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THE WHITE BIRCH (Norvège)

«The Weight Of Spring» (Glitterhouse Records, sortie: 27.02.2015)



The White Birch were once a band known as the «Norwegian Sigur Ros». Codeine's 1994 slowcore masterpiece gave the trio their name. The White Birch were 3 guys stuck in the middle of it all, stuck in the cold mud between American shoegazing dirt, the sweet birch woods of Russia, the traditional Norwegian black metal despair and the Icelandic electronica coolness. And they made the best out of it releasing a handful of beautiful records. Now one third of the trio is back with a new album, as sad, beautiful, lonely as before. Almost silent.

August 2006 - It was a warm summer's night when **The White Birch** left the stage at Off Festival in Myslowice, Poland close to midnight. After 10 years band history and four records they played the last show this evening and broke up. 4 years before **The White Birch** released their masterpiece «Star Is Just A Sun» with Glitterhouse Records. It was a mystical album, quiet and fluent - complecting Cale, Drake and Godspeed You! Black Emperor. They started touring and reached bigger audiences. Soon the trite label, «The Norwegian Sigur Ros» vanished and The White Birch became known as a trademark of its own. After that they released «Come Up For Air» (2005) followed by the afore-mentioned farewell show in Poland. **The White Birch** though survived in the heart and mind of Ola Flottum who won't forsake his band. Besides that, Ola Flottum started composing music for films, learned bit by bit how to accompany pictures with his music. «*It has taken 9 years, many songs have been thrown out the window before I eventually found my 12 chosen ones. During these years I've lost my mother, started a family, raised two kids, and bought a house in Oslo where I've recorded most of the album in the basement.*», he says. **The Weight Of Spring**. The world as we see it. A long road. In the end Darkness will prevail.

On Flottums side appears the classic educated composer Ole-Henrik Moe playing the violine, the viola and the singing saw. Beside him there's Pal Hausken a Norwegian Academy of music graduate (rhythm section) and Moren Barrikmo who's like Hausken a member of Susanna Wallumrod's Magical Orchestra. The next artists to participate in **The Weight Of Spring** are Ingrid Olava and actress and Flottums dear wife Ellen Dorrit Petersen as well as Ingar Hunskaar who's known for his work with artists like Kings Of Convenience, ST. Thomas, Serena Maneesh and Jaga Jagazist fine. Last but not least Grammy winning mastering engineer Bob Katz, putting the final touches on **The Weight Of Spring**.

Will we remember this album in future years? And if so whereof? Names? Instruments? The origin of **The Weight of Spring**? The places it took us to? **The White Birch: The Weight Of Spring**: Love, as it awakes without making a change. «*Love will never change the morning sun, love will never change the way the darkness runs.*»



Pour les fans de: Codeine, A Whisper in the Noise, Marc Hollis

Membres: Ola Floettum

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