

LINER NOTES

WMCN 91.7 FM
MACALESTER COLLEGE RADIO
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ALBUM REVIEW

MATT & KIM Sidewalks (Fader Label)
By Eliza Summerlin

Matt & Kim are up to their usual antics again. November 2 marked the release of their third full-length album entitled *Sidewalks*. This collection of songs proves that they are more than just a scrappy duo playing around with sounds. They sacrifice some of their original grittiness for a more commercialized sound, but ultimately the album dazzles. They mix horns and electronics with teenage defiance to create a feel-good album.

Their single, "Cameras," was released in late August to great fanfare. It's a wholehearted anthem connotative of the rest of the album. "Cameras" strikes that part of the heart where you hold all of your childhood nostalgia. It's the perfect glittery goodbye to summer youth. And indeed Matt & Kim sound older on this album, more wistful. *Sidewalks* sounds like clinging onto the last sparkling moments of teen-hood before surrendering to the real world.

The monstrosity of this album is what sets it apart from Matt & Kim's previous releases. *Grand*, their sophomore release, is lighthearted and fun, but perhaps lacking in the layers and texture present on *Sidewalks*. The track "Where You're Coming From" delves deeper than any of their previous work. It combines staccato strings with fantastical lyrics put to an enormous beat, building up as it progresses until it is all encompassing.

With *Sidewalks*, Matt & Kim abandon some of the abrasiveness of their previous work and replace it with a smooth glam. Their songs are no longer rough around the edges. However, the album achieves greater profundity than ever before. *Sidewalks* makes you feel less alone. It's a soundtrack for all of us grappling with imminent adulthood. Listen to it as you walk down the street and tell me you don't feel a bounce in your step, a little more confident, a few inches taller.



EVENTS

11/9 Tuesday
MARNIE STERN w/ Gay Beast at 7th Street Entry, 8pm, 18+

11/11 Thursday
DAWES w/ Peter Wolf Crier at First Ave, 6pm, 18+

11/12 Friday
J. COLE at Karma, 7pm, 18+

ALSO:

WMCN will be hosting an in-studio performance by Minneapolis band The Ericksons on Tuesday, November 16. Tune in from 5-6pm on Diego Ruiz's show, WMCN News!

CHARTS

10/31/10

1. DEERHUNTER Halcyon Digest (4AD)
2. SUFJAN STEVENS The Age of Adz (Asthmatic Kitty)
3. NO AGE Everything in Between (Sub Pop)
4. NEIL YOUNG Le Noise (Reprise)
5. ARCADE FIRE The Suburbs (Merge)
6. BELLE AND SEBASTIAN Write About Love (Matador)
7. OF MONTREAL False Priest (Polyvinyl)
8. SHAD TSOL (Black Box)
9. CROCODILES Sleep Forever (Fat Possum)
10. MARK RONSON AND THE BUSINESS INT'L Record Collection (Columbia)