

Eye On Entertainment

Music Review: Fall Out Boy

After working for a college radio station for two years, I became one of the hardest critics to impress. You can only hear so many pop punk CDs before all the music blends together, and they all sound exactly the same.

Fall Out Boy used to fit into that category. Keep in mind, I said, "used to." Their latest 2005 release, "From Under the Cork Tree" is a smooth blend of pop, punk and rock with a few samples of dance. This album leaves you with an end result that countless audiences are relating to and responding to by ripping "From Under the Cork Tree" off shelves across the world.

The two singles, "Sugar, We're Going Down" and "Dance, Dance" both peaked into the Billboard Hot 100 Charts ("Sugar, We're Going Down" in 2005 and "Dance, Dance" in 2006). Both songs have music videos on steady standard rotation on MTV, VH1, and several other music television stations.

Fall Out Boy is notorious for having great titles

**FALL
OUT
BOY**

and abstract catchy lyrics.

For example, a sample lyric from their song, "Our Lawyer Made Us Change the Name of This Song So We Wouldn't Get Sued" (yes, that's the complete title of the song) is, "We're only liars, but we're the best/We're only good for the latest trends/We're only good cause you can have almost famous friends/Besides, we've got such good fashion sense." I can almost feel that quote being put into instant messenger profiles across campus.

The bottom line is that Fall Out Boy's "From Under the Cork Tree" is a huge improvement from past releases, and even if you never liked them or even heard of them, I believe you should just give this CD a listen. You can find it at almost every music store for a reasonable price. I highly suggest Fall Out Boy's "From Under the Cork Tree" for anyone who is a fan of Jimmy Eat World, Pennywise, NOFX, or anyone who loves to have a good time and dance!

-KAT SPECHT

Photo By Google

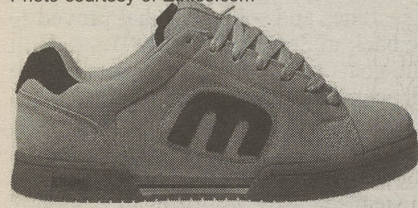
These Are Not The Greatest Shoes In The World, This Is

A year and a half has passed since my purchase of a pair of Black and White Etnies, giving me ample time to wear the shoes in and put them through the tests of time. (rating out of 4)

Comfort - 4/4. Etnies have proved to be very comfortable whether standing, sitting, walking, or running for any extended period of time. The shoes have a comfortable feel and fit.

Appearance - 3/4. Etnies offer a wide variety of color schemes making them appropriate for almost any wardrobe. My Etnies are black and accented by the trademark "E" in white. Etnies find the perfect balance between the "must keep clean"

Photo courtesy of Etnies.com



K-Swiss and the more flashy running shoes of today. Their subtle appearance

adds to their

appeal as the shoes don't require much maintenance avoiding the "look at me because I am shiny" attitude.

Durability - 3/4. My Etnies have survived roughly 500 days of use and have finally worn thin. Holes worn through the sides of my shoes reveal my socks. The soles have completely melted creating a smooth surface which barely grips the floor.

Price - 4/4. When I purchased the shoes two years ago they retailed for about \$60, modestly priced when compared to the majority of shoes found in retail shoe stores.

Overall - 4/4. I have worn this pair for many days and am in search for a new one, but I will not forget the relentless, tireless work these shoes put in for me. Their progress, their work, will leave a permanent mark imprinted upon my brain for the all the sharp objects from which they protected me, the burns they received walking on hot pavement in summer, the frostbite they must have felt over the winters, the constant sprays of water, the many floods of puddles, the occasional mud puddle and the constant feeling of deprivation each time I removed them from my feet and put them to rest.

