"Sit Down, Shut Up" doomed for failure

BY HARRY BURSON

Any new TV show should be afforded a grace period to let it mature and grow. I, for one, was ready to give "Sit Down, Shut Up" the benefit of the doubt. Having just finished the final season of "The Simpsons," I was waiting for a new, similar show to occupy my summer viewing schedule. It's too bad "Sit Down, Shut Up" is a terrible show.

The show is a constant barrage of sounds and images, driving every other thought from my head except for the overpowering need to dance. The music is a non-stop parade of 1980's and early '90's pop hits, so constant and intense it's like being strapped to a roller coaster for hours on end. The visual effects range from perfectly timed shots of data screens and other electronic displays to less-than-stellar animation. The show's creators have clearly spent a lot of time and effort trying to create a unique, modern aesthetic, but the end result is a jarring and distracting mélange of styles that constantly interrupt the flow of the show. It's like watching a movie with the background music playing at full volume.

The plot is a mess of random events and coincidences, with characters that are poorly developed and hard to care about. The titular characters, twin brothers John and Kevin, are supposed to be precocious young men with a talent for comedy, but they come across as dull and uninteresting. The show also features a cast of eccentric and often unfunny characters, such as John's obnoxious roommates and Kevin's dorky fraternity brothers.

Despite the show's failings, I have to admit that the music is one of its strengths. The show features a wide variety of popular songs from the '80's and '90's, often used in unexpected and creative ways. However, the music can't make up for the show's other problems, such as the lackluster writing and the poor character development.

In summary, "Sit Down, Shut Up" is a poorly executed and unfunny show that fails to live up to its potential. It's a shame, because the show has the potential to be a hit, but it needs to be overhauled and retooled before it can become a success.

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