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## Hundred Word Reviews: June 2013

Here's another installment in my occasional series of capsule reviews; this time 'round I'm focusing on new releases from long-established artists who nonetheless aren't quite household names. My self-imposed limit for this particular exercise is 100 words on each album.



### **House of Love** – *She Paints Words in Red*

If you love the jangle of **The Smiths**, **La's** and early **R.E.M.**, you should have known about **House of Love** in the 80s (me neither). But you have a chance now, with *She Paints Words in Red*. Rocking in a knowing tuneful way that recalls some of **The Church**'s best work (especially **Guy Chadwick**'s intimate low-register vocals that draw favorable comparisons to **Steve Kilbey**), the band shows that it's possible to be upbeat and low-key at the same time. Shimmering acoustic guitars and loping rhythms make this album every bit the equal of the band's best work from the 1980s.