

THE BOY BANDS HAVE WON

Chumbawamba

Chumbawamba is back, armed with acoustic guitars, accordion and trumpet, five-part harmonies, a bucketful of attitude and a new 25-track album called "The Boy Bands Have Won." It actually has a much longer title than that (see cover for full title), but let's call it by its pseudonym. The new album is a collection of such ideas; some are just passing thoughts, others are fully-formed songs. It's gentle and warm in tone, but caustic in intent. It plays with culture, with the idea of recycling our own culture. We all have this vast history of 'stuff', musical and historical and in art and sport and politics and a million other things. And it's all there for the taking. Featuring guests the Oysterband, Roy Bailey, Robb Johnson, Barry Coope and Jim Boyes...and a hundred others, give or take a few.

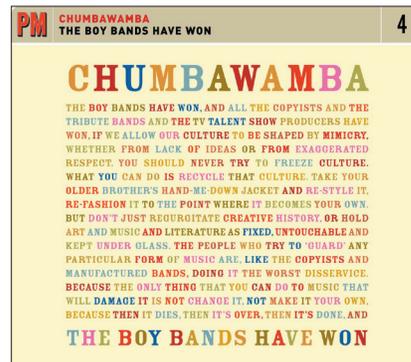
ABOUT THE BAND

Formed in a squat in Leeds, England in 1982, the media-proclaimed "anarchist pop group" Chumbawamba has been anything but a typical "pop group." They've been criss-crossing genres and raising hell via their benefit shows, topical lyrics, and general activist ways in a most "unpop" manner for over 20 years. Nevermind their improbable fame that came about from their international hit "Tubthumping" in 1997. Whether they are in electric or acoustic form, this group remains true to their beliefs and still graces their audience with their righteous message, all intertwined in those instantly familiar Chumbawamba four-part harmonies and catchy choruses.

REVIEWS

"We should be grateful for the Chumbas. Moving on from that anarchic post-punk phase and the bestselling single 'Tubthumping,' they have eased across to the folk scene and reinvented themselves yet again—this time as a classy, low-key harmony band writing inventive, intelligent songs."

—Robin Denselow, *The Guardian* (UK)



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