



NIC HESSLER SOFT CONNECTIONS - LP/CD

- Hometown: Orange County, CA
- Formerly Catwalk, Debut Album as Nic Hessler
- National college and specialty radio campaign via AAM

In 2005, at the age of 14, Nic Hessler created the alias "Catwalk" to write, record and perform his music. Armed with Wipers and Roy Orbison records, an 8-track recorder and a garage, Nic set out to make Catwalk the next great guitar-oriented California band like many teenagers before him. Two tiny run 7" singles on the now defunct Yay! imprint soon appeared, making the rounds through independent record stores and mail order distributors. This led to the 18-year-old Nic to sign to the also new and young label, Captured Tracks. Two C/T 7" releases in 2010 and 2011 followed, leading up to a full-fledged Catwalk LP and tour in 2011. Press reaction was swift and, as interest was grew, Nic garnered support in his hometown of Orange County, CA to assemble a tour line-up for the LP. However, none of that would ever happen.

CT-217

01. I Feel Again
02. Hearts, Repeating
03. Expel Me
04. Permanent
05. Do You Ever?
06. All In The Night
07. All Around You
08. (Please) Don't Break Me
09. Moonlight Girl
10. Into the Twilight
11. Soon You'll See, Kristine
12. Soft Connections

Around this time, Nic was struck with an ailment that kept him sidelined for quite some time: Guillain-Barré Syndrome. No walk in the park, GBS prevented Nic from playing guitar, leaving him partially paralyzed for the bulk of this lost period. While this was obviously detrimental for Nic and Catwalk, strangely, it may have helped the musician Nic Hessler's career.

Now ditching the moniker of a hypothetical band, Nic re-emerges in 2015, healthy and reinvigorated, with a more fully-formed and ambitious sound: the sound of *Soft Connections*, his debut LP years in the making, though he's now just 23. *Soft Connections* bridges the songwriting influences of the vintage American powerpop of Emmit Rhodes and Alex Chilton, along with UK giants like The Kinks and XTC. Tracks like "Hearts, Repeating" and "I Feel Again"—two classic singles in the radio sense of the word—show the maturity in craftsmanship Nic's been honing these past four years.

The making of *Soft Connections* was a lengthy process that took place during a crucial period of musical growth and self-exploration. It's an optimistic and introspective record about being in-and-out of feeling — on the brink of a personal breakthrough, yet still seeking direction, purpose, truth and permanence. Anchored by the Catwalk favorite "(Please) Don't Break Me" — a song that, at one point, could very well have launched Nic into "indie celebdom" — this record is now a send-off to Nic's lost time; he's moved forward, sounding better than ever and ready to soundtrack your long road trip or failed crush. This will be the first record in what we all hope to be a lengthy string of great albums.

LP UPC: 817949011000



LP FORMAT: 12" LP + MP3s
LP BOXLOT: 45
EXPORT: WORLD
VINYL NON-RETURNABLE

CD UPC: 817949011048



CD FORMAT: JEWEL CASE
CD BOXLOT: 30
EXPORT: WORLD

RELEASE DATE: MARCH 17TH, 2015
GENRE: ALTERNATIVE / INDIE



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