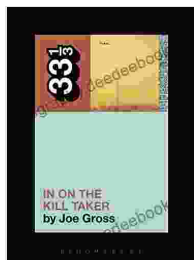


Fugazi: In On The Kill Taker - A Deep Dive into a Post-Hardcore Masterpiece



Fugazi's In on the Kill Taker (33 1/3 Book 129)

by Morton Manus

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 523 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 185 pages

Screen Reader : Supported



Released in 1993, Fugazi's third studio album, 'In On The Kill Taker', stands as a towering achievement in the annals of post-hardcore music. The record showcases the band's signature blend of intricate instrumentation, political awareness, and lyrical depth, solidifying their status as one of the most influential and critically acclaimed acts of their era.

Musical Style and Production

Musically, 'In On The Kill Taker' is a complex and challenging work, blending elements of hardcore punk, post-punk, and jazz. The album's songs are characterized by angular guitar riffs, dissonant harmonies, and intricate rhythmic patterns. Drummer Brendan Canty's innovative use of polyrhythms and odd time signatures adds a unique and unpredictable element to the music.

The album's production, handled by Steve Albini, is raw and unpolished, capturing the band's energetic live performances. Albini's signature "brickwalled" sound gives the album a dense and claustrophobic atmosphere, accentuating the intensity of the music.

Themes and Lyrics

'In On The Kill Taker' is a deeply political album, exploring themes of alienation, power dynamics, and social inequality. Vocalist Ian MacKaye's lyrics are dense and poetic, employing a stream-of-consciousness style that reflects the fragmented and chaotic nature of modern life.

The album's title track, for example, addresses the commodification of violence and the media's role in perpetuating it. "Great Cop" explores the themes of police brutality and institutionalized racism, while "Merchandise" skewers the materialism and consumerism of American society.

Cultural Impact

'In On The Kill Taker' was a critical and commercial success upon its release, solidifying Fugazi's status as one of the most important bands of the 1990s. The album's unique sound and political message resonated with a wide audience, inspiring countless musicians and shaping the landscape of alternative rock.

The album's influence can be heard in the music of bands as diverse as At the Drive-In, Against Me!, and Converge. Its themes of social justice and political activism continue to resonate in contemporary music and culture.

Legacy

Nearly three decades after its release, 'In On The Kill Taker' remains a touchstone in the post-hardcore genre. Its intricate instrumentation, political awareness, and lyrical depth have ensured its place as a classic album that continues to inspire and challenge listeners to this day.

In 2015, the album was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame, a testament to its enduring impact on American music. 'In On The Kill Taker' stands as a timeless masterpiece, a work of art that continues to provoke, inspire, and redefine the boundaries of post-hardcore music.

Fugazi's 'In On The Kill Taker' is a seminal album that has left an indelible mark on the music world. Its unique blend of musical complexity, political awareness, and lyrical depth has made it one of the most influential and respected records of its era. As a work of art, 'In On The Kill Taker' stands as a timeless masterpiece, a testament to the enduring power of music to challenge and inspire.



- AllMusic review of 'In On The Kill Taker'
- Pitchfork review of 'In On The Kill Taker'
- Rolling Stone review of 'In On The Kill Taker'



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