



2-INCH ANALOG TAPE MEETS DUCT TAPE!

RECESS MONKEY'S

'WIRED'

"These kids' songs are awesome! There are bands you can't go wrong with, and this is one of them." – USA TODAY

"THE GENRE'S TOP STARS: If Seattle is the new bastion of indie rockers, then the trio of teachers are the city's breakout stars." – Time Magazine

"A brilliant, multilayered concept album." – NPR's Morning Edition

SEATTLE, WA (April 15, 2014) – Inspired by the breathtaking creativity and inventiveness of today's DIY kids, indie music icon **Recess Monkey** celebrates "maker" culture with the band's eleventh studio recording, **Wired**. (Recess Monkey, \$14.99, for ages 3 – 8, run time 43 minutes. Release date June 17.)

Wired, a collection of super-eclectic "gadget rock" songs about inventions, machines, and electricity, also highlights the richness of life beyond batteries: Grandpa's wisdom, board games, singing with others, storytelling, and the fine art of duct tape.

Says **Recess Monkey's Drew Holloway**, "*Wired* is all about design-thinking and innovation. We live in a 'wired world' with so much at our fingertips, yet it's easy to lose touch ... but not on this record!"

Wired was produced at **John Vanderslice's** famed Tiny Telephone Recording in San Francisco, where everything was recorded on tape with analog equipment. **Recess Monkey** found working with **John Vanderslice** to be like observing the machinations of a mythic alchemist practicing his craft. Vanderslice and engineer Jamie Riotto created incredible effects "on the spot" during live takes, twisting knobs with one hand while altering the speed of the tape with another, bringing to **Recess Monkey** the realization that Vanderslice and Riotto weren't simply producer and engineer, but truly members of the band.

Notes **Jack Forman**, "It cannot be overstated what huge fans we are of John Vanderslice, and the experience of getting to make music with him at the helm was downright life-changing. Removing computers from the recording equation forced us to rely on our ears, as in the days before digital. This was the perfect approach for an album inspired by 'outside the box' creativity!"

Adds **Korum Bischoff**, "Going into an analog studio was a little intimidating after years of recording digitally, losing the ability to tweak and nudge to utter perfection. But the loss of control over the minute was made up for in spades by the freedom of just letting go and making music *in the moment* instead of *in the software*."

Recess Monkey's trademark over-the-top, loaded-with-humor lyrics are again delivered with the band's amazing mastery of diverse musical styles. **Wired** rolls out of the gate with "Take Your Kid To Work Day," a track that combines a driving, 8 to the bar rhythm with a super-energized, lyrical bass guitar line and a Mick Jagger-like vocal intensity. This explosion of energy continues unabated with the next track, "Wired," an *ode d'amour* to a sugar high with the *real* treat at the end. "Braces" provides a nice contrast with more than a little tip-of-the-hat to the Beatles. In "Car Wash," **Recess Monkey** does a little time traveling to this quintessential 1970s experience, but for really serious time travel, check out "Grandpa is a Time Machine" and soak up some old time, ukulele driven, up-tempo two-beat along with Grandpa's iced tea and endless supply of stories. "Wishing Well" is another score for Beatlemaniacs, enhanced by a guitar solo that pays homage to the great George Harrison. Other highlights include "Brick by Brick," where **Recess Monkey** "puts together" an anthem to Legos, the original "maker" toy, and the hilarious ballad, "Duct Tape World," in which one boy, one girl, and one million and two rolls of duct tape leads to a front yard business called "On A Roll With You!" The relaxed tempo and uncomplicated texture of "Off The Grid" showcase the expressive quality of **Drew Holloway's** vocals, bringing **Wired** to a peaceful and beautiful close.



In addition to rocking out with **Recess Monkey**, **Jack Forman** is an on-air personality on **SiriusXM's Kids Place Live**, where his daily call-in show, **Live From the Monkey House**, is a hysterical cornucopia of game show segments, kid callers, special musical guests, and the best kids' and family music out there!

