

THE GARRYS

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Photo by Carey Shaw

The Garrys are a trio of sisters from the coldest part of the landlocked Canadian prairies, and they make surf music. Formed in the spring of 2015, The Garrys use layered 3-part blood harmonies, hazy sun-bleached melodies, classic lo-fi guitar tones, and syncopated surf beats to create a unique “doom-wop” sound, dripping with dark nostalgia and touched by psychedelic dread. Their music is likely to leave you with an urge to do the Watusi, bittersweet thoughts about slow-dancing with your middle school crush, or a nagging feeling that it’s not quite safe to go back into the water.

Latest Release: *Get Thee To A Nunnery*

The Garrys released their fourth album, entitled *Get Thee To A Nunnery*, on September 24, 2021. This album was recorded at Rec Hall Studios in Saskatoon, Treaty 6 Territory, right as the world locked down for COVID-19, and allowed the band to work for the first time with Canadian music icon Dallas Good (of The Sadies) as producer. Like previous releases, *Get Thee To A Nunnery* pays homage to The Garrys’ familial roots, telling stories and cultivating moods inspired by their windswept surroundings, the isolation and decay of rural prairie life, generational shifts in worldview and faith, the soft-spoken beauty of small moments and oft-ignored places, and nostalgia for times and places that they never really knew — most notably, drawing upon stories of their mother’s time

as a high school student at an all-girls Catholic boarding school and Ursuline convent in small-town 1960’s Saskatchewan. Much of the album is united by a mourning of the various things that can erode, wither, and die as time marches on and as we get older — including the communities, traditions, and relationships we once held dear. Musically, *Get Thee To A Nunnery* shows influences from a diverse array of sounds, including the classic surf riffs of The Ventures, the drama of Ennio Morricone’s spaghetti westerns, the dreamy psychedelia of Kurt Vile, France Gall’s brand of mod-pop cheek, and the lo-fi garage noir of Los Saicos.



Past Releases and Accolades

The Garrys received a 2020 Saskatchewan Music Award for best Experimental/Contemporary Artist, along with a nomination for Best Alternative Artist, and recognition on SaskMusic's Top 10 Albums of 2020 (fan's choice). The Garrys were also a featured artist during BreakOut West 2021, and performed virtually for M for Montreal 2020. Prior to this, The Garrys performed at Iceland Airwaves in Reykjavik, Iceland in November 2019.

In October 2019, The Garrys took to the stage of the historic Roxy Theatre in Saskatoon for a one-time performance of a new original live score, written to accompany Benjamin Christiansen's 1922 silent film and horror cult classic "Häxan". Selections from this live performance were released as their third album — a cohesive, self-produced double-vinyl album titled *Häxan: Witchcraft Through the Ages*. Recorded live-off-the-floor by Barrett Ross of Rec Hall Studios (Kacy & Clayton and Marlon Williams, The Deep Dark Woods, Shooting Guns), and mastered by Trevor Case at Case Mastering, this was an ambitious project for The Garrys, stretching them artistically as they explored dark and experimental new sonic territory. On previous albums, they'd dipped their toes only momentarily into the foreboding dread that *Häxan* exudes. Fans will no doubt recognize the familiar layered blood harmonies and minor-key surf riffs, but will also find something novel (and even disturbing) in the addition of brooding and nightmarish new sounds, built on psych-heavy guitars, accordion drones, dramatic brass melodies, swirling synth and pedal effects, and witchy incantations. Taken together, *Häxan: Witchcraft Through the Ages* makes for a haunting, dynamic, and cinematic listening experience.

The Garrys released their sophomore album *Surf Manitou* in 2017 through Grey Records. *Surf Manitou* is a concept LP written about the various places in the nostalgic Saskatchewan resort town of Manitou Beach, and a love letter to prairie beach town weirdness that drew upon influences from classic surf acts like The Shadows and 60's girl groups like The Shangri-Las. *Surf Manitou* saw considerable airplay on Canadian community and campus radio (2017 Top 10 albums - CFQR; 2017 #1 album - CJTR; #122 on Earshot's Top 200 albums of 2017), as well as in other major cities in the USA, France, the UK, and BBC Radio Scotland. Following a quick sell-out of the initial vinyl pressing, it was re-released by Dutch label Grey Productions in late 2020.

