

LUPEN CROOK and the MURDERBIRDS

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LUPEN CROOK & THE MURDERBIRDS POSTPONE AUTUMN 2009 UK TOUR Schedule Change And Practical Considerations Impact The Best-Laid Plans Of Birds & Men

With much regret, Lupen Crook & The Murderbirds confirm the postponement of their UK tour commitments scheduled for September and October 2009, with the possible exception of one London show.

This tour was originally scheduled around the planned release of the band's third album in September. However, following a bout of laryngitis in June, Lupen Crook has been diagnosed with vocal strain and has not been able to complete the recording of the album's vocals. Recovery is underway, studio sessions have been re-booked and the album release is now re-scheduled for early 2010.

Additionally, complications have arisen with band member Craig Harff's ability to travel to the UK to meet recording and touring commitments. Craig is a US citizen based in New York and the process of applying for his working visa has been more protracted than originally anticipated. Craig's integral contribution to the band makes it unfeasible to proceed until his presence can be assured.

The band currently operates on a completely self-funded basis. With no album to promote - and therefore no new merchandise to offer for sale at its shows - the logistics of a tour have become impractical. The financial commitments associated with touring would most likely render this a loss-making exercise that can be ill-afforded at this stage in the band's existence.

The band appreciates that this news will cause disappointment and inconvenience to both the fans and the promoters who have provided valuable support throughout 2009. The decision was not taken lightly and much consideration was given to possible alternatives. At this stage, the band is aiming to play one gig in London in October, with a modified set and a guest member replacing Craig.

A new 5-track EP entitled **Great Fears & Curious Predictions** will be released on 9 September 2009. The band is offering this on a free download basis and hopes that this goes in some small way towards mitigating any disappointment. To download the EP and for further news regarding ongoing plans, please visit the band's regularly updated website at www.lupencrookandthemurderbirds.co.uk.

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