

- Record Store Day 2026 exclusive. Hollie Cook's sensational album *Shy Girl* gets the dubwise treatment from Ben McKone. 12 heavyweight dubs featuring echo, reverb and emphasis on the drums and bass.
- Bringing the rhythms back to the mixing desk, Ben uses it like its own instrument, utilising classic dub effects, as Hollie's vocals drift in and out of the mix.
- A timeless album that also feels full of fresh life and energy.

Following the release of Hollie Cook's **fifth studio album**, *Shy Girl*, and her return to Mr Bongo 15 years after her debut, the **album's producer Ben McKone** reconstructs the recordings into a newly cut **dubwise release**. Made exclusively for **Record Store Day 2026**, Ben strips back the productions in **vintage dub reggae style**. Crafted on an analogue mixing desk, he weaves in delays, echoes, and reverb to push Hollie's trademark sound into a **hypnotising, rhythm and bass-heavy, electronic realm**.

Rich in the tradition of reggae albums from the late '60s onwards, Hollie wanted to reimagine *Shy Girl* through a dub-focused lens. Evidently, only one person seemed the perfect fit to do so: Ben McKone of the **General Roots**, who was the producer of *Shy Girl* and featured heavily across the album as a co-writer and instrumentalist. Someone who had sat with *Shy Girl* for so long and knew the record inside out.

Having found a studio that could accommodate his creative process, Ben got to work experimenting with the stems and effects. He brings the **rhythms back to the mixing desk**, using it like its own instrument to give the tracks that **heavy, spatial, dubwise treatment**. Taking influence from past pioneers, everything happening on the album was **improvised live**, with some mixes taking up to 25 attempts to get right from start to finish. As Ben mentions, "I love the freedom and human element of dub mixing and find the limitations of some older productions very inspiring too".

Paring the songs back, yet dialling up that bass-weight pressure, Ben creates space for chosen elements and instruments to do the talking. Bringing the **drums and bass to the fore**, he utilises classic echoes, reverb, and effects, as **Hollie's vocals drift in and out** of the mix.

The album opens with 'Shy Dub', a **sound system focussed reimagination** of the original album's title track, heavy on the tape delay with snippets of Hollie reverberating across the drums and bass. Other highlights include 'Rockaway Dub', melding the floaty, feel-good **lovers rock** flavour of the track with a **low-end leaning, one-drop groove**, and 'We Share Dub', a mysticising dub interpretation of Hollie's celestial **Skip Mahoney & The Casuals cover**.

As the final touch, Ben's first choice engineer, **Josh Hahn**, was drafted in on mastering duties. Josh has blessed the tracks with an old-school **quality, depth, and roots vibe**, mastering from tape in the original time-honoured fashion. This commitment to detail and authenticity completes an album that **feels timeless whilst also being full of fresh life and energy**. One that would have been equally at home shaking the foundations of Blues parties gone by, as it is sound system sessions of today.

HOLLIE COOK

SHY GIRL IN DUB!

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RELEASE DATE

18th APRIL 2026

ANNOUNCEMENT DATE

4th FEBRUARY 2026

FORMAT

VINYL LP (GREEN)
CD

MRBLP341

5024017007178

MRBCD341

5024017007185

FILE UNDER

DUB
REGGAE
MR BONGO

TRACK-LISTING:

1. Shy Dub
2. Dub Baby
3. Rockaway Dub
4. Night Dub
5. Dubbing On
6. Pictures Dub
7. Frontline Dub
8. Dub Me In Your Arms
9. Wolf Dub
10. Deep Dub
11. Dub Operator
12. We Share Dub

