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Icy Demons

Miami Ice, Out July 15th on Obey Your Brain

Miami Ice is the upbeat and wide-ranging third full-length album from the Chicago/Philadelphia ensemble **Icy Demons**. As on previous Icy Demons releases, the band plays an altered form of pop music that seems to draw on a whole world of musical vocabulary, sometimes within a single song. Featuring co-founders **Chris Powell**, aka **Pow Pow (Man Man, Need New Body)** on drums, **Griffin Rodriguez**, aka **Blue Hawaii (Need New Body, Bablicon)** on bass and vocals, and guest musicians **Jeff Parker (Tortoise)** on guitar, **Josh Abrams (Prefuse 73, Sam Prekop)** on upright bass, the highly esteemed Chicago improviser **Tomeka Reid** on cello and **Russell Higbee (Man Man)** on guitar, *Miami Ice* continues in the Icy Demons tradition of focusing on rhythm and melody, transporting the listener to exotic locations. Songs are about dreams and endurance, alien paranoia and community, time travel and the western frontier. Though it was recorded throughout the course of a very busy year at the **Shape Shoppe**, Blue Hawaii's recording studio in the south loop of Chicago, *Miami Ice* has a naturalness and excited energy that could be likened to the warming of the senses in spring following a long winter. They used an odd assortment of vintage keyboards and ethnic percussion to create this warmth and to evoke a past that seems, through a combining of disparate elements, like the future.

Pow Pow and Blue Hawaii's collaboration began in 2000 when Hawaii recorded the first Need New Body album. This initial project opened up a pipeline between Philadelphia and Chicago that has produced an amazing string of records made by a wide variety of musicians from both of these soul cities, including the newest Man Man album *Rabbit Habits*, and *Buffalo Stance* by Jamey Robinson of Need New Body. Shape Shoppe has acted as a nexus for this activity throughout the years and has recently received a major upgrade. Some recent acts to record albums at the studio include **Beirut**, **A Hawk and a Hacksaw**, **The Akron Family**, **Josephine Foster** and **Pit Er Pat**. After working on so many releases together, Pow Pow and Hawaii have decided to take the logical next step in their collaboration and form the label **Obey Your Brain**, named after an early incarnation of Need New Body.

Icy Demons has an exciting new touring group that will be blazing trails throughout the states this summer into the fall, including members of the Chicago electronic funk group, the **Chandeliers**, Tomeka Reid and **Dylan Ryan (Michael Columbia, Bronze)**. Previously acting as support for Slint, Arcade Fire, Man Man and more, Icy Demons' live shows are energetic and fast paced as the multi-instrumentalist members dance around the stage playing interlocking rhythms.

"... one hell of a unique concoction, like a prog-fusion orchestron gone completely nuts." -- Pitchfork

"delightfully unclassifiable" -- Prefix

"Repping the indie-psych corner of the snooty post-rock sub-world is Philadelphia's not-snooty-at-all Icy Demons." -- Paperthinwalls

"Bablicon member Griffin Rodriguez and former Need New Body and current Man Man drummer Chris Powell, demonstrate an astounding ability to seamlessly blend a mélange of influences, ranging from jazz and electronic music to African rhythms and Zappa-isms, into some of the most affecting songs I've heard in many a year. These boys have, to put it bluntly, dropped a whopper of a record." -- Tiny Mix Tapes

Icy Demons Tour Dates:

- Sat. July 19 Chicago, IL @ Union Park (Pitchfork Music Festival)
- Sun. July 20 Pontiac, MI @ Pike Room w/ !!
- Mon. July 21 Cleveland Heights, OH @ Grog Shop w/ !!!, Extra Golden
- Tue. July 22 Pittsburgh, PA @ Rex Theatre w/ !!!, Extra Golden

For more information:

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