

Family Vineyard

GRAND ULENA NEOSHO

Catalog Number: FV23 Format: CDEP

Release Date: Nov 4, 2003 UPC: 656605402321



1. Flyer 2. Neosho 3. LEMP

Grand Ulena exercise music as metaphor -- intricate craftsmanship and detailed inlays rot and corrode, beauty collapsing in upon itself as the artificers stand by and watch it all go to pieces, occasionally driving a bulldozer through the front door, leaving only the most stalwart pillars standing. -- *Lost At Sea*

Anyone who thought **Grand Ulena's** M.O. was a solid rush of melted melodies and discombobulated rhythms enforced with rapidity, needs to rethink with *Neosho*. The EP exists because of the enthusiasm and expertise of engineer and Semaphore Studios owner **Jeremy Lemos (Smog, Jim O'Rourke, Wilco)**. Having unexpectedly finished their debut album *Gateway to Dignity* a day ahead of schedule, Lemos suggested the band -- St. Louis' instrumental trio of ex-**Dazzling Killmen** and **On Fillmore** bassist **Darin Gray**, guitarist **Chris Trull (Darling Little Jackhammer)** and drummer **Danny McClain (Johnny Angel, Army of Robots)** -- take the opportunity to use his newly acquired 1/2-inch tape machine to record live in the studio. Lemos had heard Ulena "jenning," (improvising for the lay person) throughout the recording of the *Dignity* sessions, and it seemed a shame to him for this music to go unheard. Ulena obliged and three songs are the result. *Neosho* shows a different side of the band than is heard on *Gateway to Dignity*. A searing minimalism is at the core of the three pieces, a result of the spontaneity and immediacy of the session. Ranging from the push/pull of vicious volume to near silences, *Neosho* brings forth Grand Ulena's jening to those who have missed their onslaught of live performances. Here you go.

ALSO AVAILABLE:

Gateway to Dignity LP/CD (Family Vineyard) FV18
Darin Gray - *St. Louis Shuffle* CD (Family Vineyard) FV17
Darin Gray and Loren MazzaCane Connors - *This Past Spring* CD (Family Vineyard) FV6
Darin Gray and Loren MazzaCane Connors - *The Lost Mainer* CD (Family Vineyard) FV2

Selling Points:

- 1) Grand Ulena's debut *Gateway to Dignity* was released in February to critical acclaim by *Alternative Press*, *Signal to Noise*, *Dusted*, *The Wire*, *San Francisco Bay Guardian*, *Chicago Reader*, and more..
- 2) Grand Ulena is constantly playing shows in the Midwest, and will be touring the West Coast with **Ativin (Secretly Canadian)** throughout February.
- 3) **Darin Gray** is a member of **On Fillmore** (with **Wilco's Glenn**

- Kotche**), and has on on-going collaboration with **Loren MazzaCane Connors**, is performing with **Loose Fur (Kotche, Jeff Tweedy and Jim O'Rourke)** outside of his solo performances, and was previously involved in the **Skin Graft** label bands **Brise Glace**, **You Fantastic** and **Yona Kit**.
- 4) Grand Ulena will appear to fans of **Lightning Bolt**, **Hella**, **Flying Luttenbachers**, and **Noxagt**.

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