



Hidden Shoal Recordings



For more information:

Cam Merton

Mob: 0422 460 518

Email: cam@hiddenshoal.com

High Res Publicity Images:

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

Label Site:

<http://music.hiddenshoal.com>

Label Store:

<http://agora.hiddenshoal.com>

Hidden Shoal Recordings » City of Satellites Official Release

Adelaide, South Australia; Sydney, New South Wales; Perth, Western Australia; January 21st, 2010. Australian music label Hidden Shoal Recordings today announced the official release of the debut album by Australian dream-pop duo City of Satellites.

On *Machine Is My Animal*, City of Satellites deliver on the exceptional promise of their debut EP *The Spook* – and then some. This pristine album synthesizes '80s pop aesthetics with '00s production values to create a truly monumental sound. From the Eastern-influenced synth lines of superb opener 'BMX' to the crystalline drift of closer 'Sky Rider', *Machine Is My Animal* carries the listener through a glistening science fiction future, as viewed from a wistful child's window.

On single 'Stranger Than Fiction', swirling synth sounds, Thomas Diakomichalis' propulsive drumming and Jarrod Manuel's pure vocal tones glide beautifully. Its aching melodies to the fore, the song taking heartrending turns before dissolving into the ether. 'Skeletons' glides and weaves like a hovercar over the course of seven levitating minutes, before the epic title track stomps across a dystopian future like a Transformer with a conscience, its robot heart bleeding as it surveys the devastation it has wrought. This balance between cold synthesized tones and a warm emotional heart creates a delicious balance throughout.

"Australia's new finest dream-pop duo ascend to orbit... City Of Satellites venture beyond the troposphere on their debut CD Machine Is My Animal. Hazy, ethereal vocals and magisterial synth soundscapes wrap the sensors like rich ice cream upon pressing play... Manuel's Air-redolent, multitracked vocals are angelic for the lack of a better description... the album radiates glacial atmospheric not heard in this country since the halcyon days of otherworldly Tasmanians The Paradise Motel." – **Rave Magazine**

"You know when you catch a faint smell of something that totally spins you out and reminds you of something you haven't thought about since you were six, completely changing your day? City Of Satellites have synthesised this feeling into music... traces of shoegaze heroes M83 and My Bloody Valentine, with faint, androgynous vocals drifting in and out of clarity over a dreamy soundscape... an emotionally exhausting and incredibly satisfying little trip" – **Drum Media EP of the Week (The Spook)**

City of Satellites is an Australian duo from two cities hundreds of miles apart - Jarrod Manuel (vocals, guitar, synths) is based in Adelaide, while Thomas Diakomichalis (drums, synths, production) is based in Sydney. Jarrod and Thomas began writing music inspired by the shoegazer, stoner and grunge heroes of their high school days, but over time they have come to embrace and more deeply explore the sonic palette of the electronic era that helped shape their earlier formative years.

Machine Is My Animal will be available through Hidden Shoal Recordings on the 21st of January, 2010. The album is distributed in Australia through Hidden Shoal Distribution and in the US and Europe via n5Mailorder. The album is available digitally through the Hidden Shoal Store and all good third-party digital music stores (iTunes, eMusic, Amazon, LaLa etc).

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 10 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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