Recess Monkey released their debut CD, **Welcome to Recess Monkey Town**, in 2005, followed by another popular hit, **Aminal House**, in 2006. The band made history with their 2007 release, **Wonderstuff**, the first double CD children's album. As with all their albums, including 2008's **Tabby Road**, 2009's **Field Trip**, 2010's **The Final Funktier**, 2011's **FLYING!**, 2012's **In Tents**, and 2013's **Deep Sea Diver** and **Desert Island Disc**, **Wired** is grounded in real life children's experiences.

Ten **Recess Monkey** songs have reached #1 on **SiriusXM's Kids Place Live** chart. **Kids Place Live** Program Director **Mindy Thomas** declared, "In this never-ending nationwide talent show of kid and family music, they are most definitely at the top." **Time Magazine** celebrated **Recess Monkey's** "tight, smart, acclaimed original songs ... and seriously grooving funk." Explained kids' music authority **Stefan Shepherd** (Zooglobber.com), "Recess Monkey just keeps turning out album after album with pop nuggets, as if we'd just discovered that The Beatles had recorded a ton of kids' music 40+ years ago."

Deep Sea Diver and **Desert Island Disc**, companion albums released in 2013, were lauded by **People** magazine, **Entertainment Weekly**, **USA TODAY**, and **Sound & Vision**, among many others, and appeared on "Best of the Year" lists from **Cool Mom Picks**, **Daily Candy Kids**, **Red Tricycle**, and more.

Recess Monkey's 2012 circus-themed album, **In Tents**, was included on numerous "Top Kids' CD of the Year" lists, including those of **USA TODAY**, **Cool Mom Picks**, and **Red Tricycle**, and was singled out for praise in such prominent publications as **Parents Magazine**, **The Washington Post**, **Time Out NY Kids**, and **Scholastic Parent & Child**.

FLYING!, released in 2011, was highlighted in **People** magazine and honored with inclusion in more than a dozen "Best of the Year" lists, including those of **The Washington Post**, **Parents Magazine**, **Common Sense Media**, **Cool Mom Picks**, and more.

From a plethora of remarkable Seattle-based "kindie" musicians, **Seattle Magazine** chose to honor **Recess Monkey** in 2010 with its "Best Local Kids' Music" accolade. The band's 2010 release, **The Final Funktier**, was highlighted on **CBS-TV's The Early Show** and in **People** magazine, and was featured in more than a dozen "Best of 2010" lists.

Recess Monkey's 2009 release, **Field Trip**, was on more than a dozen "Best of 2009" lists, was named to the American Library Association's Notable Children's Recording List, and was included among **USA TODAY's** "Favorite Releases of 2009." **Time Out NY Kids** declared **Field Trip** the #1 CD of the year, calling it "pure genius."

Wired will be available at recessmonkey.com, amazon.com, cdbaby.com, theAVCafe.com, bigkids.com, iTunes, bandcamp.com, **Silver Platters**, **Sonic Boom Records**, and **Barnes & Noble**.

WIRED SONG LIST:

Take Your Kid to Work Day, Wired, Braces, Car Wash, Grandpa is a Time Machine, Wishing Well, Brick By Brick, The Great Diorama, Garage Sale, Duct Tape World, Shutterbug, Skee Ball, Lazy Susan, Batteries Not Included, Off The Grid.

RECESS MONKEY IN PERFORMANCE – HIGHLIGHTS – Spring /Summer 2014

May 17	Benaroya Hall with the Seattle Symphony	Seattle, WA
June 26	Music Center at Strathmore	N. Bethesda, MD
June 26	SiriusXM Rumpus Room	Washington, DC
June 28	Longwood Gardens	Kennett Square, PA
June 29	Philadelphia Museum of Art	Philadelphia, PA
August 2	Rox in Sox Festival	Lake Oswego, OR

*For more information about **RECESS MONKEY** or to schedule an interview, please contact Elizabeth Waldman Frazier at Waldmania! 415.334.2787 or elizabeth@waldmaniapr.com.*

*Check out the **Recess Monkey** website at www.recessmonkey.com.*