy Jones meets the Runaways meets Hot Chip vibe. Not out in the US yet! So we will just live in the warm rainbow of this YouTube and wait for them to come stateside."
- The Fader Mag.

“Songs from their debut album 'Explode from the Center' have already started to make an impression worldwide with the mix of lost love songs, considered disco, and electro-tinged pop. A kaleidoscopic sound with a heavy heartbeat. When performing live, Rubies wear harmonising clothes with strange, intricate symbols painted on their faces. Time might soon be in short supply when more people discover the magical jewels of Rubies.”
- Mixmag

“Rubies (featuring Simone Rubi and Terri Loewenthal of Call and Response), offered a seductively body-jiggling set of fizzy, funky synth-pop. They didn't draw on their faces as they're usually inclined to do, but they did have Kings of Convenience/Whitest Boy Alive's Erlend Oye jump onstage for some sweet backup harmonies and keyboard squiggles, which is almost as good. They have a sound reminiscent of some sugary 70's pop and R&B recordings....all coming from these charismatic and skilled California girls. How do they do it? Besides, any band that can pull off an impromptu, mid-set dance contest must be doing something right.”
- San Francisco Chronicle



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“As for Rubies, they've obviously got something about them. 'I Feel Electric' itself is quietly impressive – a winsome slice of analogue synth-pop with strangely haunting vocals from lead singer Simone Rubi. It's very Telle - the sound of Annie if she'd been produced by mellow Californians rather than eccentric Norwegians...and somehow they make a familiar sound seem new and different. Unique.”

- Vice Magazine

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RELEASES:

Explode from the Center (full length)
Label: Tellé Records
Release: April 10th 2008 (Scandin.
UK) May 30 (Europe, Austr) July 7
(France)
Format: CD album / download

I Feel Electric (12" single)
Label: Tellé Records
Release: Mar 10 2008
Format: 12" vinyl / download

Stand in a Line (12" single)
Label: Tellé Records
Release: June 1 2008
Format: 12: vinyl / download

"I feel electric" (TieDye Remix) out
Label: Italians do it better April 2008
"Room without a Key" (remix by Studio)
Label: Information June 2008



UPCOMING:

EUROPEAN NOVEMBER 2008 TOUR
SEP. 08: LA: NYC :SAN FRANCISCO
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