

## Mp3 Fellaheen - Busking For Karma



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a mlange of rocknroll, blues, and murky existential wit while betraying a secret pop heart 12 MP3 Songs  
POP: Power Pop, ROCK: Roots Rock Details: So remind me, who's Fellaheen? Some graybeard geezer from the distant rocknroll past surfs a guitar string as it vibrates through all 16 known dimensions, with a barely functional Depression-era flattop axe and an I-Pod full o' tunes in tow. He lands in a world of Dick Bush Rummy, where freedom gets more press and less play. He takes Edison cylinder impressions of Wilco, Radiohead, Sparklehorse and Tom Waits, then bounces back slightly to convene a jam between Robert Johnson and the Beatles, lifting ideas they've chosen, perhaps wisely, to let go unrecorded. Oswald Spengler and Lenny Bruce stop by for beers and write the lyrics. Arriving back in his room in Quarantine, thirty-two tracks, available courtesy Macintosh and ProTools, give themselves up to him like lemmings to the cliff's edge. The pinheads sway, the ferrets click their tongues approvingly , and the existentialists nod their heads yeah, yeah, yeah in quiet agreement. Nodoubtaboutit: production values screw yer art...this stuff rocks, rolls, and reels... Uh huh, and what's it sound like? Here's the skinny: Fellaheen's latest release, BUSKING FOR KARMA, finds the band rocking harder and poppier, with guitars, bass drums battling the forces of oppression real and unreal, and offers a potential hit or two to a non-judgmental world. But still, ahem, it's "...conjur[ing] up a philosophically informed mlange of rocknroll, scratchy blues, and murky existential wit while betraying a secret pop heart." The songs... "What the Last Five Minutes Have Taught Me" - Rockin' and clashin', just a little pissed off, politically motivated if you care, plain ol' lovelorn if you don't. "Record Collector" - A little grungy, moody thumper these kids today dig... "Secondhand" - a ballad via megaphone and lo-fi drum machine, down in the groove, with a piano solo sorted out by Lisa "Cold Green Tea" - Harder heavy, vaguely psycho-delic, slightly bemused, parental advisory offered if your kid ain't heard where babies come from yet... "Fall" - A twist o' Lennon

acoustic ballad, with dime-store Zen philosophizing... "Studio Blue World" - If a picture paints a thousand words, then what's a nice double matte and gilt-edge frame gonna get ya? "Oswald's Dirge" - Bleak. Bleak, bleak, bleak. Yet peppy... "Quarantine" - Atmosphere courtesy of a semi-working e-bow, an oceanphone, horsehair across a \$100 resonator guitar, an incorrectly played psaltery, and a nice cabernet at 3 a.m. "Harry Sez Hi" - Rockin' tribute to Harry Smith (who presented the song to the author in a dream, thus the contorted facts contained within), with Harry Nilsson, Harry Partch and George Harrison checking in. "Unrealized" - the album's jazz move. Something for Sam Phillips (the woman, not the Sun Studios guy) to sing if she's short a song next album. "When You're Asleep" - Slightly Beatle-y, slightly ornate production (well, strings and a fake French horn), slightly inscrutable. "Set Yer House in Order" - Inspired, in part, by the great Matt Ruff book of similar name, and by mental quagmires that come for dinner and stay for breakfast. Also see: Fellaheen - "Dispatches from Quarantine", available through CDBaby.com Website: [fellaheen.com](http://fellaheen.com)

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