



# Markus Mehr – ‘Flaming Youth’



**Augsburg, Germany; Perth, Western Australia; 18 May 2012. Hidden Shoal Recordings is proud to announce the release of ‘Flaming Youth’, the new single by German experimental ambient artist Markus Mehr, taken from his forthcoming album *On*.**

‘Flaming Youth’ tentatively fizzes into life as though fragments of static are being received from the heavens. As the static begins to clear, a gorgeous sleepy-eyed loop surfaces, bleeding through like a blissful, mesmerising surge of mangled lounge-jazz. ‘Flaming Youth’ continues Mehr’s ongoing exploration of texture versus melody, taken from his new album *On*, the second album in an ambitious triptych that began with the acclaimed *In* and will be completed by the forthcoming *Off*. *On*’s eight diverse tracks employ samples, field recordings and slathers of Mehr’s trademark distorted drones.

*On* is preceded by *In*, the first part of the triptych, comprising two monumental tracks, ‘Komo’ and ‘Ostinato’, each of which clocks in at around 25 minutes, circling around and building upon hypnotic instrumental motifs. *Off*, released on 24 January 2013, includes the most epic piece yet, ‘Transit’, which clocks in at 49 minutes and will be performed live in collaboration with video artist Stefanie Sixt, who created the video to Mehr’s single ‘Cousteau’.

*“one of the best releases so far this year and one which will absolutely be appreciated by fans of abstract ambient music and soundscapes” – Petal on In*

*“In this blissful wanderlust Mehr succeeds in spades creating a completely engrossing, engaging and all together reliable album full of the most powerful ambient-drone tracks this year” – Tome to the Weather Machine on Lava*

*“They’re ‘big’ compositions, the sheer scale of the sonic work is rather awe inspiring, but they never sound antagonistic or uncomfortable... it sounds like the ebb and flow of space itself – individual snippets of a grand, repeating, organic process that keeps the universe in balance...” – No Ripcord*

Based in Augsburg, south Germany, Markus Mehr’s musical journey began with the guitar. He grew up listening to metal and prog rock, before turning his ears to darker sounds and ethereal, experimental pop. After recording and touring with several bands, he struck out on his own with the home studio project Aroma. Markus now works under his own name, recording at his home studio using guitars and synths, plus any noise-making accoutrements at hand – electric shavers, ventilators, electric tooth brushes and field recordings – all processed and distorted to create a gorgeous wall of sound.

‘Flaming Youth’ is available for free download from the Hidden Shoal Store. It is taken from the forthcoming album *On*, available from 21 June 2012.

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, has been dubbed “This generation’s 4AD” by prominent New York radio host DJ Mojo, and has been described by The Mountain Goats’ frontman John Darnielle as “one of the great wonders of our age”.

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