

The logo for Maelstrom Music PR features the text "MAELSTROM" in a large, serif font above "MUSIC PR" in a smaller, sans-serif font. The text is centered within a circular graphic that is split vertically: the left half is grey and the right half is red. The entire logo is framed by two horizontal lines, one above and one below.

MAELSTROM MUSIC PR

Anagram

When a musical duo is a couple in real life, sparks tend to fly. Anagram has just as much passion for each other (they've been together for 11 years) as they have for their musical endeavors. On a trip to Berlin in 2001, Eric Holland was scoring a movie that his wife Jessica Congdon was editing. Anagram grew out of this first film collaboration. Now, much of their music is influenced by the films they have scored.

With their self-produced sophomore album "The Lights Went Up," Anagram has created another cinematic album. It is more mature and textured than their first album, whose songs were about seeing the world in all its electro glory. The upcoming release is more personal, since they have even more to share - their first child, Viola Berlin, was born this fall.

Anagram is neither musician's first venture into the realms of modern alternative music. Jessica was a member of the all-woman San Francisco group Vervein (www.vervein.com). Vervein released 2 albums, the latest of which, "The Weather Inside," received rave reviews including best CD of 2005 by the San Francisco Chronicle. Eric was a founder of the experimental art-rock band Milk Cult, which released 5 albums (Basura! / 0 to 1 Records) and performed in the U.S., Europe and Japan.

"Eric brings rich beats, instrumentation, and production, and I generally focus on the melodies and vocals," Jessica says. One can hear the textured orchestration of the Beach Boys, the ethereal vocals of the Cocteau Twins, the driving beats of New Order, and pop hooks reminiscent of the Pixies, yet all the while Anagram keeps their unique sound intact.

The band's debut album "Songs from Far Away" gained recognition among music critics as well as within the film industry. Music from the first album was included in feature films "Big Girls Don't Cry" (Columbia/Tri-Star with soundtrack released on Virgin Records), and "Dopamine," an award-winning film at the Sundance Film Festival. More recently, Anagram's music was in a national PBS television series that will air on BBC this winter. The series is called "Design E2" and is narrated by Brad Pitt. NPR's 'This American Life' has featured some of their tracks, and music from their new album is already in the upcoming feature film "Speed & Angels." The trailer was just featured on Yahoo and the film will be released in 2007.

In addition to their success in films, Anagram does something rare – they craft strong albums that take the listener on a journey from start to finish, and their latest creation is no exception. Eric and Jessica enrolled their faithful friends (Bill Gould - Faith No More, Mike Morasky - Steel Pole Bath tub, Nathan Petty - Rogue Wave, Eric Schopmeyer - Slackjaw, Mike Lardas - Assemble Head, Joe Goldring - The Enablers) to enrich the orchestration and production of each song, resulting in this special offering.

Naturally, one can expect cinematic visuals to accompany Anagram's music. The video for the first single off the new album, "Shelter Street" can be seen at www.myspace.com/anagrammusic along with other videos from their first release. More info can also be found on the band's website at www.anagrammusic.com.

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