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March 29, 2007

## A new moon rising

Former Lunar Event members rise again as Red Light Driver.

**BY MARK BROCKLEHURST**  
INTake correspondent

The electro/indie pop band Lunar Event was well known when it disbanded (ditching the name, at least) in October 2006 and regrouped as Red Light Driver, a new wave/pop venture ready to steer Indy's music scene.

All Lunar Event veterans -- Derek Osgood, 32 (vocalist, keys and guitarist), Drew Reed, 30 (drummer), Mike Shimmercore, 34 (bassist and vocalist), and Jonathan Harmon, 31 (guitarist), draw on collective experiences to create a visceral, brooding brand of pop that is both vibrant and simmering.

Three of the group's four members recently spoke with INTake about the past, their moods and their songs, some which were featured in a movie.

**Your music seems to reflect a sense of the past and various memories.**

*Osgood:* I tend to write about the past because I have a better understanding of it. As far as our sound goes, it's a combination of the past and the future.

*Reed:* I think the past is what makes us who we are today. History is important to understanding the world around us. The past influences everything. If you don't believe that then you're not alive.

*Harmon:* I always try to look forward, but it's hard not to think about the past. It's done. It's over, and it's right there in your head to revisit whenever you want. You can twist it at will and paint it whatever colors you choose.



Seeing red: Former Lunar Event members Derek Osgood, Drew Reed, Mike Shimmercore and Jonathan Harmon now make up Red Light Driver.  
-- Photo courtesy of Red Light Driver

### SEE A SHOW:

- **Who:** Red Light Driver, Xero Sum, The Franchise and Emerson Rose.
- **Where:** The Vogue, 6259 N. College Ave.
- **When:** 9 p.m. March 29.
- **Tickets:** \$6.
- **Info:** [myspace.com/redlightdriver](http://myspace.com/redlightdriver) or (317) 259-7029.



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**Do you think your music evokes a certain mood?**

*Harmon:* Yes. Indeed. Is it deliberate? No. I make noises with my guitar a lot of times because I don't really know how to play it properly. I don't think you have to be classically trained to evoke powerful moods. It seems that great things happen when you're in the wilderness, so to speak.

*Osgood:* With the exception of Drew, we're all very moody. I want each song to have its own feeling or mood, while the band achieves an overall mood or sound. If we evoke different moods in people, then I think we're on the right path.

*Reed:* I think our music evokes many moods. Honestly, we are a bit darker than your average happy pop band. Don't get me wrong, we're not wearing all black and singing about suicide and violence. We're just a little more honest about the world.

**Is fluidity a natural part of your music?**

*Osgood:* It's intentionally natural. That's how the bands that I love do it. I think major time changes or song structure changes are for wankers and not the listener.

You have to separate yourself as a musician and songwriter. You may be able to play all these crazy parts, but you're making my head explode.

*Reed:* I think music, whether it's live or recorded, is an emotional journey. It's important to orchestrate that in a manner that captures your audience. There's always some sort of thought or emotion to it.

**Is any one member the architect for the songs or is it a group effort?**

*Harmon:* Initially, as Lunar Event, it was Derek. Red Light Driver is different. This band belongs to all of us, and we all act as architects. Derek and I are notorious for going upstairs while Mike and Drew work out drum and bass parts. We'll come back down and they'll have a new song that's miles better than the original one.

*Reed:* Red Light Driver seems to be a culmination of all our ideas. A lot of the times it starts out with one person playing something, and the rest of us jump in with our own ideas. We write a lot of stuff, and a lot of it gets thrown away. A lot of it gets recorded and put away for a future review. I think when it does come time to record our full-length, we are going to have a difficult time choosing what material to include.

**How did two of your songs end up being featured in the movie 'A Day In the Life of Joe Redwood'?**

*Osgood:* As much as I think MySpace is a pain in the ass, people have discovered our music that normally would not. That's the case for "Redwood."

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