

# TJ Ekleberg

## Black & Amber

TJ Ekleberg releases his 7th studio album ***Black & Amber*** in August 2016. Ekleberg returns to Australia briefly from Japan, launching his new album with a solo performance at ***Colbourne Ave*** (Glebe) on Thursday 11 August. The album is released independently on Akimbo records.

Following three adrenalin-fuelled years in Berlin, the Australian singer-songwriter's 7th album finds him in the calm of Kyoto, Japan, delivering his most focused album to date. *Black & Amber* marries the rush of new adventures with the loneliness and loss of leaving things behind - offering darkness and beauty in equal measure.

On *Black & Amber*, Ekleberg explores what it is to trade a world you know for one you don't. In *Someone I'm becoming*, he asks 'Was it something I was becoming? Something I've become? Someone coming undone?'. It's a soulful, lush guitar-based album of sparkling tremolo, ragged radio speaker vocals, rippling sunshine delay lines and Ekleberg's knack of balancing world weary whisper with fragile wail. From the disorientation of *I swallowed the ocean* to the sweet nostalgia of *Mini Moke*, the album merges a lost sixties garage soul with an off kilter indie aesthetic - magnifying small details into glimpses of what it is to make it through the day.

*"Berlin was a crazy endless summer, but Kyoto is a different world - I'm walking past centuries old temples and sculpted gardens by the river, past Maiko and priests catching bullet trains. The silence, the detachment, the confusion throws a curious light on who I was, and who I could be..."* - TJ Ekleberg



Album opener 'You're probably in Brooklyn' names the confusion of ex-loves and lives, a bittersweet coming to terms with the past: "You'd drive around in your leaking Corolla / the minute I said one thing you'd know how to say the other / the blues of John Coltrane, the moods of my mother / the idea pop music was just a passing fad / you always found a way to make me mad..."

A guitarist and producer, Eckleberg was a fixture on the Sydney scene for twenty years, playing alongside bands such as **Jackie Orscaczky, Floyd Vincent & The Childbrides; Ed Kuepper; Bluejuice; Hermitude; Morganics; Entropic; The Whitlams** and many more. He spent the last eight juggling music and a full time gig as the **Artistic Director of Shopfront Contemporary Arts**. Fusing incisive lyrics reminiscent of PJ Harvey and the intimate confessions of Ryan Adams, his soulful swagger ricochets off jagged guitar and blues inflected harmonies.

In December 2010 he stopped in Berlin for a month to visit close friend DJ Rick Bull (aka Deep Child) and stayed three years. He was featured in Berlin's music bible **TIP**, formed '**The Ecklebergs**'; performed alongside Indie darlings **The Tunics** and **Cameron Laing / Bunnysuit**; co-founded the critically acclaimed **The Deltahorse** featuring **Dana Colley (Morphine)**; played guitar for **Inga Liljestrom** at **Madame Claude** and was half of guitar duo **The Silver Trail**. He produced **The Bee Ho Grey's** 'Engine starts' for the movie **Dear Courtney**; an album with Indonesian indie star **Mian Tiara** and **Matajiwa's Reza Achman**; an ep for **White Beach Syndrome**; theatre songs with **Rachel Holmshaw**; an album for **Delboy Wilson**; and recruited **Front 242** drummer **Tim Kroker** for his band. He also recorded 6th lp *This might feel like home*.

For immediate release:

TJ Eckleberg releases *Black & Amber* on August 1. TJ returns to Australia to play a solo gig at **Colbourne Ave, Glebe, Sydney** on August 11. The album is released independently on Akimbo records, and is available through Bandcamp and the usual digital outlets, as well as a limited edition cd at the venue on the night.

**SYDNEY LAUNCH :**

Thursday 11 August , 8pm

Venue : Colbourne Ave

Address : 37-47 St Johns Rd, Glebe

Further details:

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[www.tjeckleberg.bandcamp.com](http://www.tjeckleberg.bandcamp.com)