Strained Amilab





Not quite able to shake their blues on a sunny day, in the same lane as fellow beach rockers Girls and Rolling Blackouts Coastal Fever, Strand Child make it their mission to graft joy onto melancholy, soundtracking our everyday struggles to stay afloat. A darker undercurrent in the music hints at the clear anguish of second wave emo bands like Texas Is The Reason. They strike a balance between both inspirations with their brand new EP "Ola". A pun on the Spanish greeting for "Hi!" and the Spanish word for "Wave", the four songs guide the listener through a musical tunnel of depression and towards the process of healing.

It's the kind of music you can imagine playing on a spring break beach day when your high school sweetheart has just broken up with you, but the sound of the waves reassure you:

everything will be alright, with time.

The combination of sunny beach days and snowy winters is something that Strand Child knows all too well: Mario Quezada and Hilding Karlsson both come from distinct backgrounds. Mario from the sunny island of Dominican Republic and Hilding from the cold yet cozy suburbs of Stockholm, Sweden.

Added to the mix are the driving drums of Christoph Thun who grew up in Warsaw, Poland and the punchy bass of Eva Sterk, a German native who has called Berlin home for years.

"My regrets pile up like laundry" sings Quezada on first single "Momentum", while being carried by an ocean of blissed-out guitars conjured up by Hilding and a pulsing rhythm section provided by Eva and Christoph. The song then culminates with the line "think I finally made it home" with the journey now complete, lessons learned and hopeful tone in place.

With a clear plan to create catchy hooks and chill vibes, the four-piece recorded "Ola" in their practice room, housed in a gritty building in the former East-Berlin suburb Marzahn.

Like the day your best friend gets eaten by a shark, like a desert island with a single palm tree, or crying while eating an ice cream cone on the boardwalk, "Ola" is both sunny and sad.

Currently quarantined at home, the band will postpone their live shows but bring their wavey tunes to our homes in acoustic live sessions.

Ola is out June 30th:

Tracklist:

1- Momentum

2- Jammers

3- Dopamine Guns

4- Fake It