**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PLAIN WHITE T’S TO RELEASE *SHOULD’VE GONE TO BED* DIGITAL EP APRIL 9**

**BAND TO PERFORM TITLE TRACK ON *THE TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO* APRIL 23**

**PWT’S FOURTH FULL-LENGTH FOR HOLLYWOOD RECORDS DUE LATE SUMMER**

**TIM LOPEZ TO STAR IN NEW NBC-TV SERIES** [***READY FOR LOVE***](http://www.nbc.com/ready-for-love/video/meet-tim/n29601/)**,**

**FOLLOWING THE VOICE TUESDAY NIGHTS STARTING APRIL 9**

** [](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=Bq7rx2NcGk4)**

**Tim Lopez, Tom Higgenson, Mike Retondo, De’Mar Hamilton, Dave Tirio** (photo: James Minchin

April 9, 2013 (Burbank, CA) – Forget everything you think you know about the [Plain White T’s](http://plainwhitets.com/). This hard-working band—which began life bashing out Green Day and Weezer covers in a suburban Chicago basement way back in the late ’90s—is in the midst of what may well prove to be a game-changing evolutionary step. Following a three-year stretch on the heels of the release of 2010’s Wonders of the Younger that found the band members evolving as artists and human beings, while experiencing their share of personal tumult and along the way, the veteran rock band returns not just recharged but reborn. The initial proof is in the EP [**Should’ve Gone to Bed**](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=Bq7rx2NcGk4) (Hollywood Records, April 9), a preview of the quintet’s fourth album for the label, due this fall. iTunes EP link: <http://smarturl.it/pwtiTunesep1>

The EP contain two songs apiece from T’s founder/leader/driving force **Tom Higgenson** and the emerging **Tim Lopez**, whose dramatic growth as a writer and singer brings an intriguing new dimension to the band, known and beloved for such compelling takes on modern-day romantic entanglements as Higgenson’s “[1,2,3,4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m6pW_q1PvH0),” and “[Hey There Delilah](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EbJtYqBYCV8),” the 2006 chart-topper that put the PWTs on the map, and Lopez’s “[Rhythm of Love,”](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWiwuiT58Yc) the platinum-plus-selling track that marked the guitarist’s coming of age as a songwriter and lead vocalist.

What these four new tracks (all slotted for the upcoming full-length) have in common are their contoured hooks and immense relatability, as Higgenson and Lopez candidly and colorfully describe situations pulled directly from their personal experiences. Deftly poised between self-mockery and poignancy, Higgenson’s title song and first single recounts what a treacherous and retrospectively humiliating combination too many drinks, a smartphone and an empty bed can be in the aftermath of “striking out again.” Against his better judgment, the song’s narrator dials his ex’s number. [*“Here I go missing you again,” Higgenson sings ruefully. “God only knows what I said/I should’ve just gone to bed.”*](http://bit.ly/pwtsgtblyrics)

Lopez’s **“Haven’t Told Her,”** by contrast, zeroes in on the conflicting emotions of exhilaration and anxiety triggered by the blossoming of new love. The song is bookended by the resonant line, *“She hit me like a blinding light and I was born.”* Promisingly, these two tracks—both produced by Tim Pagnotta (Neon Trees)—rock with more authority than anything the T’s have released to date, with the ace rhythm section of drummer **De’Mar Hamilton**, bass player **Mike Retondo** and rhythm guitarist/original band member **Dave Tirio** bringing the kind of calibrated muscle to these slice-of-life narratives that they display on concert stages.

The next two songs are deeply reflective in nature. Higgenson’s **“Helium”** (produced by Ian Kirkpatrick, who helmed *Wonders of the Younger*)ponders mortality—spurred by memories of a near-fatal accident in 2001 in which he was thrown from his van, suffering internal injuries and breaking several vertebrae, and intensified by the deep emotions brought out by becoming a parent—he’s the father of a three-year-old son. The song resolves into a powerful chorus: *“So when the day comes/That I don't wake up/I'll float away full of love like helium/From heaven I won't worry/’Cause I left behind one hell of a story.”*

Lopez’ metaphorical ballad **“Giving Tree”** (produced by the renowned Joe Chiccarelli, with additional production by Mudrock) describes a dysfunctional give-and-take relationship—he gives and she takes—by applying the premise of Shel Silverstein’s children’s book of the same title, which Tim remembers being read to him during his formative years. *“If all you wanted was love/Why would you use me up/Cut me down, build a boat and sail away?” he sings with palpable feeling. “When all I wanted to be/Was your giving tree/Settle down, build a home and make you happy.”*

These are memorable songs indeed, impeccably crafted and shot through with hard-earned self-knowledge. “Personally, I’m in a good place—my head is clearer now,” says Higgenson, recalling the difficulties he’s worked his way through since the last album. “I’m in my 30s now, I’m single and I’m just writing songs about everyday experiences—and that’s what the magic of the Plain White T’s has always been. With a song like [**“Should’ve Gone to Bed,”**](http://bit.ly/pwtsgtblyrics) it doesn’t get much more real and honest than that. And Tim’s stepping up and writing some great songs. And I think people are gonna appreciate that, especially with the television show. People are gonna get to know him and want to hear his story as well.”

Ah, yes, the television show. Last summer, Lopez began an unlikely interpersonal adventure, becoming one of the three stars of the new NBC series [*Ready for Love*](http://www.nbc.com/ready-for-love/video/meet-tim/n29601/). Co-creator/co-host Eva Longoria recently explained the premise in *Parade* magazine: “We use matchmakers to find the person that’s going to be the best match for our three guys. I interviewed hundreds of guys, and I handpicked these three myself. They’re some of my best friends now, and I would absolutely introduce them to my sister or my friends.” The series premieres right after *The Voice* on April 9 with a two-hour episode focused primarily on Lopez. It will remain the 9-11 slot Tuesday nights behind *The Voice* to its conclusion—a potentially potent lead-in.

For Lopez, a dating neophyte whose marriage to his childhood sweetheart had ended in divorce a half decade earlier, the idea of devoting an entire summer to himself after spending practically the entirety of the previous eight years to the band was enticing, as was the possibility of actually finding someone after years of loneliness—and life in a touring band (even one whose subject matter is almost exclusively focused on the quest for happiness through love) isn’t exactly conducive to being in a romantic relationship. Sort of ironic when you think about it.

“I consider myself an introvert, and I’m not really the kind of guy who would normally do something like this,” Lopez acknowledges, explaining his motives for appearing on the show. “Part of it, I think was overcoming that shyness, putting myself out there and taking some chances. I almost felt like, if I can get through this process, I can handle anything when it comes to dating. Believe me, it was a crazy experience. But it was just a matter of being honest with myself and being honest with the girls, and hoping they were there for the exact same reasons as I was.”

As for what may lie ahead for his band, with an album to finish and tour dates to play, in parallel to the potentially heightened visibility from *Ready for Love*, Higgenson is philosophical. “All we can do is just do what we do best,” he says, “which is making music.” But having the private life on of the band members exposed is nothing new for the T’s, who have been doing just that in their songs all along.

[www.plainwhitets.com](http://www.plainwhitets.com)

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iTunes EP link: <http://smarturl.it/pwtiTunesep1>

Interview with Michael Yo: <http://yhoo.it/Y0lppE> / <http://omg.yahoo.com/video/yo-plain-white-ts-ready-090000553.html>

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