



Mac Demarco; Salad Days

Album Review by Jenee Patenaude

As far as psychedelic indie music goes, Mac Demarco's album "*Salad Days*" definitely fits the genre. Released on April 1st 2014 this album was recorded in Mac's apartment in Brooklyn, New York after an extensive tour of his album "2". The album was recorded in just one month, Mac tells in an interview that the mood for this album was "F*** man! I was just on tour for a year and a half and I'm tired!" The album would feature songs about Mac's girlfriend, Kiera McNally, and take more of a personal approach as the author stated in another interview that "there wouldn't be any songs about "absolutely nothing," This Duncan, BC artist mixes airy psychedelic music with simple yet intriguing lyrics, taking inspiration from The Beatles and Harry Nilsson, for quite the musical experience. This laid back and tiresome atmosphere this album creates is one of the many reasons it has been my personal favorite since its release, not to mention the numerous awards achieved, including #5 on the US Independent Albums Billboard.



“Passing out pieces”

On the floor of his apartment home, Mac sat on the ground with his keyboard and wrote the lyrics and music for the single “Passing Out Pieces”. Key lyric: “I'm passing out pieces of me, don't you know nothing comes free?” Following a year and a half of touring and press, DeMarco he and his band were outspokenly sick of their own set, leading him to write this single.



“Brother”

The second single from this album, this song is directed to obviously, Mac’s brother, explaining that people are better off dreaming and living in fantasy than committing to this pointless existence they lead, basically telling his brother to relax and take things easy.



“Treat Her Better”

This song is believed to be inspired by Mac’s former live guitarist Peter Sager, there have been many rumors about him beating his girlfriend Salina and many believe this song is connected, but it is still unknown if that’s for sure.



“Let My Baby Stay”

Mac and his girlfriend, Kiera McNally are both Canadian, and together made the choice to move to New York, Kiera had difficulty receiving a Visa and faced deportation, while the famed musician did not find much trouble. While playing a show Demarco says “My girlfriend and I moved to New York by accident this summer, and this song is about that and how she’s not allowed to live here.” Kiera has since received a Visa.



“Blue Boy”

This mellow tune represents Demarco’s initial fear as a young boy that others will judge him, stating he is “worried about the worlds eyes” although ending with the conclusion that things in life go wrong because “honey, that’s the way life goes.” This song seems to carry a deeper meaning of Mac’s personal life and childhood, showing us a somewhat different side into his life.



“Goodbye Weekend”

This song depicts Demarco’s views and feelings on people suggesting that he’s wasting his life and time, with his music, drug use and apprehended laziness. The lyrics clearly display that Mac does not really care what anyone says. Stating that “Honey, that’s fine just know that you’re wasting your time. Evident that he is confident in himself and won’t be making any changed for anyone but himself, any time soon.



The stories, lessons, and morals behind almost all of Mac Demarco's music is one of the main reasons I fell in love with his music, and still to this day can listen to his songs on repeat and never get disinterested. The unique and mesmerizing music will create an inspiring aura. His originality and care free attitude brings a refreshing change. Lying back and listening to this album will create an atmosphere and a journey of emotions as you go through each awe-inspiring song.