

GOLDEN SHOULDERS Friendship Is Deep

Label

UNSPUN HEROES

Format

LP

Catalog Number

UNSPLP 002LP

EAN

5070002558811



Store Price

\$22.79

Release Date

09/13/24

Territory

NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE

Genre

FILE UNDER - G - ROCK

DESCRIPTION

Friendship Is Deep, Golden Shoulders' second album. A collection of smartly observed, witty indie pop songs. In 2004, California-based indie band Golden Shoulders followed up their highly acclaimed debut with their second album, Friendship Is Deep. Now, on the twentieth anniversary of its release, the album most requested by their fans for a vinyl release is finally set for one on Unspun Heroes. Described as "one of the great semi-lost albums of the 21st Century", the album showcases singer, songwriter, and band mainstay, Adam Kline's knack for lyrical hooks and penchant for catchy melodies. But, like friendship, this is deeper than its pop sensibilities might suggest. From the moment the opening track "I Will Light You On Fire" opens with its simple piano refrain and vocal harmonies you know you're listening to something worthy of further exploration. From this building of tension between its temporary aural chaos and the beauty that ultimately emerges, you'll be hooked. Yet, scratch beneath the surface and you'll find this is an album that carries with it a political, pro-peace, and pro-humanity message, albeit somewhat more satirical than you might expect of a band hailing from America's West Coast. This is particularly notable on tracks such as "Golden Soldiers" and the "Committee," where Kline's turn of phrase and wit shines through, cleverly weaving words so they create detailed poetic mosaics. Golden Shoulders is a loose and ever-changing lineup of international talent, with Kline as the kingpin and sole songwriter. Given the pedigree of those whose talents grace the album - among them, Todd Roper and Greg Brown (Cake), Josh Klinghoffer (PJ Harvey, RHCP, Pearl Jam), Neal Morgan (Joanna Newsom, Fleet Foxes), and Dan Elkan (Broken Bells) – it's no surprise the compositions and attention to detail present in each and every one of the 14 songs is top notch. It's this pleasing mix of accomplished individuals, and their mishmash of influences, which lend a pinball effect to the set of stylistically diverse songs on Friendship Is Deep. Collectively though, the music you'll hear has a focus, one that channels late '90s **Brendan Benson**, the poppier side of '80s Violent Femmes, and even the mid-'60s flair of the Beatles' Rubber Soul.

TRACKLISTING

- A1. I Will Light You On Fire
- A2. Don't Ever Do That Again
- A3. Golden Soldiers
- A4. Nothing's All Right
- A5. This Is A Test
- A6. The New Breed
- A7. The Committee
- B1. Years
- B2. I Get Over
- B3. Everybody's Trying To Be My Villain
- B4. Believe Me
- B5. O Come On
- B6. Let My Burden Be
- B7. Patience Darling, Patience

HIGHLIGHTS

- Reissue of *Friendship Is Deep*, **Golden Shoulders**' second album. A collection of smartly observed, witty indie pop songs.
- The album showcases singer, songwriter, and band mainstay, **Adam Kline**'s knack for lyrical hooks and penchant for catchy melodies.
- RIYL: Brendan Benson, Violent Femmes, Beatles.

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