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By Arwa Haider - 13th November, 2011

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Ersatz GB sees Mark E Smith and The Fall on convincingly hearty form

Album review: Ersatz GB, The Fall's follow-up to 2010's *Your Future Our Clutter*, should enthrall followers and attract newcomers to [Mark E Smith's](#) seminal band.

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Fall

Ersatz GB is the 29th album from The

Music trends will rise and wane, and prolific indie veterans The Fall will keep on raging their own way.

At least, that's what frontman Mark E Smith – Salford post-punk poet and rock's ultimate unreliable narrator – would have us believe.

They're on convincingly hearty form for 29th album Ersatz GB (their first release for British alternative label Cherry Red); perhaps they're buoyed by its ace 2010 predecessor Your Future Our Clutter, or semi-stabilised by a line-up that, surprisingly, hasn't imploded for a while.

Ersatz GB continues The Fall's self-styled purple patch; catchy thumpers including I've Seen Them Come, and slinky diversions such as Happi Song (with vocals by keyboardist and Smith's missus Elena Poulou) should enthral followers and attract newcomers.

Smith gets stuck into more surreal commentary (there's even a swipe at poor Snow Patrol on Mask Search) and comes out fighting.

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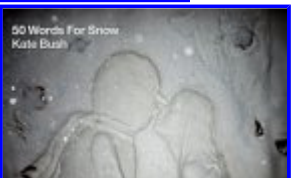
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