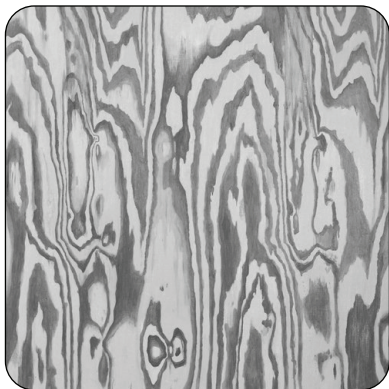


Mazes

Wooden Aquarium



Release date: 11/11/14

Format: CD, LP

File Under: Rock

Territory Restrictions:
Available to North and South Ame



FAT0119CD
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FAT0119LP
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Completed in just two weeks between the sub-zero conditions of commuter town Cornwall, New York and the heart of Brooklyn, Wooden Aquarium marks the apex at which Mazes' music to date meets. While debut album A Thousand Heys was recorded on a boat and recent album Ores and Minerals was recorded across numerous takes in the back room of Dalston's Shacklewell Arms and Jack's bedroom, Wooden Aquarium has brought Cooper, drummer Neil Robinson and bassist Conan Roberts together in a studio again. Recorded completely live and laid down entirely onto beautifully thick two-inch tape, the trio also had company in enlisting the skills of Parquet Courts' producer Jonathan Schenke. "If it wasn't for Jonny, things would've got a little bleak," admits Cooper. "The dynamics of our band are very English, so can be quite tense and focused. I think that comes across in the music, but Jonny kept everything light and breezy."



"With this record a lot more care has been taken over the lyrics and themes," Cooper reveals. "I've always looked back on my late teens as being idyllic so that nostalgic hazy image of riding my bike around in the sun as a teenager, coupled with a new sense of optimism mostly colours the record, but there's still stuff on there I don't have a clue about." That sense of nostalgia is never clearer than on 'Universal Me', capturing Wooden Aquarium's theme of finding yourself caught between two places. Akin to Field Music's articulate songwriting prowess and the punky guitar rhythms of The Feelies or Television, 'Letters Between U&V' is about unfinished moments, half notes or things left unsaid, whilst personal ailments ('Astigmatism') and see-sawing between extreme confidence and self doubt ('Salford') are explored through hypnotic lo-fi pop melodies of motorik rhythms bolstered by spiky hooks and Cooper's distinctively carefree vocals.

This album and going to America to record it represents a roll of the dice. Its primary influence is how the three of us play. We're not trying to do anything unnatural, just to be ourselves. It's the culmination of what we were trying to do with Ores & Minerals... the actual 'sound' of us is evolving and getting more idiosyncratic. "While everyone else is chasing trends, Mazes are doing their own thing regardless and growing while they're at it. Despite endless touring commitments not to mention running their own record labels, it's through Wooden Aquarium that Mazes have truly found their way

TRACKLISTING

1. Astigmatism
2. Salford
3. It Is What It Is
4. Explode Into Colo(u)rs
5. Vapour Trails
6. RIPP
7. Letters Between U&V
8. Mineral Springs
9. Stamford Hill
10. Universal Me
11. The Third Ridge

Praise for Mazes

"Astigmatism" finds Mazes working in widescreen, tossing in some gleeful multi-tracked vocalizations, and a bilious backward guitar solo for good measure...this new track finds them more balanced and surefooted than ever. — **SPIN**

"It evokes similar journeys by Television and the Feelies, not in exact sound but in feel-- that is, in the way its seven minutes of blissful music would still be effective at twice the length" — **Pitchfork**

This is a classic Best Friend track — as in, we want to be buddies with it. It's so likable and loose; self-made and just imperfect enough to be super, super catchy. — **Brooklyn Magazine**

Also Available:



FAT0103CD
A Thousand Heys



FAT0103LP
A Thousand Heys



FAT0116CD
Ores & Minerals



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