



PREMIERGuitar *the relentless pursuit of tone*

Shawn Hammond -- Editor in Chief

What am I listening to?

"Double Naught Spy Car, Western Violence. With tons of glorious twang, raunchy, reverb-drenched grooves, mournful lap steels, and song titles like 'Two Bones of Skeletor,' how could I not dig this instrumental blowout?"

http://www.premierguitar.com/Magazine/Issue/2012/Nov/November_2012_Staff_Picks.aspx

"Double Naught's jazz-noir artrock certainly contains enough harmonic in-jokes and snippets of old TV themes and 'cheesy listening' references to keep any guitar nerd chuckling for hours. But that hardly diminishes (pun intended!) the seriousness of Lacques and co-guitarist Marcus Watkins' inventive, richly seasoned playing and the coolness of their compositions—which evoke the angular licks and interplay of bands like Television, Zappa, Captain Beefheart, and King Crimson alongside nods to Ennio Morricone and Dick Dale. The two well-traveled guitarists have done stints with 311, the Dust Brothers, Bo Diddley and many more. These Spy Cars get around."

-- James Rotondi

Full feature article/interview:

http://www.premierguitar.com/Magazine/Issue/2013/Feb/Interview_Double_Naught_Spy_Car_Cheeky_Twang_Monkeys.aspx#ixzz2ldJnWhs3



"Surf guitar psychedelia, free-form jazz-rock and Zappaesque wah-wah guitar workouts are the order of the day from instrumental L.A. quartet DOUBLE NAUGHT SPY CAR. *Western Violence*, their third release, is another collection of off-the-wall eclecticism by four musicians who, extraordinary individually, are phenomenal together."

<http://www.rock-n-reel.co.uk>



"It's the late 60's. You are a b-list movie star. You've been cast in a knock-off of a spy movie being filmed on some obscure European back lot. The film is underexposed. The starlet forgets her lines. But the music is great. The music is so great it makes the whole movie cool. The soundtrack to the movie is Double Naught Spy Car's "Western Violence."

"Double Naught Spy Car's new album "Western Violence" is an era and genre-warping collection of homage-esque tracks that combine elements of surf, funk, vintage hollywood, lounge and retro rock into a signature sound and identity. It's both undeniably modern and curiously anachronistic. "Western Violence" is a fresh, fun album that brings retro cool back in a big way.

"Having already released two other full length albums since forming in 1994, Double Naught Spy Car is the combination of the stinging Stratocaster of Marcus Watkins, the Telecaster and spooky steel of Paul Lacques, the nihilist/classicist bass of Marc Doten, and the all-knowing unyielding drums of Joe Berardi. All four of the individual members are in demand session players as well as pioneers of new sounds associated with L.A.'s Silverlake and Echo Park scenes. The band and members have scored several feature films, a History Channel documentary, numerous plays, placed songs in dozens of films and TV shows, and recorded/toured with Bo Diddley, Nina Hagen, Johnny Halliday, The Fibonaccis, The Bonedaddys, Stan Ridgway, I See Hawks In L.A., and countless other artists.

"The real genius of this band, and this album, is in making music that both has a recognizable sound and also has an individuality. Hearing both the conceptual source in each song, and hearing that song as it's own expression is what this band does *perhaps* better than any other out there. Double Naught Spy Car's "Western Violence" is both a trip down memory lane and new memories in the making, Very Highly Recommended."

RUST Magazine

<http://www.rustzine.com/>

Midwest Record

Entertainment
Reviews, news, and views

"Ah, the kind of off the clock listening we love. Only their third record in 15 years, this crew of blistering instrumentalists just loves to throw everything in the Vitamix and turn the motor on high without bothering to step it up. Mixmastering everything they can think of into a gumbo that turns anything but gray, if you love shredding, if you love the wild sound of everything, if you love an instrumental good time with fervored abandon, you have a new cd to perch at the top of your top ten list. Killer stuff for people who's dvr doesn't pile up talent shows."

-- Chris Spector

<http://midwestrecord.com/MWR527.html>



"This band has made an album where every song has a different sound and feel. It's a very unusual album, but man is it good. This band keeps you on your toes and delivers a solid song, no matter the style. If you like instrumental rock, this is definitely an album to add to your collection."

-- Gary Schwind

<http://www.examiner.com/review/schwindy-s-indie-music-spotlight-double-naught-spy-car>



"Oh, what a trip: spin Double Naught Spy Car's new *Western Violence* album and off you go, straight to a world where stringmaster David Lindley is the Supreme Ruler of the planet. (We're talking some seriously funky polyester robes here.) This is a place where Double Naught Spy Car is the soundtrack to life itself: it's what you hear blasting out of the dash speakers of split-windshield Woodies lugging surfboards to the beach; wafting through the clove-and-lemon-scented open air of the tiki bars; it's the music that rocks the casbahs. *Western Violence* does all that and more with its El-Rayo-X-meets-Dick-Dale-meets-Frank-Zappa all-instrumental blend of technical virtuosity, humor, eclectic world roots, and just plain weird shit. (But *cool* weird shit.)

