

# SON OF THE VELVET RAT

dorado

**Son of the Velvet Rat** (SotVR) celebrates the release of their sixth album *Dorado* – a golden treasure of desert-inspired tracks produced by the critically acclaimed songwriter and producer, **Joe Henry**. The album will debut internationally on February 17th, 2017 with a dual release by **Fluff & Gravy** (CDs and Vinyl) and **Mint 400** (Digital Distribution)

*“Dorado was recorded quickly over just a few days, and it had to be. The songs as deft pieces of writing had already been well considered, but their articulation needed to be urgent for the mystery at the heart of them to spark and fizz with real-time revelation... Georg and Heike, the husband and wife duo from Austria who are lock-and-key to Son Of The Velvet Rat – both closing the circle of their shared intention, and springing it open – seem invariably to embody the purest constructs of Americana.*

*The voices you hear from this album hover like strobing waves rising from a ribbon of heated black road, and that is precisely how they entered my world: as an apparition both unmistakable and untouchable; other-worldly, yet utterly familiar. I sometimes believe that as sprawling and confused as our national character has become, it requires a foreigner to actually make sense and whole cloth of its particular alchemy – to see it clearly, as if from the fire tower high above us.”* - Joe Henry, Producer

Alongside this latest album creation with Joe Henry, the band catalogue includes collaborations with other luminaries such as Lucinda Williams and former Wilco drummer Ken Coomer. Peter Jesperson, former producer & manager of The Replacements, put it aptly: *“... beautiful and somber music, their lyrics are pure poetry.”*

After years of finding inspiration in the California desert, SotVR chose in 2013 to leave behind their impressive band history in Austria, with 5 albums to their credit, and make their home in Joshua Tree. This new endeavor finds the two commuting between the anonymous wasteland of Los Angeles and the fierce but fragile beauty of the high desert, reinventing their creative sphere in a completely different artistic environment. There's a certain strangeness in their music and sound, with its origins woven deeply in the cultural heritage of the European folk-noir and chanson traditions, and it certainly strikes a chord in all who know the grounding force of gravity and still like to dance on the tightrope.

## PRAISE FOR SOTVR'S FORMER ALBUMS

*“SotVR paint a landscape that echoes the dark romanticism of Leonard Cohen and Nick Drake...stark imagery amid themes of love, loss, and longing.”* (Performer Magazine, MA/US)

*„Velvet Rat’s sound is where punk rock, folk tunes, and French chansons intersect.”* (Palm Springs Life, CA/US)

*„Introspective and cathartic European folk music.”* (Delusions of Adequacy)

*“Heartbreakingly beautiful, slow, minimal folk.”* (KZSU, Radio Stanford/CA)

*“Georg Altziebler’s distinctively deep smoky voice carries the melody on its journey, as the falling sweat seems to evaporate before ever hitting the cracking dirt.”* [11/28/2016]—Paste Magazine

*“They pull together spots of light and hope in the midst of a great ragged emptiness and allow these bright moments to shape the rhythmic momentum that propels the song forward.”* [11/25/2016]—Joshua Pickard, Nooga

*„There’s some dark majesty at work here.”* (Logo magazine, London/UK)

*“There is a deep and soulful purity to their music. Georg is not just a lyricist. He is a songwriter’s songwriter. There is a haunting beauty in each and every song that stimulates intrigue.”* (Coachella Valley Weekly, CA/US)

SONOFTHEVELVETRAT.COM

FLUFF & GRAVEY RECORDS | Digitally by MINT400

Release Date: February 17th 2017



## TRACK LISTINGS

1	Carry on	3:50
2	Copper Hill	4:50
3	Blood Red Shoes	5:00
4	Love’s The Devil’s Foe	4:10
5	Shadow Song	3:50
6	Surfer Joe	4:00
7	Starlite Motel	3:35
8	Sweet Angela	6:30
9	Tiger Honey	3:10
10	Franklin Avenue	4:50

Jay Bellerose: drums, percussion

Patrick Warren: piano, e-piano, autoharp, marxophone

David Pilch: acoustic and electric bass

Adam Levy: electric guitar

Victoria Williams: vocals on “blood red shoes”

Faith Chinnock: add. b-vocals on “Blood Red Shoes”

Miriam Bichler: add. b-vocals on “Love’s the devil’s foe”

Gar Robertson; guitar on “Love’s the devil’s foe” & pedal steel on “Tiger honey”

Bob Furgo; violin on “Shadow song” & “Carry on”

Scott Kisinger; trombone on “Copper hill”, “Blood red shoes” & “Surfer Joe”

Kelly Corbin; Clarinet and Saxophone on “Copper hill”

Heike Binder: organ, accordion, backing vocals

Georg Altziebler: guitar, vocals, e-bow, melodica, harp

