



## Hidden Shoal Recordings

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## Hidden Shoal Recordings » Rich Bennett *On Holiday*

**Brooklyn, New York; Perth, Western Australia. Hidden Shoal Recordings has announced the release of the sophomore album *On Holiday* by shadowy lounge-pop maestro Rich Bennett.**

Influenced by the classic exotica of Martin Denny, the aching folk-pop of Fleet Foxes, and the conceptual sweep of The Zombies' *Odessey and Oracle*, *On Holiday* is, on the surface, 'a day in the life of a vacation'. Brimming with delicious breezy melodies and the buoyant vocals of both Bennett and Brooklyn-based singer-songwriter Rebecca Pronsky, the optimistic side of the album is typified by gorgeous single 'Misty Valley' and the expansive, home-on-the-range vibe of 'Back Around'. The luscious contours of these songs are immediately inviting, but follow their flowing lines and there's no resolution – just an anxious question mark.

The other side of the album, lurking like a shadow, is the knowledge that you're in the middle of a fantasy and it's only fleeting, soon to return to normal life. This nagging feeling of emptiness runs throughout, whether it's the reflective whistling and watery phased melodies of 'EPO', the gloriously disorientating multi-tracked saxophone solo on 'Night Part 1', or the delicious minor key 'Night Part 2'. Closing track 'Green Memories' casts doubt on whether the holiday was even real, its strings and woodwinds mustering a sense of intoxicating, queasy melancholy.

*"brings together the sophisticated pop soundtracks of Burt Bacharach and Ennio Morricone with the electronic detail of Stereolab and Delia Derbyshire.... If you're a fan of retro-futurist pop such as the High Llamas then this will be up your aisle"* – **Proper Songs on *Music for Underwater Supermarkets***

The music of supermarkets, elevators and doctor's offices has been floating around inside Brooklyn

resident Rich Bennett's head since he was born. It's no wonder that Bennett's music seems to spring from those delightfully soporific melodies he heard as a child riding in his mom's shopping cart. Bennett's debut solo outing *Music For Underwater Supermarkets (one of RTRFM Presenter Sarah Tout's Top Ten Albums of 2008)* is the glistening fruit of a retreat back to those aisles. While informed by the familiar, *Music For Underwater Supermarkets* breathes gentle yet strange new life into the everyday. *On Holiday* explores these atmospheres further, creating dark and complex pop music, featuring Bennett's vocals for the first time.

Bennett has been involved in many musical projects over the years, including avant-rock group Friendly Bears and Monocle. He has also performed and recorded with Seattle-based cinematic rock band Hotels, written chamber music for the Pamplemousse New Music Ensemble, and produced and toured Europe with Rebecca Pronsky.

*On Holiday* will see its official CD release on 29th of July 2010, preceded by a digital pre-release on 1st of July 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.

Label Site: <http://music.hiddenshoal.com>

Label Store: <http://agora.hiddenshoal.com>

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