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Flipper – Love / Fight

Posted by [Staff](#) on Jul 5, 2012 in [New Releases](#), [Reviews](#) | [0 comments](#)



Genre: ALTERNATIVE / PUNK

Flipper's 'Love' and 'Fight' albums are twins that should be placed together, and as they get a re-release, it is worth looking at them anew. While 'Love' was the first [studio album](#) from the veteran San Francisco punk outfit for sixteen years, while 'Fight' was the studio album's live counter-part. Recorded with Jack Endino, the man behind many classic [Seattle grunge](#) albums, including Nirvana's 'Bleach,' there is little no surprise to find that they bring plenty of this style to bear. Adding to this feel is the fact that former Nirvana [bassist](#), Krist Novoselic both recorded and performed live on the albums.

Having formed in 1979, Flipper split up in the mid-90s before re-forming in 2005, and their classic U.S. punk roots can be heard throughout these releases. With a lazy edge to the fuzzy guitars, held together by crisp drumming and rumbling bass, the way is clear for [vocalist](#), Bruce Loose to carry the day. Of [course](#), there can be a lyrical problem for all perennial punks, in how they continue to deliver and adapt with age. This leads to the occasional eyebrow-raising moment, such as the talk of homework and being told to behave on 'Be Good, Child.' One wonders whether Flipper shouldn't be above voicing such adolescent concerns by now?

However, it is with the mood rather than the details that these albums really shine. With tracks like 'Learn To Live' offering the slightly discordant edge that characterized a lot of early Sub-Pop releases, the swirling, almost hypnotic, guitars of 'Why Can't You See', and the grinding, Sonic-Youth-type, 'Old Graves.' Elsewhere, 'Only One Answer' relentlessly chugs along on the back off the fine break-beat drumming of Steve DePace, while the strings of former Nirvana bassist, [Krist Novoselic](#), rumble below.

Not all of the tracks from 'Love' appear on 'Fight' as some extras, like 'Sacrifice,' 'The Lights, The Sound,' and 'Ha Ha Ha' take their place. In fact, only four of the tunes f album make it onto the nine-track live set. Recorded live in 2007 at shows Portland, the live versions are still mixed by Jack Endino. While the live nat means that the performance may not be as crisp as on the studio versions different appeal, bringing listeners closer to the concert experience, and o and classic music at the same time.

Sure to appeal to existing fans of Flipper, as well as lovers of vintage U.S. p grunge. While the quality of 'Love' leaves it standing just above it's twin, ide should be heard in tandem for the full Flipper experience.

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