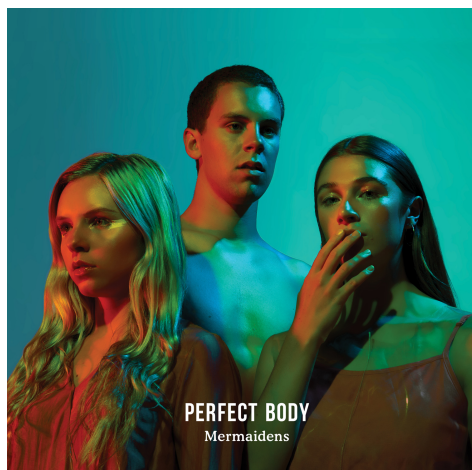




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Mermaidens – Perfect Body

August 4th, 2017

CATALOGUE: FN577

FILE UNDER: INDIE, POP

WORLD EXCL. AUSTRALIA, NZ, JAPAN

LP BOX LOT: 20

LP BARCODE: 942190363506



942190363506

VINYL NON-RETURNABLE

TRACK LIST:

1. Perfect Body
2. Sunstone
3. Lizard
4. Mind Slow
5. Smothering Possession
6. Satsuma
7. Give It Up
8. Fade
9. Artery
10. Don't Let It Get You

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Mermaidens are a three-piece outfit from Wellington, New Zealand, who are renowned for their intricate and unique songwriting, boldly raw but increasingly refined studio production, and a hypnotic live synergy that leaves audiences enchanted. Their entrance onto the NZ music scene was extremely strong following the releases of their widely acclaimed debut EP *O* in 2014 and subsequent album *Undergrowth* in 2016. As a result, they were offered dozens of national shows and international support slots, which led to them being picked up by **Flying Nun Records**, who release the band's first international album, *Perfect Body*, on 4th August.

Mermaidens' sound offers a mesmerising dip into the realms of post-punk and psych, while the voices of Gussie Larkin and Lily West embrace warm harmonies and dreamy, hypnotic lyrics, entwined with dark and moody riff-based melodies, underpinned by Abe Hollingsworth's fluid and dynamic percussion. Drawing inspiration from bands like Warpaint, Fugazi, Exploded View and Sleater-Kinney, **Mermaidens** formed in 2013, having been friends in high school. Lily and Gussie had nervously shown each other songs they'd written before collaborating together. The name *Mermaidens* seemed to fit well as it's fun and a little bit silly, yet dark at the same time. As Gussie explains; "I guess that's us in a nutshell."

The band self-released their first EP *O* in 2014, which was a raw and enthralling DIY offering, recorded at drummer Abe's parents house. There was a focus on capturing the 'live' element of the songs, which has always been very important to **Mermaidens'** music. The tracks *Wonder* and *Cold Skin* were re-recorded for their debut album *Undergrowth*, as they were important pieces in the puzzle and the band felt they deserved a more polished and refined approach. The LP was released in 2016 and received critical acclaim and widespread interest amongst influential online music and style platforms including **Noisey**, **i-D**, and **The 405**. The excitement around **Mermaidens'** debut album was encapsulated by i-D contributor Wendy Syfret, who described them as one of; "New Zealand's most enigmatic and engaging young bands."

Perfect Body features many of the familiar characteristics of the *Mermaidens'* sound, with twinkly, reverb-laden guitar lines, rich vocal harmonies and vibrant drums. They have expanded on these sounds, bringing in even more dynamic elements, building richer melodic layers and a wider range of guitar textures, as they explore different levels of dissonance. Each song bursts with energy and variety, with contrasting light and dark, and they've left space for mellow and brooding instrumentals underpinning a powerful vocal melody.

Mermaidens pride themselves on an engaging live performance. Their impressive portfolio of support slots and sold out shows, attests to the charm and excellence of their live show. In just a few years **Mermaidens** have sold out major venues in New Zealand as well as supporting international acts such as **Death Cab For Cutie**, **Sleater Kinney**, and **Mac Demarco**, and **Windhand**



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