



THE LONELYHEARTS - DISASTER FOOTAGE AT NIGHT
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THREE RING RECORDS

Ambitious and consistent, *Disaster Footage at Night* is a great second album. The record finds the Lonelyhearts getting a bit louder and more aggressive than their intimate and well-received 2005 debut, *Dispatch*. *Disaster Footage* is both concise and expansive, featuring some of the band's shortest and tightest songs as well as epics that stretch out with grand structures. Yet the band's primary strengths – simple but intriguing melodies and daring lyricism – remain intact.

The musical palette is varied: Once defined by acoustic guitars and airy synths, here they also employ distorted guitars and crunchy organs. Consider the Crazy Horse guitar jangle of "New Virginia", the otherworldly ambience of "The Carpenter" and the Skynyrd-meets-Floyd anthemics of "Black and Blue Devil". The narratives cover a lot of ground, too: Gender-swapping in Tennessee, post-war trauma, star-crossed love affairs on the alternately drug-fueled and bourgeois streets of the Bay Area, and getting inside the head of the sole black member of the Duke University lacrosse team. Everything is fair game on *Disaster Footage at Night*.

The Lonelyhearts' music finds its roots in the acoustic strums of American folk and bedroom rock. The band builds on these foundations, incorporating elements of synth-pop, shoegaze, and even Southern rock. Lyrically, the albums unfold like collections of short stories, each song revealing a thoughtful and interesting narrative. The band renders characters, scenes, and impressions of life with grace and subtly, the lyrics never feeling out of place with the music. The result is a sort of spacey folk-rock. Or, think of Granddaddy meets the Mountain Goats.

Andre Perry and John Lindenbaum met in San Francisco while playing in different bands. Inspired by a Jason Lytle (of Granddaddy) solo show in 2002, they formed the Lonelyhearts. After releasing their first EP on San Francisco's DIY or Else Records in 2004, the band toured the country, following up with the *Dispatch* LP in 2005 and more national touring. Since the fall of 2005, it's been a long distance relationship with Andre living in Iowa City, Iowa and John remaining in the Bay Area.

Like a lot of folks, the Lonelyhearts are just two guys trying to pay the rent, fight age and responsibility, and find time to do what they love: making music. They take time off from jobs, school, and girlfriends to travel around the country playing their songs. They see tour as vacation, the great escape from the ennui of everyday life. They play as many intimate DIY house shows as they do clubs.

On the road, it's just the two of them with a guitar, a keyboard, and a lot of harmonies. They've played alongside the Dodos, Lou Barlow, American Analog Set, Black Mountain, Wye Oak, Titus Andronicus, Jana Hunter, and Bishop Allen.

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