



Hidden Shoal Recordings



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Hidden Shoal Recordings » Apricot Rail Signing

Perth, Australia; May 20th, 2009. The Australian music label Hidden Shoal Recordings today announced the signing of Perth-based multi-instrumental pop quintet Apricot Rail to its roster of artists.

Most instrumental rock suggests the apocalypse is coming. If it is, Apricot Rail are too busy crafting beautiful lilting melodies to care. This Perth quintet have the charm, humour and songwriting nous – and a killer live show – to re-ignite anyone's belief in music's subtle, giddy powers.

“The might of, I dunno, Mogwai is still there, but the charm of Múm is also present. They paint mountains in broad strokes but afterwards they take time to put in Sherpas and goats partying on the cliff face. That's how I like my monumental arms of guitar served up - gigantic but also tiny” –
Love Is My Velocity

One day, after his star sign promised a ‘dynamic’ afternoon, Ambrose Nock (guitar) decided it was the right time to form a band known as Apricot Rail. He was soon joined by Jack Quirk (guitar), Matthew Saville (drums) and Daniel Burt (bass). The premise of the band was simple: music based on unique guitar tunings, the use of natural harmonics, and very open ideas about other instruments, electronica and song structure. After a debut gig at the Hyde Park Hotel (Perth, Western Australia) in March 2008 with four members and as many songs, the band soon added a fifth in Mayuka Juber (clarinet/flute), redefining the balance of guitars with the addition of beautiful woodwind melodies.

The band's debut recording was a DIY affair, with members heading off to a rural property near Yorkrakine, 220km north-east of Perth in WA's Central Wheatbelt. In the following months, the

resulting demo got regular rotation on Perth's RTRFM, and though unreleased, was rated by the station's Homegrown presenter Chris Wheeldon as his second-favourite local outing of 2008. In the second half of the year, Apricot Rail chalked up some serious gig mileage, along the way supporting the likes of Holly Throsby, Charge Group and Adam Said Galore and finding refuge among Perth's emerging post-rock/experimental scene.

In November 2008 the band headed into Kingdom studios under the guidance of Simon Struthers (Empire, Adam Said Galore, Mukaizake) where the band recorded their soon to be released self-titled debut long player. Australian fans got a chance to taste some of the new album's sublime wares when the Apricot Rail track ‘If You Can't Join Them, Beat Them’ was released on the prestigious *Spunk Singles Club* compilation album along with the likes of Leeder Cheetah, The Dead Sea and The Middle East. The band was also recently nominated for Favourite Newcomer in the 2009 Western Australian Music Industry Awards.

Apricot Rail's self-titled album is to be released by Hidden Shoal on the 4th of July, preceded by the single ‘Pouring Milk Out The Window’ on the 2nd of June. The band will be doing a run of shows in Perth throughout June and July.

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.

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

Apricot Rail: <http://www.myspace.com/apricotrail>