

Taking Music From the Earth to the Moon

Good collaborations come in the form of brothers: The Brothers Grimm, The Coen Brothers, The Guys from The

hard work. Using hip-hop as a canvas, they are able to add colours using samples and musical instruments to

them well. They are not only performers of the highest calibre; they have been able to redefine the genre of hip-hop to reflect a fresh vision of the world.

They wave sound around like a magic wand, layering resonances, tones and rhythm into landscapes that back up a smooth sharp original vocal rap.

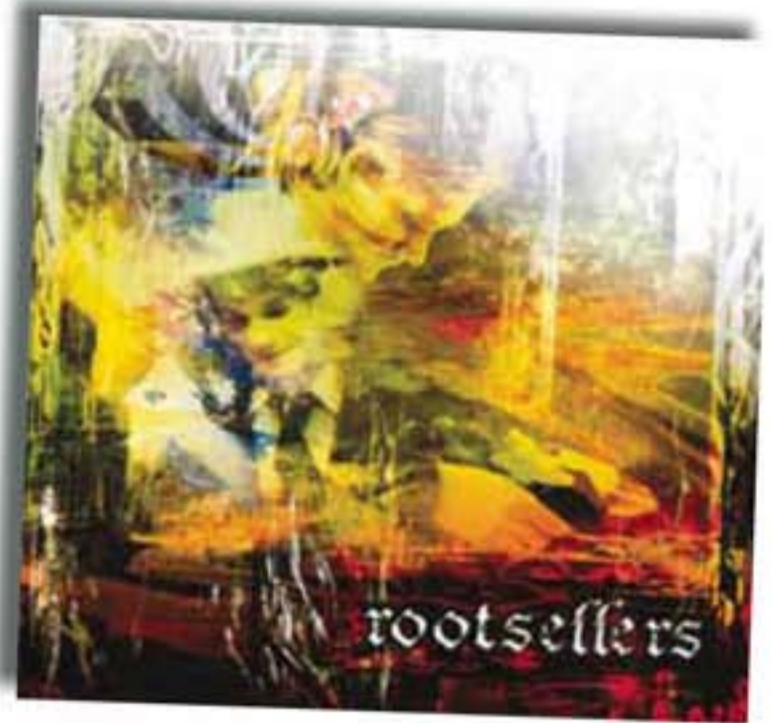
This pastiche of social commentary, bathed in sonic sophistication comes from incorporating everyday sounds in extraordinary ways.

A keen sense of shared responsibility for the world they write about manifests a yin yang vocal ballet. They sing equally of the grounded earth and the infinite sky: urban waste and most hallowed nature.

This may sound like a reviewer resorting to hyperbole, but I must confess my feeling about the future of Nemo and Prhyme are full of positive vibrations.

With this tasty CD under their belt, what could they do next and, given the chance and a larger budget, what wonderful music could they bring to the world?

The only drawback I found with



this album is it ended too soon.

To get an immediate listen to the Ashley's in action, go to their web page at www.myspace.com/rootsellers. Their CD *rootsellers* is available wherever fine local music is purveyed.

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DISCourse

with Bill Polonsky

Matrix (the Blues Brothers) and the Yukon's own Daniel and Galen Ashley ... aka Nemo and Prhyme.

The latest effort from these fuzzy wonder youth is the CD release, *rootsellers*.

rootsellers has a flavour that harkens back to a vibe they created with Raw Element and the CD released a couple of summers ago.

If you liked that CD, you will love this release. It's just what the doctor ordered for the midwinter blues: a gentle blast of urban hip-hop and sonic landscapes that will warm your bones on a cold winter night.

Filled with collaborations and remixes, the Ashley's have found a groove they can call their own. This CD is a culmination of education, love of the genre and much

great effect. In one track, a deep bass keeps the rhythm down while in the next a simple violin line holds the vocal to the beat.

The tracks move from a remix of Valle Son's *Oye Commo Va* to a spacey collage of Aylie and Rae Sparkes' guitar noodling backed by a subtle electronic wash that is truly extraordinary.

Titled, *Happy Fingers*, this track stuck in my mind not only as a great collage but also as a really classy recording.

These are not tricks of the trade but marks of production that separate the novice from the professional.

There is a subtlety in this CD that is missing from most music we hear today. The Ashley brothers have locked into a sound and a way of communication that serves

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