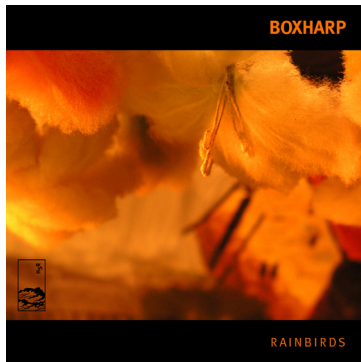




Hidden Shoal Recordings



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Hidden Shoal Recordings » Boxharp 'Rainbirds' Single

North Carolina, USA; Perth, Western Australia; 1st December 2009. Hidden Shoal Recordings today announced the release of the single 'Rainbirds' by American ambient experimental pop duo Boxharp.

'Rainbirds' is a cascading, enrapturing, bejewelled feast of a song that displays the full bloom of Boxharp's talents. Chiming melodies interweave beautifully with ambient textures and Wendy Allen's pure vocals, giving way to a transcendent harmonised middle eight. The melodies return, crested by sparkling, wavering tones – and then, as if the door to the most intricate Cornell shadow box closes in front of you, it's all over. 'Rainbirds' is taken from the the *Loam Arcane* EP, a four track cabinet of curiosities out in the new year.

For Boxharp, inspiration comes from 78s of Burl Ives and John Jacob Niles' children's songs played on a Fisher Price record player, and Zoviet France albums encased in burlap and tinfoil. Field recordings, layered harmonies, found objects, obsolete hand-me-down machines – all these things brought producer Scott Solter and singer Wendy Allen together. In their music, the disparate parts lead down diverse paths, rich in atmosphere and emotional resonance.

Allen and Solter moved to the quiet, lonely, rural atmosphere of the American South in 2006. Allen says, "We moved there for the space and the solitude and we were unprepared for how much of that we got. Themes of nameless grief that run through my family roots in the Virginia mountains make up a large part of the lyrical content."

Allen has played and toured with several bands since the start of the decade, including The Court and Spark, Tarantel, Paula Frasier (of Tarnation), William Lazarus, and Howard Hello, as well as writing film scores for small indie film projects. She is a member of The Balustrade Ensemble.

As a producer, recordist and mixer, Solter has worked with numerous indie artists, including Erik Friedlander, Spoon, The Mountain Goats, John Vanderslice, Lazarus, The Forms, Pattern is Movement, Superchunk, Okkervil River, Liam Singer, and St Vincent. Solter has released two solo albums, *The Brief Light* on Manifold Records (2003) and *One River* on Tell-All Records (2005). He has also executed a number of remixes, including the full-lengths *Scott Solter Re-Populates The Caribbean* (Hidden Shoal, 2009), *Scott Solter Remixes Pixel Revolt in Analog* (digital download, 2007), *Canonic: Scott Solter Plays Pattern is Movement* (Home-Tapes 2006), and *MGM Endings/Cellar Door Remixes* (Artichoke, 2004), as well as remixes for Division Day, Voices Voices, and Neon Indian, among others. He is a member of The Balustrade Ensemble and produced 2007's *Capsules* for Dynamophone Records.

'Rainbirds' is taken from the forthcoming *Loam Arcane* EP and is available for free download from the Hidden Shoal Store until the EP's release on 12th January 2010. Their forthcoming album *The Green* is released on 20th April 2010, preceded by a single on 2nd March 2010.

Hidden Shoal Recordings is an Australia-based independent music label that has earned a reputation for releasing exciting and engaging new independent music that is not bound by genre or style. Hidden Shoal Recordings was chosen as one of the top 10 favourite labels of 2007 by *Textura* magazine and has been dubbed "This generation's 4AD" by prominent New York radio host DJ Mojo.

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Boxharp: <http://www.boxharp.com>