

Snakes On A Plane...What?



"While the City Sleeps, We Rule the Streets"

by Amy Wolter

What does the movie "Snakes on a Plane" have to do with a music review? Well folks, meet Cobra Starship. Formed from three separate bands, Midtown, Armor for Sleep and Ivy League, this new to the scene collaboration has been doing quite well for themselves in a short amount of time. This 5 man (well actually 4 man 1 woman) group from New York City just released their debut album "While the City Sleeps, We Rule the Streets" on October 10. Not only that but they are now a couple of weeks into a national tour opening for Head Automatica (side project of Glassjaw) and one of my favorite bands, 30 Seconds to Mars. The tour began here in Minneapolis at the Myth Nightclub just seven days after the album was released. I was lucky enough to attend the show and at that time had never heard anything from these guys except

the single they have out on the "Snakes on a Plane" soundtrack. But after their performance I was extremely impressed, and immediately went out to buy the new album.

Cobra Starship is a genre in which I would describe as power pop: rock music that you can dance to. In an interview with MTV, Gabe Saporta, lead singer of the group said, "The sound that I'm going for is, basically I wanted to do a lot of stuff with beats and programming but also have a real rock feel to it." I think they definitely pulled this one off. The entire album is very rock, but at the same time its very base pumping and high energy. The 2nd track on the disc "Hey Mr. DJ" demonstrates this fun rhythm and is a good opener to the rest of the other 10 tracks. A couple other of my favorites are "Keep it Simple" and "It's Warmer in the Basement."

But of course we can't go without talking about the song that put them on the map, and on the soundtrack to the movie "Snakes on a Plane." Track number 8 "Bring It" is an experience that one will not forget. This is the song that you hear once and later find yourself tap-

ping your foot to during class. In my opinion you either love it or you hate it. My roommate Emily, who regularly gets on my iTunes to repeatedly listen to the song says, "I can't stop laughing at it, but I can't stop listening to it either." I've also noticed that it has the ability to leave people somewhat confused after listening to lyrics like "ladies and gentlemen these

in full support of what they're trying to accomplish. While I'm normally into heavier forms of rock music, the light and refreshing sounds of Cobra Starship definitely keeps me entertained and is a good break from some of the "angry rock" that is out there. This group is out there to have fun, and entertain. While the level of musical ability isn't overly impressive, it really doesn't have to be because the rhythms and riffs work for them. But if you do decide to buy this album, take my advice and listen to it three or four times before really forming an opinion about it.

So now that

I've peaked your curious go give this album a listen and see for yourself what you think. It could just surprise you.

For more information on Cobra Starship or to sample some of their music visit www.cobrastarship.com or www.myspace.com/cobrastarship.



snakes is slytherin', with dollar signs in their eyes, with tongues so reptilian." The first response of my Sword colleague Stephen Batcher after hearing the track was "Well, that song was weird."

Overall after seeing them live and hearing the album I am

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Have an album you'd like me to review? Know of a good show in the area? E-mail me and let me know! woltera@esp.edu