

Kirito

Hameln

Avex
AVCD-17702
Duration: 40:58
RELEASE DATE: August 3, 2005
Please visit Kirito's official Website at:
www.cycloid.jp

01. Hameln
02. DOOR
03. PLOT
04. INTER CUTTER
05. Ray
06. Awakening bud
07. Daremo inai Oka
08. Saisei no Asa (Album Version)
09. THE SUN
10. EXIT

Just months before Japanese rock band Pierrot announced that they would be disbanding, lead vocalist Kirito released his first 1st solo album "Hameln".

A notable collection of rock and alternative inspired tracks including his first single "Saisei no Asa".

Kirito separates himself from his famous J-rock band with more melodious songs and unexpected musical elements.

As you dive into the music it's interesting to hear Kirito's own personal style as the entire album was wrote and produced by him.

As you start the album you're greeted with the wonderful alternative rock song "Hameln", which merges classic instruments with upbeat rock riffs giving it an almost peppy sound.

The next track "DOOR" offers the listener a more gentle sound in the beginning before it branches into a more rock driven track at the chorus.

The soothing violins blend exceptionally well with the guitars and hard line drumming before momentarily breaking and ending on a bittersweet note.

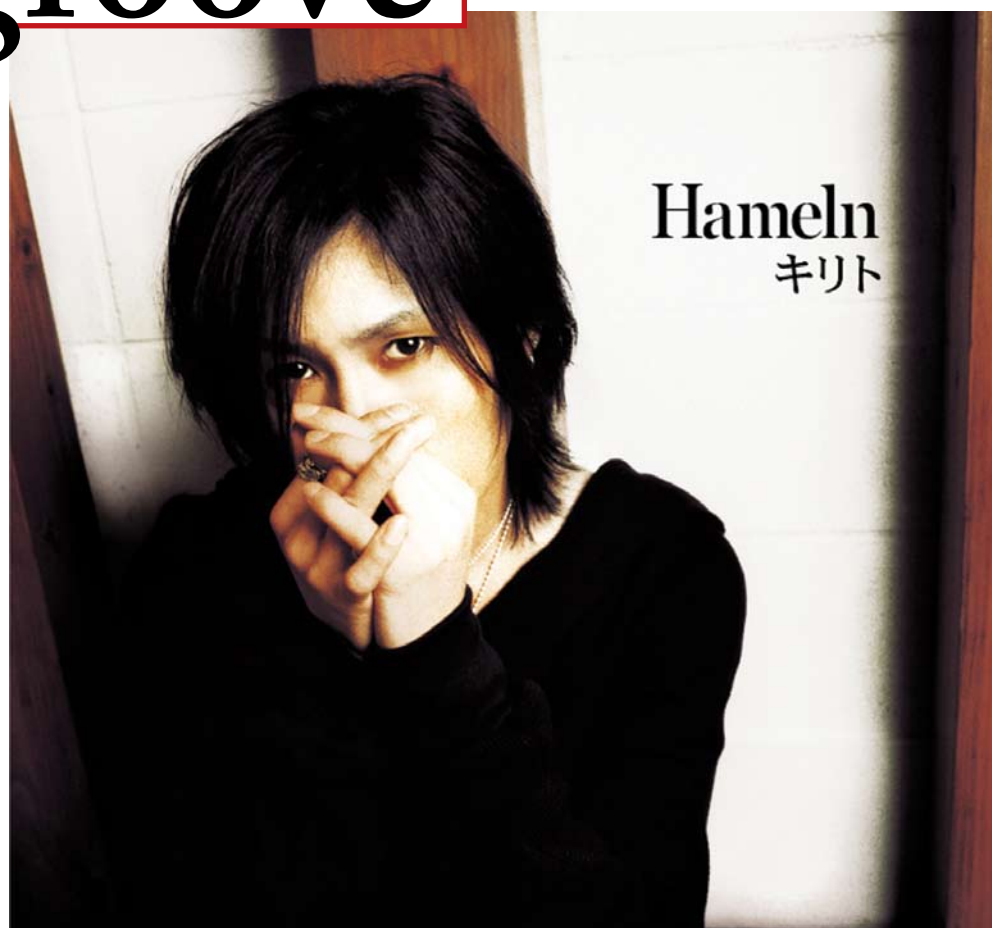
Bring rock back into the mix is "PLOT" with its aggressive opening.

The heavier guitars will bring a slight nostalgia to Pierrot fans as Kirito twists his vocals giving them a rougher tone then what's found throughout most of the album.

"INTER CUTTER" follows in this same pattern with solid percussion and intense guitar work.

Here though you get a more exotic sound thrown into the mix as Kirito blends a synthetic atmosphere into the background of his heavy rock, giving it an unusual yet pleasant quality.

"Ray" was an astonishing track with its interesting blend of J-rock and Alternative tones. Similarly to "Hameln" the song



< Breaking Away from Pierrot

Japanese rocker Kirito proves that he's more than just Pierrot's ex-vocalist with first solo album.

gives off a peppy vibe though it maintains a stronger rock sound.

"Awakening bud" offers a more pure rock sound.

While there are sporadic hints of electronic tones in this song, they are for the most part hidden behind the heavier guitar chords.

Kirito maintains the same melodious and attention grabbing tone manipulation that have been abundant throughout the album.

Switching things back to a softer sound is "Daremo inai Oka".

It seems almost out of place at first before hitting its high at the chorus.

At that point the guitars come in and overshadow the synthetic piano and reenergize the track.

Since I haven't heard the original cut of "Saisei no Asa" I won't be able to explain the difference between this track and the original version.

It is though a nice addition to the album with its steady soothing rhythm and prominent vocals.

"THE SUN" is an excellent song with its upbeat tempo and high-spirited energy. It

has an over all feeling of happiness and is a wonderful track to have saved for the end and would have possibly even been a nice ending to the album.

However that honor went to the final track, which is appropriately titled, "EXIT".

This is one of my favorites on the album with its perfect build up to the chorus and the amazing blending of melodies found once you reach it.

Although instead of toning back down like he does with the rest of his songs, Kirito continues the energetic pace.

This amazing balance helps backdrops his vocals and even accentuates them.

Those who obtain a copy of the 1st pressing will also receive an oversized booklet which contains both the lyrics and artistic photographs of Kirito.

The images play off angles and shadows which are seemly meant to conceal Kirito from any direct shots.

This gives the shoot a mysterious atmosphere and makes it a cool collectable for fans.

— MISTY CREECH