



CD Reviews | A roundup of new music releases

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G. Love & Special Sauce

Superhero Brother

Brushfire

This trio, fronted by Garrett "G. Love" Dutton, has been around for 15 years but never scored a commercial hit despite many close encounters with potential fame. They've had a single land on MTV, were the house band for Comedy Central's "Turn Ben Stein On" and performed in a Coca-Cola commercial. And let's not forget their song "Milk and Cereal," which became a YouTube sensation.

Yet the band is only now embarking on its first headlining amphitheater tour, in support of its 10th album, "Superhero Brother."

The record is the group's third release on Jack Johnson's Brushfire label (Johnson received his start when he appeared on a 1999 G. Love release) and is a laid-back blend of blues, hip-hop and alternative rock. And though the tunes are usually cheery, some touch upon serious issues, such as "Peace Love and Happiness," which was inspired by Dutton's visit to the slums of Rio de Janeiro.

But "Superhero Brother" also features a song about smuggling marijuana onto an airplane, so all seriousness aside, G. Love & Special Sauce has the kind of soulful grooves that will wind up on many summer playlists.

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