



THE WOODEN BIRDS



Two Matchsticks



The second album by Andrew Kenny's post-American Analog Set project is an all-star affair. It boasts guest spots by Death Cab For Cutie's Ben

Gibbard and members of Ola Podrida, and the band can now claim Matt Pond PA's namesake as a full-time player. In spite of all of that high-powered talent, the spotlight belongs solely to Kenny. The Austin native has never sounded so loose and assured as he does on *Matchsticks*; he can hardly mask the smile that sits right in the center of his warm vocals. His joy is aided with gently simmering music that takes the hollow-bodied pulse of '50s country and rockabilly and gives it an internal structure borne of indie pop, Tropicalia and the echoes of post-punk.

(BARSUK; barsuk.com) *Robert Ham*

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