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E-mail: Jeffrey.Henckels@nielsen.com



Lyrical Storm®



The Box Theory Album

LYRICAL STORM, "THE BOX THEORY"

-Jeffrey Henckels

Cincinnati-based Lyrical Storm is determined to lift millennial rap to a higher art form: spoken-word hip-hop, where a poetic lyrical template overrides redundant hooks. In fact, all tracks on his full-length 2009 release "The Box Theory," play out like epic confessionals—freestyle, albeit with a thoughtful take on life, love, relationships and, yes, the good things in life. Focus cut "Drunken Haze" delivers on the latter promise, as he confesses, "I put the bottle to my lips and relieve the stress, feel the presence of the devil and I must say yes/Another night up in the club and you know the scene, you got chicks for sex and the rest for green." In "Hate Me," Storm professes his undaunted dream: "Hate me because I'm all you want/I use your envy as a victory taunt." But perhaps most haunting is the confessional "Abandoned," in which he vaunts, "My flow got a name, mister don't play/man among boys you done lost your way/Ain't had no life to write something real, no way in hell knowing my lyrics kill." And therein is Lyrical Storm's ultimate ace: He gives the listener a piece of heart and soul. The act has been polishing his art for more than a dozen years, studied marketing in college, and is now forging a number of multimedia projects, including coming-of-age book "Finding Love 101: Uncharted Vaults Series Volume One," about his early days growing up in Fort Wayne, Ind.; plays; and video game concepts. While production is perhaps more repetitive than his spoken flow, Lyrical Storm has the talent and drive to create thunder in a mainstream hip-hop world that is aching for reinvention. Let lightning strike.