

The Handsome Family Joins Jeff Tweedy to Play Boulder Theater Sold Out 75th Anniversary Shows

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Dec. 23, 2010 - [PRLog](#) -- Please go to the Handsome Family media page for the most accurate information including approved mp3s, hi-res photos and bio:

<http://greenlightgopublicity.com/clients/?client=thehandsomefamily>

Additional Handsome Family news can be found at:

<http://blog.greenlightgopublicity.com/search/label/Handsome%20Family>

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THE HANDSOME FAMILY JOINS WILCO'S JEFF TWEEDY TO PLAY BOULDER THEATER'S SOLD OUT 75TH ANNIVERSARY SHOWS JANUARY 7TH AND 8TH

“Brett and Rennie Sparks continue to put a brilliantly surreal twist on everyday subjects, using nature imagery to evoke the weird intensity of all-consuming passions.” --Spin

Jeff Tweedy

The Handsome Family

January 7 & 8, 2011

Boulder Theatre 75th Anniversary

Boulder Theatre

2032 14th Street

Boulder, CO

Doors: 8:30 PM

SOLD OUT

BOULDER, CO (December 23, 2010) — Those lucky enough to score tickets to the sold out Jeff Tweedy shows at the Boulder Theater must have four leaf clover collections. The Handsome Family will be joining Wilco's front-man for the January 7th and 8th shows which celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Boulder Theater.

The Handsome Family will begin a tour of the west coast January 19th in support of the self-released *Scattered: A Further Collection of Lost Demos, Orphaned Songs and Odd Covers*. The band has revisited their past for this album and gathered up treasures; a smattering of covers, alternate takes, unreleased songs and bits of their history. The CD is only available at tour dates and on their website, [/www.handsomefamily.com](http://www.handsomefamily.com). The tour, which begins in Vancouver will take them down the west coast to Santa Monica.

The Handsome Family are known for Rennie's evocative, descriptive lyrics, Brett's deadpan baritone and their sparse, traditional bluegrass instrumentation. Their work has garnered praise from Pitchfork, Billboard, Spin, The BBC, Mojo and more. Their songs have been covered by many artists, most notably:

Andrew Bird, Christy Moore, Cerys Matthews, The Sadies and Sally Timms. Honey Moon, the Sparks' eighth studio album was released in 2009 to celebrate their 20th year of marriage.

Since starting Wilco in 1994 Jeff Tweedy has written original songs for seven Wilco albums, sold millions of records worldwide, won two Grammy Awards, and earned rave reviews from critics and fans alike. Wilco's latest studio album, 2009's Grammy-nominated Wilco (The Album) landed on many critics' lists as one of the year's best albums and Rolling Stone magazine cited Wilco's 2002 album Yankee Hotel Foxtrot as the 3rd best album of the decade. Tweedy has also toured frequently as a solo artist, playing intimate unscripted acoustic sets that draw from his 400-plus song repertoire. A departure from Wilco's carefully orchestrated, sonically complex performances, the solo concerts showcase Tweedy's prolific output as a songwriter, his proficiency as a guitarist and his wry sense of humor.

From opera to movies to disco to rock - the historic Boulder Theater has a diverse and colorful past that is being continued with a thriving present and is primed for an exciting future. The building as it stands today was designed by Robert Boller of Kansas City and had its Opening Night on January 9, 1936 with a screening of the Paramount Pictures film, "A Bride Comes Home".

The Handsome Family Tour Dates

1/7 Boulder Theater, Boulder, CO
1/8 Boulder Theater, Boulder, CO
1/19 Biltmore Cabaret, Vancouver, BC
1/20 Tractor Tavern, Seattle, WA
1/21 Doug Fir, Portland, OR
1/22 Sam Bond's Garage, Eugene, OR
1/25 Freight and Salvage, Berkeley, CA
1/26 Café DuNord, - San Francisco, CA
1/28 Bootleg Theater, Los Angeles, CA
1/29 McCabe's Guitar Shop, Santa Monica, CA
1/30 The Rhythm Room, Phoenix, AZ

Praise for The Handsome Family

"Though the Handsomes draw on Depression-era strains of folk music, Honey Moon is sensual and celebratory...May their musical honeymoon never end." --Richard Gehr, O (Oprah) Magazine

"...these new songs are so full of woodsy imagery that they make Neko Case seem urbane." --Stephen Deusner, Pitchfork

"The husband/wife duo of Brett and Rennie Sparks still deals in spectral bluegrass and noirish folk forms on its ninth album, but gone are the ghosts and murder ballads that had painted them into a gothic-Americana corner. (Trust us, the album is still plenty weird. Love is weird.)" --Magnet Magazine Guest Editor Feature

"A mélange of classic-era Nashville, '50s Tin Pan Alley and doo-wop and Memphis soul balladry—is equally veiled, Brett warbling Rennie's pastoral lyrics about lingering kisses, lonely songbirds and reverse-anthropomorphism in an expressive baritone equal parts George Jones and Bing Crosby. Who are these people, you wonder? Though answers don't come easily, the process of getting to know them is fascinating nonetheless." --Billboard

“As always the haunted lyrics bear a quaintness that seems so archaic you can almost hear the cogs whirring away inside.” --Q Magazine

“The songs on Honey Moon are just a gorgeously haunting as anything they have done previously... Yet another terrific chapter in a book that I hope these guys never finish.” --Tim Hinely, BLURT

“We have a dozen songs of romantic yearning from deep within their own strange world...A place where love is measured by extremes...Modern romance but not as we know it.” --UNCUT

“Brett and Rennie Sparks continue to put a brilliantly surreal twist on everyday subjects, using nature imagery to evoke the weird intensity of all-consuming passions.” --Spin

“They're love songs with a curious purchase on the mystical undercurrents of reality, pivoting on those points where the natural world rubs up against intimations of spirituality. Sung by Brett in the booming baritone of a backwoods preacher, Rennie's songs quiver with intimate detail.” --Andy Gill, The Independent

“This is “love” Handsome Family style...Eight albums into a unique musical journey, Brett and Rennie can still beguile and disturb in equal measures.” --The Sun

4 out of 5 stars—“Honey Moon is the duo's most eclectic album to date, with Brett and Rennie cautiously embracing the sound of classic pop ballads, vintage R&B, Tin Pan Alley crooning, and electronic pop along with the traditional country and folk influences... ultimately Honey Moon proves they can ease into more optimistic surroundings and not lose touch with the strange and ethereal qualities that have made them worthwhile.” -- Mark Deming, All Music

“The spooky country arrangements are as ingratiating as ever, particularly the dry pedal steel that twists around ‘Little Sparrows’ and the soft doo-wop piano triplets and guitar that sounds like Marc Ribot covering Angelo Badalamenti on ‘Linger, Let Me Linger.’” -- Michaelangelo Matos, eMusic

“Peppered with jolts of danger and hints of regret, their dark-hued lyricism revels in the kind of mysterious, immersive intrigue that corkscrews its way through affairs of the heart when opposites attract and Cupid comes calling...There's a burnt beauty to Honey Moon – something akin to Mark Twain re-written by Edgar Allan Poe – that exerts a deliciously morbid pull on the imagination and the emotions. Satisfaction is guaranteed.” --Michael Quinn, BBC

“Their most beautiful and accessible since Through the Trees...French horns, droning bass notes, clippity-clop drums, pedal steel, and musical saw give even the most macabre songs--not to mention Brett Sparks' Johnny-Cash-on-Thorazine vocals--a light, playful air of discovery and wonder.” --Amazon.com

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