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The Casanova Playboys want to be your mentor

The Casanova Playboys CD Release Party

With Tarada Hills Saturday, 20 January at 9pm Sidetrack Café

BRYAN SAUNDERS Arts & Entertainment Writer

"The way I look at it, a Casanova Playboy is a guy who has complete and utter confidence in himself, who doesn't care what people think. He's the type of person that the women want and the guys want to be. I think *anyone* can be a Casanova Playboy as long as they have that confidence. If you have a part you can play, then why not?"

Perhaps men should take this bit of advice on how to win a woman's attention, for these aren't just the words of just some regular Joe, but that of Jamie Star, lead singer for the Edmonton-based pop-rock band The Casanova Playboys. Something of a playboy himself, Jamie is an expert on all kinds of relationships.

"Keeping a band together is kind of like a relationship, except you've got four guys to handle," Star points out. "Everyone's always keeping score with each other, and making sure everyone's on the same level, the same page.

"In the past eight years, I've played in six or seven bands and all I've seen is bands breaking up, people leaving, people coming," Star continues. "[But] right now, The Casanova Playboys are in a pretty good state. Things are looking up, I guess. We're getting some promotions done, and quite a few prospects in the near future with the [new] album."

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JAMIE STAR

But things have not always been a bed of roses for The Casanova Playboys. Indeed, even playboys suffer their fair share of bad breakups.

"When [The Casanova Playboys] moved to Vancouver, we had an old

guitar player who came with us from Edmonton. And literally three days later, he took a Greyhound home," Star relates. "He just didn't want to do it, I guess. It was too much of a change or something."

However, according to Star, if your relationship is on the rocks, things generally work out in the end—just maybe not in the way you expect them.

Before losing their guitarist, Star explains that the band's producer hooked them up with Josh Posh to fill the spot of a bassist. However, once there was a guitarist vacancy, Posh stepped in and the rest of The Casanova Playboys discovered that he fit the guitar role better.

Despite the misfortunes The Casanova Playboys have encountered on the West Coast, Vancouver still remains a friend with certain "benefits" to offer.

While in Vancouver, the Playboys performed at lots of shows, were offered a show with the Scissor Sisters (a gig they unfortunately couldn't take), and recorded the 14-track *Low Noise*—an album filled with original vibes, excellent sound quality and influences said to have come from "hot sex"—which is to be released in a few days.

Then again, the things that people love the most are, more often than not, right here at home.

"Looking back now, it's been so much better here," Star says. "I think people at the Vancouver shows judge music more. Here in Edmonton, people just enjoy it. I guess they take music for granted over there."



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