



benni hemm hemm

kajak
cd/lp

streetdate:
19.01.2007 (gas & row), 22.05.2007 (usa)



Label: morr music
Catalogue: mm 074
Barcode (UPC): 880918007427 cd
880918007410 lp
Label Code: 10387
File under: country pop, big band folk

Tracklisting:

1. skvavars, 2. brekkan, 3. snjórljóssnjór, 4. sorgartár, 5. sól á heyhóla, 6. regngalsinn, 7. stoffer, 8. abbastúfur, 9. aldrej, 10. sex eða sjö, 11. mónakó, 12. Ég á bát, 13. egísa
(LP tracklisting might be different!)

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benni hemm hemm feat. jens lekman
skvavars (7"/anost)
vö: 02.02.2007 (gas & row), 03.04.2007 (usa)

So much time didn't go by. And quick it was, too. Not only the sounds and texts for Benni Hemm Hemm's second album "Kajak" were written within a few, concentrated weeks. The recordings in Sundlaugin, the studio of *Sigur Rós*, were also done within only four days. During four magical days eleven musicians recorded thirteen vibrating tracks. With kettledrums and trumpets, with guitars, trombones and a glockenspiel. Emotionally, energetically, emphatically. An insistent shining. Warm and visible already from a distance.

Although, Benni Hemm Hemm ought to have all time in the world for his second album. Or, at least, quite a while for writing and recording it. He still is 26 years young. And his self-titled debut-album – that was elected as best album of the year 2005 – is not even two years old. Recently, in summer 2006, it has been released for the rest of the world, on *Sound of a handshake*, *Morr Music's* small, curious sister. But probably "Kajak" couldn't wait any longer. According to the pulsating way they come out of the loudspeakers these songs wanted to be told.

Still on board: the emphatic wind section of Northern Soul, the whirling enthusiasm of dance music becoming out of joint. What is new on "Kajak" that is a dramaturgical balance, a giving and taking, also and especially among single tracks. With "Kajak" Benedik H. Hermannsson, the passionate narrator and cunning entertainer, became a well-versed arranger, as well.

"Sorgartár" is situated close to the ocean. It tells of life by the sea. A surging and swelling, a ride on the wave's crest, constructed of a wind section, organs, one baritone guitar. "Regngalsinn" is an abstract love poem. Birds twitter, everything in the garden is lovely. One could call it almost a power-ballad if power-ballads didn't have such a bad reputation. "Mónakó" presents itself that enigmatic as the principality of the same name. An absurd song with an unfeasible time and three singing-tracks overlapping each other. „Egísa", finally, is a slow stroll out of the album into the sunshine. The sun is low in the sky and makes us squint.