

# WONDERFUL SMITH

"Do I listen to pop music because I'm miserable or am I miserable because I listen to pop music?" --John Cusack (Rob Gordon) High Fidelity



Does it really matter?

Fortunately for Wonderful Smith, "Miserable" isn't an adjective that fits in the new Chicago band's repertoire. Energetic, dynamic and genuine original *dirty pop*, this quartet acknowledges their rootedness to the Midwest USA while creating a sound genuinely unique unto their peers.

Consider Ben Hilt, a classical bassist, or Nick Estes – influenced by both the Beatles and Ween. Marshall Custer is the young cute drummer who usually leaves with the girl, but not the girl in the band – Holly Senchak: the driving force – bouncing between keyboards and guitars and sharing lead vocals with Nick. They may be young, but they've played in experienced bands before communing together. Ask them about "Followers in your cup" and Budweiser commercials.

The wonderful thing about Wonderful Smith is that you get to hear all types of lovely influences from Talking Heads to Blue Oyster Cult to Flaming Lips to Ween (twice) to the Shins. There's nothing boring here – from their recorded music to their live shows. "More band, less jam" is their motto.

Sure, they've played with some swamy bands like Lifehouse, OAR, Evan Dando, The Lost Trailers and Slightly Stoopid. Yes, they've played in the good venues & events around like Schuba's, Double Door, the Patio, Birdy's, Luther's Blues, the Rave, Blue Note and Taste of Lincoln and Taste of Chicago. Of course, they're ready to sign with a European label and record their first full-length album.

It's just the beginning of the good things for this group of post-teens. Lose the miserability and listen up to Wonderful Smith - even their break-up songs will make you less miserable. Oh yeah, they have an EP available for sale at shows and through their Web site. Do yourself a favor – buy some gum and some Wonderful Smith.

## Facts:

- Website: [www.wonderfulsmith.com](http://www.wonderfulsmith.com)
- When they play stripped down acoustically, they call themselves "Sweetish."
- Holly was just featured playing guitar in a Budweiser "True Music" commercial.
- Jeff Tweedy hasn't seen WS live, but heard Ben & Holly's former band as they opened for Wilco.
- The name "Wonderful Smith" is the longtime radio, TV and movie actor (cameo in *Spinal Tap* as the janitor).

## Quotes:

- "A rock/pop, but not. Melodic, feel good and catchy...yes...influences include Wilco, Soul Coughing, G Love & Special sauce, Ben Folds." - **Centerstage Chicago**



Management & Booking - Wildwood Agency  
PO Box 27  
Lake Zurich, IL 60047  
312.933.7396  
[www.wildwoodagency.com](http://www.wildwoodagency.com)  
[info@wildwoodagency.com](mailto:info@wildwoodagency.com)