



THE
ACORN
NO GHOST



Five friends lost in the woods, alone together in the decade's last summer, imagining a world without a past:

No Ghost.

In the summer of 2009, the Acorn retreated from the road to an isolated cottage in Northern Quebec to begin work on their third full-length album. They had spent the better part of two years touring their critically acclaimed concept album, **Glory Hope Mountain** (a moving biography of Acorn front-man Rolf Klausener's mother), and were in serious need of renewal. The band had been in flux, and its confidence lay on shaky ground. The five core members needed the opportunity to regroup and create without distraction.

The band chose to write collaboratively for the first time in years. Songs took shape at all hours, crafted from hazy late-night improvisations, early morning melodies pulled from the thinning threads of sleep. Modernity clashed with the bucolic via exploratory percussion, feedback, acoustic textures and the natural surrounding sounds. The band's sonic hallmarks were emphasized by the large, woody main-hall of the cottage, sounds bleeding from room to room, birdcalls

and toad chirps seeping through the walls. Communal meals nourished both soul and gullet, summer constellations the only witnesses privy to late-night talks around the fire. With the world in apparent socio-economic disarray, the band took solace in their surroundings, culling songs from the web-strewn bramble as the sun set each night in the mirrored reflection of a dead still lake.

The band then traded trees for telephone poles to finish recording in a sweltering heatwave at Montreal's Treatment Room Studios (*Plants & Animals, Angela Desveaux*). There, the breezy ease of rural surrounds was buried under sweat-caked skin and cracked asphalt, birdsong drowned out by thick air and engine hum.

Written at the cottage, but recorded at the Treatment Room, "Cobbled From Dust" opens the album. The song is the album's thematic introduction and encapsulates No Ghost, a recording swaddled in dichotomy: togetherness and isolation, acoustic and electric, destruction and restoration.

THE ACORN

Rolf Klausener – vocals, guitars, cello, bass, drums, ukulele, gourd guitar, keyboards

Jeff DeButte – vocals, guitars, bass, piano

Patrick Johnson – percussion, drums, ukulele, bass

T. Jeffrey Malecki – drum kits

Howie Tsui – guitars

with

Mike Dubue – vibraphone & bowed vibraphone (Track 6)

Keiko Devaux – marimba (Track 3)

Mike Schultz – trombone (Track 7)

NO GHOST

- 01 Cobbled From Dust
- 02 Restoration
- 03 Misplaced
- 04 I Made The Law
- 05 Crossed Wires
- 06 On The Line
- 07 Bobcat Goldwraith
- 08 No Ghost
- 09 Slippery When Wet
- 10 Almanac
- 11 Kindling To Cremation

RECORDING INFORMATION

Songs written at Lac Charon Cottage, Bouchette QC
June 7th - 27th, 2009

Recorded June 7th - 27th, 2009
by Jarrett Bartlett
at Lac Charon Cottage, Bouchette QC

01, 09, 10 as well as additional overdubs recorded August 10th - 16th, 2009
by Kees Dekker with Gilles Castilloux & Jarrett Bartlett
at the Treatment Room, Montreal Quebec

Supplementary recording September – November 2009
by Rolf Klausener at Florence Gardens, Ottawa ON
and Jeff DeButte at home, Toronto ON

All Songs Written by Rolf Klausener, except 07 Written by Jeff Debutte
All Songs Arranged by Klausener/DeButte/Johnson/Malecki/Tsui

All Songs Published by SONGS publishing except 05

SOCAN/ASCAP (Klausener/Johnson/Malecki)
SOCAN/BMI (DeButte/Tsui)

BIOGRAPHY

Anchored by vivid songwriting and eclectic instrumentation, The Acorn produce an original brand of experimental, popular folk music that effortlessly marries modern and traditional forms.

Rolf Klausener started writing under the moniker The Acorn in the summer of 2002. Initially an excuse to teach himself home-recording, these furtive experiments quickly started eating up the majority of his free time. These early musings would eventually become The Acorn's first full-length release, ***The Pink Ghosts***.

A mellifluous, electro-acoustic tribute to the Ottawa region, ***The Pink Ghosts*** was by released in July 2004 on Jon Bartlett's proudly independent community-based label, ***Kelp Records***. By this time, The Acorn had grown to include the talents of guitarist Jeff DeButte, visual artist and guitarist Howie Tsui and drummer Jeffrey Malecki.

In the fall of 2005, they released the 4-song EP ***Blankets***. It was a more melodically focused effort showcasing the bands emerging synthesis of experimental folk and pop. ***Blankets*** earned the band notable praise from CBC radio, campus radio stations, and their first cross-Canada tour.

Inspired by the road and the communities they discovered beyond their sleepy capital city, The Acorn made every effort to travel the country, touring independently and as often as they could. Throughout 2005, they forged ties with a new, burgeoning independent Canadian music scene which grew to include *Ohbijou*, *Bell Orchestre*, *Timber Timbre*, *Great Lake Swimmers*, *Snailhouse* and many more.