"Double Naught Spy Car – Joe Berardi on drums, percussion, and sweet, sweet marimba; Marc Doten on bass and keyboards; Paul Lacques and Marcus Watkins on guitars of all manner (except when Watkins is squeezing an accordion) – are awfully good at what they do, combining super-tight arrangements with reckless muse-of-the-moment. How do you grit your teeth and hang on while keeping your tongue firmly planted in your cheek? Beats me, but these fellows do it.

"*Western Violence* is a baker's dozen of guaranteed smiles, boys and girls. One listen and you'll be wanting to know when the mothership is coming to gather up its next load of visitors to Planet Lindley."

-- Brian Robbins

<http://www.jambands.com/reviews/cds/2012/10/16/double-naught-spy-car-western-violence>



Style : Instro-Lounge

Rate (1-5) :

"Double Naught Spy Car is a mysterious band. No vocals, but the music sings. "Western Violence", their new CD, is a sweet, snarling, sardonic mash up homage sendup of bollywood, stratocaster surf, monkish jazz, tiki lounge exotica, prog rock and funk. Dense and complex - yet these tracks are laser sharp and all intent, with virtuoso skills and advanced ideas that pull you into Spy Car's deepest forays into noise and beauty.

"But who are these guys? The band started back in 1994 and although they have only recorded 3 albums over the past ten years, they did thousands of gigs already. This four piece combo is created out of seasoned musicians of who Paul Lacques, creator of I see Hawks in L.A. might be the best known. Further more you'll have Joe Berardi (Known for working with Stan Ridgeway, Robert Fripp, Lydia Lunch, Rufus Wrainwright or Donovan), Marc Doten (Dave Allen, Poncho Sanchez, Taj Mahal) and Marcus Watkins (Flea, 311, Nina Hagen, Johnny Halliday). All to them together as band are often asked to back up singer songwriters as well. Think James Ellroy and Stan Ridgway to name but a few.

"Their Sound? Well despite the fact that they are often named as a surf band they create a total different sound as you might expect from a surf outfit! Sure you'll find some Shadows influences on this album but there is much more to discover! Altogether quite an impressive collection of instrumentals! Think soundtracks and film scores and you'll have a good Idea what this is about! From Henri Mancinni over the Shadows towards Ennio Morricone you'll have it all on this album! Enjoy."

-- Mr. Blue Boogie (Belgium)

<http://www.billybop.be/admin/CDdetail.asp?ID=11274>



"Instrumental music about surfing and spying never gets old, and this band carries on the tradition with gusto and chops. It makes sense that the seasoned group of L.A. session aces has backed up local storytelling masters such as James Ellroy and Stan Ridgeway onstage, because they are perfectly suited to mix Chandleresque and Morricone moods and create modern programmic music that is in no way cartoonish or circuslike. The songs are as dark as they are unironic and, yes, they rock. The band also has great taste in art, using an appropriately hyper-detailed-yet-open-ended painting by Giant Robot homie Rob Sato in the packaging."

<http://www.giantrobot.com/martin/new-music-reviews-dum-dum-girls-pinback-its-casual-rites-of-spring-fugazi-edits-double-aught-spy-car/>



"A mix of melodic progrock and groovy classic rock, like JIMI HENDRIX meets PINK FLOYD meets STEVE VAI, that is basically where this lot is moving into and they do it quite well, with as highlights the songs when they go for a more uptempo melodic hardrock approach, which features guitarsolos that sound like a heavier version of THE SHADOWS!!! Anyway, mix up all the mentioned bands and you have this great instrumental record of DOUBLE NAUGHT SPY CAR."

(Holland)



“‘Western Violence’ is the third release of L.A.’s quartet ‘Double Naught Spy Car’ with instrumental guitar rock tracks and spaghettiwestern soundtrack items. ‘The Shadows’ and Ennio Morricone are nodding in the background to agree that anno 2012 these guys do really deserve some extra attention.”

-- Valsam (Belgium) <http://www.rootstime.be/CD%20REVIEUW/2012/OKT1/CD100.html>

moors magazin

bands met opmerkelijke namen

- hungrytown, west of eden, the deep dark woods en double naught spy car

"Double Naught Spy Car is a remarkable outsider in this list bands especially beautiful songs present, because this band presents reverberating instrumental guitar rock in the spirit of the Shadows, the Tornados and such bands, but with the command of Frank Zappa to something entirely otherwise of it. Twang, Funk, spaghetti western, avant-garde, jazz, country, everything is mixed together into a thrilling and exciting blend of instrumental rock. With humor and an incredible amount of fun makes this quartet for an exciting, delicious energizing album."

(Holland) <http://www.moorsmagazine.com/muziek/doubledeephungryeden/>

INDIE MUSIC

"From high drama to subtle tension, DNSC deliver some of the best instrumental music currently being recorded. Because of the bands ability to easily shift from surf flavored Spaghetti Western, to cloak and dagger noir cinematic musings one might say they're just another rock, jazz, samba, and film noir band from LA, but this would be disingenuous. Much of the music here is nothing short of storytelling genius. It doesn't take a lot to imagine these songs as the backdrop for films ranging in story and emotion.

Overblown, often sweetly subversive and self aware; DNSC deliver memorable music in high style."

-- J. Rivera

<http://indiemusic.co/2012/12/28/double-naught-spy-car-words-arent-enough/>