



THIRD DAY  
by Tamela Meredith Partridge  
"Christian County Journal"  
Taylorville, IL.  
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Contemporary Christian band, **Third Day**, currently comprised of Tai Anderson, Mark Lee, Mac Powell, Brad Avery, and David Carr are scheduled to inspire the Nashville North USA audience with their "*Time - The Tour*" concert on Friday, November 12, at 7:30 p.m.

Opening act entertainment will be provided by special tour guests, **Five O'Clock People** and **Selah**.

Tickets are \$14 individual or \$10 for groups of fifteen or more, and can be obtained at the Nashville North USA box office or by calling (217)-287-2103.

In the beginning of time, God spent the third day of creation separating water from land, as well as producing seed bearing plants and trees to grow and multiply upon the earth.

And now, centuries later, another **Third Day** creation has evolved with the recent release of **"Time,"** a musical collection of praise dedicated to spreading the seeds of faith, mercy, and illumination amongst the masses.

"We just started writing songs with a notion of 'whatever comes out, comes out,'" Mac Powell said. "But when we were done and we looked back, this diverse theme of 'time' just kept recurring. 'Time' in the sense that, as Christians, we hope the return of Christ is soon. But also 'time' in the sense that it's time to be bold about our faith, to start living out the Christian walk, to be who we say we are. Scripture tells us to redeem the time, to make the most of every opportunity. In response, we want to encourage Christians to begin to live like the Gospel is true."

During the recording process of **"Time,"** the Georgia natives deviated from their '96 debut album, **"Third Day"** and '97 sophomore album **"Conspiracy No. 5"** by gravitating towards a rootsier, looser, and more southern feel for their third project.

"We've always just written songs from where we were as Christians in our relationship with God and with each other," Mark Lee said. "Our first record was very blatantly about our faith but it was simple faith. Over the years we've grown spiritually and musically. On the second record we wanted Christians to dig beneath the surface of their faith and search for meaning. **"Time"** combines the best of both - it's very up-front about our faith, but it's not at all surfacey. There are lyrics that are obvious, and others you need to hear a few times and wrestle with."

Combining the rich musical influences of rock n' roll, blues, country, rockabilly, and gospel garnered the group three Dove Awards, a Grammy nomination, and nine No. 1 singles including **"Agnus Dei," "Who I Am," "Forever," "Alien,"** and **"Nothing At All."**

In order to capture the live stage show dynamics and urgent passion within the lyrics of **"Time,"** Third Day set up their amplifiers in a circle at Atlanta's Southern Tracks studios and recorded all of the instruments simultaneously.

"In the past we might have felt like we had something to prove, but this time we just wanted to be ourselves and make a great record," Tai Anderson said. "We recognize that growing up in the South has effected our musical style. What's most natural for us is a very straightforward, what-you-see-is-what-you-get approach, as opposed to something with a lot of overdubs and production tricks."

Known for their ability to connect with audiences through an underlying, yet ever present sense of worship, the young musicians tend to choose song material portraying matters of faith and relationships with God.

"Worship has to come from the heart and be sincere," David Carr said, "so we've been really wary about jumping on a 'worship music' bandwagon. On the other hand, especially in our live shows, it's a big part of what we do and we want to make it even more so. Some of our songs we never thought of in a worship context until we began performing them live and saw people raising their hands and worshipping. It surprises us and makes us realize that what we do is sometimes more worshipful than we know."

For Third Day, music has a way of reaching out and challenging Christians to dig deeper, know their beliefs, and understand the miracle of God's all encompassing love.

"The Psalms tell us that God knew us while we were still in the womb," Mac Powell said. "Romans say that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. We sometimes run from God, but God has always known and loved us, even in light of our sinfulness."