

## CRYSTAL ANTLERS

CRYSTAL ANTLERS EP (TOUCH AND GO)

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Long Beach's Crystal Antlers adore Barry Manilow, sport a drummer named Sexual Chocolate and put paintings by surrealist pervert Max Ernst on the covers of their limited-edition seven-inches. They play brutal post-punk-prog so fucked up that it persuaded The Mars Volta's Ikey Owens to produce their album for little more than a thank-you hug and a case of beer. But unlike the Volta's recent work, Crystal Antlers' prog is focussed to the point of menacing, with 'Owl' sounding like The Bronx beating Carlos Santana to death with his own leg, while 'Arcturus' is like Ian MacKaye teaming up with Lightning Bolt for beautiful, face-melting noise. If you hear anything more exciting this year, you're lying. *Mike Sterry*  
**DOWNLOAD: 'Owl'**