

# MODERN RADIO RECORD LABEL • 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22 • AT THE TURF CLUB • 21+, DOORS @ 9:00PM - \$7  
FT (THE SHADOW GOVERNMENT) • DAUGHTERS OF THE SUN • THE CHAMBERMAIDS • SHERIDAN FOX (HIS MISCHIEF) • DOUBLE BIRD

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23 • THE CEDAR CULTURAL CENTER • ALL AGES, 4:30PM - \$10  
THE PLASTIC CONSTELLATIONS • STNNG • SKOAL KODIAK • VAMPIRE HANDS • AND MORE!

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Modern Radio Record Label was conceived by Tom Loftus in the Spring of 1999. The label was founded to support a growing community of artists in the Twin Cities and to give back to those musicians that he so enjoyed. It all began in the Summer of 1999 with three releases, **The Misfires** LP/CD, **The Hidden Chord** 7" and a split 7" with **Killsadie** and **Brand New Unit**. You may recognize members of **Killsadie** as they later moved on to form such bands as **Minus the Bear** and **Pretty Girls Make Graves**. Brian from **The Hidden Chord**, who also played in **The Misfires** with David and Pete, later joined **Signal To Trust**. Over the years this type of three degrees of separation or list of "former members of" became common in a growing community of artists associated with Modern Radio.

Over the years, Modern Radio has proved to be the perfect place for so many artists to establish themselves. In the year 2000, Modern Radio would bring you the first full-length by a young band of high school friends **The Plastic Constellations**. In the next decade, the band would become a Twin Cities institution and later sign to **French Kiss Records**. Later that Summer, Modern Radio would release the first CDEP by **Motion City Soundtrack**, a band that eventually signed to **Epitaph Records** and now calls **Columbia Records** their home. Every band has its inception, its starting point.

Many artists found Modern Radio as a welcome home for a variety of unique projects. In the summer of 2001, Olympia artist **Mirah** released the *Small Sale* 7" on Modern Radio in time for the legendary **Yoyo A Go Go** music festival which included **The Gossip**, **Sleater-Kinney** and **Cat Power**. **Mirah** has since released four full-length albums on **K Records** and has toured the world several times, but she never lost touch with Tom and his Twin Cities label. In 2008, the songs from that modest 7" were reissued on CD along with a collection of rarities, imports and out-of-print material titled *The Old Days Feeling*.

A growing tradition of unique projects by larger artists outside of the Twin Cities continued in 2004 with the release of the *Let's Be Active: Keep The Fuzz Off My Buzz* LP. The LP jackets for the album were handmade by the artists and was released for a Midwest tour. The project was in response to the Iraq war and negative spirit taking over the country. The artists were **FT (The Shadow Government)**, **Paradise Island** (Jenny from Erase Errata) **Jarrett Mitchell** and **William Elliott Whitmore** (Anti Records). A documentary of the tour was later released on DVD and received glowing reviews. Later that year, Modern

Radio had yet another opportunity to work with some amazing bands on a special project when they released a split 7" with Minneapolis band **Sicbay** and San Francisco's **Deerhoof**. **Deerhoof** has released countless records with the **Kill Rock Stars** label and have become a household name in the independent music world.

2005 officially marked long time friend, Peter Mielech, joining the label and becoming a full partner. The first record he contributed to was the first full-length release by **STNNG**, *Dignified Sissy*. Later that year **STNNG** would stun a First Avenue audience at the **MN Music Awards** and the band would be voted **Best New Band** in City Pages' annual **Picked to Click** poll.

Now with Tom completing his master's degree work and a new co-conspirator in Pete, Modern Radio seemed poised to take over 2006. Modern Radio put out a dozen releases culminating with the **4th Annual Lunch Show**, featuring the dual release of new records by **STNNG** and **Signal To Trust**. As if there wasn't enough to mark the occasion, surprise opener **Shellac** made a special trip to play the show. Local press took note of the label's banner year when City Pages named Modern Radio **Best Record Label of the Twin Cities** for 2006.

In an act of nonconformity, Modern Radio pulled out all the stops to celebrate its **Nine Year Anniversary**. To mark the occasion six shows were planned, including flying in artists **Yellow Swans** and **Mirah** and reuniting five Twin Cities bands including **Malachi Constant**, **Grotto** and **Volante**. 2008 also saw a new record by rising stars **Vampire Hands** with *Me & You Cherry Red*. The album would later chart in **CMJ's Top 50**, and the band would tour with indie buzz-band **Wavves**.

So what does Modern Radio have in store for the future? Modern Radio will be re-launching and updating the website and webstore. This will include the infamous message board that has become the place to go for goings on in the Twin Cities, receiving over a million hits per month. Modern Radio is excited to welcome **Skoal Kodiak** to the label with a new record this Spring, as well as **STNNG's** third full-length in 2010. However, first and foremost the label will be celebrating their **10 Year Anniversary** with a weekend of great music. **Friday, January 22** at the **Turf Club** and **Saturday, January 23** at the **Cedar Cultural Center**. Stay tuned for more info as the weeks grow closer. It will be a weekend to remember.



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MODERN RADIO RECORD LABEL  
PO BOX 8886 MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55408  
www.modern-radio.com

TOM: (612) 669-5440 • tom@modern-radio.com  
PETER: (651) 269-0798 • peter@modern-radio.com