

# BEE VS. MOTH



Left to Right:  
Thomas van der Brook  
(bari & tenor sax)  
Aaryn Russell (guitar)  
Philip Moody (basses)  
Sarah Norris (drums & percussion)  
Ivo Gruner (trumpet)

Bee vs. Moth is a weirdo instrumental rock band from Austin, TX. The band has one foot in the world of jazz and creative improvisation, and the other firmly planted on a distortion pedal. Is Bee vs. Moth serious or silly? Virtuositic or spazzy? We'll find the answer somewhere between doom metal and a brass band. With surprising instrumentation, innovative songwriting, quirky melodies, and a healthy sense humor, Bee vs. Moth plays music that stands out in a crowd.

“Hard ear candy for your soft inner child.”

Audra Schroeder – *Austin Chronicle*

Bassist Philip Moody and drummer Sarah Norris started Bee vs. Moth with a pile of odd music they wrote together, and began performing in 2004. The band grew into a five-piece ensemble with ambitious arrangements featured in film and television scores, original videos, and live shows in Austin and throughout the country. Their second studio album, *Acronyms*, was released in September 2010 to great critical acclaim. The record follows the band's 2007 debut, *Soundhorn* and 2009's online release of tour recordings, *Turkey Sandwiches*. 2012 marks the band's first vinyl release: a 7" single called "Josephine, Beauty Queen."

“I fall in love with maybe two, maybe three jazz records a year. But every once in a while something comes along and perks me up. I hear the sounds of Ornette Coleman and the band Television. And sometimes in the same song.”

Bob Boilen – *NPR Music: All Songs Considered*

*Acronyms* showcases Bee vs. Moth's strengths in composition and alternative song structure, while still delivering the high-energy performance audiences have come to expect. Sounds on the record range from the traditional to the unusual: upright bass, accordion, trombone, flute, slide whistle, vibraphone, and a historical oddity called the intonarumori. *Acronyms* reflects the band's continued development of unique musicianship through live performance and touring. Above all, their sense of surprise still reigns.

Bee vs. Moth continues to produce unique film and recording projects. The 2012 SXSW Film Festival commissioned the band to debut a new silent film score for Ernst Lubitsch's *The Oyster Princess* (1919) – a tale of vanity, excess, extravagant wealth, and mistaken identity. Additional performances are scheduled for Houston and Dallas. A theme from Bee vs. Moth's score to Buster Keaton's *The Cameraman* became a new song featured on the band's first vinyl pressing, with custom pink vinyl and hand-printed covers. The band's songs made their second appearance in a season of PBS' *Roadtrip Nation*. Expect more releases and projects based on studio time planned for late 2012.



“Bee vs. Moth rips boundaries from a musical style customarily defined by a time and place. Imagine the Preservation Hall Jazz Band giving up chairs to Albert Ayler, Fred Frith and Kurt Weill – all of whom show up with sketches of compositions they are interested in playing.”

Phil Gallo – *SoundSpike*

Bee vs. Moth's musical family is a big one. Band members perform and collaborate with Austin projects Benko, The Invincible Czars, My Education, Flying Balalaika Brothers, New Music Co-op, Golden Hornet Project, and others.

“The fun factor is off the hook – they pin the needle in the red. They're part jazz, part noise-rock, and part movie theme music.”

*Lucid Culture*

“They're the perfect soundtrackers, changing tempos on a whim and coloring scenes with free-form gusto.”

Audra Schroeder  
*Austin Chronicle*



Wacky and serious at the same time, holding simple and technical elements in dynamic tension, displaying serious chops and ability to jam, yet concentrating on the internal structure of each piece,  
Bee vs. Moth embark on the road less taken.

Owen M. - KVRX FM

Bee vs. Moth has played venues all over Austin, including Emo's, Stubb's, Hole in the Wall, Antone's, Church of the Friendly Ghost, Ghost Room, Club DeVille, Beauty Bar, Beerland, Salvage Vanguard Theater, Scoot Inn, Carousel Lounge, Red Eyed Fly, United States Art Authority, Flamingo Cantina, Emo's Lounge, Room 710, Flipnotics, KVRX & KOOP 91.7 FM, KUT 90.5 FM, & Trophy's to name a few. They also play Houston, Dallas, Denton, San Antonio, Chicago, Milwaukee, Madison, New Orleans, Chapel Hill, & points in between.

Contact [band@beevsmoth.com](mailto:band@beevsmoth.com) for booking information.

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