



P.O. Box 1235
Chapel Hill, NC 27514 USA
Phone: 919.688.9969 x125
www.mergerecords.com

International Sales: Lauren Brown- lauren.brown@secretlydistribution.com

TRACK LISTING:

SIDE A

1. Get Away
2. Fake Plastic Trees
3. Bendover
4. Toy Gun
5. Lucky Ponderosa
6. Photograph

SIDE B

7. Roller Coaster
8. Angst in My Pants
9. Tongue Tied
10. Hero for the Weekend
11. Making Movies
12. Night Terror
13. Survive

MRG 592

A Giant Dog

Toy



LP



CD

2017 August 25

vinyl is non-returnable

Box Lot: CD 30 / LP 25
UPC: CD is 673855059228 / LP is 673855059211
Format: CD is 4-panel digipak w/ 8 panel printed insert
LP is single jacket + Euro sleeve +LP3 coupon
File Under: Alternative
Export: World excluding North America

Toy, the fourth LP from A Giant Dog and their second for Merge, shows the Austin quintet at the height of their powers. A solid year of road-dogging and woodshedding has made the band tighter than ever, the charging dynamo of Andrew Cashen and Andy Bauer's guitars in lockstep with the primal chug of the rhythm section Graham Low on bass and the recorded debut of Daniel Blanchard on drums. Singer Sabrina Ellis turns in another masterful performance, in equal parts brash, defiant, vulnerable, and raw.

Lyrically, Sabrina and Andrew have a gift for making their personal frustrations and fuck-ups, fears, lusts, and addictions feel universal. While they have always given voice to the weirdos and creeps—showing that their peccadilloes and peculiarities are much more deep-seated and widespread—they dig even deeper on *Toy*. "I feel I've revealed more in this album than ever before," Sabrina confesses. Still, the band doesn't sacrifice an ounce of catchiness or charm when tackling issues like aging, agency, and mortality. For proof, just look at "Photograph," the sweetest love song about physical longing and enduring devotion to one's lover, even as their body succumbs to the ravages of time.

The band recorded *Toy* with Grammy-winning engineer Stuart Sikes (Loretta Lynn, Cat Power, The White Stripes, Reigning Sound), and singer/songwriter/guitarist/wildman Cashen produced it. "Andrew as producer makes a lot of sense," Sabrina says. "He composes the songs and knows better than anyone what they should sound like in the end. With him at the helm, we've arrived at a raw, truthful, risky, and rangey album." *Toy* is also sonically huge, pulling from a range of influences as diverse as Tinariwen and Thin Lizzy.

KEY POINTS:

- Recorded with Stuart Sikes (Loretta Lynn, Cat Power, The White Stripes, Reigning Sound)
- CD & LP packages include lead singer Sabrina Ellis' handwritten lyrics + a photo of the band
- "Roller Coaster" include guest vocals by Spoon's Britt Daniel