



Carrot Top Records, Inc.

935. W. Chestnut, Ste. LL15
Chicago, IL 60622 USA
312-432-1194/312-432-1351 fax
patrick@carrotoprecords.com



Antietam-Opus Mixtum 3LP/2CD

Carrot Top Records, Inc. Cat. No. saki041

List Price: LP: \$24.98/CD: \$16.98

Street Date: 2/12/08

UPC# LP: 789397004111 CD: 789397004128

Flying just below the radar for more than 20 years, but always making uncompromising music and maintaining a deeply devoted fan base throughout the world, Antietam play raw rock and roll that is nearly impossible to define.

Originally, the double-CD, triple-LP *Opus Mixtum* was supposed to be two separate, distinct releases: one a powerful rock record tracked at Brooklyn's Seaside Lounge, with producer (and now auxiliary live band member) Josh Clark, in a beautiful live room and finally allowing the band to truly capture the fire of their live performances; and the other a sprawling, loopy and diverse instrumental album constructed piece by piece in Tara and Tim's digital home studio. Somewhere along the way the albums became tangled together.

The title *Opus Mixtum* comes from a method of laying brick in ancient Rome that combined rectangular and diagonal patterns, but the band uses it to connote the mix of three styles -- Antietam rock, the acoustic pop of Tara Key solo releases, and the instrumental soundtracks of their lives. Piece in Mark Howell's horns, Katie Gentile's (Run On, Special Pillow) violins, and Rick Rizzo (Eleventh Dream Day) on stunt guitar and the album flows effortlessly through its varying moods -- instrumental passages disappear into hooky pop, Tara's defining guitar is enveloped by Hammond organ or a lush string passage, and then the pounding rock and roll of the classic trio punches through. So you get pop with "Turn It on Me," rock with "Pennants and Flags," and just pure melody with "March Echo" and "Steel G." As they say in Louisville, if you don't like the weather, wait ten

Past glory:

"[Tara Key is] the best female guitarist this side of the Atlantic."--Village Voice

"Did I mention that Tara Key is the best guitarist in the world?"--Village Voice (25 years later)

"Tara Key is my fave guitar hero."--Mark Jacobson of Esquire wrote

Tara is "the guitar goddess whose expressive playing and electrified stage presence can't be topped by any local rival, male, female or otherwise. But what's also great about this veteran band is the interplay between Ms. Key, her husband, Tim Harris, on bass and Josh Madell on drums." -*New York Times*

"Key is an exceptionally physical player, slinging her instrument around her body and over her head, but her gyrations weren't just for show; each movement wrung a different moan, shriek, or roar from her stack of amplifiers. Her playing was as fluent as it was fierce, building song after song to a transcendent climax."-*Chicago Tribune*

Previous releases by band and members on Homestead, Triple X, Drag City & Thrill Jockey.