

Rock-n-Reel



WEEZER Make Believe



Make believe is an excellent album with 8 out of 12 exceptional tracks. This album clearly shows a Weezer with more maturity in both lyrics and music.

'Beverly Hills,' the signature track on the album rocks. It's a great classic look at the ridiculousness of popularity vs. being the out-cast. The song has great drums and beat including a Peter Frampton guitar effects sound. For all of those too young to know about Peter Frampton, go to itunes.com and get 'Do You Feel Like We Do' or his greatest hits album.

But I digress, back to Make Believe and other tracks: Do you want to cry and reminisce about a lost loved one? Then you'll love the sad slow and dramatic outreach 'Hold Me'. 'Peace' as in piece of mind is something we can all relate to and has a nice bit of guitar work. 'Damage in your Heart' is another excellent heart warming track with Cuomo's signature aching voice with excellent advice - let it go. 'Pardon Me' is a classic apology song not only to a friend, "and to anyone else that I hurt too." 'My Best Friend' is a great happy little song that finally let's you express how great it is to have a best friend. This is Such a Pity' is a great track but wow does the first 30 sec sound like an old classic Billy Idol song. 'Freak Me Out' is just plain funny. We are all on Drugs' is not an ode to drugs, but aptly describes the problem. "And the best of your days will all vanish into haze when you're On drugs. And you wish you could quit cause you're really sick of it but you're. On drugs." 'Haunt you every Day' reminds me of Paul McCartney at times, but ends in signature Weezer wails. You'll be haunted with this one as it will play in the back of your mind long after the music stops.

All in all, Weezer's best work yet. You'll find yourself humming these tunes hopefully for a long time.

RINGSIDE 'Debut Album'



Ringside is a new band consisting of Scott Thomas and Balthazar Getty and their first album is a knockout! Scott had quite a rocky time growing up. This adopted 'misfit' nearly died at birth from a very rare spinal disease, survived his accidental burning down of his sleepy little town, was kicked out of school, lived here and there through adopted families and was generally locked in his room to keep him out of trouble. 'Fortunately, I had these great records - oh and a Sears catalog guitar!' Fortunately he did something with that guitar and now after many jobs including limo driver, roofer, baker and (no kidding) a clothing designer, he's finally sold everything he has to pursue his passion. His musical brother is Balt, initially an actor, who belts out the rhythm and beats to match Scott's lyrics.

'Struggle' the first track has an absolute moving beat, but I'm not sure I know what the hell the song is about from the lyrics. I need to reflect some more on it, but you'll love the track. While we won't cover every track here, here's a few of the gems: 'Tired of Being Sorry (aka Spanishfaster)' is a rolling dance of Spanish guitar, beat, and moving words. 'Cold on Me' is plea from a deplorable man to keep his "sugar" - I think they'll make it. 'Criminal' is clearly an introspective song he wrote over the years as he labored with hands by day and wrote music at night, utilizing the same bruised and battered hands. Overall all of the lyrics and music are excellent and fresh; go buy this one! His self written bio is hilarious and interesting.

You can read it at colleges.com/umagazine/2005fall/p18.bio.html

Here's how he ends it -
"My name is Scott Thomas. I drink too much, swear too often, and rock back and forth to the annoyance of everybody. I am a real softie. I am a thirteen-year-old girl, trapped in a thick-bearded, skinny-legged, street fightin' man."

iBoom

Want to share your tunes with everyone around you on the beach or on campus? Get an iBoom, the first boombox for iPod. Just pop in your iPod or iPod mini in the middle and hit play. It runs on 6 D batteries or AC plug and charges the iPod when it's plugged in. It has 20 watts per channel and four speakers which produces decent sound which is great for tunes on the road. We would not recommend replacing a home solution of hooking up larger computer or stereo speakers though. Buy at: www.dlo.com or Best Buy, Target, Apple Store, Fry's, and Circuit City. \$99

Got Bling?

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