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Hidden Shoal Recordings

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Hidden Shoal Recordings >> Hotels - 'The Bat Watusi'

Seattle, Washington; Perth, Western Australia; 20 January 2011. Hidden Shoal Recordings is proud to announce the release of new single 'The Bat Watusi' by Seattle-based sci-fi pop band Hotels.

'The Bat Watusi' is a pace-quickenning taster of the delights in store on Hotels' new album, *On The Casino Floor*. The noir-punk track is Hotels at their most lithe and propulsive, with an insistent rhythm section, sci-fi synths and unashamedly rocking guitars. The song repeatedly strips itself back to a muscular yet dreamy core, only to build into a tight celestial rock frenzy.

On The Casino Floor sees Hotels take their addictive and singular meld of post-punk, shoegaze rock and cinematic pop and launch it into outer space. The band has managed to leap headlong beyond the consummate songcraft of acclaimed sophomore album *Where Hearts Go Broke* into the creation of a wildly inventive and immersive song-suite. The concept album's seven masterful cuts tell the story of a secret agent, his former mentor and current arch-nemesis, and a nefarious prince's plan to destroy Earth during the grand opening of the universe's only outer space casino complex...

"Hotels fuse elements of new wave, goth, and surf so seamlessly that genre tags will be the last thing on your mind when you hear their bittersweet, atmospheric pop songs" – **Time Out New York**

"With angular guitars, sober vocals, omnipresent synths, and a taste for the cinematic, Hotels come off like the ultimate '80s soundtrack band, something akin to a cross between the dreamy haze of M83 and the angsty garage rock of The Strokes" – **PopMatters**

Hotels was founded in New York in 2003 by Blake Madden (bass, vocals). Blake moved to Seattle in 2006, creating two different divisions of the band on opposite coasts. The core band in Seattle comprises Blake, Brendan Malec (guitar), Kyle Frankiewich (synths), and Aaron Voros (drums). Additional members Rich Bennett (guitar), Hidden Shoal solo artist and songwriter in the band Monocle, and Rich Spitzer (synths, vocals) play shows on the east coast. Hotels' sophomore album *Where Hearts Go Broke* was one of Seattle radio station KEXP's top discoveries of 2009, and in the same year the band played Seattle festival Bumbershoot, alongside Modest Mouse, No Age and Gang Gang Dance, and Capitol Hill Block Party, alongside Sonic Youth, Deerhunter and The Jesus Lizard.

'The Bat Watusi' is available for free download from the Hidden Shoal Store until the release of *On The Casino Floor* on 23 February 2011. The spectacular album launch takes place in Seattle on 26 February 2011, with top-secret details revealed closer to the release date.

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 has been chosen as one of Textura magazine's favourite labels and has been dubbed "This generation's 4AD" by prominent New York radio host DJ Mojo.

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

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