

# Family Vineyard

## LOVELY MIDGET NORTH HEAD

**Catalog Number: FV24    Format: CD**

**Release Date: Nov. 4, 2003    UPC: 656605402420**

**North Head \* Squall \* Fading \* Heavy Weather  
Raudive Rain \* Swollen Dusk \* Dolphin  
+ ENHANCED CONTENT**

"[Lovely Midget's] guitar feedback, slowly tumbling percussion, and sunbleached vibrations could easily have resulted in the crystalline sleepiness of *My Bloody Valentine* but instead have been covered with 10 years of dust and cobwebs blurring the melodies with murk and mire." -- Aquarius Records

Lovely Midget is Rachel Shearer, an integral player in the New Zealand underground. Performing with Kiwi bands *Angelhead* and *Queen Meanie Puss* during the 1990s, Rachel entrenched her sound in the ears of adventurous stateside record collectors, recording for labels as *Flying Nun*, *Xpressway* and *Siltbreeze*. Since becoming Lovely Midget in 1995, Rachel has created a transcendent world of shivering ambient sounds, distant ruptures and warm washes of analog sheen. Building pieces around aching tube equipment, and delicate strokes of guitar, bass, percussion and vocal hum, Lovely Midget's international appeal has far surpassed her meager output. Outside of extremely limited NZ releases, her 1996 U.S. debut was a 10" record on Thurston Moore's *Ecstatic Peace!* label, followed up by the highly heralded *Corpus Hermeticum* CD and an obscured contribution to a *Freedom From* cassette. These releases established Lovely Midget as a devastatingly unique sound sculptor, somehow crossing the paths of *Brian Eno* to *Jason Lescalleet* and *Elanie Radigue* to *François Bayle* with a personal intimacy and the lovingly woven aural tapestries New Zealand has become known for.

*North Head* brings together two years of recording to reinstate Lovely Midget as a sublime aural architect of a new order. During her sabbatical, Rachel has sat behind the special effects board of syndicated American TV show and most recently, added the post production paws and wows to an upcoming major cartoon-movie, destined for the comfy seating and digital surround sound of theaters. In these seven tracks, a cinematic ear pushes each forward and out, oozing forth in an all encompassing wave that is so multi-layered a big screen and plush chair would get in the way. Though the corporate gloss needed for mass entertainment is stripped. Chunks and fine strains of submerged rhythms shift alongside chipped melodies, tumbling inside you, and wakening the past. This is the sound of memories. And the sound of a future.

A noted and regularly commissioned visual and video artist, *North Head* is an **Enhanced CD** that contains a video of the title track.

### Selling Points:

1) *North Head* is the long anticipated album by Lovely Midget, whose last U.S. release was a 1996 limited 10" record on Sonic Youth guitarist Thurston Moore's *Ecstatic Peace!* label

2) Rachel Shearer's musical history has spanned 16 years, along the way recording for such seminal underground labels as *Siltbreeze*, *Flying Nun*, *Xpressway*, *Freedom-From*, *Corpus Hermeticum*, and *Ecstatic Peace!*

3) Features a cover version of "Dolphin" by 1970s cult folk singer Linda Perhacs

4) *North Head* is an enhanced CD, featuring a video for the title song, filmed by Rachel Shearer

5) *North Head* will appeal to fans of ambient music and adventurous rock listeners who indulge in *Stars of the Lid*, *Landing*, and *Labradford* or even *Brian Eno* and *Elaine Radigue*.

## Family Vineyard

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