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Album Reviews — November 17, 2015 at 10:00

POWER-POP: Basement Rock by Fun Cam

by Lisa Fiorilli

Sometimes, a name just says it all. *Basement Rock* is the latest record from Torontos Cam Fraser under the moniker Fun Cam. Like his stage name suggests, Fun Cam creates fun, energetic power-pop recorded using vintage instruments and analog recording techniques. Between the power chords and harmonized background vocals, Fun Cam sings songs that touch a variety of topics, both sincere (a breakup song in Not Today) and humorous alike (the self-explanatory Vegan Girlfriend).

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The album succeeds because it doesnt take itself too seriously, offering a playful vibe thats almost Weezer-esque. It feels warm and nostalgic, like an album from a lost era before Auto-Tune and glossy overproduction. Dont mistake this laid back vibe, however, for a lack of substance. Fraser is a talented lyricist, and the songs have varied, so-complex-they-sound-simple arrangements that showcase different sides of his musical personality. A highlight on *Basement Rock* is Small Town Swing Bridge (Sinking Feeling) featuring a catchy chorus that puts Frasers vocals at the forefront, in a melancholy ballad that breaks with the feeling of the rest of the record. Oh, and Id be remiss if I didnt mention a particularly inspired Britney Spears cover as the album closer a cover of Hit Me Baby that you need to check out.

3.5 out of 5 stars

Self-Released

Must-Listen Tracks: Baby Tonight, Small Town Swing Bridge (Sinking Feeling)



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