After their performances at M for Montreal in 2016, The Garrys received multiple generous reviews and were cited by several critics in attendance as being amongst "The Best of M for Montreal". In the fall of 2017, The Garrys joined Elliot Brood on a multi-city western Canadian leg of their tour. In 2018, The Garrys performed at a number of festivals including The Great Escape (UK), Sled Island (AB), Ness Creek Music Festival (SK), FrogFest (AB), and Rainbow Trout Music Festival (MB). Along with their performances at The Great Escape Festival in Brighton, UK, the band set up a UK tour with six shows, including Cardiff, Brighton, and multiple shows in London. They were also invited to play at TGE-adjacent The Alternate Escape, as well as at a show for Vice UK. Following their at-capacity performance at TGE, The Garrys were invited back to M for Montreal 2018, garnering many high-praise reviews, including a favourable mention on Brooklyn Vegan.

The music video for The Garry's song 'In This Dream' currently has over 340,000 views. Their songs 'Healing Waters' and 'Burger Buoy' were recently placed in APTN TV series 'The Other Side.' Their song 'Danceland (Come With Me)' was longlisted for the Canadian Songwriting Competition in the Canadiana genre in 2018.

Both *Surf Manitou* and their debut album *Warm Buds* have received acclaim at home in Saskatchewan, as they have each taken home the honour of earning a spot on SaskMusic's Top 10 Albums (fan's choice for 2017 and 2016, respectively). In November of 2018, The Garrys were also nominated for Alternative Artist of the Year at the Saskatchewan Music Awards.

Notable Press & Quotes

"We've never been asked more about a band who opened shows for us. There are many bands that should rightfully be huge but are not, and these sisters are at the top of that list."

-Elliott BROOD

"I can't emphasize enough how blown away and how amazing this record [*Häxan: Witchcraft Through the Ages*] is."

-Peter Mills (CBC Saskatchewan)

"Three-part harmonies that put them in the same ballpark as La Luz. They're good."

-Brooklyn Vegan

"[*Surf Manitou* is] sparkling with mood, power, beauty and anything you want from a record."

-Grey Productions, Netherlands

"The trio of sisters hailing from Saskatoon put a dash of cheeky attitude into their perfect mix of 1950's rock and doo-wop influence, and their sibling harmonies placed a cherry on top of their smooth style."

-ANCHR Magazine

"Sisters and bandmates Erica, Julie, and Lenore Maier did a great job of mixing their signature 50s style reverb drenched rock and doo-wop vocal harmonies with something more foreboding. They've cleverly referred to it as 'Doom-wop.'"

-The Feedback Society

"Their mix of 60s melodies with just a touch of darkness made the set a hypnotic experience"

-NOW Magazine

"Catchy as hell."

-Mar Sellars, Addicted

"*Warm Buds* cements The Garrys as a group worth keeping an eye on."

-Exclaim!

"Erica, Julie, and Lenore's delightful vocal harmonies over an early rock 'n' roll arrangement fade in as if being beamed to your brain from another time."

-Quick Before it Melts

"The Garrys are three sisters from Saskatoon who not only have lovely voices but they also have a great sense of *Twin Peaks* style."

-Ride The Tempo

"The trio make mellow doo-wop inspired pop music ripe for those lazy summer dayz when you hang with your friends and time doesn't matter."

-Grayowl Point

"Having honed the pop-creep sounds from their debut album *Warm Buds*, on 'Manitouna' The Garrys combine wipeout- esque rhythms and the dirge-iest of surf rock with impeccable harmony. The end result is a prairies Twilight Zone clambake where no one is spared."

-Ominocity

"Tracks like 'Make Out at the Drive-In,' 'Mike's Beach Bar' and closer 'Waiting on a Wave' will instantly have you pining for summertime fun."

-Exclaim!

“The Garrys’ sound is submerged in the twangy minor-keyed reverb found within the ‘60s surf genre. Any of the guitar riffs could stand next to legendary surf rock bands like The Shadows, The Ventures, or The B-52s.”

