



**Artist** *Session Victim*

**Title** *Can't Help It*

**Catalog Nr.** RTR14

**Label** RETREAT

**Format** Vinyl 12"

**Release date** December 2013

**Style** House

**track name**

**A1** *Pass The Diesel*

**A2** *Hyuwee [instrumental]*

**B1** *Tearwiper*

## Info

Rounding up a year which saw crucial releases from *Iron Curtis* and *Quarion*, »Can't Help It« is the long awaited return of sample wizards *Session Victim* to the EP format. This Retreat 3-tracker is a profound, subtle and quite melancholic affair, perfect for those emotional moments in the early morning. Skillfully arranged and featuring the impeccable playing of *Linnart Ebel*, »Can't Help It« is once again an essential statement from one of *House Music's* most fascinating duo.

»Pass The Diesel« begins with a stuttering beat, seagull-like noises and muted chords that wouldn't be out of place on a vintage Group Home instrumental. Staying on the aquatic tip, *Session Victim* introduce a beautiful rhodes sequence which takes the track into a dream-like – dare we say californian? – direction. Spiced up with gentle synth noodlings, ethereal vocal snippets and a magical strings motive, »Pass The Diesel« bathes in the deeper shades of House without ever drowning in a cliché, thanks to its snapping drums and vivid arrangement.

Slowing things down a notch, »Hyuwee« starts off with what is maybe the most unconventional instrument in *Session Victim's* repertoire, the banjo! But the fear of witnessing these down-to-earth-boys actually becoming the boys-down-south vanishes after 30 seconds: a melancholic 3-Chord theme, snappy 808 patterns and

funky drum fills lead the tune in a familiar (but vast) territory. *Linnart Ebel's* talent is put to great use with subtle guitar licks that give a lively feel to the whole song. You will notice that *Session Victim* have labeled »Hyuwee« as an »instrumental«. Does it mean that we can expect a vocal version in the near future? All bets are on as to who will provide the vocals to this one ...

Flip the record over for the magnificent »Tearwiper«, a slow-house groover which might be *Session Victim's* deepest excursion on wax so far. Abyssal chords, radio effects and a dragging 105 BPM beat set the stage for a grand sonic adventure. The track breaks down after the introduction of the guitar theme and a warm sub bass takes center stage in order to drive »Tearwiper« in a confident manner. Shakers and bubbling synths are floating around whereas *Linnart's* hypnotic playing provides a steady backing to the bassline. Another breakdown and the elements are nicely washed away while a thoughtful guitar solo brings this underwater journey to an end.