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PHILLY MUSIC REVIEW: The Workhorse III (DRP Records)

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In the genres of punk, metal, hardcore and other forms of loud rock, bands with a female in front of the microphone have always sort of either been overlooked or taken as a joke. This stereotype lives on thanks to prettied up bubble-gum acts like The Donnas, and No Doubt's Gwen Stefani; train wrecks waiting to happen like Courtney Love, and novelty punk acts like L7 and The Luna Chicks.

This stigma makes it difficult for the female fronted hard rock to get the respect they deserve. Don't tell that to Philadelphia's THE WORKHORSE THREE whose self-titled twelve song EP, rips through some of the fastest heaviest, sleaziest rock n roll there is to offer.

If you're at all familiar with the members of this group though, that shouldn't be a surprise at all. Guitarist and front woman Lisa Lyne Flynn once cut her teeth as Lisa Christ Superstar where she played stages with some of the biggest acts in metal and punk rock. Flynn ranks up there with The Great Kat, Ruyter Suys of Nashville Pussy, Joan Jett, & Lita Ford, as one of the most talented and aggressive female guitarists in rock and roll.

In The Workhorse III Flynn is joined by her Lisa Christ Superstar band member Brian Bunker on bass, and Eric Perfect formerly of the influential Philly punk rock band Limecell on drums.

Together the Workhorse III rocket through 12 fast paced songs with the intensity of Black Flag. Under blankets of distortion Perfect's drums and Blunker's bass, lay down a pounding rhythm delivered at machine gun fast pace while Flynn does her best The Great Kat style big riff shredding. The Workhorse III's are not your safe rock n roll, they are pure attitude delivered in songs that are all hard driven three to five minute bursts of intensity. Flynn's vocal growl sounds oddly like the throaty growl of Mudhoney's Mark Arm. Unlike some female vocalist whose lyrics seem to hold back, Lynn's Workhorse III lyrics can be as raw, raunchy, and rock n roll fun as any metal lovin' male singer could have pulled off. Some of the Workhorse III's songs are pretty intense, with lyrics that could almost be called vulgar by some. This music isn't for everyone. But for those with an open ear, an appreciation of fast pace heavy music, this is about as much good as it gets. It's not always very polished, they're songs might not be pretty, but The Workhorse III sure is a ton of fun.

CHECK THEM OUT: <http://www.drprecords.com/workhorse3/>

STAND OUT TRACKS: #9 "Slipping Away", #2 "Revolution Blood Machine", #3 "Down So Long", #4 "Die Tonight"

RATING: 3 1/2 of 5

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About crackedmusic

Hello all. I'm Jake. Welcome to my music blog. I'm a huge music fan. And I've lived in the Philadelphia area my whole life. I'm a fan of all styles of music. My biggest interest is the music of my hometown Philadelphia. If you want to follow more of my music rants. Listen to my radio show The Y-Rock Philly Local Every Sunday from 7pm -11pm on Y-Rock On XPN. Check it out at 88.5 HD-2 in Philly or online worldwide at www.YRockOnXPN.org

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