

# Ryan McMahon



For the past decade, Ryan McMahon has been writing and performing his music in relative obscurity, while splitting time between Vancouver and his hometown of Ladysmith, British Columbia.

Over that time, he has toured Canada 10 times, released 2 full-length albums, 2 EP's, and a live record, seen his music licensed both Nationally and abroad, and heard his music on both commercial and college radio Canada-wide.

Despite positive reviews of both his live show and his writing abilities, mainstream success has proved elusive for McMahon.

"I think that while the live performances have been fairly consistent, I haven't yet been in a situation where the record we've put out matches the intensity or the magic of the live show," says Ryan.

In 2011, with the help of a small army of friends, McMahon hopes to expand on a mission that he's

been on for the past 10 years.

'Ryan McMahon & the Company Damn' is made up of its lead singer and songwriter, along with Brooks Jamison (guitars/vocals), Jason Barber (bass) and Matt Henn (drums).

"I've known them all for many years," said McMahon, "and when I moved back home to Ladysmith, it was a no-brainer for me to call on the best musicians and best people I knew of, locally.

What's happened as a result has completely inspired me. We all feel very lucky to be playing these songs together."

McMahon and his small management company, Mission Management Group, who is run by his fiancée Cathleen Lundgren, plan to release two full albums of music in 2011. The first, titled "All Good Stories," was recorded in the summer of '10 at legendary guitar-technician Richard Leighton's

home studio in Lantzville, BC.

Said Ryan: "All Good Stories" is exactly that: a collection of stripped down material that I needed to record in a very open and organic environment. Richard's house, man... It's located right on the water - big vaulted ceilings, huge fireplace, and a view that looks like a Rockwell painting. To me, it meant not having to cut my vocals in an isolation booth like a machine. It's so beautiful there, no matter what time of day, what kind of weather, or what kind of mood you're in. The experience went so well it was immediately apparent to me that we needed to do a full-band, full-scale production of the next record in the same setting."

Enter producer Andre Wahl (Hawksley Workman, Luke Doucet, Mudvayne). For the months of November & December of 2010, Wahl, Leighton and the 4 members that make up the Company Damn holed up in the log house on the beach in Lantzville, building songs up, tearing songs down, and constructing a new product that would sound 'timeless.'

"Being that Ryan already had some experience working with Richard Leighton, who I've known for eons, I was definitely intrigued by the project, but still came in with usual apprehension, in that I didn't entirely know what to expect. After spending time on the songs themselves, and getting to know the guys, I knew it was gonna be a blast. Ryan sings to someone and everyone who has ever got drunk, smoked, cried, loved or been loved. With his childhood friends in his band, the conviction is effortless, the emotions are shared and the times are treasured. Most fun I had in the studio that I can remember. With Ryan it's a given "The Songs Matter". Ryan is one great, timeless artist!"

Guitarist Brooks Jamison shares Wahl's enthusiasm:

"Ryan has drive, determination, and an incredible amount of talent. These songs speak to me on a level far beyond what I'm hearing elsewhere in the industry, and they happen to be coming from a truly great friend of mine. The musical magic that happens between myself, Ryan, and the other members is something that cannot be bought or fabricated, and that is truly something special."

The Ladysmith, BC resident has plans in motion for a productive 2011 and beyond. The new album, "Put the Past in a Flask & Drink It," is being shopped to various record labels both big and small. A live video by Tash Baycroft, also from Vancouver Island, has been directed in conjunction for the first single off the record, titled "One Way."

"Well, now that the albums are completed, those industry wheels begin to turn. We've got various tours in the works, which is the most exciting part for me, next to the actual creation of the work. The thing for me is, I'm compelled to write. I'm not happy, and I don't feel useful unless I'm creating... The notion that we might be able to do this to put food on the table for our families, plus support causes that we care about, is also very intriguing. I just hope the public cares about these songs like we all do... that's all you can hope for."

For more information on Ryan McMahon & the Company Damn, contact:

Cathleen Lundgren

Mission Management Group

[info@mmgrp.ca](mailto:info@mmgrp.ca)

604-258-8843