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POI DOG PONDERING RELEASES NEW ALBUM AND ANNOUNCES NATIONAL TOUR

“Poi is becoming one of the longest running and most spirited do-it-yourself musical institutions in the country, defying the odds of commerce and interpersonal relationships by keeping a 12 piece band viable...” – **GREG KOT, CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

*Radio Support from **Sirius, XM, WXRT/Chicago, KCUV/Denver** and more!*

Poi Dog Pondering releases their seventh album, aptly titled, **7**, through their own Platetectonic Music label on April 1, 2008. PDP will be promoting the new album with a US tour, which began with a sold out show at Chicago’s Vic Theater on March 29, 2008, covered the east and west coast in April/May and continues through the south in June.

Poi Dog Pondering combined all of its experience to write and record "a straight up rock and soul record," complete with strings and horns. The result is **7**. The band chose this title because it's their 7th record and because "it feels like a benchmark." This is the follow up to 2003's ***In Seed Comes Fruit***. The new CD contains original artwork, poster, lyric booklet, recipes and prose.

Vocalist and band leader, **Frank Orrall**, describes the live show as being a blend of acoustic and electric sides of PDP, adding, “We have a 20 year history and plan to play material from all the records. The line up features people from all the incarnations of PDP; from Hawaii, Austin and Chicago... Not by design, it's just that the best, most dedicated players have stayed around through thick and thin to arrive at this point, and I am lucky to have them.”

During Poi Dog Pondering’s 20 year career, the band has sold well over **450,000** albums in North America, performed on **The Tonight Show with Jay Leno** and **Late Show with David Letterman** and have played sold out shows all over the world. They have earned in a legion of loyal fans that delight with discovering each new PDP release and event.

TOUR DATES

Wed June 4 St. Louis, MO @ Blueberry Hill
Fri June 6 Austin, TX @ Antone’s
Sat June 7 Houston, TX @ Continental Club
Sun June 8 New Orleans, LA @ The Parish
Tue June 10 Nashville, TN @ 3rd and Lindsley
Wed June 11 Newport, KY @ Southgate House
Fri June 13 Lawrence, KS @ Downtown Lawrence
Sun June 29 Highland Park, IL @ Ravinia Festival

An example of the band’s live performance can be seen at: <http://youtube.com/watch?v=LWDRiGgowMg>
This was filmed on Friday, April 4 when the band performed “Rusted Weather” on WGN Morning

News in Chicago. An overview of the new album and their career is highlighted on Primetime Chicago and can be viewed here: http://www.comcastnetwork.tv/vue/ptc/POI_DOG.mov

7 can be heard streaming at: http://www.reverbnation.com/poidogpondering?ensure_sized=1

“From This Moment On” and “Candy” are two featured songs from 7 and MP3s can be downloaded at: <http://www.platetectonicmusic.com/id136.html>

Press photos and an extensive bio can be found here: <http://www.platetectonicmusic.com/id73.html>

POI DOG PONDERING TOURING BAND:

Frank Orrall: guitar, ukulele, percussion and vocals

Susan voelz: Violin, keyboards and Vocals

Max Crawford: Acordion, Trumpet and Keyboards

Dag Juhlin: Guitar and vocals

Ted Cho: Guitar and mandolin

Ron Hall: bass

Charlette Wortham: Vocals

Dan Leali: Drums

PRESS QUOTES

“This record finds the Chicago-based band getting back to basics, performing 14 soulful and neatly arranged pop songs...” – **CHICAGO SUN-TIMES**

“The Poi Dog sound happens because of the real and deep connection between the players, which shows in how they listen to one another in performance. The fact that most of them have been doing just that for two decades only increases the power of community they bring to the stage.” - **NO DEPRESSION** (January 2008, Live Review)

“More recently, its lineup has serendipitously included members from most of its history, and its seventh album, "7," reflects that diversity.” – **MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL**

“It's a mighty big, soulful and often dramatic sound” – **TUCSON WEEKLY**

“The aptly titled 7 is the band's seventh full-length, and combines Frank Orrall's blissful wanderings with well thought out and perfectly executed arrangements.” – **YAHOO MUSIC PLAYLIST BLOG**

HISTORY

Poi Dog Pondering formed in Hawaii in 1986. The first live performance was at the Honolulu Arts Academy. Filled with youthful imitative exuberance and inspiration from reading about Andy Warhol and the Velvet Underground's 'Exploding Plastic inevitable' projected film and music happenings, PDP projected films of lava eruptions, ocean and other natural environments over the band as they performed. The tradition of projected imagery along with PDP live performances developed and matured over the years and continues to this day thanks to long time film and video artist/collaborators Luke Savisky and Marco Ferrari.

In 1987, PDP's wanderlust drew them to the mainland where they embarked on a year long

bohemian travel tour across the United States and Canada, playing acoustically on street corners for gas and food money, while sleeping outdoors all along the way. This experience forged Poi Dog Pondering's self-identity and confidence as a "D.I.Y." entity.

Over the years, PDP has released albums for boutique indie labels like Texas Hotel and Bar/None to several for Columbia Records before forming and self-releasing their own records through Platectonic Music in 1992.

PDP relocated to Chicago from Austin in 1992. For the next ten years, PDP delved heavily into developing their orchestration skills, culminating in major collaborations with the Grant Park Symphony Orchestra and the Chicago Sinfonietta (with PDP's Susan Voelz, Paul Mertens, Max Crawford & Frank Orrall doing the arrangements).

Band leader, Frank Orrall's interest in electronic music garnered him respect from the Chicago House/Electronic music community for his solo project 8fatfat8, and lead him to become a member of Thievery Corporation as percussionist and vocalist. All this influenced 2 of PDP's *Natural Thing* and *In Seed Comes Fruit* albums which saw the band experimenting with electronic textures, beautiful lush arrangements and un-hurried, sometimes instrumental song structures, letting musicality determine the song structure, rather than traditional "verse / chorus / bridge" style song writing.

Discography is available at:

<http://www.allmusic.com/cg/amg.dll?p=amg&searchlink=POI|DOG|PONDERING&sql=11:aiftxqr5ldhe~T2>

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