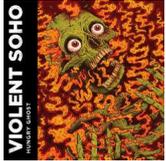


Violent Soho - Hungry Ghost (2013)

Written by bluesever

Friday, 13 September 2013 15:57 - Last Updated Thursday, 28 March 2019 16:57

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01 – Dope Calypso 02 – Lowbrow 03 – Covered in Chrome 04 – Saramona Said 05 – In The Aisle 06 – OK Cathedral 07 – Fur Eyes 08 – Gold Coast 09 – Liars 10 – Eightfold 11 – Hungry Ghost Musicians: Luke Boerdam – guitar, vocals James Tidswell – guitar, vocals Luke Henery – bass Michael Richards – drums

Violent Soho has kept us waiting, when it comes to the release of a new batch of material, that's for sure. The release of "Neighbour Neighbour" and "Tinderbox" offered fans an insight into what to be expecting from the Brisbane band on their third album, but the extent of the band's growth and musicality *Hungry Ghost* explores is larger than I was expecting.

The album demonstrates that the Mansfield lads are more than just grunge guitars, long hair and screaming vocal capabilities. They're ferocious as ever, but the attention paid to arrangements of melody and the balance of the grunge with some straight edged pop punk is something you can see easily on tracks like "Dope Calypso" and "Fur Eyes". Luke Boerdam, lyrically, shines on "OK Cathedral" and "In The Aisle", once again showing the listener how far development has run since *Violent Soho* was released in 2010. We knew had the knack for composing some great and memorable lyrics ("Jesus Stole My Girlfriend", "Love Is a Heavy Word"), but it's like new facet of this songwriting ability is explored through such key tracks on *Hungry Ghost*.

"Covered In Chrome" is the standout song by far, I'd say, showing Violent Soho at their fiery, 'Fuck Yeah!' best. The guitars and the drums and irresistibly catchy and the pace of the track prohibits the listener from doing anything but turn their sound system up to max volume and scream along 'Yeah yeah yeah yeah yeah yeah yeah yeah oohhhh!' with Boerdam. Thinking about how this is going to go down as part of the Violent Soho live set up coming up is actually making my head hurt with excitement. The songs on *Hungry Ghost* each have their own

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individual moments of brilliance, which I think will make the record, as a whole, appealing to a broader audience.

I couldn't tell you how many times I've listened to Hungry Ghost as of now. I know it's a big call to make, but considering the different musical textures and manipulation of song arrangements, melody and tone employed by the four piece on this record, I can quite safely say that Hungry Ghost is one of the best, if not the best Australian release this year in my book. Signing with I Oh You will only fortify the band's presence on the Australian circuit, while their overseas impact is sure to strengthen with the release of the album as well. Top work. --- Sosefina Fuamoli, theaureview.com

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