

'fresh as a daisy – the singles' – album: 30th april 2007

'who are you' – single: 14th may 2007

"James are back. Still fresh as a daisy." www.wearejames.com

In December 2001 **James** walked off the stage at a sold out Wembley Arena having played what they thought was their last ever show... then one weekend in late 2006 lead singer Tim Booth found himself in Manchester and joined bassist Jim Glennie and guitarist Larry Gott in a session. Larry had left **James** in 1996 but got together with Jim right after the band split in 2001 to start jamming and working on new music. With the three of them in the same room again things just clicked and soon enough they were joined by Saul Davies, David Baynton-Power and Mark Hunter, a line-up that hadn't been seen since the *'Laid'* album. With the *'Laid'* six back together **James** were reborn.

Always a stunning live band **James** announced a series of shows for April of 2007 and they all sold out...immediately. The tour includes two nights at London's Brixton Academy and finishes at Manchester's massive MEN Arena in what is sure to be an emotional homecoming night for the band.

Re-united and re-invigorated **James** have looked back over their career before moving on to pastures new. On the 30th April they release '*Fresh As A Daisy – The Singles*', an all encompassing collection of their songs from 1983-2007. Over two CD's and 33 tracks **James's** musical history is displayed from the early e.p's on Factory to two brand new tracks signalling the band's new direction... everything is here for the first time with sleeve notes from Tim, Jim and Larry.

James were formed in Manchester and soon became an important band on the city's burgeoning indie scene. Signed to the influential Factory label they released several EP's all of which are represented on *'Fresh As A Daisy'*. Included are all the tracks from the *'Village Fire EP'*, one of which, *'What's The World'*, was recorded and released by The Smiths, with Morrissey being an early fan of **James**.

Moving chronologically through their career CD1 then moves onto the Sire years with 'Chainmail' from the 'Sit Down EP' (which doesn't contain the track 'Sit Down'), and two tracks from each of the albums, 'Stutter' and 'Strip-mine'. The next few years were to be pivotal to the band as they released early, critically acclaimed, versions of 'Sit Down' and 'Come Home' on the Rough Trade label before signing to Fontana records.

Just as the country was going baggy to the sounds of Madchester all eyes were on Manchester. **James** were already part of the city's musical establishment and their star shone brightly, it was at this point that their career took off in a flurry of record's, t-shirts and daisy's. The 'Gold Mother' album spawned 4 singles with 'How Was It For You', 'Come Home' and 'Lose Control' all cracking the top 40 but it was the next single that was to change things forever. A re-recorded version of 'Sit Down' stormed the UK charts and peaked at #2, being held off only by the majesty of Chesney Hawkes's 'The One And Only', in the same way that Engelbert Humperdinck and Joe Dolce respectively kept The Beatles and Ultravox off the top slot. How very **James**.

After this the band went from strength to strength and the hits flowed thick and fast... 'Born Of Frustration'... 'Ring The Bells'... 'Sometimes'... 'Laid'... 'Say Something'... 'She's A Star"... 'Destiny's Calling'... 'I Know What I'm Here For'... 'Just Like Fred Astaire'... 'Getting Away With It (All Messed Up)'... to name a few, every one a classic. 'Fresh As A Daisy' closes with two new tracks, the new single 'Who Are You' and 'Chameleon', which display all the hunger of a band starting out nevermind one that has had an influence on over 20 years of music, musicians and an army of fans.

On the 14th May **James** release '*Who Are You*' which is their first single for 6 years. '*Fresh As A Daisy*' is also available as a 20 track single CD and a DVD which contains 24 videos and classic TV performances on The Old Grey Whistle Test, Top Of The Pops and Later.

Live Dates

Glasgow Carling Academy – Fri 20th April / Sat 21st April Newcastle Carling Academy – Mon 23rd April Birmingham Carling Academy – Tues 24th April London Brixton Carling Academy – Thurs 26th April / Fri 27th April Manchester MEN Arena – Sat 28th April

James will also be performing at this year's T In The Park, Belladrum and V festivals in the UK as well as many European festivals including Oxygen (Ireland), Summercase (Spain) and Fly Beeyond (Greece).

Visit

www.wearejames.com

For further information contact:

James Bass – Mercury Press Office:020 7471 5490 / james.bass@umusic.com