

# MEDIA RELEASE



11<sup>th</sup> July 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[theelliscollective.com](http://theelliscollective.com) | [facebook.com/theelliscollective](https://facebook.com/theelliscollective) | [youtube.com/mrmattyeellis](https://youtube.com/mrmattyeellis)

## UNEARTHED WINNERS 'THE ELLIS COLLECTIVE' RELEASE DEBUT ALBUM

*'Means What It Means'* is the long awaited debut album from Triple J Unearthed winners **The Ellis Collective** (out 11 July), with **Richard Kingsmill** himself praising the *"classic Australian sound"* of their studio release.

Winning Unearthed is just one of many highlights in a massive year that has seen them feature on the program of Australia's largest regional touring festival **'Groovin The Moo'** beside international names including **Architecture In Helsinki, Data Rock and House of Pain**. No strangers to a festival stage, The Ellis Collective's recent successes are testament to their distinctive brand of songwriting that has also won over festival crowds at Australia's iconic **Woodford Music Festival** and **National Folk Festivals**. They have also had the honour of working alongside some of the best in the business including **Gotye, Washington** and US folk punk legends **Tom Gabel (Against Me!) and Chuck Ragan (Hot Water Music)**.



Stepping away from the spotlight in 2010 to focus solely on recording, **The Ellis Collective** have carefully crafted a studio sound that remains faithful to their unflinching live performances. **The Ellis Collective's** debut album *'Means What It Means'* (out July 2011) was lovingly recorded on old-school two-inch tape at Infidel Studios and is a captivating record of brutally honest Australian song-writing.

The album underscores **The Ellis Collective's** ability to seamlessly blend and borrow from a diverse range of styles, wielding an ambidextrous musicality to create a sound that is undeniably unique and unmistakably Australian. Featuring vocals that echo **Gareth Liddiard** with lyrics to evoke **John Darnielle** and **Conor Oberst** set against a backdrop of soaring string sections and multi-layered harmonies, **The Ellis Collective** take an unconventional approach to storytelling that recounts the jagged-edged disappointments of everyday Australian life. The album has already garnered critical acclaim:

*'a classic Australian sound'* - Richard Kingsmill - Triple J

*'an utter find'* - Timeoff Magazine

*'a masterful storyteller'* - Drum Media

*'one of the most intelligent, compelling and honest male singer/songwriters to emerge in a long while'* - Rhythms Magazine

*'Emotive and gutsy... it takes our breath away'* - BMA Magazine

*'Unflinchingly honest... raw and powerful songwriting'* - Rave Magazine

*'the heart of a struggler and the charm of a millionaire'* - Inpress Magazine

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