

CHAOS **RAP** REVOLUTION

JOEY VALENCE AND BRUCE

NO HANDS



90's Rap FOR TODAY

How do I describe Joey Valence & Brae....

They're like if your little brother and his best friend decided to do a Beastie Boys tribute for the school talent show but somehow... **it doesn't suck!**

They took that punk energy, breakbeat drums, tag team hip hop delivery, sprinkled in some pop culture references, spun it all around and came up with some that wasn't fertilizer

The lyrics bounce between absurd jokes, nerd core references and the sort of humble brag you would expect from the cool kids at the back of the bus

The music doesn't want to be deep, it wants to be fun!

And honestly...

IT IS



Photo credit: Connor Phillips

Album: No Hands

Artists: Joey Valence & Brae

Released: 2024

Genre: Breakbeat Hip-Hop / Rap

Hip hop has a funny relationship with nostalgia...

Usually it takes the form of old jazz drum loops and reflecting on moments that shaped the artist's life.

Joey Valence takes a slightly different approach...

Instead of leaning on old samples and rose-tinted memories, he opts for punchy drum machines, breakbeats, and even sprinkles in some video game-style sounds that could've come straight from the old arcade!

Most of the production is handled by Joey himself, which gives the whole thing a sense of cohesion. Considering the way the tracks bounce around like a toddler on a sugar rush, that cohesion is much appreciated.

The result is an album that feels strangely retro yet entirely modern at the same time!

Part of what makes *No Hands* work is that it never feels forced.

It feels like two dudes hanging out with a laptop, making the music they want to listen to.

This isn't some polished and curated museum exhibit meant to preserve an older style. Joey and Brae aren't trying to preserve a genre; they're using it as their toy box.

They grab the loud parts

The fun parts

The parts that make you want to jump around

And they mash it all together until something sticks

Joey Valence & Brae aren't trying to recreate the past

They're throwing a party with it!