

# FIREKITES

## THE BOWERY



Named after the abandoned dance hall in which it was recorded, *The Bowery* is a breath-taking debut album for Australian musical collective, **Firekites**. Formed in 2005 by Tim McPhee and Rod Smith, the band has blossomed organically, growing into an absorbing and popular live act that has shared the stage with Built To Spill, Iron & Wine, The Sea and Cake, Laura Marling, Bill Callahan, Stars, The Tallest Man on Earth and School of Seven Bells.

Twirling between half-awake folk and lo-fi electronica, *The Bowery* is immediately captivating. Songs like 'Last Ships' are rooted in a distinct time and place, but not geographically. **Firekites'** lulling music is the streets of a suburb as seen through worldly eyes that have outgrown hedonism. A simple glass of red wine now means so much more than the potential for wild abandon. Indeed, *The Bowery* feels like a circle of old friends with slow-dancing voices, guitars, percussion and a violin, watching the sun rise over brickwork and aerials. A whimsical courtyard of quiet reflection.

The **Firekites** collective features an array of musicians who are no strangers to Australia's independent music scene. With vocals and guitar provided by McPhee of instrumental architects The Instant, backing vocals offered by Jane Tyrrell of powerful hip-hop act The Herd, and members of Pivot, Charge Group and Josh Pyke's touring band, **Firekites** are an accomplished group of songwriters who have married lush composition with musical subtlety.

Receiving critical acclaim from national Australian press like Rolling Stone, The Age, The Sunday Herald Sun, and The Daily Telegraph, *The Bowery* is a joyous experience for all that encounter it. - By **Nick Milligan**

RIYL - Nick Drake, Kings of Convenience, Radiohead, Elliott Smith, The National

*"Peppered with tremolo and woozy keyboards, The Bowery is a slick, soft slice of mature indie-pop. Digital static is woven with pristine electric and acoustic guitars: the angular jazzy sounds of Chicago post-rock are dressed in electro-fringed get-up... Ultimately, The Bowery - and Firekites - is so much more than the sum of its parts."* - Ben Gook, **Rolling Stone 4/5**

*"There is no greater thrill for a music fan than putting on an album you know nothing about and discovering songs of such sublime beauty they leave you speechless, cause tears to well, or prod a smile of appreciation...The opening track 'Last Ships' sets the tone for their exquisite yet simple sound, the conversation between the two acoustic guitars which carry the melody, is so mellifluous and hypnotic."* - Kathy McCabe, **Daily Telegraph**

*"The Bowery glistens with sophisticated instrumental motifs and electronic minutiae. Over ten tracks, swelling string arrangements and subtle computer-wrought intonations entwine lithe, fingerpicked guitar melodies, while McPhee and Tyrrell's vocal harmonies interlace with sumptuous ease."* - Dan Rule, **The Age**

*"Emanating from Newcastle, Australia, Firekites are the unlikely love child of Kings of Convenience and Arcade Fire, with eyes the colour of Texas geniuses, Midlake...The Bowery is the sonically rich debut LP by four music aficionados who have been floating around in the biz long enough to know and differentiate between what is regurgitation and what is revolutionary."* - Monique Rothstein, **Lost at E Minor**

**ARTIST**  
FIREKITES

**TITLE**  
THE BOWERY

**OWN CAT NR**  
OWNREC#46

**MDM CAT NR**  
MDM 45362

**MDM PRICE CODE**  
PC 0861

**FORMAT**  
CD 6-PANEL ECO WALLET

**TIME**  
38'23"

**RELEASE DATE**  
OCT 01, 2009

**TRACK LISTING**  
**01** LAST SHIPS  
**02** AUTUMN STORY  
**03** PARIS  
**04** SAME SUBURB DIFFERENT PARK  
**05** BY NIGHT  
**06** SKIMMING ROOFTOPS  
**07** ANOTHER STATE  
**08** MIRROR MIRACLE  
**09** WORN WEARY  
**10** NEW YEAR HAS SPOKEN

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