



The Shady Recruits EP (Solaris Records)

Southern supergroup The Shady Recruits, forged from night after night of steamy collaborations, introduce a body of work exemplifying the boundless inspiration of the low country. Led by drummer Jack Ryan (The Marcus King Band), this five-piece collective, each musician with their own impressively varied accomplishments, have released into the light a self-titled EP, a 6-song exploration of their vast individual potentials melded together in a set of songs that uplift the soul and keep it there.

Born from an unexpected gift of idle hands, and produced by the band over the course of one hot summer at Echo Mountain Studios in Asheville, NC, this genre-transcending work breathes new life into seasoned material and introduces brand new smokin' hot grooves as thick as their collaboration. The result, a rich flavor of "tasty tunes."

The opening track, the horn-driven Funk vehicle "Gherobi," sets the tone continuing on through the mysterious and moody "Junie Harper" and moves smoothly through the halfway mark with the third instrumental "Le Thick." Next is "Nightbird," the group's first official collaboration, the one that made them realize, according to guitarist Charles Hedgepath (The Work, The Bad Popes), "We've got something cool and different that is worth putting out there, because I couldn't really tell you what kind of music that is."

"Save Your Pride," introduces us to the smooth tenor of trumpeter Justin Johnson (Marcus King Band), his vocals playing off Hedgepath's on this original tune, and finally "Survivor," another original composition, penned by Hedgepath, showing off the fresh polish of its new life.

"As soon as I heard Justin sing 'You've done me wrong, you put me down' that's when I knew that song was done. That's something I never would have thought of myself,"

explains Hedgepath. As far as inspiration, he explains, “There are two ways you can respond to a situation, you can be the victim, but I’m going to be the survivor.”

So, what do you get when you take the cream of an already musically lush region, and add the gift of time? Charles illustrates, “It’s almost like an ensemble cast of a theater troupe where you’re used to getting and receiving notes, and by doing that you end up with the best result.” *The Shady Recruits EP* proves that rule, serving to show you how hot it can be in the shade.

The Shady Recruits are:

Jack Ryan (The Marcus King Band) - Drums
Marcus White (Voodoo Visionary, Killakeyz_Band) - Keys
David Katilius (Scrumptious, Adam Knight’s Buried Alive) - Bass
Charles Hedgepath (The Work, The Bad Popes) - Guitar/Vocals
Justin Johnson (The Marcus King Band) - Horns/Vocals

The Shady Recruits EP is available on [tour](#) NOW.

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