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## Dark Dark Dark

is

Nona Marie Invie – piano, accordion, vocals  
Marshall LaCount – piano, banjo, clarinet, vocals  
Walter McClements – piano, accordion, trumpet, choir  
Jonathan Kaiser – cello, guitar, choir  
Todd Chandler – bass, choir  
Brett Bullion – percussion

## New album, *Wild Go*, out October 5th, on Supply and Demand

“There is another world, but it is in this one” – Paul Éluard

Minneapolis based chamber-folk sextet Dark Dark Dark revel in the wonder that is around us always. On their breathtaking sophomore album *Wild Go*, which arrives October 5, 2010 via Supply and Demand Music, the band has created a stirring reminder to seek out that magic. Their dramatic sound sets Nona Marie Invie’s soaring, haunting voice against age-old instrumentation that evokes the soundtrack to a beautiful film.

The 10-song collection is a marked evolution for the group, which began in 2006 as a collaboration between multi-instrumentalists and singers Nona Marie Invie and Marshall LaCount. These two inspired songwriters bring together disparate influences – including minimalism, New Orleans jazz, Americana, Eastern European folk, and pop – creating something altogether singular and absolutely epic. This diversity is their greatest strength. They use contrast - in texture, tone, and imagery - to build their own deeply-experienced world into the songs. For example, on the single “Daydreaming,” Invie’s warm voice and piano are supported by spare and clean drums, a guitar with lush reverb, and cascades of dirty and distorted banjo, while an accordion wanders its way through harmonies.

For *Wild Go*, the group expanded the sound they captured on their 2008 debut, *The Snow Magic*. They’ve continued with the line-up that solidified on their critically-acclaimed *Bright Bright Bright* EP (March 2010), and pushed further with more nuanced arrangements and more personal content. The songwriting is shared by Invie and LaCount, while the band then crafts their parts and the arrangements. They credit a few years and constant touring with helping them to mature and collaborate to shape the music and its impressions on listeners. They’ve achieved a real kinship and communication that is evident in the way it pulls us in to their experiences.

The record’s title comes from the song of the same name. ‘Wild Go’ is an apocalyptic story, but all is not lost. After describing ‘children born, without wings,’ the song continues with some relief, that ‘times are different now, the bricks that rose now fall, branches push through the walls, to carry, on paths that we don’t see, warm air lifts us free.’ Invie had written the music, and LaCount explains that when he wrote the lyrics, he was reading Tom Spanbauer’s *In the City of Shy Hunters*, which includes “a legend of the island of Manhattan when it was being traded between the native people and the Dutch. The Dutch were thinking they were getting a steal on this island and the native people think they’re getting rid of a cursed island to these stupid white people, so both sides were winning in their minds.” We all have an idea of what New York is now, and he wanted to write a song as though the island was returning to its natural state.

*Wild Go*’s first single, “Daydreaming,” is a response to Elephant Micah’s homesick dirge “Wild Goose Chase,” which in turn was a response to Hazel Dickens’ bluegrass classic “Ramblin’ Woman.” “‘Wild Goose Chase’ really touched me,” Invie says. “I wanted to reciprocate in a way that captured a moment in my own life. I’ve been traveling and touring for so long now – and it’s been great – but I have this internal conflict between having a nomadic lifestyle and needing a home.” The song is thematically linked to the album’s opener, “In Your Dreams.” “Both are about finding a place where you can be free,” reveals Invie. “That’s what I’m always looking for.” Invie considers *Wild Go* the band’s most emotionally open statement to date and points to the wistful, piano-driven lullaby “Robert” as her most honest and personal moment. “It’s about a loved one growing older, and closer to death,” she reveals.

The group goes into the studio with a vision and a complete idea of each member’s parts and the arrangements. Their unique variety of instruments complement the spaces they choose to work in. This approach facilitates dynamic and expressive performances, capturing the layers and textures that bring Dark Dark Dark’s great songwriting and arrangements to life. To get their expansive and emotional sound on tape, the band collaborated with producer Tom Herbers, a Minneapolis stalwart known for his credits with the Jayhawks, Low, and Soul Asylum, who also helmed this year’s *Bright Bright Bright* EP. They worked live to analog tape to add immediacy, intimacy, and warmth to the songs. The sextet got the basics finished in two weeks during January 2010. They used a trio of Minneapolis studios – including a renovated church and an old theater, and recorded live with very few overdubs.