-VUE Weekly

Notable Past Performances

July 23-25, 2021 - Ness Creek Mini Breaks, Ness Creek SK
July 7, 2021 - EA Rawlinson Centre Drive-In Concert Series, Prince Albert SK
May 27-29, 2021 - Lawnya Vawnya Cyber Spring, St. John’s NL (Virtual Performance)
Mar 26, 2021 - Winterruption at Home, Saskatoon SK (Virtual Performance)
Nov 2020 - M for Montreal, Montreal QC (Virtual Performance)
Jan 24-27, 2020 - Big Winter Classic, Calgary AB
Nov 7-9, 2019 - Iceland Airwaves, Reykjavik, Iceland
Oct. 25, 2019 - *Häxan* Live Film Score at The Roxy Theatre, Saskatoon SK (SOLD OUT)
Aug 23-24, 2019 - Yukon tour (Dawson City, Whitehorse)
Jul 27-29, 2019 - Gateway Music Festival, Bengough SK
Jul 12, 2019 - Manitou Boogaloo 2 @ Danceland, Manitou Beach SK (SOLD OUT)
Jul 5-6, 2019 - Chester Fest Couch + Music Festival, Prince Albert SK
Jun 22, 2019 - Long Day’s Night Festival, Swift Current SK, w/ The Sadies
Jun 19-22, 2019 - Sled Island Music Festival, Calgary AB
Feb 2, 2019 - The Palomino, Calgary AB, w/ La Luz (SOLD OUT)
Feb 1, 2019 -The Bassment, Saskatoon SK, w/ Taylor Jade (SOLD OUT)
Nov 24, 2018 - Amigos 30th Anniversary Show, Saskatoon SK, w/ The Smugglers + Chixdiggit!
Nov 14, 2018 - M for Montreal @ La Sala Rosa, Montreal QC, w/ Partner + Hubert Lenoir
Aug 17-19, 2018 - Rainbow Trout Music Festival, Winnipeg MB
Jul 19-22, 2018 - Ness Creek Music Festival, Ness Creek SK
Jul 13, 2018 - Manitou Boogaloo @ Danceland, Manitou Beach SK
Jun 29-Jul 2, 2018 - Frog Fest, Rocky Mountain House AB
Jun 20-24, 2018 - Sled Island Music Festival, Calgary, AB
May 18, 2018 - The Moon, Cardiff UK, w/ Cult of Hands + Adelaide
May 17-20, 2018 - The Great Escape Festival, Brighton UK
May 17, 2018 - Alternate Escape (Memorials of Distinction), Brighton UK
May 15, 2018 - Old Blue Last (Vice), London UK, w/ Honey Lung, Cosmic Strip, Hello Delaware
May 14, 2018 - Sebright Arms, London UK, w/ Ari Roar
Oct 6-8, 2017 - UP+DT Fest, Edmonton AB, w/ Weaves
Sep 20-27, 2017 - Western Canadian Tour (7 dates) w/ Elliott Brood
Sep 15, 2017 - The Capitol, Saskatoon SK, w/ The Sadies
Sep 23, 2017 - Swamp Fest, Regina SK
Aug 10-13, 2017 - Regina Folk Fest, Regina SK
Jul 18-21, 2017 - Ness Creek Music Festival
Jul 27-30, 2017 - Gateway Music Festival, Bengough SK
Jun 25, 2017 - Sasktel Jazz Festival w/ Simply Saucer
Jun 18-24, 2017 - Sled Island Music Festival, Calgary AB
Mar 2017 - Amigos Cantina, Saskatoon SK, w/ The Courtneys
Jan 20, 2017 - Winterruption, Regina w/ Said the Whale + Northcote
Jan 29, 2017 - Big Fun Fest, Winnipeg MB

Videos

- “Get Thee to a Nunnery” (Official Video):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LQtqH6ym7JI>
- “Sintaluta” (Live at M for Montreal 2020):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cmuh8A8PdWA>
- 9Mile Legacy Brewery - Miles to Minutes (live stream):
<https://www.facebook.com/9milelegacy/videos/876302662774644>
- “Danceland” Live at CJSW: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_2jU1r2A248
- “In this Dream” (official music video):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWFW02Yx-mM>
- “Manitouna” (live at Amigos Cantina): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vBTrrntXnceg>
- “Runaway” (live at GLC, Whistler BC, w/ Elliott BROOD):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=chBCL9UjDu4>

For booking and other inquiries, email: thegarrysband@gmail.com

