

JAMES GERMAIN

“I consider myself a songwriter first and a musician second,” says James Germain. “Music is a way to make my writing more accessible, allowing a reader to be a listener instead.” Soothing, yet visceral, his lyrics show an acute approach toward musical narrative. His songs, woven with accessible melodies, are more acoustic short stories, juxtaposing intimate specifics with abstract metaphors and rhetoric. Blending styles of indie rock and folk, James has been described as “Brian Molko (Placebo) singing for Bright Eyes.” “He writes the kind of songs you stay up ‘till 3 a.m. listening to, knowing you’ve felt that way before - only he just seems to say it better,” says a fan from his hometown of Hampton, Virginia.

James recently relocated to Seattle, Washington, from Colorado Springs, Colorado, and is quickly gaining clout in the college music scene. On New Year’s Day, 2008, he self-released his debut album, *Jane Misanthrope*. The record is a collection of songs James wrote and performed throughout college in Colorado Springs, where he won a campus battle of the bands competition.

Influenced by more of today’s clever songwriters, Rhett Miller (Old 97’s) and John K. Samson (The Weakerthans) for instance, James has appropriately opened for artists who tend to draw a young, skeptical audience, such as Lucero, The Honorary Title, and Kind of Like Spitting. “James’ music is of such a high caliber that it makes me uncomfortable to support artists that are so obviously dispassionate and lazy,” says a grad student at the University of Colorado.

In 2005, James was awarded ‘Band of the Year’ by the Pikes Peak Arts Council (Colorado Springs) for his involvement in former hardcore band Harrison Bergeron, featuring members of Laymen Terms (Suburban Home Records) and Signal to Noise (Eyeball Records). Playing with James on the album are Chris

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| 1. Cold of November* | 5:46 |
| 2. Going on and Gone* | 4:04 |
| 3. A Girl and a Graveyard* | 4:37 |
| 4. Give Me Your Sunglasses | 5:51 |
| 5. One of Us | 4:46 |
| 6. Meet Rosily | 5:32 |
| 7. When I Was Coming Home* | 3:53 |
| 8. How Funny | 5:30 |
| 9. Color Our Voices Grey | 5:02 |

Combs (drums/percussion) of Leer 43, Heather Collins (vocals), Andrea Asprelli (violin), and Tristan Shaffer (bass) of Signal to Noise.

Look for James Germain on the road on his west coast/northwest tour in summer 2008.

All songs are FCC-safe.

*Suggested tracks for air play

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