

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Alexander Lewis
Tel. 415.595.7938
info@januaryson.org

January Son is Alexander Lewis, a solo artist from Sacramento. In 2019, January Son released *The Problem of Other Minds*, the band's sophomore outing, following 2014's *Occitan Reverb*.

Inspired by the likes of Damien Jurado, Midlake, Spoon, Hank Williams, Bon Iver, Bruce Springsteen, and Elvis Costello, *Occitan Reverb* flies in the face of conventional rock and roll wisdom: imply godlessness while soulfully singing to the heavens. Lewis wraps his confession of "nonbelief" in metaphor across the album's eight tracks. With the exception of some carefully placed pedal steel guitar, three-piece bar band flavor, soaring harmonies, and one out and out hootenanny, the mostly spare arrangements allow us to focus on Lewis' lyrics.

But as January Son mischievously explores both sides of Heaven's gates, two plus two does not always equal four. The album's opening track, *Lead On*, finds the narrator begging "at the foot [of his lover's] temple." Two tracks later with *I Believe*, his lover answers back that while "you believe in those diamonds in the sky... they're not the kind I like... I don't need your silly diamonds in the sky." It's a struggle going back to Lewis' upbringing as the latchkey kid of a single working mom. Combine endless Sundays languishing in Southern Baptist bible school deep in suburban Atlanta with a healthy diet of *Three's Company*, weekends with Dad, top-forty radio, and classic country and the inevitable result? An unbridled angst and a middle finger for the almighty, both equally unmistakable in his work. In *The Wolf—House of a Thousand Leaves*, an apostate wanders, lost for a lifetime, only to suffer a rough, impersonal burial at the hands of the church. Listen further and voices ascend from a ghost town like angels escaping Hell in the finale of *A Town Called Peace*. The title of the album's closing track says it all: *I Won't Know*. How could anyone say they believe in god when all we know for sure is science? God is found here, sort of—but only in the details.

The Problem of Other Minds furthers Lewis's mission to make lyrically dangerous, emotionally driven music. Lewis says of the three tracks found here, "We all need a little shelter from the storm these days. I dedicate *Umbrella* to everyone standing out in the rain, wondering, How did I get here? *Avalanche* started out on piano but morphed in the studio into something a bit heavier. It was only after we finished the arrangement that I realized it's about my fear of my own bad temper. *Careful* is a slow burn on piano. This is me trying to unravel my parents as human beings, reflecting on what they must have gone through raising kids. I'm currently trying to solve that puzzle with my own kids. It's one of the most personal songs I've ever written."

More information on January Son can be found at januaryson.org.