



NESS

YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO FEEL

Release Date: June 10, 2008

"I urge all to immediately listen to this record now by hearing its sounds with the ears of the brains of your mind."
— Erl van der Plüeff, *Cognitive Therapist*

I won't lie to you. The new Ness record is probably not fashionable. Nor will it get you laid, out of a speeding ticket, or into a good school. But what you have is unique. It's perpetual, permanent™. Just try to delete this record from your hard drive...you can't do it. It's an aural octopus that will drag you down deep with its tonal tentacles.

It seems Ness has had a torrid affair with an unknown genre and sired its offspring. Describing *You Can't Afford To Feel* is like opening a Pandora's box of chimerical rock metaphors. Its unholy mixture of classic pop and epic ambition is like Ray Davies making chain mail out of reverb coils and jousting a tower of Vox AC-30s; or Todd Rundgren daydreaming with a 23-sided die stuck in his ear. Imagine Gruff Rhys challenging the members of Yes to a dual after seven Brandy Alexanders; or Phil Spector threatening Pink Floyd with a semi-automatic weapon in a noisy airport. That might sound like the new Ness record.

You Can't Afford To Feel was produced by Neal Ostrovsky at B-Side Audio in the band's native Chicago during the barren months between January, 2005, and April, 2007. Neal also produced the Ness 2004 debut *Up Late With People*, an album whose audacious arrangements can now be heard as an eclectic harbinger of the band's current album.

Band:

Rick Ness (guitar, piano, vocals)
John San Juan (bass, guitar, keyboards, vocals)
Bill Swartz (drums, vocals)
Phil Young (keyboards, bass, vocals)

With guest appearances by:

Scott Ligon (organ, guitar and backing vocals on 6, 9)
Ken Champion (pedal steel on 8)
Michael Smith (trombone on 9)
The Vanishing Girls (Carolyn Engelmann, Karen Lewis and Meg Porter, backing vocals on 5).