

### **Stars** Do You Trust Your Friends? Arts & Crafts http://www.arts-crafts.ca/stars

RYAN HEISE Deputy News Editor

When Stars' new album showed up at the *Gateway* office, no one really knew what to think of it. The album art, consisting of a dozen other band names, drew only looks of confusion. After pondering over the contents of the disc for a while, I put it in the hands of our Editor-in-Chief



## Kate Schutt No Love Lost Wild Whip Records www.kateschutt.com

LEAH TRUEBLOOD Arts & Entertainment Writer

Kate Schutt's new album *No Love Lost* has many of the components of a very good CD, but doesn't

and left the office. Upon returning, he was gone, but the CD sat on my desk with a sticky attached that read: "Look closer. It's fucking awesome." How right he was.

Do You Trust Your Friends? straddles the line between being a remix album and a cover album. Consisting of all of the songs on Stars' 2004 release, Set Yourself on Fire, the music on the new disc has been completely taken apart and reassembled by Stars' peers. The Dears, Final Fantasy, Apostle of Hustle, and The Stills (among others) lend their musical talent to reimagine Stars' songs.

The result is an album worlds apart from Set Yourself on Fire. When listened to back-to-back, Do You Trust Your Friends? clearly has a stronger disconnection between the vocals and the music. There are moments when instruments seem to run off on rhythmic tangents while the original vocals provide the backing for them.

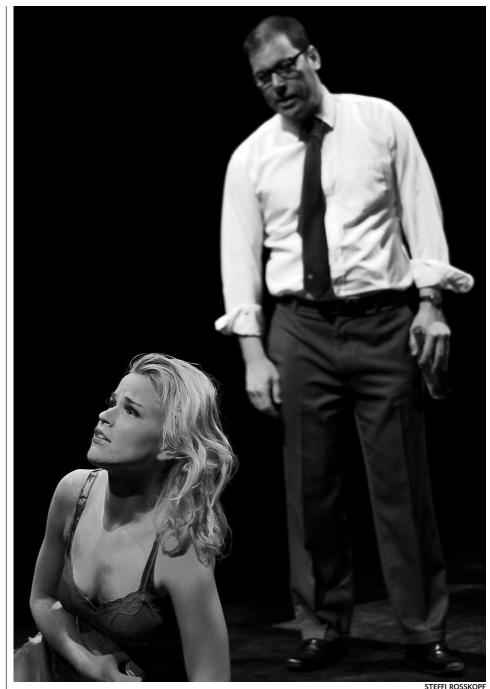
With such sonic diversity from beginning to end, *Do You Trust Your Friends?* stays captivating and engaging through its whole playback—a feat rarely accomplished, and proof that Stars keep some pretty trustworthy company.

manage to make all of its pieces fit together.

Schutt takes some surprising aesthetic risks in her compositions, and some of these risks result in excellent music, such as the dramatic trumpet accompaniment in "The Young." In other tracks like "Moon Got Broken," Schutt uses a soulful, rhythmic, and enticing melody to draw the listener in and then tie them up in knots. She has a story-telling knack, and when she uses her gift to its full potential in "Glamorous Life," her New Age spin pleasantly spices up what could have been a predictable storyline.

Some songs, however, just don't seem to come together for Schutt. Poor choices, like the out-ofplace harmonica solo in "Wrecking Ball," are all too common and could quickly distance listeners from some of her songs. Random saxophone riffs in the midst of lyrics do not a good song make.

Schutt's musical choices sometimes result in disaster, but enough of them pay off to make *No Love Lost* worth a casual listen.



WHERE IS THE LOVE? There's some major woe going down in Studio Theatre's After the Fall.



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This is the Insane Clown Posse. They're pretty much the worst band ever and, as such, their music will never be played in *Gateway* A&E meetings.

If you write for *Gateway* A&E, you won't have to deal with the ICP's terrible music. Ever. I promise.

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