

J!-ENT world groove

A JI-ENT MUSIC REVIEW

BACK-ON BABY ROCK

Cutting Edge
CTCR-14447 | DURATION: 29:58
RELEASE DATE: October 19, 2005

1. GAKU-TEN
2. BLOW
3. FLYDOM
4. FORWARD
5. FEEL
6. NUTS TRIBE
7. LUCKY
8. SO MANY TEARS

A band that is really catching the attention of many music listeners worldwide is BACK-ON, a group that combines rock and hip-hop effectively and can be compared to American bands LINKIN PARK, LIMP BIZKET (sans the hard core screaming) and some tracks that are reminiscent of rock bands BLINK182 and Simple Plan.

"BABY ROCK" is the band's first official release (a mini-album) with a major label which features their awesome hit song "GAKU-TEN" which is very catchy and has a cool hip-hop influence combined with chiming guitars.

It's one of the few songs from BACK-ON that you will hear the whole band rapping in unison.

Nevertheless, it has that LIMP BIZKET feeling to it and a song that will definitely resonate well with their American audience when the group performs in Houston at Anime Matsuri (April 2007) and Vancouver for Anime Evolution (August 2007).

The song "BLOW" actually has more of a LINKIN PARK influence with vocalist KENJI03 and band MC, TEEDA rapping together and then KENJI03 busting out with cool vocals.

"Flydom" has a Blink182 vibe with its cheery sound, sing-song vocal style combined with dense word barrages that makes it one hell of a catchy song.

The song "~Feel~" is a very short but a cool song nonetheless. Mainly a song with just an acoustic guitar with the sounds of waves crashing and TEEDA doing a short rap diddy.

The final song "So Many Tears" is a pretty cool rock ballad. With heavy guitar playing and then the song slows down to allow for the rap of TEEDA and in the background the vocals of KENJI03, as both voices mesh, and effectively focusing on one and then to the other. A very inflected rock song with breezy rhythms and chiming guitars.

All in all, "BABY ROCK" is definitely a pleasing debut mini-album that would later lead to great things to come for the band with hit songs such as "CHAIN" and their second mini-album "NEW WORLD".

Although some of their music does have a sound similar to American bands mentioned, BACK-ON has effectively combined hip-hop and rock. Their music is their own and even their style separates them with other similar type of bands in Japan.

Definitely keep your eye BACK-ON. They definitely have a potential to go big!

- DENNIS A. AMITH

BABY ROCK



< JAPAN'S LINKIN PARK?

Maybe just a little but BACK-ON effectively fuses hip-hop to rock n' roll and creating their own sound.

A LITTLE BIT OF OLD AND A LITTLE BIT OF NEW...

A MINI-ALBUM RELEASED THREE MONTHS BEFORE
THEIR BIG LABEL MINI-ALBUM DEBUT RELEASE

BACK-ON

HERO

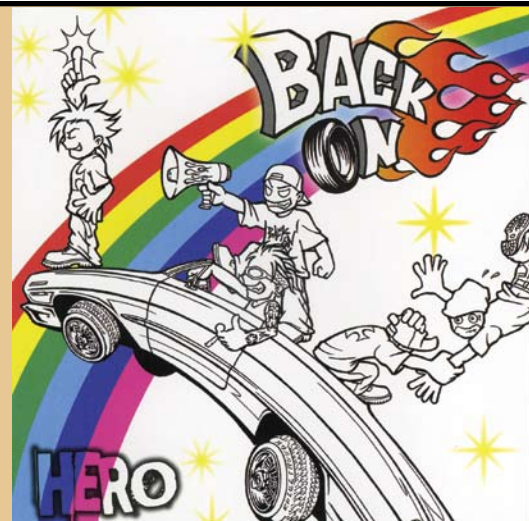
Fly Music Records

FLYM-00001 | Dur: 18:41
RELEASE DATE: July 11, 2005

The Adachi-based band that got their name from Jesse of rock/hip-hop group RIZE (and pop duo DEF-TECH) originally had an Indies mini-album release on the Fly Music Record label three months before the release of their big label mini-album (BABY-ROCK) release.

"HERO" pretty much has the same songs that are featured on "BABY ROCK" with songs such as "FLYDOM", "NUTS TRIBE" plus songs such as "OVER" (Leave it Alone Mix) and "Ultimate Adachi" were originally offered on the groups first Indie mini-album "ADACHI TRIBE" back in April 2004.

The song not found on any other mini-album but on "HERO" is the song "SOUL SHOUT - STUDIO LIVE -" which is an awe-



some rock/rap song featuring TEEDA and vocalist KENJI03 rapping together.

If this is the album that got BACK-ON signed to a major label, it doesn't surprise me.

With awesome songs such as "FLYDOM" and "NUTS TRIBE" included, these two songs showcases BACK-ON's style of fusing hip-hop with rock music effectively.

Of course, it's their earlier work but still sounds great. For more information on BACK-ON, please visit their official Website at: www.back-on.com