



# Kramies *The Wooden Heart*

Denver, Colorado; Perth, Western Australia; 17 October 2013. Hidden Shoal Recordings is proud to announce the release of ***The Wooden Heart***, the expansive new EP by dream-pop singer-songwriter Kramies.

*The Wooden Heart* mines a wonderfully rich seam of atmospheric yet epic songcraft that Kramies has made his own. From the throbbing ambient introduction of 'The Beginning' through to the delicate folk of 'The Ending', Kramies' new EP covers vast emotional and musical terrain during its 23-minute run-time. The title track's windswept grandeur is married to an emotional directness that demands your attention and doesn't let go, 'Sea Otter Cottage' sways and swoons with an almost unbearable poignancy, and 'Clocks Were All Broken' both alludes to and embodies this music's timeless appeal.

In addition to Todd Tobias's production (on 'The Beginning', 'The Wooden Heart', 'Upon The Northern Isles' and 'The Ending'), *The Wooden Heart* EP also features the production and instrumental talents of Jason Lytle of Granddaddy fame (on 'Sea Otter Cottage' and 'Clocks Were All Broken'). Rounded out by the beautiful artwork of French photographer Jérôme Sevette, *The Wooden Heart* EP is a lovingly constructed work of art.

*"It's rare to find dream-pop that resolves with such assured optimism, in which you can sense experience shifting into its proper place... Kramies seems to have mastered the talent of simply breathing it into shape"* – Misfit City on single and title track **'The Wooden Heart'**

*"Pressed upon celestial arcs that usher in distant memories of the mercurial melodic musings of Slowdive and Chapterhouse at their most fragile and angelic peaks, 'The Wooden Heart' is wrapped longingly in snow bursting showers of dream dipped porcelain signatures so intricately woven, airless and frail that you fear they will shatter just by your closeness in earshot of them"* – **The Sunday Experience on 'The Wooden Heart'**

*"marries wafting synth textures and an acoustic guitar bedrock to well-honed direct songcraft, making every cut a keeper..."*

*evokes John Lennon at his most reflective. Unlike some more well-known peddlers of similar aesthetic pedigree, Mr. Windt's grand sweeping gestures are never empty, and his hooks are never cheap. It's no wonder that with each subsequent listen, I find myself enjoying The European more and more"* – **PopMatters on The European EP**

Kramies Windt began writing songs at the age of 14 after buying his first synth, acoustic guitar and four-track recorder at an estate sale in his home town of Cleveland, Ohio. He started playing in bands around the age of 16, and Kramies and his band went on to open for Spiritualized, Granddaddy, Yo La Tengo, Calexico, Stereolab, Dirty Three and Red House Painters. Come 2004, Kramies decided to focus on writing and recording in the studio, and began working with producer and engineer Todd Tobias (Guided By Voices, Robert Pollard, Circus Devils) and guitarist David Paolucci. Working with Todd and David, Kramies released two albums to critical acclaim: *Golden Like A New Thing* (ACM, 2008) and *Castle of Ghosts* (ACM, 2010).

In 2010 Kramies began writing the songs for *The European* EP, his first Hidden Shoal release, in his coat closet in Colorado. Kramies then toured Ireland, playing turn-of-the-century pubs and small concert halls, which brought new ideas and layers to the songs – including the seed of what would become *The Wooden Heart* EP. *The European* EP was recorded in 2011 with Todd Tobias, with prominent, swirling guitar work from Dave Paolucci. His new EP *The Wooden Heart* once again features collaborations with Todd Tobias, while bringing the undeniable talents of Jason Lytle (Granddaddy) into the fold.

*The Wooden Heart* EP is available in digital formats and in limited edition CD format through Hidden Shoal.

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's favourite labels and has been dubbed "This generation's 4AD" by prominent New York radio host DJ Mojo.

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