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Album reviews

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I'm not usually one to listen to the electronic-type songs, but this little album was an honest breath of fresh air in an otherwise hectic schedule. I just turned on the album and let it go, finding myself unable to stop smiling throughout the entire thing. The songs are very catchy, bright, and upbeat. The songs all have a very appealing and unique sound to them that almost reminded me of video game music of the ‘80s persuasion. About the only way I can think of to describe them is that it’s like laying in the warm sunshine on a lazy summer afternoon. You just have to relax and smile. “Jungles” is outright ambient and relaxing while songs like “My Fur, My Leather, My Nails” are more energetic and fun. There is not a bad song on this album, though it does only include eight songs. It’s the sort of album that would cheer you right up and make you want to dance. If you like music like that, this is definitely a good album for you to pick up.

I do have to attach one warning to the album however: you will be humming/singing these songs for the rest of the day once you hear them.

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**THE JOHN STEEL SINGERS**

**Tangalooma**

One thing that this Indie group does very well in this album is creating a very mellow sound. It’s very relaxing to just sit back and listen to. The music itself switches back and forth between kind of a bluesy feel and sounding a little like The Beatles at times. It’s altogether a very pleasant experience to listen through all of the songs. “Overpass” marked the style of some of the bluesy songs, catchy and yet very smooth. “Sleep” was undoubtedly my favorite piece on the album. It was very unusual and almost dreamlike in tone, which was very fitting for the title. I would say that any fans of Indie music would definitely like this album. It makes good listening for relaxing and calming down. If you’re looking for something that’s a little different, this album is very unique, just like the previous two. Every song has a point where they mix sounds in a different way, almost like early Pink Floyd or The Who. The sound of their music definitely takes me back to some of the music that I grew up with. If you’re looking for something new to try, pick up this album and give it a listen. You won’t be disappointed.

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**FALLULAH**

**The Black Cat Neighbourhood**

This album is categorized under pop/rock, however I’m not sure there is quite a category for it. It is very hard to ascribe a particular genre for it. It’s never a boring album to listen to at any point. The steady percussive beats that seem to form the heart of each of the songs can easily pull you into the mood for listening to it. The singer herself has a very unique style that I have yet to find in anything else. She has a beautiful, crooning voice, which almost reminds me of a classic lounge singer. Some of the songs are consistent with the lounge sound, but there are others that are unlike anything that I have ever heard before, like the “The Black Cat Neighborhood” and “Only Human.” All in all, the album is worth giving a listen to for something very special and unusual. I can’t say that I adored each and every song of course, but there are quite a few that stuck me very strongly. This is an album worth listening through at least once, if only to get a sense of what direction some of the new titles in the pop genre could go. The singer is undeniably talented with a lot of creativity that can be very hard to find in an often cookie-cutter society.

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**STEPDAD**

**Ordinaire Ep**

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