

THOMAS MERY

LES COULEURS, LES OMBRES



Five years passed between **Thomas Mery's** first solo album *A ship, like a ghost, like a cell* (2006) and *Les couleurs, les ombres*, the new Own Records full-length release. Five years during which he consolidated his vocabulary and laid the foundation for his future work.

Six songs patiently crafted around refined guitar playing and a voice that still conveys a sense of emergency while sounding more confident and controlled. A guitar that weaves a folk fabric whose roots can be found somewhere between Nick Drake and Joni Mitchell and a voice that – bit by bit, juxtaposing images – tells of impressions and interrogations.

Mery's voice and guitar provide a framework for other instruments to build upon. Clarinets on 'Ça', scarce piano notes on 'Ou de la pluie', the more powerful bass guitar and drums on 'Aux fenêtres immenses'. These arrangements, whether composed or improvised together with Stéphane Bouvier (off from touring with Yann Tiersen), Jérôme Lorichon (The Berg Sans Nipple) and Miguel Constantino (Audiopixel), bring out the album's shades and lights.

Almost forsaking his early influences' language – English –, Thomas now mainly sings in French. His writing tries to confront everyday life's impulses with the more volatile matter of dreams, or through the maze of his own subconscious. Worlds within which Thomas sometimes mixes his own words, his voices, with those of characters who have left their mark on him; the doctor from the 'Mirror' or Alexander from the 'Sacrifice' by Andrei Tarkovsky, Giuliana from the 'Red Desert' by Michelangelo Antonioni or even, and among all who inhabit 'En silence', Pierre from 'Les Choses de la vie' by Claude Sautet.

Six songs that allow the daring listener to penetrate an intimate and singular world.

Recorded during ten days at the Maison Noire, a big wooden house somewhere in Brittany, these tracks add to the body of work Thomas has been putting together for a few years now.

A musical and personal structure that he started to build with his band Purr (2 albums in 1997 and 2000) and that he continued crafting with his solo electronic and acoustic manipulations (*I matter* EP in 2003) and then with a very personal folk music (*Hallonsaft* EP in 2005 and *A ship, like a ghost, like a cell* in 2006). A structure to which he today adds both by exploring new ways and continuing his experiences: *Les couleurs, les ombres*.

RIYL: Nick Drake, Joni Mitchell, Dominique A, Purr.

ARTIST

THOMAS MERY

TITLE

LES COULEURS, LES OMBRES

OWN CAT NR

OWNREC#58

FORMAT

CD 4-PANEL GREEN WALLET

TIME

42'14''

RELEASE DATE

MAY 31, 2011

TRACK LISTING

01 DU SIROP

02 OU DE LA PLUIE

03 AUX FENÊTRES IMMENSES

04 DE L'AMOUR, DE LA COLÈRE

05 ÇA

06 EN SILENCE

BARCODE

3 700398 706733

DISTRIBUTION

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PO BOX 135 • 4002

ESCH/ALZETTE

LUXEMBOURG (EUROPE)

WWW.OWNRECORDS.COM

WWW.THOMAS-MERY.NET