

# ROOM ELEVEN Live in Carré!

CD und DVD VÖ Ende Juli 2009

## Room Eleven 'Live in Carre'

Room Eleven ended their successful theatre tour in a sold out Royal Theatre Carre in Amsterdam. This special night was recorded and Universal Music will release Room Eleven 'Live in Carre' on DVD, CD and DVD/CD package in July, 2009.

After the platinum debut 'Six White Russians and a Pink Pussycat' (2007) and the golden follow up 'Mmm...Gumbo?'(2008) the time was right for a theatre tour . Room Eleven delivered a beautifully balanced programme totally living up to the expectations. The captivating voice from singer Janne Schra leads the audience from holding their breath on moments where you could have heard a pin drop, to enthusiastic cheers.

## Room Eleven on tour:

27 June Elbgangfest, Dresden



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# ROOM ELEVEN

## BIO

Imagine some obscure bar. Imagine light bulbs going back and forth above tables filled with empty glasses. Imagine men with perfect haircuts begging beautiful women for a long, sensuous dance, and end up with Room Eleven. Or, with as much ease, imagine that final holiday night in which seductive glances have their last shot and a lonely mosquito gets lost in the blazing campfire. The list of atmospheric sketches one can come up with is endless, but as long as they sway back and forth between melancholic, summery, seductive and fiery, they are accurate.

So, imagine Room Eleven, a band that came into existence because of a simple note pinned on a notice board at the Conservatorium in Utrecht. With their 2006 debut album *Six White Russians And A Pink Pussycat*, they have managed to impress an increasingly bigger audience with a catchy mixture of jazz, pop, funk, blues and a touch of folk. Whether a strict jazz lover or a young pop fan, in the end you will be won over by the their incredible stage presence. Not only music fans have come to appreciate the band, Room Eleven has also managed to convince the press. Their debut album has received much critical acclaim. One magazine poetically described Janne Schra's voice as 'a juicy green meadow, just after sunset, covered in fresh dew.' As one radio DJ put it: 'She seduces you, moves you and makes you happy, all in one sentence.'

It will be no surprise that the band's debut album became platinum almost overnight. Room Eleven won an Essent award for young musical talent and continued their success story with amazing performances on the stages of North Sea Jazz, Crossing Border, Oerol and the Canadian Montreal Jazz Festival, followed by an intimate theatre tour with Jazz Impuls, a fully sold-out Dutch club tour and, after the urgent requests of many local MySpace fans, a great number of shows in Japan.

Soon, the band started working on their second album. With the same casualness with which she put that note on the notice board years before, singer Janne Schra sent an e-mail to her hero Dayna Kurtz in New York with a question that was both bold and straightforward: would she be interested in recording a duet? Weeks went by, but in the end the answer Janne had been dreaming about popped up in her mailbox: yes, she would. And if that was not enough, Kurtz also invited the rest of the band to come to New York. Much to everyone's surprise, Dayna Kurtz offered to help the band record their new album with her regular producer Randy Crafton at the Kaleidoscope Sound Studios. Barely aware of their sudden windfall, Room Eleven immediately began packing their bags.

In those few weeks in New York, the band wrote and recorded an album that picks up where the first one left off. It's more profound, more in the direction of the band's original sources of inspiration, with a dash of folk and a pinch of gipsy, but maintaining their pure and natural sound. The band truly loathes overproduction; they'd rather go for raw simplicity instead.



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Hence the title: whereas the first album *Six White Russians And A Pink Pussycat* referred to a mysterious, sophisticated cocktail, the name of the new album *Mmm...Gumbo?* refers to a hearty, traditional stew from the home of jazz, Louisiana. The particular mixture of ingredients reflects the band's versatility and underlines Room Eleven's refusal to be narrow-minded. They look at the world around them and take what they can use, whether it's an instrument, a musical genre or a random observation. Even the loneliest detail can be transformed into a lyric.

The turbulent period after their debut has left its mark on the new album as well. *Mmm...Gumbo?* is about change and taking steps forward in life. But it's difficult for the band to fully grasp their success, admits Janne in an interview: 'I recently read an article about us in the paper. It said that Room Eleven released a cd, performed at North Sea Jazz, played sold-out club shows, received golden and platinum albums and is now travelling to the US to record an album. I thought: how incredibly nice for those people. It's hard to realize that they are talking about us.'

Room Eleven:

Janne Schra – vocals  
Arriën Molema – guitar  
Tony Roe – keyboards  
Lucas Dols – bass  
Maarten Molema – drums

[roomeleven.nl](http://roomeleven.nl) / [myspace.com/roomeleven](http://myspace.com/roomeleven) / [hyves.nl/roomeleven](http://hyves.nl/roomeleven)

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**March 2009 - Room Eleven awarded with Silver Harp 2008**

**Since March 5, 2009, Room Eleven are the proud owners of a Silver Harp. This is a national acclaimed encouragement award , presented to young and promising artists and bands.**

**The jury report stated:**

***"In spite of the success, the band remains modest, they radiate an irresistible 'sorry we can't help it' – feeling but at the same time show with determination and certainty that they are fully aware of what they're doing.***

***The jury respects and appreciates Room Eleven for the fact that they are ok with exploring their borders, not obstructed by any limitations and sometimes boldly try out things they accidentally run into. Room Elevens open mindedness will surely present them with more opportunities in the future. The jury admires the quality and originality Room Eleven puts in their music".***



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