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## Men Without Pants *Naturally* (Expansion Team)

By [Angela Shawn-Chi Lu](#)  
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Picture this: beeping, intergalactic robots dancing at a strip joint alongside gyrating go-go dancers and a singer in red velour bell-bottoms, platform boots, and a hot pink snakeskin cowboy hat with a neon green feather stuck in it. Obnoxious, over-the-top, and vulgar, Men Without Pants have come up with the perfect party album with which listeners can momentarily escape this recession and swine flu-ridden world.

Like a filthy version of the B-52's, singer Russell Simins' old man wail exchanges lines with a female sex robot who pants like Britney Spears and moans "Ah ha ah!" and, "Oh, baby!" This is explosive, balls in your face, electro synth-rock that, unfortunately, starts getting irritatingly loud midway through the album.

Around track six (if you're not on speed or ecstasy), this 24/7 rave will likely prove too much to handle with the barrage of heavily distorted guitar, heavily distorted vox, heavily distorted techno drumming, warped alien synths, and repetitive guitar riffs. Simins screams in maniacal rage at one point, "I'm losing my head!" and you'll concur wholeheartedly.

Other moments, though, more than compensate for such psychosis. "Superfine" packs the clear-cut, deft, and deceptively simple drumming of Carla Azar of Autolux with the fierce, overdriven guitar assault of Muse and the eternally disgruntled roar of Trent Reznor into a more digestible offering. On the "written for an action movie jam," "Let's Meet In Real Life," a fatter-than-Drew Carey bass line straight from Meat Beat Manifesto pounds you happily over the head with a techno groove that seems lifted from a Radiohead instrumental with generous cymbal action.

Generally a consistent record of mainstream rock songs, the new album from Simins (The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion) and bandmate Dan the

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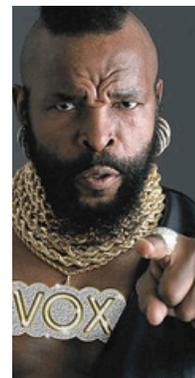
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Automator (Gorillaz) won't take long to hit teen drama TV shows, car commercials, or your local rock club. Though, like that loudmouthed party animal we've all witnessed at one point, Men Without Pants are best experienced when encountered sparingly.

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