



CHRIS MAHER

EPIGRAM ON THE DEATH OF A FEELING

RELEASE DATE: TBD
ADD DATE: TBD

FOR FANS OF: Wilco, Leonard Cohen, Paul Westerberg, Jeffrey Lewis, Townes Van Zandt

CATALOG # REC007

TRACK LISTING:

01. mE=mc²
02. Ungrown Flowers
03. Stop Before It Starts
04. In the Winter We Get Lonelier
05. Hate/Love
06. Soft Sewing Strings
07. Pretty Smile
08. Exposing Bone
09. How to Lie (Truth Knows Only)
10. Lines Drawn Long

Suggested Tracks: 1, 2, 4, 7, 9

FCC CLEAN

ARTIST CONTACT:

Chris Maher
c/o RiYL Records
P.O. Box 2318
Times Square Station
New York, NY 10108
chris@chrismaher.net

LABEL CONTACT:

Hannah Horovitz
Recommended If You Like Records
P.O. Box 2318
Times Square Station
New York, NY 10108
hannah@riylrecords.com

MANAGEMENT CONTACT:

Joanna Katz
Effective Time Management
67 Irving Place South, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10003
jkatzmgmt@gmail.com
917.593.8614

BOOKING CONTACT:

Steve Nimm
Central Booking Agency
info@centralbookingagency.com

UPC and BARCODE

CD - (forthcoming)

MEET CHRIS MAHER (pronounced *mar*): A young troubadour hailing from New York City, wise beyond his years and schooled below his wisdom - proud and protective of the tricks up his sleeve. His music is oft an exercise in contradiction: Neurotic and savvy, country and city, wry and idealistic. He's a deft adjuster but his fear of pigeonholes has been his pitfall - to date, he has only two 'released' songs to his credit.

This is, perhaps, because Chris has always felt most comfortable on the fence, never willing to confine himself to any one musical community. Back in the early 2000s, when first crashing the Lower East Side's love-it-or-detest-it Antifolk scene, Chris was also playing bass for hip-hop band Automato (Dim Mak / Capitol) as they were writing their DFA-produced debut - what else to do when Woody Guthrie and Wu Tang Clan make equal sense?

The first of two commercially available Maher-penned songs, "Summer Song", was released in 2004 by New York's Recommended If You Like Records. It's the A-side of the debut release by The Morningsides, a two-song, 7-inch single recorded by Walter Martin of The Walkmen. The single received considerable praise and generous college radio airplay but the band fractured before committing anything else to tape. It wasn't until late-2005 that Chris' first "solo" release - an early version of his "Ungrown Flowers" - appeared on Seattle label Baskerville Hill's 2005 compilation, *Dr. Rhinoceros or, How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Charge*.

Chris has previewed countless other compositions in various places: On the radio (in both the US and the UK), via the internet and during his frequent live shows. One song, "Pretty Smile", made its debut in the short film, *Rewind*, by German filmmaker Joerg Steineck. Since 2006, Chris has spent considerable time on the road, touring throughout the United States and Europe. He has shared bills with a smorgasbord of fellow songwriters such as M. Ward (Merge / 4AD), Mike Doughty (ATO), Kimya Dawson (K), Nellie McKay (Columbia / Hungry Mouse) and Jeffrey Lewis (Rough Trade). He has also appeared, as a singer and a multi-instrumentalist, on a number of other peoples' albums, including Throw Me the Statue's *Moonbeams* (Secretly Canadian / Baskerville Hill), Jack Lewis' *Lvov Goes to Emandee* (Smoking Gun), Huggabroomstik's *Ultimate Huggabroomstik* (Luv-A-Lot) and Phoebe Kreutz's *Big Lousy Moon* (self-released).

Now, at long last, Recommended If You Like Records is gearing up to release Chris' debut long-player, *Epigram on the Death of a Feeling*. The ten-song collection recalls the verbose bitterness of Leonard Cohen's *Songs of Love and Hate*, the restrained tenderness of early Wilco and Paul Westerberg's aggressive melodicism. Recorded primarily in Williamsburg, Brooklyn with Mark Ospovat (Wooden Wand, Dufus), the album features an assortment of Chris' past and present musical comrades. Soon after the record's release, Chris will embark on full scale tours of the USA and Europe.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
WWW.CHRISMAHER.NET

Urban Folk

THE ZINE ON THE ACOUSTIC SCENE

Chris Maher
Some Songs!

