

Album Release

Vague - Land

LP / Digital
Siluh Records
release: June 1, 2018



All songs performed, recorded & mixed by VAGUE.

Camry, Channel and Second to Nothing
written by Gabriel Hyden

Hey Johnny, Kick It and Last Night
written by Konstantin Heidler

Fleece, Crash, Fallin' in Love, Thrilled, Maggie, It Won't Come True and Land
written by Simon Dallaserra

Trains written by Gregor Apfalter and Simon Dallaserra

Mastered by Wolfgang Möstl.

Artwork by David Einwaller.
Inlay Drawing by Gregor Apfalter.

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A

1. Camry
2. Hey Johnny
3. Fleece
4. Channel
5. Trains
6. Crash
7. Kick It

B

8. Fallin' in Love
9. Second to Nothing
10. Thrilled
11. Last Night
12. Maggie
13. It Won't Come True
14. Land

On June 1st 2018 the Vienna and Berlin based band VAGUE will release their new album *Land*. It is a highly diverse and ambitious piece of art. While still carrying the guitar-driven signature sound of the previous works, the band created a record, that already has a modern Indie-Pop-Classic kind of vibe. Whereas the fourteen new tracks bundle a sound that is mainly located floating loosely inbetween the genres. The arrangements are more nuanced and closer into detail, without cutting short of the bands' specific ease and flow that wants you to grow into the sound easily.

The lyrics on *Land* transmit a refreshing and maybe more than ever important feeling of honest sensitivity - an openly shown awareness towards life's complexities. After their debut-EP *Tempdays* (2015) and their highly praised longplayer *In The Meantime* (2016), *Land* shows perfectly how the band has matured in sound and style.

Longtime fans will be charmed by the renewed sovereignty of the sound. The variability of VAGUE, that has become emblematic for the bands music, is again a key component on *Land*, a variability that is fueled by the different styles of the three songwriters and singers (Konstantin Heidler, Gabriel Hyden as well as Simon Dallaserra). The band leave the standard hierarchy between frontman and other bandmembers behind. Members changing instruments and a consensus, that experiments are nothing to be avoided, is where VAGUE's sound originates.

They recorded and produced the tracks and the interludes themselves. The step back - away from the more common studio-and-hired-producer-situation - was set to

open space for unconventional approaches to making music. *Land* also marks the first collaboration between the band and saxophonist Vitus Denifl and a continuation of the band's experiments with keyboards and drum computers. Recording in a DIY-style seemed like a fitting method to accomplish this. VAGUE want to combine coincidence and improvisation with catchy patterns well known from popular music, circling around different genres.

Simon Dallaserra, band-member:

"I often have the feeling, that the most interesting and innovative things occur without intent or even out of mistakes. That thought makes a free and playful approach to music easier. Sometimes we start out holding on to a certain feeling that we know we want the song to be a vehicle for. As soon as we are all in that flow and we all pull in one direction, something new can be born out of that."

The fourteen songs can't be placed into only one niche. The sound drifts between the fields: Sometimes "dreamy Indie-Pop" would be your go-to association for VAGUE's music, but then the more jazzy, Bossanova-style arrangements invite you to think otherwise. Some songs come at you subtly disguised in noisy Post-Rock patterns, others come along in more dense and softer shapes. Despite of the stylistic fragmentation the sound of *Land* remains confidently coherent and underlines the bands characteristic style.

In a way, *Land* feels like the future is talking to us. The album expresses a distinct coming of age feeling. The lyrics orbit around big themes in life - such as longing and the profound feeling of being in love for example - while also subtly hinting at the absurdities of life and the coldness of social normativity. You can enter *Land*, observe it, lose yourself in the sound of its narratives and maybe discover possibilities to break up long held stereotypes and clichés. Sometimes the songs are underlayed by feelings of weightlessness and hope, other times the search for consolation builds the foundation. But the feeling transmitted always stays on the smooth and gentle side of things, like the warm breeze running through the fingers of your hand, held out the car window on a drive on a warm summer day. Maybe a long forgotten memory suddenly appears in your mind - a smile once smiled at you by a special person perhaps, one that let the time stand still for a moment. If that happens, you have already fallen into the world of VAGUE and a whole new, dreamy landscape has spread out in front of you.



Simon Dallaserra, Gregor Apfalter, Konstantin Heidler, Juan Marhl, Gabriel Hyden