

HEAD LIKE A KITE

A

Random Portraits of a Home Movie,
Pattern25

"Nostalgia" is defined by *The American Heritage® Stedman's Medical Dictionary* as a bittersweet longing for things, persons, or situations of the past. It is also the first word that comes to mind when thinking of the idea behind *Random Portraits of the Home Movie*. Recording under the name Head Like a Kite, Dave Einmo explains the reasoning behind the album, saying, "I wanted to take the random ambience you hear outside and record it into my songs."

It just so happens that his home, Seattle, can be a pretty noisy place – a place that is filled with wind, rain, traffic, construction sites, bubble wrap, and probably anything else that you can imagine. But he has chosen to pass all of that by. Using three decade-old super 8, analog film, Einmo has chosen to record footage of his family into his music, encasing his childhood moments in the musical amber of his adulthood.

At some point, most people have found themselves in front of a fountain drink machine, attempting to mix and match as many types of soda as possible, hoping to create some sort of exotic combination fit for Greek gods and warrior princes. Most have also taken that expectant, hopeful sip and thought to themselves, "Wow... this really ended up tasting like shit." Dave Einmo is an anomaly. He's the kid who got it right.

This album is melodic, catchy indie rock with too much sugar in its blood. It is driving, ambient electronica which was made to be listened to in fast cars. It is eerie and atmospheric, whimsical and psychedelic, poppy and easy to hum to. It is all of these things blended into a combination that goes down smooth but has a kick: a combination that moves swiftly and smoothly and then stops in its tracks. This album proves that the past makes good fuel. It is the sound that nostalgia makes when it looks toward the future.

NATHAN JEFFRYES.