



One of David Bowie's greatest collaborators was James Newell Osterberg, Jr.—known to the world as Iggy Pop. Together, the two produced some big hits, like the '80s ballad "China Girl" and Pop's timeless "Lust for Life."

The Gateway could be the David Bowie to your Iggy Pop-like writing. Just show up to an **A&E meeting, Thursdays at 5 in 3-04 SUB** to let the magic happen.

GATEWAY A&E
Havin' a lust for writing since 1910

Just for Halloween...

Forget smashing pumpkins... Let your Inner Werewolf out Get Movin', Howlin' and Groovin' with Campus Recreation's Spooky

Spectacular Thriller Workout!

Learn all the moves and grooves Michael Jackson made famous with his iconic Thriller album, way back in '82 (when some of you were still in the crypt...)

To join the fun, "Beat It" to

Main Gym,
Van Vliet Centre

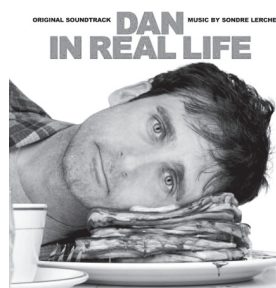
**Wednesday
October 31
1210 – 1250
\$2 at the door**



So come on P.Y.T.'s (Pretty Young Things) — sling on your killer Thriller outfit (yes, there are prizes for best costumes, Billie Jean), and come howl to the red hot retro beat of Thriller.

"We Wanna be Startin' Somethin'..."

All funds go to support the University of Alberta's United Way Campaign.



albumreview

Sondre Lerche

Dan In Real Life *Original Soundtrack*
Virgin Records

ELIZABETH VAIL
Arts & Entertainment Staff

It's not a frequent occurrence to review a film's official soundtrack. In most cases, what's there to review? Does the reviewer comment on whether the filmmakers made a good choice in including Sir Mix-a-lot's "Baby Got Back" in a movie about fatal anorexia? Deride the maudlin use of the string section in John Williams' signature orchestration during the scene where little Timmy

gets thrown down a well?

Well in this case, the situation is a little different. The original soundtrack for *Dan In Real Life*, Steve Carell's newest comedy, is actually a compilation of eleven new songs by guitarist Sondre Lerche, his cover of Pete Townsend's "Let My Love Open the Door," A Fine Frenzy's version of "Fever," three songs from Lerche's previous albums, and

a hidden track of Dane Cook and the cast singing something classy called "Ruthie Pigface Draper."

Seen as a Sondre Lerche album in itself, *Dan In Real Life* is a sunny compilation of upbeat, jazzy string songs accompanied by Lerche's semi-falsetto, particularly the ebullient "To Be Surprised" and the low-key "My Hands Are Shaking." A Fine Frenzy performs a sweet, if somewhat sullen, cover of Peggy Lee's "Fever." And even the hidden track, ("Ruthie Pigface Draper,") is a surprisingly catchy piano-rock ditty about a woman with certain attractive, pig-like qualities.

If the film is anywhere near as warm, joyful, and addictive as Sondre Lerche's soundtrack is, Steve Carell just might have another blockbuster on his hands.



albumreview

The Kin

Rise and Fall
Rykodisc

SEAN STEELS
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Those closely following the small corner of the music industry that's made up of airy, post-pop electronica/folk fusion have been impatiently awaiting The Kin's new record. The Australian brother duo let fly 14 tunes of sappy introspection on their newest release, *Rise and Fall*.

Their fourth studio album is full of the same romantic heft and serene orchestration that has endeared them to scenesters at large since their 2001 debut on the New York bar scene.

Subtle but intricate guitar work, somber inflections of ghostly reverb, and arcing vocal melodies make up the album's successful artistic flourishes. The brothers weave their rich voices into dulcet—but masculine—harmonies, and these down-to-earth, authentic vocal stylings paint an impression of humble, folkie musicians, who want nothing more than to play their tunes to whomever will listen.

Despite *Rise and Fall*'s stylistic consistency, it runs the danger of being

overly conventional. The brothers flit through the already well travelled territory of clichéd love songs; their barely-above-average poetry just isn't enough to distinguish them from other pop groups playing the same tired chord patterns. In fact, this general atmosphere of mediocrity pervades the album. The content and expression feels tentative and excessively cautious, especially for a band with an upswing in popularity spurring on their fourth release.

