

Press Release



Heligoland
Shift These Thoughts

Since forming in early 1998 Melbourne quartet Heligoland have crafted a distinctive sound centred around sparse, atmospheric instrumentation and evocative vocals.

Comprising ten tracks, "Shift these thoughts" is the debut album from Heligoland and follows two well received 7" singles released in 2001-2, and an EP in 2000. As with all previous Heligoland releases, "Shift these thoughts" was recorded by guitarist Cameron Gellatly at his studio.

"Shift these thoughts" is an apt title for the album, hinting at some of the qualities of the music contained within.

Album opener "Hobson's Choice" is a song in the style Heligoland has made its trademark, unfolding gradually at a measured pace, with a minimal yet intricate musical backing and captivating vocals shifting between light and shade.

"String Tree", "Flat Four" and "Jasper Come Home" also exhibit the carefully crafted arrangements, subtle dynamic shifts and enchanting vocals for which the band is known.

Elsewhere the band explore other aspects of Heligoland's sound such as on the melancholic, minimal "What was it worth?", notable for the soaring vocals of singer Karen Vogt.

Heligoland's music is often likened to a film score, a concept explored on several tracks presented here in greater depth than was possible on previous releases. "Cabo de Gata" is a captivating journey through dusty, sun bleached landscapes hinting at some of the band's more abstract influences. Conversely, the glacial "Herringbone" explores the terrain and the pull of competing currents beneath the waves.

Across ten tracks, "Shift these thoughts" is a diverse yet cohesive listen that captures the many facets of the band's sound. "Shift these thoughts" is released by Adelaide based label Big Rig Records and is distributed nationally in Australia by MGM.

Heligoland is Karen Vogt (vocals, guitar), Cameron Gellatly (guitar), Steve Wheeler (bass) and Bek Varcoe (drums).

Heligoland will be gigging extensively to coincide with the release of the album. Look out for them in your neck of the woods.

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