"Love is a rumor, and it's one that will persist," goes part of the endlessly changing and repeating chorus of "mE=mc2," the opening track on

Chris Maher's teaser EP of songs from his long-in-the-works debut full-length. It's the changing/repeating lines that provide most of the charm on these songs, and maybe part of that charm extends to the waiting for these songs to see the light of day. Multiple recording sessions on both coasts? The best things come to those who wait.

In terms of sound, the first point of comparison to *Some Songs!* is *I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning*, the 'country' album Bright Eyes made a couple of years ago. Then I think, "Wait: I really like Chris Maher. His songs don't suck even a fraction of the ass that Bright Eyes do." So maybe that's not a fair comparison. A more accurate point would be to say that this stand up next to David Dondero's *South of the South*, mostly in the slightly country instrumentation and the personal-but-not-too-much-information subject matter. Vocally, Maher sounds a lot like Dondero as well, singing in an emotional, seemingly just about to crack affect. "Soft Sewing Strings" has the feel of a down-home bluegrass jam, although the minor chord and Maher's rough-edged singing makes one feel like the jam might really be a crazed mob, ready to carry unsuspecting bystanders off into oblivion.

I think the strongest song on this EP is "The Happy Kind," the closing track. A simple voice, guitar and harmonica song not unlike something off Paul Westerberg's *Stereo*, the stripped-down performance captures the sadness of the lyric, and lets Maher's voice really come out into the front.

After listening a couple of times, I hope that the proper full-length album isn't too far away from my grubby little hands. This is strong promising stuff.

<http://riylrecords.com/>

SOME
SONGS!
by
Chris
Maher

ISSUE 11
SPRING 2007

A Hard Look at
Soft Black

The Wolfson
Campaign

Wakey!Wakey!

Billy Syndrome

Public Records

More!



Plus: Lowry,
Chris Maher,
Brook Pridemore



"[A] wit and an energy that was so entertaining and watchable. He sang of lazy days on the streets of New York, love equations and ways to deceive and not for one second did i think of getting another drink at the bar or how much work i had to do the next day, Chris had me enthralled throughout." 11/2006

wmbr 88.1fm

NADAV of WMBR's PHONING IT IN: "[Songwriter] and all around Good Dude and Nice Guy Chris Maher... phones it in from Seattle, WA. Poor cel phone quality can't destroy these songs; so good they're untouchable." 8/2006



Shelle's Belles Presents
Phoebe Kreutz and Chris Maher (New York anti-folk lady and gent)
@ The Black Swan Sat 21st Oct

Local folk artists Paula and Geoff warm up the crowd tonight but the fun really starts with anti-folk singer Chris Maher. He sings sweet songs about love and eating Chinese food on the roof of his car. He banters with the crowd about being in 'true' York and playing the dumb American but his lyrics are smart, perceptive and witty and his melodies are charmingly understated.



MELTING VINYL

"[One] of NYUSA's more articulate artists." 11/2006
"A Lo-fi Anti-folk Mark Eitzel for the 21st Century!" 11/2006

COLORBEARER OF ATHENS MERRY AND BRIGHT

DEC. 21, 2005 - VOL. 19 - NO. 50 - FREE

FLAGPOLE

"Back in 2000, NYC singer-songwriter Chris Maher was diving into the antifolk scene and also playing bass for Dim Mak hip hop band Automato as they were writing their DFA-produced debut. When not fooling around with a new lap-pop project, he's now turning out some solo acoustic, drawing comparisons to McCartney, Damien Rice and Elliott Smith." 12/2005

TINY MIX TAPES

"Maher's brand of acoustic guitar is likeable... The melodies are very pop ready; shades of Damien Rice, Sam Beam and Devendra Banhart can be found in his playing... Maher's lyrics [are] clever and brash." 7/2005



POINT EPHEMERE

WWW.POINTEPHEMERE.ORG

DIMANCHE 29 OCTOBRE / 20h30 / folk / 14€

M WARD

4AD / USA

CHRIS MAHER

USA

200, quai de Valmy 75010 Paris
M° Jaurès ou Louis Blanc
T 01 40 34 02 48
préventes point éphémère
bimbo tower, ground zero & fnac
myspace.com/pointephemere

