



beepbeep.nl

Beep! Beep! Back up the Truck

Brailledreef 9
3562 LA Utrecht
the Netherlands

T: +31(0)6-16148305 (nicolai)
T: +31(0)6-41198370 (boudewijn)

info@beepbeep.nl
www.beepbeep.nl

Management:

boudewijn@beepbeep.nl
rachel@extensionmusic.com (USA)

Agent (UK / EU):

Björn Bauch, SSC Group GmbH
bjoern.bauch@ssc.de
www.ssc.de

Agent (NL):

Bas Flesseman, Belmont Bookings
bas@belmontbookings.nl
www.belmontbookings.nl

Band:

theblackatlantic@gmail.com

The Black Atlantic is a band from the Netherlands. They released their debut album *Reverence for Fallen Trees* digitally for free (worldwide) on August 21st, 2009. On January 13th 2012 the band will officially release a new EP titled “Darkling, I Listen”.



From the guitar introduction that opens “The Aftermath”, it is clear that *Darkling, I Listen* is a much different sonic animal than the intimate, and mostly acoustic, affair that was The Black Atlantic’s debut album, *Reverence for Fallen Trees*.

Transcending the notion of the EP format, *Darkling, I Listen* is not a stop-gap, in-between-albums release. The record contains five fully sculpted songs with a massive array of influences and elements - from ‘70s psychedelic folk to Phil Spector’s orchestral chamber pop to the soul sensibilities of ‘60s Motown, while taking informed cues from current indie epitomes such as Grizzly Bear, Fleet Foxes, and Bon Iver. It is an immersive listening experience - rustic and pastoral, impressionistic in its scope, full of wide-open vistas and cavernous sonic swells. Yet, for all the hard work and painstakingly-nuanced detail, *Darkling* sounds organic and full of life, not overworked.

Since releasing their debut album in 2009 the band has been on the road almost non stop performing close to 100 shows a year. In Europe the band has toured with Windmill (uk), Woven Hand (us) and good friends Rue Royale (uk). The band also opened up most shows for Midlake in the Netherlands and shared the stage with The Tallest Man on Earth in the U.K. In addition to their European shows, the band has toured the US a total of seven times. Most notably they played the 2010 and 2011 edition of the world’s largest music festival SXSW (US). In addition to SXSW the band performed at Filter’s Culture Collide Festival in Los Angeles, CMJ Music Marathon in New York City, NXNE in Toronto and Eurosonic Noorderslag in The Netherlands.



beepbeep.nl

Highlights & Plans

2010 highlights:

Performed at international showcase festivals Eurosonic (NL), SXSW (US), NXNE (CAN), Popkomm (DE), Reeperbahn (DE), Culture Collide (US) and CMJ (US). Three USA tours, 65 European shows including support slots for The Tallest Man on Earth, Midlake and Woven Hand. Videoclip for 'Fragile Meadow' selected as TOP 5 video of 2010 by national news paper de Volkskrant.

2011 highlights:

Performed on national Dutch television program 'De Wereld Draait Door' (2 million viewers). Performances at renowned showcase festivals Eurosonic (NL), Noorderslag (NL) and SXSW (US). Festival performances at De Affaire (NL), Haldern Pop Festival (DE), Summer Sundae (UK), Dockville (DE), Apple Tree Festival (DE), Phono Pop (DE) and Into The Great Wide Open (NL). Club tours in Germany (feb), The Netherlands (may & dec) the United Kingdom (feb & aug), Scandinavia and the Baltics (may) and China (march).



The band signed with acclaimed booking agency Belmont Bookings for The Netherlands and European agency SSC. Label deals were signed with Haldern Pop Recordings (GAS) and Fastcut Records (Japan). Distribution deal was signed with Redeye Distribution for North America.

