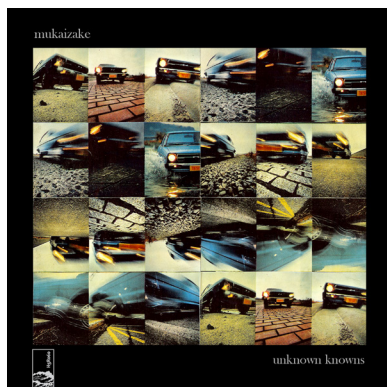


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Hidden Shoal Recordings

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Hidden Shoal Recordings » Mukaizake *Unknown Knowns*

Perth, Australia; November 17th, 2009. The Australian music label Hidden Shoal Recordings today announced the US CD and worldwide digital release of the eagerly awaited sophomore album by Australian indie math-rock marvels Mukaizake.

The cliché 'all killer, no filler' is often bandied around with very little to back it up. In the case of Mukaizake's stunning new release *Unknown Knowns*, the cliché applies: this six-song, half-hour mini-album is sheer perfection. *Unknown Knowns* kicks off with the fuzzy propulsion of single 'The Yeah Conditioner', immediately launching the listener into Mukaizake's compelling corner of the musical universe. This is serpentine indie-rock at its finest, weaving hook after hook around your chest until you're suspended from the clouds, a grin plastered across your face, unable to even think about listening to anything else.

'Rule Norse' ups the ante with a thunderously rollicking first half that follows with gorgeous layered backing vocals and hovering guitars in the exultant, expansive second half. 'Corporal Steam' winds the album down a notch with its chiming circular guitar harmonics and Geoff Symons' plaintive vocals before 'Frisbee' launches the listener off the edge of a cliff attached to an electric boomerang of riffs and angular melodies. Then, the stunningly wistful 'My Friend Flicker' and the dreamy lament of 'Slack Bees' bring the listener down in a pool of dazzling songmanship.

"With three quarters of Mukaizake reeling in the praise that comes with winning the WAM Song of the Year contest as Umpire last week, here comes another new track from the recently very busy local song peddlers. Sounding more mathy but no less catchy than their Umpire triumphs, 'The Yeah Conditioner' has a distinct '90s American indie rock sound not unlike your Built To Spills or Pavements, and that's more than alright by me." - Drum Media

"Mukaizake are a testament to the powers of rock music to find other places to go, to regenerate and make itself over. Had the martians landed in the midst of Mukaizake's set they would have thought that rock music is a boundless and exhilarating thing. In the right hands, it is" - Hype Magazine

Mukaizake formed in 1999 when four friends banded together to create a new voice in the Perth music scene. The band comprises Dan Erickson (Bluetile Lounge), Simon Struthers (Umpire, Adam Said Galore), Geoff Symons (Umpire, ex-Adam Said Galore, O!), and Michael Lake (Umpire, ex-Adam Said Galore). They released their critically acclaimed debut album *Mapping The Static* in 2003.

The recording for *Unknown Knowns* began back in 2004, when the band set aside a long weekend to lay down basic tracks. Soon after this initial recording, members of the band relocated to different cities across Australia, putting the band on temporary hiatus. The songs have since evolved, with the band utilising Forensic Audio, Simon's recording studio, to record and re-work the songs, with the final mixes finished in mid-2009. The extended production and recording process gave the band time to fully realise the awesome potential of the songs. As a result, the six track mini-album is an inspired marriage of melody and composition, all held together by extraordinary musicianship.

Mukaizake have supported artists such as Mercury Rev, Death Cab For Cutie, Will Oldham, Dave Pajo (Papa M, Slint), Something For Kate, The Sleepy Jackson and Big Heavy Stuff, to name a few. Simon Struthers has produced albums for artists such as Felicity Groom, Bob Evans, Apricot Rail and The Kill Devil Hills.

Unknown Knowns is available now in the US on CD and digitally worldwide. The album will then see its Australian CD release and launch on December 11th.

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 ten 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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