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Hidden Shoal Recordings » [The] Caseworker 'Voices Out There' (Single)

Perth, Australia; Lausanne, Switzerland, Petaluma, USA, and London, UK; 8 October 2013. Hidden Shoal Recordings is proud to announce the release of the new single 'Voices Out There' by garage-dreampop trio [The] Caseworker, taken from their forthcoming album of the same name.

Of all the songs on *Voices Out There*, the title track is most explicitly coloured by Conor Devlin's experience of recovering from a serious car accident in 2012. 'Voices Out There' vividly surveys the morphine hallucinations experienced while confined to a hospital bed in Switzerland. The song's chiming modulated guitars, gently bobbing rhythm section and warm yet dislocated vocals generate a sense of intimacy and fragility that is deeply affecting. The track is accompanied by a 3D animated video by Cam Merton, Hidden Shoal label manager and experimental film-maker, which visually renders the intimate, surreal and dislocated spatiality conveyed so beautifully in the song.

The track is lifted from the band's fourth album, and their second for Hidden Shoal, *Voices Out There*, which sees [The] Caseworker rein in the lo-fi guitar-pop impulses of acclaimed third album *Letters From The Coast* to explore a more expansive, minimal sound, akin to Conor and Eimer Devlin's previous band Half Film. The band maintain their enigmatic intimacy and atmosphere, while suggesting haunting vistas just beyond the horizons of these succinct, sad songs.

"a mellow, blissed out sequence of West Coast guitar pop, one that references Green On Red and Teenage Fanclub as much as it does the more abrasive Sonic Youth and monochromatic Velvet Underground whom [The] Caseworker acknowledge as influences... as much resonance and melodic energy as any of the bands and musicians whose work [The] Caseworker draw their influence from, and it succeeds fully as a complete album.... Anyone whose album collection is incomplete without Ocean Rain, Grand Prix and Park Life will find an equally prominent space in it for this twelve track masterpiece." – **Delusions Of Adequacy**

"[The] Caseworker extract darkness from inside whispery, ambient pop... completely enraptured and awesomely dazed" – **Rolling Stone**

[The] Caseworker was initially formed by Conor Devlin (vocals, guitar) and Eimer Devlin (vocals, bass) as a San Francisco-based recording project back in 2003. They released their first album *These Weeks Should Be Remembered* in late 2003. Rave reviews prompted the band to try some live shows, with Will Waghorn joining on drums, and extra guitar provided by Monte Vallier (who also played with Swell). Two more albums followed over the next three years: *East of Sunset*, a soundtrack album of Tom Waits covers, and their second album of original songs, *When I Was A Young King*, in 2006. Between 2007 and 2009 [The] Caseworker went on accidental hiatus as the band members moved around the world.

They're now based respectively in Lausanne, Switzerland, Petaluma, USA, and London, UK. Their first album for Hidden Shoal, *Letters From The Coast* (2011), was recorded by Monte Vallier at San Francisco's Ruminator Audio Studios (Weekend, The Soft Moon, Wax Idols). On *Voices Out There* the band once again worked with producer Monte Vallier, demoing at Ruminator in May 2012 before convening at Neil Halstead's Farm2 studio in St Merryn, Cornwall, UK in February 2013 to lay down the songs on dysfunctional vintage gear under bitterly cold conditions.

'Voices Out There' is available now for free download from the Hidden Shoal Store. The single is taken from the album *Voices Out There*, due for release on 24 October.

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.