

RED HOUSE RECORDS

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ACTUAL WOLF RELIVES HIS “FADED DAYS” New album out 9/15 on vinyl, out now on all digital providers

"a mix between the spirit of the Rolling Thunder Revue & Thunder Road-era Springsteen w/ a little nod to solo Gene Clark & CSNY thrown in, Faded Days encapsulates an echoey brooding open-heartedness over twangy sensibility and 70's folk purism" - GLIDE MAGAZINE



Oakland, CA: Red House Records is happy to welcome **ACTUAL WOLF** to its roster and announce his new album, *Faded Days*. Lush and expansive, *Faded Days* picks up where cosmic country left off with its layered vocals, washes of pedal steel and sweeping choruses. As to how he became the "Actual Wolf," he recounts: "My friend, who is a junior high gym/health teacher, came up with the name while we were riding in his truck. He said, "ya know... there are a lot of wolf bands but you, you're the Actual Wolf."

A recording and touring musician for such artists/bands as Nikki Lane, Sun Kil Moon and Retribution Gospel Choir (featuring Alan Sparhawk of Low), ACTUAL WOLF delivers a slightly smeared look in the rearview mirror of his life on these 10 tracks, nine originals and a gorgeously nostalgic cover of Haley's "Hometown." The album plays out like a vintage record store find, with a care to storytelling and payoff choruses that are in scarce supply these days. Album highlights include the Springsteen-esque "Be My Love," which segues into the hazy vintage Neil Young and Crazy Horse vibe of the first single, "Baby Please."

"Little Runaway" is a classic rock radio cut (if you grew up in the 70s, that is) and the wistful title track speaks of lost opportunities and old relationships, with the chorus asking "Can you still get high?" And "Only Man" is a traditional folk song with a dash of Pink Floyd.

A native of Minnesota's Mesabi Iron Range, ACTUAL WOLF called Nashville home for two years and is now based in Oakland, CA following federal charges in Minnesota on a cannabis bust (they were reduced). He's now one of the leading extract/hash makers in the Bay Area, working for a boutique provider for Harborside Health Center growing rare/hard-to-cultivate strains.

FADED DAYS

Faded Days has been cultivated, cut and cured with the same patience as that of the grower. The album was written over two years in a spectrum of locations that ACTUAL WOLF has called home at one point or another — Duluth (Minnesota, not Georgia), Brooklyn, Nashville and currently Oakland — the rich oils and aromatics resting in darkness and appropriately aged to bring them to a perfect state in a year-long distillation by engineer Brad Bivens in Minneapolis. The album is subtly informed by that breadth of different atmospheres as much as it is richly colored by the array of collaborators: Jeremy Hanson (Tapes 'n Tapes, Tungsten), Jake Hanson (Grandma's Boyfriend; 12 Rods; Alaska), Steve Garrington (Low, the Erik Berry Duo), Ditch Kurtz (a pedal steel guitarist from Nashville), with additional vocals by Al Church.

After all of that time, *Faded Days* is ready. Its distinctly emotional alkaloids are blissfully intoxicating, palliative and healing. And now that it is finished, a sort of finely crafted goodbye to the *Faded Days* of all of those other places and those people and events, it will only be a matter of time before ACTUAL WOLF cultivates and distills the more recent days of his current Oakland existence, though who knows how long this will take: you cannot put a timeline on true craft. — **Timothy Anderson** (*Cannabis Now*)



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