

Artist: **Johan Heltne**
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DIARY INTIMACY & WATERFALL-SONGS ***

After the acclaimed but criminally unknown album *"Skisser Av En Vacker Plats"* (Sketches Of A Beautiful Place, Hemlandssånger, 2005), **Johan Heltne** returns to release his ace follow up, the mysteriously titled *"Vetenskapliga Bevis För Att Jesus Lever"* (Scientific Proof That Jesus Is Alive).

The album is a cooperative effort by **Johan Heltne** and 20 of his friends, all of whom write and publish their own music. The songs were recorded in nine different studios with as many constellations of musicians. Short, intensive recordings were a prerequisite to synchronise fully-booked calendars. This led to an impulsive "everything is allowed" aesthetics. When the first instrument had been recorded in the computer, there was no way back. The supplementary work, in terms of disentangling the recorded creative chaos is a story in itself.

The texts are written from a diary perspective. They are personal, bordering on the private. Together with the repetitive melodies, the playful arrangements and the spatial sound, one could say that the listener meets filmed everyday life. One could also be content with saying that this is substantial, contemporary Swedish pop.

Johan Heltne writes: *"In november 2005, I visited a friend who was then in a Sicilian monastery. I came unexpectedly. What I didn't know was that all monks, also those only there for trial, had taken a vow of complete silence. Anyway, the brothers welcomed me with open arms, literally, and my friend eventually seemed to make his peace with the fact that I had found him. In the intervals between the masses and the everyday chores, we went for long walks along the bare cliffs of the peninsula with a rushing Mediterranean below us. We were walking there, keeping our mouths shut, he with his chaste pipe, I with my cigarettes. A week later I travelled on. We hadn't said a single word to one another and now, afterwards, this stay has all the qualities of an absurd dream. The most concrete result from these days is this record. It was there, during one of the walks, that I had the idea to record an album with my friends. My friend the monk is also there."*

He continues: *"The entire journey through Vetenskapliga bevis för att Jesus lever has a mythical quality to it. From the rock walks on Sicily via white laptops and crowded studios and flats in Örebro, Norrköping, Paris, Moskva, Volda, Malmö, Göteborg and Stockholm and here to my Uppsala, the city I don't seem able to escape (and perhaps don't even yearn to get away from). The anecdotes, the tall stories are a thousand. There has been as much cloudberry moonshine, nightly psycho analysis and karaoke in Modern Norwegian as glockenspiel and badly tuned pianos. To me, this record will always be about the people, the incidents. It is a shimmering documentation of 2005 to 2007."* (Johan Heltne)

Songlist:

1. 16, Avenue de l'Opera (4.45)
2. Hjärta. Instinkt. Principer. (3.37)
3. Väderkvarnsgatans andra sida (3.06)
4. Kyrkans barntimma (1.19)
5. Din alkoholism är ingen alkoholism (4.49)
6. Pelle Bank (1.51)
7. Tisdagsvänner (när det snöar) (5.05)
8. Ingenting är så lätt att säga som jag älskar dig (2.52)
9. Mayas sång (4.13)
10. Slättängest (1.47)
11. Lillebror (5.08)
12. Ofvandahlsk country (2.09)

Contributing musicians are among others: **Rickard Jäverling, Andreas Runeson, Jonathan Johansson, Andreas Eklöf, Andreaz Hedén, Ola Sahlén, Gustaf Spetz** and **David Åhlén**.