

## Maroon 5



Take one listen to Maroon5's Songs About Jane (Octone Records) and you'll instantly hear what a little bit of soul can do to the heart of alternative rock. Fronted by Adam Levine, a guitar wizard with a captivating voice and a strutting attitude, and backed by powerhouse players James Valentine, Jesse Carmichael, Mickey Madden and Ryan Dusick, the band blends elements of R and B and funk influences into their rock and roll songs. Maroon5 is not here to shove their ideas down your throat, but when Adam's belting out a tune and the band is drawing a mesmerized audience into their world, you know they mean it.

By summer of 1997, Kara's Flowers had released The Fourth World, their critically acclaimed debut album on Reprise Records, and the band immediately set out on the road playing with bands like Reel Big Fish and Goldfinger. Kara's Flowers left Reprise Records in 1999 to start a new musical direction. From its roots as an alternative-rock band in the tradition of acts like Weezer and Nada Surf, Maroon5 began to experiment and evolve. Hints of R and B and folk were gradually woven through the alternative rock fabric that was the band's musical base. New songs like the album's first single, "This Love," as well as "Sunday Morning," "Secret," and "Not Coming Home" reflect a sound evocative of the band's deep interest in soul music. "During the time between our record deals," Adam recalls, "I spent a lot of time in New York where I was exposed to an urban and hip-hop culture in a way that had never happened to me in L.A. It turned me on to an entirely new genre of music which has had a profound impact on my songwriting."

The band recorded Songs About Jane in Los Angeles with producer/mixer Matt Wallace (Train, Blues Traveler, Third Eye Blind, Faith No More) at Rumbo Recorders, the same studio where such seminal artists as Guns N' Roses, Stone Temple Pilots, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, The Smashing Pumpkins and John Mellencamp have recorded some of their best work.

Now based in Los Angeles, Maroon5 regularly plays to sold-out crowds at many of the city's finest clubs such as the El Rey, House of Blues and the Viper Room and have already opened for artists such as Michelle Branch, Evan and Jaron and Nikka Costa.

With Songs About Jane, Maroon5 is up to the task of converting music lovers into their groove-based rock and roll world. As declared in "Shiver," "I won't be satisfied 'til I'm under your skin."