

Donate



[Login](#) | [Register](#)

Flogging Molly Debuts 'Float'

By [Christopher Friedrich](#)

Published: Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Updated: Sunday, May 17, 2009 16:05

The newest album from Irish folk punk band Flogging Molly delivers heart rending lyrics over a raw and often melodic sound. David King strikes again. The frontman of the seven-piece Los Angeles-based Celtic punk band is as lyrically prolific as always, delivering bitter resentment and remorse deftly throughout the entire 11 track album.

Topics familiar to the band- freedom, loss and tenacious perseverance-return in a more stripped down, yet far from basic, melodic form.

The toned-down musical delivery is a departure from previous albums, but it is by no means lacking. Instead, its raw format is overpowered by King's outstanding lyrical work, painting moving perspectives of the grief of aging and self-destruction. In fact, no topic is too large or small for the Dublin-born Irishman to tackle.

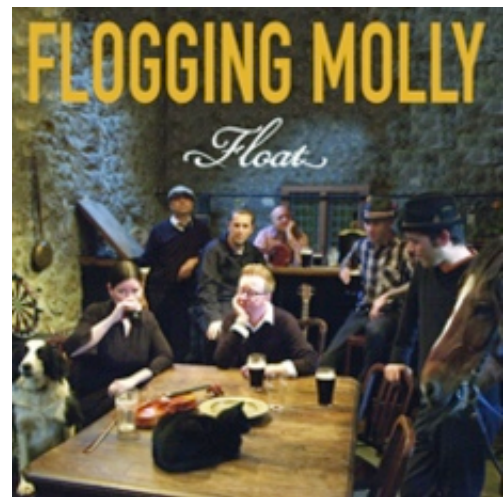
Probing the greater depths of finding faith, King browses the mindset of many and denounces taking life and freedom for granted. On "You Won't Make a Fool Out of Me," his tone is more fierce and personal, defending to the last his integrity and values.

The band challenges itself with raucous rhythm and impeccable accordion work, but bears the melody superbly throughout the slower, more thoughtful songs, such as the title track "Float."

King uses fantastic tales of lands afar to relate life's hard lessons to listeners as evident on "Punch Drunk Grinning Soul." The content is meant to be more thoughtful than rambunctious, contrasting with some of their more up-beat work on previous albums "Swagger" and "Drunken Lullabies."

Though the band contains seven members, each playing an instrument, the sound never feels crowded. Instead, each piece feels essential. The accordion provides the backbone of the melody over most tracks accompanied by quick paced drumming and guitar.

A soft and fast twang fills the rest of the melody while the methodic bass lines drive the songs



forward. The rise and fall of the sound is at once powered by King's voice and also the motivating force behind it.

The unity in the band's music is a product of years of determined focus and passion. The payoff is grand and unique, creating a sound that many mimic but are never quite able to attain.

Those familiar with Flogging Molly's previous works will not be disappointed. It stacks up well against their most recent release, "Within a Mile of Home," though it is considerably shorter.

Die-hards will likely cling to "Swagger" as the most influential release, but with time the relevance of "Float" will likely sway many. It has already been well received across the country via their nationwide tour. Shows have sold out well beyond their scheduled performance dates.

A greater majority of the album is available to listen to on the band's MySpace page along with several songs available for download.

People attempting to break into the Flogging Molly fanbase might better receive the band by first listening to their earlier works, as this album is more conscious heavy than playful.

If at all possible, see the band live as it will immediately dispel any misgivings about the quality of music and the energy the band radiates. For long standing fans, this album is highly recommended and should not be overlooked. This band is at its intellectual pinnacle without losing any musical gravity. This is an instant essential to a fan's Flogging Molly discography and it will not disappoint.

More information can be found at the band's MySpace page: www.myspace.com/floggingmolly, and also on their website: FloggingMolly.com.