The band thrives on touring, and will throughout the US and Europe in support of *Wild Go*. “We try to create a magical space with our performances,” Invie reveals. “I’m always blown away by the number of people that come up to me afterward and say how much the music touched them. I love it when people can dance and have fun at our shows, but it’s when people are quiet and I can tell that they are feeling it on a personal level that I feel like I’m really connecting.”

*Wild Go* will connect with listeners and transport them into Dark Dark Dark’s mesmerizing vision of a world within this world. They don’t settle for the ordinary, and they ask that we come along.

For more information, contact Jessica Linker and Jacob Daneman at Pitch Perfect PR – [jessica@pitchperfectpr.com](mailto:jessica@pitchperfectpr.com), [jacob@pitchperfectpr.com](mailto:jacob@pitchperfectpr.com), 773-271-6844.

## **DARK DARK DARK SUMMER 2010 TOUR DATES**

Sat., July 3rd - New York, NY @ Rockwood Music Hall, Stage 2 (with Gemma Ray)  
Wed., July 7th - Long Island City, NY @ Socrates Sculpture Garden (Rooftop Films screening of "Flood Tide" with Dark Dark Dark performing a live score)  
Mon., July 19th - Denver, CO @ The Hi-Dive (with The Mynabirds)  
Tue., July 20th - Salt Lake City, UT @ The Urban Lounge  
Thu., July 22nd - Portland, OR @ Rotture  
Fri., July 23rd - Olympia, WA @ Northern  
Sun., July 25th - Seattle, WA @ Sunset Tavern  
Thu., July 29th - Nevada City, CA @ St. Joseph's Cultural Center  
Sat., July 31st - Santa Rosa, CA @ The North Bay Film & Art Collective  
Sun., August 1st - San Francisco, CA @ Amnesia  
Mon., August 2nd - Los Angeles, CA @ The Avenue 50 Mini-Museum  
Tue., August 3rd - Phoenix, AZ @ Trunk Space  
Thu., August 5th - Marfa, TX @ Marfa Book Co.  
Fri., August 6th - Austin, TX @ Ghost Room  
Sat., August 7th - Houston, TX @ Mango's  
Sun., August 8th - Denton, TX @ Hailey's

"Dark Dark Dark are a band of stunning emotional insight. This is where their strength lies. All too many bands simply try and recreate the music that has influenced them, or write songs that only fit into outdated (and ultimately unimaginative) contexts. Dark Dark Dark are cleverer than that. They take their influences as a given, not a goal, and fit their own context into them. They take what is old and familiar and remould it in their own image – making it at times surreal, but in the way only a stranger can."

– *Drowned In Sound* (8/10, Recommended Release)

"Consisting of piano, accordion, cello, guitar, upright bass, drums and multiple vocalists, Dark Dark Dark creates beautiful and often haunting folk soundscapes." – The Current, Minneapolis Public Radio

"the music of Dark Dark Dark weaves an inviting psychedelic web, all the more powerful for its reliance on acoustic instruments." -- *Crawdaddy*

"[Bright Bright Bright] is a reflection of a more sanguine, auspicious direction for [Dark Dark Dark], with the group confidently expanding their sound and scope on these six new songs. But the dulcet vocals of Nona Marie Invie remain at the heart of these stirring songs, with her plaintive voice ringing true amid the rich, sonorous arrangements. . . Dark Dark Dark have released a poised and poignant EP that is brimming with impassioned, engrossing songs. And if this is any indication as to how the group is coalescing and the members exploring their burgeoning sound, their forthcoming full-length (which the band are currently recording at the Music Box Theatre) will capture the full attention of any music fan foolish enough to not be listening already." – *Minneapolis City Pages*

"Best of 2010. . . It's hard not to love the earnest innocence of a band like Dark Dark Dark.

– *Imposmagazine.com*

"Nona Marie Invie and Marshall LaCourt's vocals are as compatible as lovers and give all of their image-heavy words of stark atmospheric recognizance enough illumination to have no understanding of true dark."

-- *Daytrotter*