



## AU REVOIR SIMONE THE BIRD OF MUSIC

(May 15<sup>th</sup>; Our Secret Record Company)



"A collision between the Waitresses, Stereolab and Kings of Convenience, their music has power from what it holds back rather than spells out, and is just waiting to be fallen in love with (or to)." -- *The London Times*

"...always simple, elegant, and ethereal..." -- *Pitchforkmedia.com*

"Eschewing the typical guitar-heavy band set-up for old-school synthesizers and vintage drum machines, [Au Revoir Simone] create dreamy synth-pop. Their soft ethereal vocals laid over spare homemade drumbeats are reminiscent of Air and Stereolab." -- *British Vogue*

If you look in the right places, it's very possible to find beauty in between the criss-crossed wires of the scientific world. Settled between the 0 and the 1 of a binary code, crackling like static on top of an electrical current, there are always moments that shine like shards of elegant noises peeking through a metallic conductor. It's technology, but no one ever said it couldn't be emotional. Brooklyn's **Au Revoir Simone** – **Heather D'Angelo**, **Erika Forster** and **Annie Hart** – are specialists in bringing out the heart from within the machine, conjuring a gorgeous, child-like effervescence via pieces of plastic, metal and wires. And while their music is created through the medium of electronics, their songs resonate with an organic warmth that defies their instruments of choice: three keyboards and a drum machine.

That's right. Three keyboards and a drum machine.

While the set-up is simple, the execution is not. You'd be silly to expect that from three women as brilliantly complex and sound-obsessed as **Au Revoir Simone**. To write the songs that they do – each one involves layers of synths anchored by palpating drum machine blips and frosted by ethereal vocal melodies – the keyboard is what makes the most sense; it is a keyboard, after all, that is capable of making hundreds of sounds, each one different from the rest and able to convey every slight emotional nuance known to man. On *The Bird of Music*, **Au Revoir Simone's** debut LP (following in the heels of 2006's mini-LP, *Verses of Comfort, Assurance and Salvation*), it is more than apparent that these subtle moments in human interaction are the very ones the band enjoys describing most in their shimmering synth-pop gems.

For a band named after a fleeting goodbye – their name was taken from a line in *Pee Wee's Big Adventure* – songs on *The Bird of Music* establish quite a bit of emotional permanence. Written and recorded in Brooklyn over the last year (with the exception of Erika's "I Couldn't Sleep," written while on holiday in Japan), *The Bird of Music* is an album steeped in hazy dreams, thoroughbred horses, soft winter snows, dusty rays of sunlight and lovelorn wishes. It is a record of dichotomies, carefully marrying cold beats with warm voices, joy and sadness, the human and the machine. Retaining the band's signature sound, they endeavored to expand their arrangements beyond what they had done on *Verses...*, thus bringing a more organic touch to their songs by including some strings, vibraphone, cymbals, and more. The result is a gorgeous reverie of sound. "Fallen Snow" laces a happy-go-lucky, swinging organ with a melancholy narrative about empty beds, lonely dinners, and flighty lovers made all the sweeter with waves of "ahh's" right in the middle. "I Couldn't Sleep" reaches for late-night company, not comforting, amongst a *Peng!*-era Stereolab farfisa, while "A Violent Yet Flammable World" was written after playing Iceland Airwaves in 2005, creating the sonic equivalent of the rigid, expansive textures found in the Icelandic landscape. Otherworldly, indeed, but that's just the sort of effect that **Au Revoir Simone** has on you.

**Au Revoir Simone** will be releasing *The Bird of Music* on their very own label, Our Secret Record Company. The girls will also be hitting the road this spring.

For more about **Au Revoir Simone**, drop a line!  
Jen Appel – 212-246-2640 // [jen@pressherepublicity.com](mailto:jen@pressherepublicity.com)

138 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York City 10001  
212.246.2640 • fax: 212.582.6513