

Phil Smith/Corsage

Bio 2011

Coming out of the post-punk era and currently described on their MySpace page as being *Psychedelic Techno Folk*, the sound of the Vancouver based musical collective **CORSAGE** has ranged over the years from hard rock to pop to techno and trance.

The original core of the band was formed by singer **Phil Smith** (*Wasted Lives*), guitarist **Bill-Napier-Hemy** (*Pointed Sticks*) and bassist **Ron Allan** (*Subhumans*, *Shanghai Dog*) back in the summer of 1981. Initially put together as a one-off for a makeshift studio recording exhibition at that year's PNE, the band recorded their first EP, including the Vancouver classic "The Shame I Feel", in the midst of the trained dog shows, kitchen gadget displays, and an audience of fairgoers just passing by.

The success of the "Rome Burns, Corsage Sings!" EP that stemmed from this session led to the formation of a live band who first stormed the stage in a couple of multi-band affairs at the UBC SUB Ballroom. Corsage quickly graduated to headlining their own sold-out shows there as well as at the Luv-A-Fair and Commodore Ballroom. By now a ten-piece revue band supplemented by actors, dancers, films and cartoons, the band also opened for The Clash at the PNE Coliseum on their North American Farewell tour. The same year Corsage recorded a number of tracks with famed producer Bob Rock later released on the band's self-titled second album. In 1988 drummer **John Cody** joined the fold, and the core of Corsage was set as it has been these many years.

Over six albums and numerous performances, this core has been supplemented by a host of Vancouver's finest musical talents including Nicole Steen (*Coal*), Barney Bentall, Alex "A-train" Boynton (*Payola\$*), Laura Crema, and members of famed Vancouver punk bands *The Dishrags*, *Pointed Sticks*, and *Modernettes*. Notable gigs include a 1995 recording session for the CBC program *Nightlines* (which later became the *Western Roll* CD), and appearances at the Commodore, the Town Pump, the Or Gallery, and a host of TV performances such as *Nitevisions*, *The Vancouver Show* and *Soundproof*. In 2005 Corsage performed in an audio-visual spectacular at the H.R. Macmillan Planetarium billed as *An Astral Projection in the Summer Sky* and were also the closing act at the 2009 *Summer of Love* street festival.

Their latest CD - *The Longest Days of the Year* - is encased in a 48-page book of photos and artwork by artists and contributors from around the world and is designed and published by *Tin Press* of London. It will be released in Summer 2011 with a release party at Vancouver's fabulous Waldorf Hotel on August 31st.

MySpace = www.myspace.com/smithcorsage

YouTube = www.youtube.com/smithcorsage

E-mail = smithcorsage@myspace.com