

# Sparrow Release Debut Album “Playtime”

- OUT GLOBALLY ON NUMBSKULL HQ/TCF LTD
- DOWNLOAD 20/03/11 CD 28/03/11 VIA PROPER DIST

## LIVE DATES 2011

THE PRINCE ALBERT, BRIGHTON 25/02/11  
THE SLAUGHTERED LAMB, LONDON 26/02/11  
THE WILMINGTON ARMS, LONDON 23/03/11  
THE CHICHESTER INN, CHICHESTER 02/04/11  
THE GREAT ESCAPE FRINGE, BRIGHTON 11/05/11  
MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED

**Sparrow** make intelligent, atmospheric, sparse but beautiful guitar music. Their debut album **Playtime** (signed to Brighton based label Numbskull HQ) inhabits a quietly off kilter universe.

Since forming in 2009, **Sparrow** rapidly developed a striking and unique sound. The music has an early 90s alternative influence running throughout, while comparisons have been made with **Low**, **Radiohead**, **Eels**, early **Cure** and primitive new wave.

The rhythms on **Playtime** are heavily influenced by dance music except everything is played in real time. **Playtime** is free from electronic instruments, post-production, reverb on vocals (**B52s**, **Prinzhorn Dance School**), effects, editing, tuning and quantizing. There are no overdubs. **Sparrow** never record more than they would perform live. You are supposed to hear the space around the instruments.

Their songs are constructed using close boy/girl harmonies set against hypnotic rhythmic arrangements. The music is minimalistic, using raw unprocessed sounds and unflinchingly honest lyrics.

Jointly fronted by **Ali Gavan** (guitar/vocals) and **Marina Perryman** (guitar/vocals), you are never really sure who is singing what as their voices merge in an ambiguous way. **Bryn Mabey** plays bass and **Caz Adlington** plays drums.

**Ali** and **Marina** are best friends based in Brighton, **Bryn** and **Caz** grew up in Cambridge. The four met in Brighton, became close friends and formed **Sparrow**. Sharing a common way of life and love of music, the four friends adhere to their own type of musical feminism; believing your gender and sexuality needn't overshadow the music you make. **Sparrow** set out to make music that was more about staying in together than going out, reflecting the closeness they all feel.

Lyrically the band are concerned with everyday life and the beautiful mundane things that go uncelebrated. **Playtime** is about finding warmth and joy in your immediate surroundings, in the things that you might take for granted. A contrary set of voices in a culture that says what you have is not good enough and who you are is wrong. **Playtime** is the soundtrack for exploring and celebrating otherness.

## Management - Numbskull HQ

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