



For more information

Cam Merton

Email:

cam@hiddenshoal.com

High Res Publicity Images:

<http://music.hiddenshoal.com/publicity>

Label Site:

<http://music.hiddenshoal.com>

Label Store:

<http://store.hiddenshoal.com>

[The] Caseworker:

<http://www.caseworkermusic.com>

Hidden Shoal Recordings » [The] Caseworker *Voices Out There*

Perth, Australia; Lausanne, Switzerland, Petaluma, USA, and London, UK; 24 October 2013. Hidden Shoal Recordings is proud to announce the release of their fourth album *Voices Out There* by garage-dreampop trio [The] Caseworker.

Voices Out There 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. The lyrical themes explored on the album are a continuation of their previous preoccupations – reflection, rootlessness, memory – while also being coloured by Conor Devlin's experience of recovering from a serious car accident in 2012.

First single 'Dependence Day' marries [The] Caseworker's trademark restraint with a strident, slowburning melodic sensibility, while the title track vividly surveys the morphine hallucinations Conor experienced while confined to a hospital bed in Switzerland. The album's chiming guitars, gently bobbing rhythm section and warm yet dislocated vocals from both Conor and Eimer Devlin generate a sense of intimacy and fragility that is deeply affecting. What's most apparent on these songs is of a band in absolute control of their craft, able to derive maximum emotional heft from minimal ingredients.

"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 will be available in CD and mp3 formats from the 24th October 2013 through Hidden Shoal Recordings.

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.