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# **BRENT CASH**

## **HOW WILL I KNOW IF I'M AWAKE**

(MARINA)

Do you believe in magic?! Well, we do. Especially since we've heard this album. **Marina** is proud to present a brand new recording artist: Mr **Brent Cash** - a musical *wunderkind* from Athens, GA (home of **R.E.M.** and **The B-52s**, among others).

Brent entitled his debut album "*How Will I Know If I'm Awake*" and it is almost too good to be true. Sounding like a lost **sunshine pop** classic from the 60s, the record is overflowing with hook-laden choruses, multi-layered vocal harmonies and lush sophisticated arrangements. It's the sound of endless summers and good vibrations.

From the start, multi-instrumentalist Cash decided to record his songs like "*they did it back then*". So no costs were spared to hire the best musicians in town and assemble a mini-orchestra featuring strings, brass and even a harp (!). The results are simply stunning.

From the opening chords of "*Everything That's Grey*" we enter melody wonderland. A place where major 7 chords rule and beautiful vocal harmonies dazzle your mind. "*Digging The Fault Line*" is full of **Byrds** guitar jangle, sounding like the perfect soundtrack to cruise into golden California sunsets (feat. a great **Wes Montgomery**-like guitar solo along the way). "*Only Time*" explodes with 100 % fat-free youthful euphoria - **Roger Nichols** meets **The 5th Dimension**. *Ba-baba-ba...*

While deeply rooted in 60s songwriting - influenced by **Bacharach**, **Wilson**, **McCartney**, and yes, **The Monkees** - Cash certainly has his own unique signature style. Just listen to "*And Had We Ever...*" and "*I Think I'm Falling In Love*" - with its complex enchanting textures, ignoring conventional song structures.

"*Love Is Burning Down Tonight*" - a striking duet between Brent and **Amanda Kapousouz** - is a special highlight of the album. It's a song about a relationship going wrong - yet it's so beautifully arranged, that it makes the scenario almost sound like the best lifestyle option ever (ha...). "*Good Morning Sunshine*" could be the theme song to the best TV series in the world - the harpsichord driven piece is chock-full of amazing twists and turns of melodic beauty. Play it over and over again - and you'll still discover new beautiful details. "*Making shapes on corners...*"

"*This Sea, These Waves*" moves us into Bossa Nova territory. Starting off in a classic **Getz/ Gilberto** mould, the song soon morphs into heavily orchestrated **Sergio Mendes & Brazil '66** elegance (with one verse even sung in Portuguese!). Wow. "*More Than Everything*" - clocking in at over six minutes - ends this beautiful song cycle about love lost and found. A great final statement about overcoming heartbreak, delivered with the sincerity of a **Carpenters** record.

Listen to this album - and believe in magic!