Web Interview with Laundry 4-3-19 KTEC Staff - Cassedy Biri (Marketing Coordinator)

Initial list of all band members names, instruments, any other cool details they want to include (major, where they're from, etc)

Riley Somers - Guitar/Vocals, K Falls, OR, Studying Political Science and Music Kiki Paroissien-Arce - Guitar/Vocals, Portland, OR, Studying Physics and Audio Production Nik Barber - Drums, Vancouver, WA, Studying Jazz Studies Cal Fenner - Bass/Vocals, Portland, OR, Studying Journalism

When did you start playing together / how did you come together?

We met in the Spiller Residence Hall for Musicians at the University of Oregon in the Fall of 2017. We all met playing music in the dorm rooms.

What's the origin behind the name Laundry?

That same night, we migrated to the laundry room and played until 2:00 am. The four of us were the last people hanging out. We never thought of a better band name than Laundry, so we stuck with it.

What's your favorite venue you've played so far?

There's a cool place in Berkeley, CA close to the campus called Casa Zimbabwe that we played at twice, during our summer and winter tours. It's a co-operative where about 130 students live. The place is MASSIVE and covered in art. It's also covered in funk. And gunk. Green Day played there in the 80s, and I doubt it's been cleaned since, but it has the punkest atmosphere.

Where do you draw influence from? How did that help cultivate your funk/rock/alt sound?

We all have pretty different influences, and have always had a hard time describing our own sound. We fell back on funk when we were less experienced with each other's styles of playing, since funk is a pretty accessible genre for improvisation. We've strayed away from our blues/funk beginnings as we've become more familiar with each other's preferences and learned how to develop a sound that better represents us. That said, some of our influences are The Strokes, Crumb, The Beach Boys.

What are your goals for the future? With the release of an album, is there anything you hope to see happen? (more shows, bigger shows, etc)

More shows + bigger shows is definitely a start, but we want to increase our presence with other methods as well. I guess we mostly take it as it comes, and try to make the most of the opportunities we find!

Do you think that your sound has changed from the EP vs this album? If so, what do you think the reasons for that are?

YES. The Quandary was a very rushed process. We wanted to get something out there so that we could start getting shows. The way we cut it (8 tracks in 6 hours) made it less refined than Affirmation, which took us upwards of three days in the studio. Everytime we write a song we feel like it's better than the last. Kiki had a lot more input this time around, and that helped us develop as a band.

Talk about the development of this album, song writing, processes, etc. Did you guys know that you wanted to do an album eventually or is it something that came about organically?

We sort of just write songs and then record them when they feel ready. It never felt like we needed to write a song, or choose what was worthy. It is pretty organic in the sense that we all are songwriters and would be writing regardless, so the levee never runs dry on that account.

A lot of the lyrics are pretty profound, ("Don't be afraid of the colors in your soul, fixated on the trust you thought we'd know") can you speak to any of that? Are these lyrics based on your personal experiences or?

As singers, we take pretty different approaches to lyrical content. For example, Riley's lyrics are more vague, and he's usually trying to convey an emotion more than a story. Kiki and Cal prefer to take a more structured approach in which their songs speak to a more concrete theme or narrative.