

# PERFORMER



## Pseudosix — *Pseudosix*

RECORDED AT JACKPOT, TYPEFOUNDRY,  
AND TIM'S BASEMENT

ENGINEERED BY JAY PELLICCI

MIXED BY JEFF SALTZMAN

MASTERED TONY LASH

Portland's Pseudosix has just released its self-titled sophomore effort to astounding acclaim, much like 2003's *Days of Delay*. The ten-track album transcends mood, calling upon tragic lyrics, soft, rhythmic harmonies, and surprisingly quick-tempoed drums. The four self-proclaimed "weirdos" that comprise the group quietly demand attention with their thoughtful music, easily enrapturing listeners in the flowing rhythms and mounting vigor.

Initially, the album's opening track, "Some Sort of Revelation," sets a forlorn tone. However, this song does not dictate the entirety of the record; soon the song climaxes with powerful backing drums and raw vocals. Track two, "Under the Waves," is oddly reminiscent of a more energetic Velvet Underground (the twangy guitar and Lou Reed harmonies) with a twinge of Elliott Smith (the desperate lyrics and yearning vocal inflections). The tempo continues to pick up with every song, sharply contrasting the original prediction.

Lyricaly, the message tends to be one of heartbreak, or other depressing tales of angst. "Paltry Remains" begins: "I can't get you out of my mind / No matter how hard I try / It's the same empty promises

/ That keep my hopes alive / Despite these paltry remains," yet the melody drives the song in a manner that contradicts the apparent message. Walking a perfectly balanced line between melancholia and pensive eloquence, Pseudosix is difficult to categorize.

The album explores the entire board — simplistic acoustic guitar accompanied by soft vocals to full-on poignant harmonies with a complete backing band. The CD has timeless potential: a more sorrowful approach to Neil Young, yet a more lively version of Bright Eyes. (Sonic Boom Recordings)

» [www.pseudosix.com](http://www.pseudosix.com)

—Jen Utley

## THE HELIO SEQUENCE NOTES FROM THE EXPEDITION



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INSIDE

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