



In a media saturated world where sensationalism is the norm, hype is often met with great cynicism. In the case of Canadian band Newworldson, however, the tremendous buzz preceding its February 2008 Inpop Records debut, *Salvation Station*, proved to be well warranted.

Since signing with Inpop Records in 2007, Newworldson has garnered two JUNO Award nominations for Gospel Album of The Year and seven GMA Canada Covenant Award nominations, including two wins for Roots Album of The Year and one each in the categories of Best New Artist and Group of the Year. The band claimed a No. 1 music video on the Gospel Music Channel with "Working Man," while earning a guest spot on newsboys' wildly popular "GO" tour, as well as invitations to headline festivals in Australia, Germany, Holland and Sweden. Its national debut additionally elicited unanimous critical acclaim, hailed as GRAMMY-worthy by industry trade publication *Christian Retailing* and praised by AllMusic.com as "one of 2008's most enjoyable, well-written albums."

"We went from playing local churches and bars to arenas and other major venues within months," says Newworldson frontman Joel Parisien. "All those new experiences prompted us to grow as a band rather quickly, and we took that growth into the studio on our latest project."

Produced by Newworldson alongside veteran co-producer Justin Koop (Silverstein, Finger Eleven) and GRAMMY Award-winning mix engineer F. Reid Shippen (India.Arie, Jonny Lang), the band's self-titled sophomore release is largely influenced by its international travels the last few years, subsequently capturing an even bigger, more dynamic sound than its previous effort. The four members of Newworldson come together with all the force of an orchestra, showcasing a leap forward in songwriting, confidence and ferocity.

The infectiously kinetic rhythm section of Mark Rogers (drums) and Rich Moore (bass/vocals) crossbreeds contemporary grooves with old-school timbres like Moore's upright playing and Rogers' weathered *Slingerland* bass drum circa 1930's. The message is delivered by the tandem vocals of Parisien and singer/guitarist Josh Toal, mixing Spirit-filled lyrics with an atmosphere of sheer exuberance.

"*Salvation Station* was about Newworldson exploring the roots of gospel and Americana music," explains Parisien. "The new album incorporates more of a world perspective, inspired by our visits to international markets where people of all cultures and backgrounds received our music openly."

Songs like "That's Exactly (How I Like)," which transpired during a live songwriting contest on Dutch national radio, debut AC single "There Is A Way," featuring a cameo performance by the Toronto Mass Choir, or "Total Eclipse," that includes input from Jamaican frontman Mark Mohr of Christafari, pay tribute to the friends and fans Newworldson has made along its journey thus far.

The celebratory sound and lyrics of tracks including "Jamaican Praise Medley," and vibey "You Set The Rhythm," which praises God for delivering a lonely soul, also add to the record's sense of gratitude.

"If there is a prevailing theme on this album, it would be that of thankfulness," says Parisien. "Gratitude for how God has grown Newworldson in such a short amount of time, and appreciation for the privilege of being ambassadors of His music to the world."

And the band will continue its role as ambassador with plans to support its sophomore effort this spring and summer in new territories, including the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Scandinavia, as well as to revisit major venues across North America.

"We believe we have made the quintessential Newworldson record with this release," says Parisien. "*Salvation Station* was a prequel to this project, which truly captures who we are as an artist. Newworldson is not only meant to share its unique, eclectic style of music with the world, but also to lift up others in their own genre of music, encouraging them to continue doing what they're doing."