

Mp3 Scotty And The Help - Creature Or Companion



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Horrifying new wave/punk rock straight from the Midwest. 13 MP3 Songs ELECTRONIC: Pop Crossover, ROCK: Punk Details: In Scotty and the Helps world, inspiration comes from all directions musical and otherwise. Devo, for instance, is an inspiration. As is Glenn Danzigs punk outfit The Misfits. And then theres random stuff like mad scientists, ghosts, ghouls, brain surgery gone horribly wrong, anything gone horribly wrong, outer space, aliens, Martians, invisibility, robots, cloning and monsters, says Scott Boehner, the Goshen-based musician who makes up half of the band the human half, anyway. Taking his cue from the Elton John song Bennie and the Jets, Boehner calls his one-man band Scotty and the Help Scotty being Boehner, the guy cranking out the fusion of sci-fi nightmare, pop, hip-hop and punk. The Help is his keyboard, an Alesis synthesizer. Elton John was all the inspiration I needed, Boehner says. Ive always liked band names that are like Something and the Somethings. And I thought itd be funny, too, if people came to my shows expecting to see some big, six-piece heavy metal band. And here I am. One guy with a keyboard. Not that Boehners audiences are ever disappointed. The beauty of attending a Scotty and the Help show is the spastic collective freak-out of his fans, a crowd of people who have agreed to forgo the trappings of hipsterdom the icy stare, the Parliament hanging from the lip, the Mick Jagger (circa 1968) haircut and relive the awkward school dance moments of their pre-adolescence (those precious few moments before it begins to dawn on us: I cant dance. And I look like a total dork when I try.) It helps that Boehners manic, bizarre and danceable tunes are filled with the same sort of jerky robotic rhythms and electronic accents that made new wave acts such as Devo popular. But Boehners ability to claim the punk ethos as a cozy place for piano-loving, robot-obsessed geeks isnt just a wink to the new wave artists who came before him. Its a worldview, capable of producing complex, angular melodies filled with absurdist lyrics. Its about taking punk music and reinterpreting it using

instruments and imagery not usually associated with punk, he says. And its been pretty effective. Its what has helped me have a unique style. Boehners fourth album, Creature or Companion, is a 13-song opus filled with wacky synthpop rave-ups with titles such as The Brain That Wouldnt Die, Perfect Robot and Teenage Nightmare. Framed by hip-hop-tinged backing tracks produced by local electronic musician AHAU and Boehners own deadpan rapping, the album contains a multi-layered fusion of styles too diverse to pigeonhole. Its definitely electronic, he says. I cant deny that. I think its punk, too. But then theres some rap so I guess its electronic-new wave-punk, with a dash of hip-hop. Wait does that make sense? Who cares? Just grab the hand of the first Asimovian robot you see and repeat after us: Must... Dance... Now... -Emma Downs, The Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

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