

RH Reviews: Front To Back Vol. 6

By RH Reviews
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How many times has an artist, regardless of genre, age, and skill said something that resembles, 'man, you can just listen to this album front to back.' We've all heard it, and here at Ruby Hornet, we don't trust anyone. So, instead of taking these artists at their word, we've come up with a way to measure an album's front-to-back ability. We went out and got a new stereo system with a multi-disc changer, and loaded it up with the new arrivals to see which can actually be enjoyed throughout, and which ones were better off as EPs. This is a new thing that we're doing, so grow with us, and please leave comments...

The rating system is as follows.

Let It Ride: Just press play and relax...A near perfect LP

Breathe & Stop: A couple joints here, a couple joints there...But overall a solid LP

One & Done: There maybe a hit single here, but not much else...

In this edition we pop in new music from Josh Martinez, Restavrant, One Day As A Lion, Charles Hamilton, Common Market, and Brazilian Girls. Check out the reviews below.



Artist: Josh Martinez

Album: The World Famous Sex Buffett

Rating: Let It Ride

Synopsis: For his latest, and perhaps last solo LP, it appears that the Canadian musician Josh Martinez bought a keg, called his favorite musical influences, threw caution to the wind and proceeded to have a crazy party that has resulted in one of the best LPs I've heard in 2008. The emcee/singer/producer has dabbled in different genres throughout his career, and on the aptly titled *World Famous Sex Buffet*, he travels easily through all of them. This sort of melodic gymnastics manifests itself through reinterpretations that stretch from Don McClean's "American Pie" ("All Rapped Out"), to A Tribe Called Quest's "Can I Kick It" ("Underground Pop"), and also includes the Violent Femmes' "Blister In The Sun" ("Struts"). The magic of Martinez's long-awaited masterpiece is that he seems to simultaneously not give a damn about who's listening, yet goes to great lengths to make sure everything is communicated just right. Throughout the course of the album Martinez carries out a long conversation with himself as he works out issues concerning his career, his love life, as well

as the state of the music industry in a sparse concoction of raps, mutterings, and melodies. Martinez's reference point is clearly laid out on "Grown Folks Music" in which he describes himself as "just a grown ass man/make grown ass music/hand me down music/for teens to f**k to it/it's beautiful, it's awful/that's the just way it goes." Pick up *The World Famous Sex Buffet*, and just let it ride, as Martinez has opened the door to his little party, and it just don't stop til' 6 in the morning. -RTC