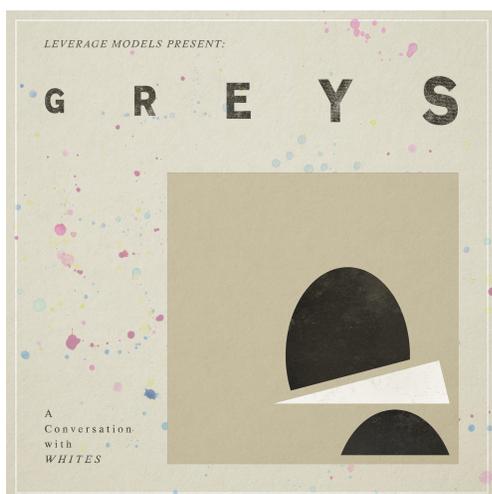


Anachronisme Records & Leverage Models to Release “Greys” – A Digital Compilation Benefiting the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees

“No one leaves home unless / home is the mouth of a shark”
-- *Home*, by Warsan Shire

Bandcamp (Advance Release, Discount Price): 8/28/19 | \$10
All other platforms: 9/4/19



Leverage Models and Anachronisme present **Greys**, a **21-track** compilation benefiting the **Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees (“MVRCR”)**. Contributors used material from **Leverage Models’ Whites** album (2018) as a creative starting point, recording new work that includes thoroughly unorthodox reconstructions and original music in some form of lyrical and/or musical ‘conversation’ with the originals. Greys features new work by a crowd of idiosyncratic and brilliant independent artists/producers, including **William Tyler** (*Merge Records*), **Xenia Rubinos**, **Booker Stardrum** (*Weyes Blood, NNA Tapes*), **Courtship Ritual** (*Godmode*), **Wendy Eisenberg**, **Trevor Dunn** (*Tzadik*) **W. Andrew Raposo** (*Midnight Magic, Classixx*) with **Daniel Nentwig** (*The Whitest Boy Alive*), **C.J. Boyd** (*Joyful Noise*), **Grant Zubritsky** (*Maggie Rogers, Chet Faker*), **Kill Alters** (feat. *Hisham Bharoocha of Black Dice, Soft*

Circle) and more. As with *Whites*, the *Greys* compilation has a wide wingspan, amplifying its ecstatic, hysterical, somber and fragile notes, and pivoting around themes of inclusion, privilege, abuse by caregivers & authorities, and a stubbornly persistent belief in social hope.

100% of album sales and streaming royalties will be donated to the MVRCR, an organization in upstate New York’s Mohawk Valley region that assists refugees, immigrants, and “limited English proficient individuals” through a range of community-centered programs in order to help them achieve independence and self-sufficiency. The organization also enacts programs to build a more multi-cultural and understanding community.

The idea was loose and artist-centric. Leverage Models released their 2nd full-length album, *Whites*, at the end of 2018 (*shelved for over 2 years for record label and personal reasons documented in prior interviews*). As a way to reconnect to the material he’d previously discarded in a period of depression and self-doubt, producer Shannon Fields asked a handful of talented friends to use the songs on *Whites* as a springboard to create something new, to pull the songs apart without reverence, and even to critique the album’s many unreliable narrators. The resulting collection drags *Whites’* manic and shadowy American character studies into more brightly lit and immediate spaces. The beneficiary organization, the MVRCR, is a not-for-profit group local to Fields’ home/studio in the economically depressed Mohawk Valley region of upstate New York.

Contributors approached Leverage Models’ material in radically personal ways. **Godmode** band **Courtship Ritual** wrote the brooding *Uncle Incision* in response to the uber-masculine neo-survivalist

'Uncle' figure at the center of *A Scout's Prayer*. **ANTI-** recording artist **Xenia Rubin** began with the basic 'heartbeat' rhythm track of *If I Let You Stay* to create her inspiring cinematic rap portrait of the 19th century female warrior (*onna bugeisha*), Nayako Takeko. Other artists used the tracks from *Whites* as an inventory of raw material to create stunning new instrumental compositions, as **NNA Tapes** artist **Booker Stardrum** (*Weyes Blood*, *Cloud Becomes Your Hand*) does on the dream-like opener, *Bring On The Fog*. Similarly, composers **Lori Scacco** (*Helado Negro*, *Seely*) and **Trevor Dunn** (*Mr. Bungle*, *John Zorn*, *Melvins*) create wildly distinct new works of ambient reconstruction. Delivering more conventional and pleasurable adrenaline-shot remixes are dance music veteran (vocalist and producer) **Quilla**, Brooklyn musical polymath and session wizard **Grant Zubritsky** (*Maggie Rogers*, *Cymbals Eat Guitars*, *Chet Faker*), and Israeli-via-Brooklyn LGBTQIA activist, producer and singer **DOV**, all turned in spacious DJ-centric takes on the densely gnarled surfaces of the originals, letting the songs breathe and fill with a welcome lightness.

Some of the collection's most unexpected and affecting moments come from its cover versions, which take striking liberties with the original harmonic architectures, exposing the lyrics in ways that challenge Leverage Models' tendency to treat their words as buried artifacts to be discovered only through multiple archaeological return trips. **JOBS** guitarist **Dave Scanlon's** cover of **Senators** takes a careful scalpel to Fields' lyrics in revealing ways, yielding a devastatingly matter-of-fact, humane take on the original's abstract prosaic musings, underscoring the cost of political sport on our bodies and senses of identity. Durham, NC's **Names of War** aka Andrew Carlson (*a member of Heather Woods Broderick's band, and produced by Anthony LaMarca of The War On Drugs*) transports the hyperactive post-modernism of *A Scout's Prayer* into lush nostalgic romanticism reminiscent of Roy Orbison or Richard Hawley. Similar acts of semiotic alchemy appear in the spaces between the many twinned interpretations presented across *Greys*. **Glass Ghost's Eliot Krimsky** and the bedroom-folk crooner **Ben Seretan** offer strikingly different perspectives on the upside-down teen-pop of *When The Money's Gone*, while **Pale Ramon's Emanuel Ayvas'** and **Joyful Noise Recordings** artist **C. J. Boyd** find eerily uncoordinated symbiosis in their mossy, dusk-lit covers of *Day One*. Meanwhile, composer and rising improvising guitarist **Wendy Eisenberg** offers an almost uncomfortably intimate, diaristic reading of *If I Let You Stay*, contrasting the way **Field Guides'** transports the same words into a gorgeously insectoid pastoral fantasia.

In addition to the LM-derivative works above, *Greys* also features original, new works, including pieces by fingertstyle guitarist **William Tyler (Merge Records)**, Brooklyn's brilliantly unclassifiable trio **Kill Alters** (*featuring Hisham Bharoocha of Black Dice, Soft Circle, Boredoms*), and **Concierge Records & The Working Elite** – a dance music collaboration between producer **W. Andrew Raposo** (*Midnight Magic, Classixx*) and Berlin-based musician **Daniel Nentwig** (*The Whitest Boy Alive, The Working Elite*). These also include **two 'new' songs by Leverage Models**, both unreleased outtakes from the *Whites* sessions: the gauzy, restrained ballad *Masons*, and *Instructions*, whose literate, hyper-detailed and bombastic synth-pop recalls the sensibilities of Leverage Models' 2013 original debut album on Hometapes.

Greys - Electronic Press Kit (incl. track and artist details for all contributors):

<https://www.whyleveragemodels.com/greys>

Whites - Electronic Press Kit: <https://www.whyleveragemodels.com/presskit>



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