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# <u>The Fall – Ersatz GB (MVD</u> Audio / Cherry Red Records)

#### By Upchuck Undergrind

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Never heard a punk band like this. Never. It's like going for a swim in thick water; deliberately soupy with bursts of more common punk, prolific rawkers The Fall employ a complete disregard for any typical musical standards, chugging down a heady brew of sludge, jam, prog, punk, grunge and a whole bunch of other stuff. The band drifts hither and thither in their lurking daydream of deconstructionist rock. The real proof of talent comes in the fact that the band makes all this mish-mash of bumping ideas make a kind of schizophrenic sense. This could, in some cases, be the mark of an unfocused, cluttered delivery. But with The Fall, one suspects that this is exactly what they were going for. The Fall is almost sublime and ouroboric in its iconoclasm. Punk itself was a rebellion and The Fall takes it to a whole other level, nigh unto metaphysical, by taking the punk ethic to the extreme of rejecting punk standards themselves. Of course, this serves to point out the irony to punk elitists who even conceive of parameters in punk. What the hell does punk have to do with parameters???

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