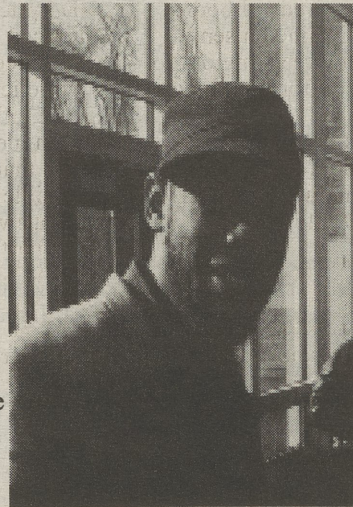
- Amar Eshwar Ganti

about a former teacher who had passed away. In true poetic spirit, Komplex responded with a poem about a deceased loved one of his own. He then opened the stage again, and the audience was treated to the poem/interpretation team of Dungan

and Matt Kelly (Sophomore/Liberal Arts).

Dungan read a poem entitled "Checklist," which was acted out on the stage by Mr. Kelly. Komplex then took the stage again, and treated the audience to some of his hip hop material.

While his poetry was certainly passionate, Komplex took a particularly strong stab at the rap music scene when he performed one of his songs. The song's hook went "Come on, clap/come on, clap/if you love hip hop, then clap/come on, clap/I love hip hop but I don't like rap." Komplex is disgusted with the rap music scene, and believes that



The Classroom Lounge was bright on Friday, January 20. Not only was the sun shining through the windows, but the beautiful lyrics of Komplex, a poet/hip hop artist from Brooklyn, were bright in the ears of the audience. He has performed with notable hip hop acts, including Floetry. Originally from Jamaica, Komplex brought a brand of politically and culturally charged poetry to Penn State Delco.

He opened his performance with "Put It to Music," a poem written for a friend to help him propose to his girlfriend. He soon opened up the floor for anyone who wished to read poetry of their own. The Lion's Eye's own Gerry Dungan (Senior/Journalism) stepped up and read a poem entitled "69th Street Terminal"

Fireside Music Series: InPulse

The first act of the "Fireside Music Series" ended in a wildly receptive ovation for an up-and-rising group of professional musicians who never even bothered to bring any of their instruments.

Using only their voices, the a capella group, InPulse, performed for a solid hour to a full Lion's Den.

"I think we are trying to advance the art form," said Gabe Koxlien who sings tenor and is the youngest member of the band, "We're trying to prove that whether it is country or rock, it can be done without instruments."

The band itself comes straight out of St. Paul, Minnesota, where they met as undergraduates at the music school, St. Olaf College. Along with Gabe, the a capella group is comprised of four other classically trained vocalists.

Marcus Hanson is the bassist, Matt McDonald is one of the co-founders of InPulse and sings bari-tenor, and the other co-founder of InPulse is Paul Donnelly who is the voice percussionist.

With contest-winning performances and nationally renowned harmonies, this is not your typical boy band.

In fact, the song, "Top 5 Reasons," which they performed at Delco, vehemently outlined why they were not a boy band.

The number three reason why they are not a boy band highlights Donnelly, their vocal percussionist, who according to their website (www.inpulse.com), is "considered one of the foremost experts of vocal percussion in the nation."

At the beginning of one of their songs, Donnelly performed a four minute drum solo, the end of which left him purple and nearly breathless.

He said that he'd never hyperventilated during a performance "but the world has gone dark before," he said.

Equally atypical was the set list they chose to perform.

According to Hanson, the primary song writer for the band, they performed cover songs that weren't played by all the other a capella groups so that they can stay faithful to the song and "include all the elements of the music."

Their original compositions demonstrated their powers of pop and harmony, but also sent a message to all the a capella groups in the world, such as what they sang off their latest album "Alone and Above," in the song "Fearless."

"But it's not fair as we're aware to slam the competition."

Ultimately, according to Hanson, the goal of the band is to promote awareness of a capella "so it becomes a household word and not just a subculture of pop culture."

-Gerry Dungan

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"Lil' Kim needs to be put to sleep." He feels that all rappers are one in the same, and they bring nothing new or interesting to the genre. However, he is most displeased with rap music because he feels it is degrading, especially towards women. He illustrated this point with another hip hop song, this one about powerful women.

After the performance, Komplex stated that he tries to reach a universal audience. When asked if his music and poetry apply only to the black community, he responded "Absolutely not. Music transcends race and religion."

-David Patrick Niven Hardison

Photo By: David Patrick Niven Hardison