A genealogical quest in late 2006 would prove to be the bands most challenging and sprawling project to date. Rolf began conducting interviews with his Honduran-born Mother, Gloria Esperanza Montoya, to help form a more complete picture of his family. These interviews, both harrowing and awe-inspiring, would push Rolf to apply for several arts grants to produce a song-cycle based on them. In the spring of 2006, The Acorn was awarded an Ontario Arts Council grant and City of Ottawa music grant to produce *Glory Hope Mountain*.

The immensity and scope of the project forced the band to put *Glory Hope Mountain* on hold. The band called up Montreal friend, pianist *Keiko Devaux*, and booked three days at Ottawa's legendary ***Little Bullhorn Prods*** (*Kathleen Edwards*, *Howe Gelb*, etc.) to document a new, live-off-the-floor EP titled ***Tin Fist***. The EP was released on Toronto's ***Paper Bag Records*** (*YouSayParty!WeSayDie!*, *Tokoyo Police Club*, *Woodhands*, *Born Ruffians*) in late 2006 to glowing reviews. The band followed with their first headlining tour.

The Acorn spent the first seven months of 2007 finishing ***Glory Hope Mountain*** in a rented house in Ottawa's centretown.

Not quite biography nor musical folk tale, ***Glory Hope Mountain***, harbours the triumphs, discoveries, sorrow and life-affirming adventures of a life both remarkable and happily modest. Armed with drums, gut-strings, ukuleles, marimbas and the collective's best songwriting to date, The Acorn created a stirring musical document.

Since the release of ***Glory Hope Mountain***, The Acorn have graced the cover of Canada's National music magazine, ***Exclaim*** and garnered innumerable rave reviews across Canada, and internationally. They were **nominated for the 2008 Polaris Award**, and were invited on a US tour with Tuscon AZ legends, ***Calexico***. 2009 saw the band tour Europe 4 times opening for the likes of ***Bon Iver***, ***Fleet Foxes*** and opening a large-scale UK tour for **Mercury Prize** winners ***ELBOW***, climaxing at London's Wembley Arena.

THE ACORN

www.theacorn.ca

www.myspace.com/theacorn

MANAGEMENT

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BOOKING

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PUBLICITY

Canada – Darryl Weeks – darryl@stagefrightpublicity.com

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Europe/Australia/Japan – Duncan Jordan - duncan@bellaunion.com

PRAISE FOR:

GLORY HOPE MOUNTAIN

Nominated for the **Polaris Music Prize** and listed as one of **MOJO Magazines Most Important Recordings of the 2000's**

"...The songs are often dizzily beautiful with The Fleet Foxes' feel for landscape as a living being and a Devendra-ish exuberance."

MOJO MAGAZINE (4 stars)

"...Mountain is no biography. Instead, Klausener crafts from her stories an allegorical narrative of strength, perseverance, love, and redemption."

Pitchforkmedia.com

"The lyrics by Rolf Klausener on Glory Hope Mountain sear into the memory like passages from a fine novel...The Acorn's new album is not only definitive, it's quietly magnificent."

Toronto EYE Weekly

"A rare instant classic that captivates from its opening notes...its melodies, multi-instrumentation and sweeping climaxes reminiscent of Bon Iver or a mellower Arcade Fire."

SUNDAY TELEGRAPH (5 stars)

"Where other bands might have fallen into a clichéd trap, Glory Hope Mountain feels heartfelt and authentic. It's in the thoughtful way the folk-rock songs are spun, using a wide variety of instruments and guest musicians to infuse the album with a fresh and oftentimes shiver-inducing aura that speaks of the past, of longing, and of hope."

Junkmedia.com

"Klausener's songs are by turns fantastical and down-to-earth, slow and quiet and joyfully exuberant, with dazzlingly beautiful melodies, insistent rhythms, vivid images and a voice full of longing and pride."

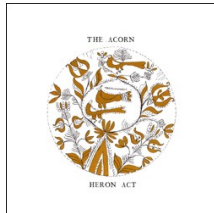
ELLE Magazine

DISCOGRAPHY



June 2010 | No Ghost

Canada: Paper Bag Records
US: YepRoc Records
Europe: Bella Union Records



May 2008 | Heron Act

Compilation of live and unreleased material |
Canada/US/Digital: Paper Bag Records



Sept 2007 | Glory Hope Mountain

Canada/US: Paper Bag Records
Europe: Bella Union Records



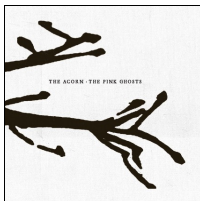
March 2007 | Tin Fist EP

Canada/US: Paper Bag Records



Nov 2005 | Blankets EP

Canada/US: Kelp Records



July 2004 | The Pink Ghosts

Canada/US: Kelp Records