

## Mp3 Elevado - Dedicated To The Memory



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"...completely realized jangle-pop perfection, which recalls Television, Galaxie 500, The Mekons and Guided by Voices, there has to be a home in the hearts of self-respecting music nerds all across the college radio dial for a band this good" -- Nashville 8 MP3 Songs ROCK: Punk, ROCK: Progressive Rock Details: By leading off the band's debut album with a song called "Guess You Get Stuck in a Rut," Elevado appear to be attempting to ward off bad-luck demons. Whatever rituals they may have had to perform in preparation for recording this album, the black magic appears to have worked. It could easily be mistaken for a Camper Van Beethoven instrumental piece, and the production is simply gorgeous. "Can't Delay" begins less conspicuously, but soon roars into a Television-like baroque-and-roll epic. Elevado could be dismissed as over-ambitious if they didn't pull off the songs so well. Regardless of how many instrumental tracks are recorded for a particular track, it is the strength of the songwriting that really makes this album. "Sprung," is an especially strange song. The guitar nervously hiccups while Justin Sias half-speaks/half-sings "Wake up early / you're fit to survive / unconscious country / keep your faces alive." The song almost sounds like a long lost Bossanova B-side, but Elevado etch out their sound without borrowing too much from any one source. As with many of Sias' lyrics, these words are Spacey and at best half-understood by the listener. However, such a lyrical style best suits Elevado's space-age noise pop. "Endless Ghosts Appear with an Ode to Mode" offers a more relaxed version of the band's sound. The sounds of comets crossing the sky and asteroids landing in quicksand gradually fill up the spaces around the song's loose arrangement. The song soon picks up and hints at a more sinister song that could have been recorded in its place while the lyrics remain ominous throughout. "The Lows Are All Gone" ends the album wonderfully (or the album proper, as a decent-if-undernourished bonus track is included), as Sias poses a variety of questions: "So how's your well? / It's dry isn't it?... So how's your

day? / It's hiding isn't it?" while gently guiding the listener to the right answer. The song has the sort of subtle nervous energy that makes for indie-rock of the most urgent variety. Sias appears less self-conscious of his voice on this song, extending notes until each word bleeds into the other. Mike Misiak Southeast Performer 06/14/2005

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