



Photo: Sara Padgett

Hidden Shoal Recordings



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Hidden Shoal Recordings » The Caribbean

Perth, Australia; District of Columbia, USA; February 21, 2009. The Australian music label Hidden Shoal Recordings is proud to announce an upcoming release by American folk-pop deconstructionists The Caribbean.

The Caribbean has teamed up with engineer, producer, mixologist Scott Solter (Spoon, Okkervil River, The Mountain Goats) and Hidden Shoal to bring you *Scott Solter RePopulates The Caribbean*, an EP of dizzying curve balls that split the difference between glistening songcraft and complete re-construction.

“You’re forced to occupy their barren pop architecture.... You don’t understand it, but, though you might not admit it, you do hope it will understand you. Or at least not destroy you...” – Pitchfork

The band is known for assembling songs and records via email and snail-mail, and although that creative model has been abandoned now the band members live in close proximity, the mind-set is locked in. It’s part of the group DNA. The idea of sending five tracks from The Caribbean’s 2007 Hometapes record *Populations* to Scott Solter to deconstruct, warp, and otherwise obliterate, was neither intimidating nor foreign. While Solter was busy toiling with 2” tape, textiles, liquid polymers, and computers in his North Carolina sound lab, the group became familiar with Hidden Shoal and it became clear to both group and label that the Caribbean/Solter EP was, conceptually, just the kind of project that might be perfect for Hidden Shoal to release. Once group and label began receiving rushes of Solter’s work, it became obvious that such a Caribbean-Hidden Shoal partnership would make creative sense.

Established in 2000 in Washington, DC, The Caribbean comprises Michael Kentoff (sings lead, some guitar, waveform edits, Gameboy), Matthew Byars (electronic warping, drums, bass, harmonies), Tony Dennison (drums, email drums, some brass), Don Campbell (bass, drums, slide guitar, kitchen sink) and Dave Jones (electric guitar, banjo, synthetic tinting). Divided between the District of Columbia, Baltimore, and Minneapolis, the band has unleashed a healthy brood of records since the turn of the millennium: *Verse By Verse* (Endearing, 2001), *History’s First Know-It-All* (Tomlab/Endearing, 2003), *William of Orange* EP (Hometapes, 2004), *Plastic Explosives* (Hometapes, 2005), and *Populations* (Hometapes, 2007).

Scott Solter RePopulates The Caribbean will be released on Hidden Shoal Recordings on 2nd April 2009, preceded by the single ‘Do You Believe in Dinosaurs?’ on 26th February.

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 recently 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.

Label Site: <http://music.hiddenshoal.com>

The Caribbean: <http://www.thecaribbeanisaband.com/>