

**NU**

[stop]



magazine

*Adventure rock at its finest*

# MUCHOS BACKFLIPS

[ by Daniela Garcia ]



“

*If you like a little metal with your quiet jazz, this might be the band for you*

”



Lubbock, Texas, best known to many as the home to Texas Tech University, is also the hometown to many a country musician. But Winston Barrett can tell you that Lubbock wasn't quite the ideal place for his experimental rock project, then known as Watermelonfastbass. So the band made its way to Austin in 2003 in search of a bigger music market, added a much needed bass player

(Brendan Vlass), threw in a trumpet player (Margaret Whitt), as well as a change of name and Muchos Backflips! was born.

A name like Muchos Backflips! sounds like the kind with a story behind its origin. When prompted to discuss where it came from, Barrett chuckles before launching into the tale.

"A friend of mine in high school, he had a kid that

grew up speaking English and Spanish. One day, he was playing with a little toy motorcycle and kept yelling that, over and over again to his grandma. He just kept yelling it, and it was hilarious," he explains. "When we moved [to Austin], we wanted to change our name. And I remembered that, I'll never forget it. I suggested it to everyone and they agreed, they thought it was awesome."

If you're attempting to categorize the band's sound by listening to their first album, *The Reckit*, good luck trying. Calling them experimental is really only the tip of the iceberg, because Muchos Backflips! won't provide you with a standard track. They instead take a bit from every genre possible to create what can only be described as a smorgashboard of sound, with no two of the 12 recorded songs sounding alike.

So how do you go about trying to describe the somewhat undecipherable? Barrett has two words for you: adventure rock. "That's what we've been calling it ourselves," he adds. "I've heard a lot of different things, like absurdist death-jazz. My favorite review of our CD was, 'If you like a little metal with your quiet jazz, this might be the band for you.'"

With rock as the foundation to their music, Mucho Backflips! does make good use of almost any established sound you can think of beyond metal and jazz, including ska, punk, rap, reggae and any other

undertone you can catch woven into Barrett's clever compositions.

2007's *The Reckit* is a testament to this. Towards the beginning of the record, you have a song like "Snackntackle", which starts with heavy, synth-based beats, with some rap thrown in, before having the horn section come in full blast. "Fantastamabulous" is a song that can be found somewhere in the middle and starts off in a light, quirky-sounding manner but you can't help but brace yourself for the ruckus of gritty guitars that ultimately come crashing in. The track

"Funky Lady" comes in towards the end and rises and swells, almost like it has its own interlude. It begins with a decidedly alternative, ska-like beat before switching into laidback latin-jazz, only to immediately pick up again with a crash of distorted riffs.

While Barrett enjoys having a unique sound, he describes the band's upcoming album, *Curtains I Tell You*, as their way to begin leaning towards a more cohesive sound. "It's definitely still distinct, and it's a little darker and heavier," he explains. "More classically influenced. Lots more horns. The first album was more

of a collaborative thing but this one is kind of the album I've wanted to do."

While *Muchos Backflips* may still be evolving, their high energy take on "adventure rock" is one worth checking out.

Be sure to take a listen at *Muchos Backflips!* MySpace: "[www.myspace.com/muchosbackflips](http://www.myspace.com/muchosbackflips)." ■

[ Daniela Garcia is a freelance journalist and regular contributor to *Kross Media* and *NÜ magazine* ]





» [Click here for previous interviews or go to nu-mag.com](#)

NU magazine, online issue #53 ISSN = 1932-1546

Copyright ©2008. Kross Media. Editorial content does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher of this magazine. Editorial or advertising does not constitute advice but is considered informative and most definitely enjoyable. NU magazine is published weekly in Austin, TX. online in a PDF format, giving exposure one artist at a time for the rest of world to enjoy. E-mail: [numail@krossmedia.net](mailto:numail@krossmedia.net), 512-968-7004. Please donate [here](#) if you like this publication. To get an SMS text message with NU contact information, text numag and send to 50500.

[Click here to give your business some exposure. Support the art! Contact NU magazine today.](#)

