

In Memoriam • Tuned In

Hobson's Journey by September's Shadow

By Tom Bock

I'm fairly comfortable recognizing Dave Jacobsen as an eclectic person. His eclectic nature is especially apparent as a composer/songwriter/musician. Our paths first crossed when Hezi Aris, Editor of the Westchester Times Tribune, mentioned speaking to Jacobsen about the Jimmy Arena Family Fun Day Benefit that was to be held in Somers, NY, several years ago. Jacobsen agreed to perform a musical set or two to contribute to the event. His generosity and caring made him very easy to take a liking to.

He gave me two of his previously released CD's and I gave a listen. One of my all time favorite songs, while not the type of song you'd hear me singing out loud, is *An Honest and Sincere Assessment of my Feelings Regarding my Current Place of Employment*, from his *Cubicle Wonderland* CD. After describing the song to my colleagues, they insisted I play it for them, which I did. Manny, my involuntary participant due to proximity, started laughing and said, "Wow! That's Great! I love it. He's gotten it so right!" I agree, every time I give it a listen, it brings a smile to my face.

His new CD, September's Shadow, often creates somber melodic music that spans several styles. Their debut album, Hobson's



Journey, is primarily a synth-pop endeavor that weaves captivating hooks with experimentation. Combining electronic sounds along with acoustic guitar work and vocals convey a feeling of longing. The music expresses more than a few moods and carries listeners to someplace familiar. It also has a retro-ish feel that harkens back to the psychedelic era of the late 60's. It's an interesting mix and a departure from Jacobsen's typical

solo performances.

But, here again is where Jacobsen stands out. His mixing of sounds with truly unique and

some time provocative lyrics make each performance distinctive, as well as an amusing and distracting extravaganza. Jacobsen's unique sound, coupled with the contributions of KT Wills and Stephanie Seskin, give his sound a well-balanced symmetry that was absent with earlier projects. Either way, when you listen to this, his eclectic abilities break through once again.

You can purchase his CD online through the normal channels. You can also go to the website septembersshadows.com and learn more. By far, the

best way to experience Jacobsen is live and as luck would have it, he'll be performing in Pleasantville on November 2 at the Dragonfly Caffe. Go; have a bite to eat; a special cup of coffee; and listen to a truly unique and gifted performer.

Tom Bock is the Review Editor for the Westchester Times Tribune, Yonkers Tribune as well as for other media.

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