The Black Atlantic licensed their music to prime time series 'Off The Map' (ABC) and to Amazon.com for their Amazon Kindle Fire Commercial.



beepbeep.nl



Darkling, I Listen
The Black Atlantic

Release Date: 2012-01-13

Format: EP

Length: 23'21"

Genre: Folk

Information: 2012 Beep! Beep! Back up the Truck

Label Catalog NR.: BEEP018-2012

Manufacturer UPC: 0793573720382

Digital UPC: 886788405028

01. The Aftermath (Of This Unfortunate Event)
02. The Flooded Road (Built on Sand)
03. Darkling, I Listen
04. An Archer, A Dancer
05. Quiet, Humble Man



beepbeep.nl

‘Darkling, I Listen’

From the near classical guitar intro of the opening, brooder-song “The Aftermath”, it is clear that ‘Darkling, I Listen’ is a much different sonic animal than the intimate, and mostly acoustic, affair of The Black Atlantic’s debut album ‘Reverence for Fallen Trees.’ Clocking in at 23 minutes and 23 seconds, ‘Darkling’ contains five fully sculpted songs with a wide array of elements and influences, from 70’s psychedelic folk-rock to Phil Spector-esque orchestrated chamber pop and 60’s Motown soul sensibilities. It also takes informed cues from current indie epitomes such as Grizzly Bear, Fleet Foxes, and Bon Iver. The Black Atlantic wears these influences on its sleeve without sounding inauthentic.

After two years of relentless touring, you can hear they have become a tightly woven group. The songs that comprise ‘Darkling’ came together during two months of intense writing sessions in the late spring and early summer of 2011. The band fleshed the songs out both at home and on their countless tours. They spent the additional summer and early fall painstakingly tracking and mixing, poring over every little detail and nuance of their recordings. Yet, for all this hard work, ‘Darkling’ sounds organic and full of life, not overworked. Maybe that is because the recording is mostly a home brew produced entirely by the band themselves, with band member Matthijs Herder at the helm. Also brought on board were mix engineering wizard Chris Coady (Beach House, Grizzly Bear), and indie rock lifer of fun Paul Pilot (Duke Special), each of whom contributed a mix of a track.

Lyricaly the songs paint the psychological tensions and inward journey of a protagonist who, after an argument, finds himself going through an intense emotional/existential rollercoaster ride. Over the course of his sleepless night, his past, his reality, and his future appear in a whole new light of day. Yet somehow it all sounds sunny. Or perhaps, the moon that looms behind clouds is the more suited a metaphor, as it does in the stunning album artwork by visual artists Tracy Maurice and Matt Moroz (known for their artwork for Arcade Fire, Wolf Parade).

‘Darkling I, Listen’ is an immersive listening experience, rustic and pastoral, but without the obvious pretty embellishments. It is impressionistic in its scope, full of wide-open vistas and cavernous sonic swells. It is music that begs to be listened to on headphones. In the playfully cinematic and psychedelic mood swing of “An Archer / A Dancer”, or the driving and tightly focused title track with its grandiose Mellotron string arrangements, the band has fun in a serious way. There is a joy and intensity at work in these songs, like a craftsman who enjoys his work in and of itself.

‘Darkling, I Listen’ thus manages to transcend the confines of the EP format. It is no in-between-albums effort. It is a small, dreamlike time capsule of a nightly universe.



beepbeep.nl



Press on 'Reverence for Fallen Trees'

Nu.nl (NL)

"An astonishing debut." 9 out of 10

LP33.tv (US)

"The Black Atlantic have finely crafted a sound that combines the best of folk, acoustic, and melancholic pop with musical minimalism. They calm audiences with their vocal harmonies and imagery of nature and connect deeply with audiences by sharing songs replete with stories of love, family, grief, disenchantment, and overcoming."

Oor Magazine (NL)

"You don't have to come all the way from Iceland to make soft, mysterious, orchestral dream pop – The Black Atlantic prove it."

Spinner.com (US)

"Inspired by classic singer-songwriters and modern folk, the Black Atlantic has created an ethereal and evocative sound"

Still Life (NL)

"It's hard to pick a favorite on the album. Each song almost can't do without the other. Each song has its place in The Black Atlantic's landscape..." 9 out of 10

20 Watts (US)

"With their sad, shadowy crooning and sweet acoustic overtures, Holland's The Black Atlantic are pretty much perfect for gusty fall weather."

Altcountry.nl (NL)

"a moving and magical album." 8 out of 10



beepbeep.nl

Press on 'Darkling, I Listen'

SOON!