Alan Reininger

12 Thursday, February 16, 2006

Music.

The CD starts off with one minute and 16 seconds of pure prelude. On most CDs, a track devoted just to introducing the band is redundant, and I’m not once, but twice in a row.

The intro to "Untied," written and sung by vocalist and trumpet player Russ Mohr and tells the sad story of a guy who unexpectedly falls for a girl he can’t unlock the door and tell her. The subtraction of the situation doesn’t distress from its applicability and proves the Fundamental Elements’ ability to write accurately and acutely, deftly delivering the punch of these in search of a meaningful relationship. The band doesn’t need advocacy warnings and sexually explicit language to explicitly express about the complexity of relationships. The next five tracks beautifully showcase this band’s ability to continue the relationship theme.

This band, which sets the theme for the album’s "NYC," and ending with the mellowness of "Summer of 2001," "Untied," is written and sung by Mohr. It serves to get you ready for their self – described “100 percent original blue-eyed soul band.” It’s not until the foot-tapping, head-shaking and carousing on a conversation for a few hours afterward, but it was worth it.

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