The Kin have said they prefer to let their music be a blank canvas onto which others can create what they will, but their lack of statement and nagging ambiguity are holding back their songs. Nothing sounds distinctly bad, but there's nothing groundbreaking or innovative to speak of either. Chalk one up in the precisely satisfactory release column.



albumreview

Brian Byrne

Tailor Made
Kindling Music

MARIA KOTOVYCH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Who among us hasn't taken a road trip with music blasting and prairie roads stretching for miles ahead? Brian Byrne is now on a musical journey of his own: the former lead singer for the rock group I Mother Earth has now released his second solo album, *Tailor Made*. Departing from I Mother Earth's rock style, Byrne is now embracing country music, a style he grew up listening to. But rock feel isn't completely

absent from *Tailor Made*: he describes his style as "a mix of outlaw country and dirty southern rock."

"Tailor Made" links the two genres nicely—it's a catchy song that sounds like something Lonestar and Def Leppard might create if they ever jumped into a van and drove across the Prairies together. "Easy Come" is a laid-back, mid-tempo piece that could be played in a country bar somewhere

while locals two-step on the small, wooden dance floor. "Crazy" explodes with a fun and fast pace, with Byrne singing lyrics like "I know I'm drunker than I should be / But you just go straight to my head."

Despite its effective genre-melding, stylistic variety is definitely present in this album. Some songs, such as "Colder Than The Lake," harken explicitly to Byrne's rock past; the traditional country melodies of "The One, The Only (King of Late Night)" follow immediately, creating a pleasing contrast of genres. "Love You More," a slow country ballad, changes the pace quite effectively following those two faster tunes.

Byrne expresses a sweet and honest love in this piece; this song concludes the album—and Byrne's musical journey—on a delightful note.



albumreview

Athlete

Beyond the Neighbourhood
Parlophone

KRISTINA DE GUZMAN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Perhaps even the savviest of music fans here in Canada have never heard of Athlete, but apparently, these guys enjoy some popularity in the UK. After hearing *Beyond the Neighbourhood*, it seems baffling that Athlete hasn't gained the same international popularity as other UK bands like Snow Patrol and Coldplay.

That's not to say that they share that sound—although all three have similar approaches to songwriting—but they're all good bands, and they could be better if only they would move

beyond their established styles.

Despite having produced *Beyond the Neighbourhood* by themselves, it sounds like it was done by a professional. The opening track, "In Between 2 States," is an instrumental that sounds like U2 gone electronica, and "Airport Disco" is a futuristic dream in which travel by plane has been banned, but instead of airports being demolished, airports are converted into nightclubs.

Sadly, this song isn't nearly as intriguing as its concept, hindered by a repetitive pattern, but its intro and

ending are worth listening to.

With the exception of the first track, no song on this record is enticing from beginning to end. "It's Not Your Fault" is fairly tedious until its last minute, where vocalist Joel Pott energetically belts out "Oh! My! God!" over "What the hell just happened here?" My thoughts exactly—the song just got ten times better!

The highlight of *Beyond the Neighbourhood* is "The Outsiders," containing an ending that mixes piano, violin, claps, and scratchy effects almost redeems the whole album. The irony of this self-produced record's professional sound, however, becomes apparent when the catchy song hooks are overshadowed by monotonous and predictable song structures, as well as Pott's vocals, which for the most part stay within their comfort zones and rarely venture out to try something new.

In other words: over-produced.

Study Abroad Tuition Awards



- * You can travel and earn credit
- * Tuition Awards for over 30 select partner institutions
- * U of A tuition and fees waived for a term for Tuition Award recipients
- * Apply now – it's easier than you think!

Gain international experience!

Apply by November 15
Applications Available From
the Education Abroad Office
or Online

Where in the world are you going?



UNIVERSITY OF
ALBERTA
INTERNATIONAL

University of Alberta
Education Abroad Program

8920 HUB Mall goabroad@international.ualberta.ca
Tel: 780.492.6040 www.international.ualberta.ca