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 - <u>All Music</u>
- <u>Reviews</u>
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- <u>Message Boards</u>
 - <u>All Threads</u>
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Toxic Lab Rats - Intoxicated



Tapehead (7 reviews) Posted: 05/26/2010 Comments: 0 Staff Rating: (1.00/5) User Rating (0 vote): 1

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³I get it: Borrow some fashion tips from Mike Ness and Tim Armstrong,
⁴splurge on some tattoos, come up with fabulous monikers like Toxic Joe and
⁵Chris Rat and then it's time to play "Punk Rock Band." Right.

The Toxic Lab Rats are a Swedish punk rock band and their new album, *Intoxicated*, finds them confined to some very popular overseas perception regarding punk rock music. It's as if their education began with Green Day in '94 and continued through the so-called punk revival of the 90s when pioneers were reuniting to capitalize on newfound awareness and bands like Rancid and Offspring were becoming new figureheads in a movement that had died long, long ago.

But, since no genre maintains integrity for the length of its intended lifespan, The Toxic Lab Rats gladly draw from a well that once slaked the parched throats of alienated, disillusioned youth, which is now a vomit bucket and cum catchall for fraternity circle jerks everywhere.

If you don't believe me, a song like "I Don't Know I Don't Care" caters to this type of childish and inane stupidity: "I like whiskey and beer!/(Whiskey and beer!)/Strippers and whores!)"

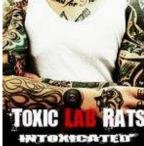
Most of the album revolves around being drunk and stupid and, in being drunk and stupid, Chris Rat is unapologetic about how he wages his own personal rebellion against, like, society, man. Songs like "Fuck You" and "Shut Up," (very inspiring by the way), pit Rat against the establishment as either a working stiff catering to "The Man" or as a malcontent turned off to the system. He has girl problems ("Bedtime Stories"), his friends have girl problems ("My Friend Dave") and he likes to tussle ("Bar Room Brawl"). He's also a "famous rock star" dealing with people from his past coming out of the woodwork to take advantage of him ("I Had Enough Of You"). Rat has quite a life as an anti-everything kind of guy.

In the meantime, the music is no more than accessible radio friendly Southern California garbage that works to distort Rat as some self-professed reincarnation of Darby Crash, (y'know, like, an actual legend). At its core, (and I don't mean the "hard" kind), *Intoxicated* is an expletive-riddled memoir of an idiot whose targets are easy and whose enemies are cliché. This is what happens when a bar band feigns legitimacy.

« Back To Reviews

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Cover art + Tracklist 1) Three Single Words 2:37 2) Stripped Fucked & Bored 2:09 3) Strung Out 2:01 4) You Let Me Go 2:51 5) Because I Love You 2:56 6) I Don't Know I Don't Care 2:15 7) Lucy's Got A Bomb 2:16 8) Bedtime Stories 2:55 9) My Friend Dave 1:47 10) I Had Enough Of You 2:05 11) No Fairytale 2:19 12) Bar Room Brawl 3:12 13) Fuck You 1:49 14) Shut Up 1:31 15) Chasing Memories 3:43



Review + Band Information Views: 105 Genre: Punk Rock Label: Spectre Records Official Site: <u>Click For Link</u> Similar Bands: Rancid, Dropkick Murphys, Social Distortion, something Warped Tour-ish Other Punk Rock Reviews (more)



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