

## **SWIMM**

If one is to cast their vision far enough out to sea, their eyes will eventually settle on a point where the line between ocean and space becomes indistinguishable. Two unexplored frontiers intertwined in a beautiful, pseudo-psychedelic moment of infinite hope that begets the desire to pursue adventure. It is here that LA-based psych-pop duo, **SWIMM**, live creatively. Originally hailing from the stretch of Floridian beach known as the 'Space Coast', where residents deal with the sonic resonance of space shuttles shaking their houses and watch rockets launch into space from the beach, SWIMM has created a sound that blends ethereal soundscapes and sun-soaked, beachy vibes; a perfect representation of the unique place in which they grew up. When you add the poignant satire that the band tends to favor lyrically, SWIMM's music takes on the delicate balance of thoughtful musicianship, social awareness and immediate relatability that seems to be the common thread shared amongst most bands that are considered timeless.

Chris Hess and Adam Winn, the duo behind SWIMM's sound, met through surfing and mutual friends around their community in Satellite Beach. Growing up in a musical environment rich with amazing musicians but lacking a definitive 'local scene' allowed Hess and Winn the chance to really grow creatively in their own right without feeling the pressure to fit into the sound that they were surrounded by. As a result, while the sound and texture of their 2013 debut *Feels* EP was very Floridian, the five singles that the record was comprised of also set the precedent for the band to move on to a much larger stage.

Last year, Winn and Hess took an important step in bringing their sound to a wider audience when they followed some of their favorite friends and musicians to Los Angeles. Some of their friends owned a warehouse known as The Cube, which happened to have an open spot in it. It was here, in The Cube, where the band's highly anticipated "Beverly Hells" EP began to take shape. As Hess puts it, "constantly being around so much music and art opened the door to so many different realms of creativity for us that influenced our new material."

While the *Beverly Hells* EP (due out August 28th on 24West Records) maintains all of the traits from the *Feels* EP that caught the eye of so many tastemakers around the blogosphere, it has also picked up a level of maturity and thoughtfulness that came along with the "culture burst" (as Hess describes it) of moving out west. If you listen to the record, Los Angeles has a very distinct influence over the lyrics and mood of each of the effort's six tracks. From the tongue-in-cheek satire of LA culture that forms the basis of the EP's title track, to the reflection on the duo's friendship and pursuit of their dreams in "All The Time", the EP is very much a statement on this formative experience for the band and the artistic evolution that has since taken place, thanks in large part to the move.

As every Angeleno-transplant knows, turbulent times are synonymous with sunny days. Like walking through a hallway of mirrors, SWIMM's *Beverly Hells* EP paints a vivid picture of their adopted home city's neverending search for validation and reason. Be on the lookout for the new EP later this summer and make sure to catch the band this Fall as they hit the west coast

with Young Empires and then weave their way across the US and Canada with Bright Light Social Hour.