

Lipkandy

"heart beats broken"

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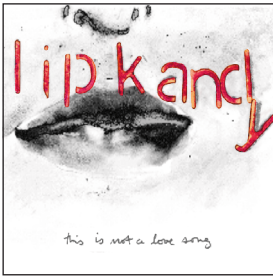
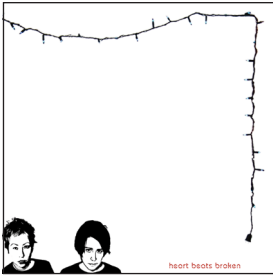
Lipkandy is pop rock electro indie grrrl punk post riot trash.

Once upon a time, the stars, probability waves, and fates converged making it possible for two Melissas to cross paths. One grew up on 40s movies and Siouxsie and the Banshees, the other was fighting her way out of small-town Kentucky armed with Hole albums and riot grrl zines. They met and then the guitars.



After self-releasing a 16 song demo and 7' the band released their indie pop rocker EP, 'this is not a love song' on Heartcore Records in 2001 to immediate college radio success. That EP marked a significant step away from their hardcore riot grrl roots and their new LP -- the highly anticipated, guitar-driven electronically enhanced indie pop full-length, 'Heart Beats Broken' -- is another enormous leap forward in the evolution of Lipkandy. It's also a refreshing and unapologetically eclectic jewel in a homogenous indie landscape of one-note bands. Lipkandy manages no less than the reinvention of the pop album, drawing on wildly divergent influences from 80's new wave and 90's post punk and riot grrl to hammer out a unique sound. Each song is an unforgettably catchy hit in its own right even as the album itself careens from pop rock throwdowns like "Shopping" and "Crashing" to bluesy screamers like "Equation" and "Found You" to melodic, melancholy love songs like "Leave the Sky" and "sorry so small". All of their songs, like the album itself are layered. The slower numbers are tinged with hope, sadness and longing and even a seemingly straight-ahead rocker like "Shopping" is a barely disguised rant about sexuality, feminism and our culture's fetishistic materialist obsession. With Lipkandy nothing is as simple as it seems.

Their blistering live sets are known for stirring the crowd into a frenzy and the addition of hard-hitting drummer, Jonathon Midkiff (Rabby Feber, The Vendors), to the touring lineup makes every show a must-see. "Our mission in life is to move the audience," says Melissa and if you've ever been to a show and watched the crowd jump and bounce to the energetic liptastic sound, you know lipkandy delivers.



"...harmonious and sensual vocals..." "...upbeat and aggressive (as any proper grrrls should be), they exemplify versatility and showcase their musical talent..."

Katerina Herodotou,
Venus Zine

"Two queer Melissas make melodic pop punk as cute and sassy as their band's name."

Top Picks for Fall.

The Advocate

"If this release doesn't move you, you must be dead."

Girlpunk Jessica O.

"...a strong release that delivers on nearly every indie promise you could hope for"

Splendid Zine Ron Davies

"Sweet fucking christ this CD is good! ...punk at it's finest each song better than the last, and very danceable!"

GrrrIStyle Jenny

"Awesome! Very rarely can I ever say that every song on a release is really great, but each song holds it's own...They play fun, melodic tunes that are catchy and memorable... LipKandy have just begun to soar. Look for them in a city near you soon!"

Shani Heckman
ManifestoNews.org

|| music ||

The Advocate picks for fall 2001

Music: Pop

By Steve Gdula

From *The Advocate*, September 25, 2001

LipKandy *This Is Not a Love Song* EP (Heartcore Records, Oct. 23): Two queer Melissas make melodic pop punk as cute and sassy as their band's name.

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lipkandy

THIS IS NOT A LOVE SONG [HEARTCORE]

by [Katerina Herodotou](#)

Melissa More and Melissa S. team up to form LipKandy, a fun, melodic punk-rock outfit. They share the harmonious and sensual vocals, singing about driving in circles and meaningless kisses.

Alternately being mellow and melancholic, crooning about lost chances, and then upbeat and aggressive (as any proper grrrls should be), they exemplify versatility and showcase their musical talent through a mere six-song record.

Having opened for bands like Bikini Kill, they have both experience under their belts and a unique look at the world from sticking around the female punk scene.

--Katerina Herodotou, Venus Magazine

★ GIRLPUNK.NET



This Is Not A Love Song EP
LIP KANDY
Heartcore Records

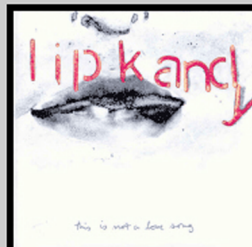
This 6 song EP is the kind of release that will make you smile, shed a tear and inspire you all at once. Each song embodies the kind of sincere passion so many artists lack these days. The lyrics have a personal edge that almost lead me to believe someone ripped the pages out of their diary and set them to music. It's pretty much impossible for me to pick one favorite track off of this release because I truly fell in love with each song to the point that they almost feel like my own. From the rock driven "Longway" to the heartbreaking "Car Outside", the songs are amorous without ever being generic or bitter. The cd is littered with sweet melodies and pop punk. If I must compare them, I would say that they are similar to Third Sex and Team Dresch. I swear to you, if you close your eyes you can literally hear every word, every guitar strum and every drum beat surge through your body. If this release doesn't move you, you must be dead."

--Jessica O. girlpunk

5PLENDID

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Lipkandy
This is Not a Love Song
Heartcore

Format Reviewed: CD

Soundclip: "Longway"



Although the title led me to expect abrasive pop a la Public Image Ltd., this duo plus one deals in melodic indie pop. Currently based in Baltimore, Lipkandy is fronted by two Melissas on guitars and vocals, with the rhythm completed with help from Brendan O'Malley. Given the band's format, it is not surprising that the music recalls Sleater-Kinney. Despite the similarities, Lipkandy differentiates itself along two dimensions. First, guitar lines focus on fuzzy chords more than the riffing interplay that defined the Sleater-Kinney sound. This gives the music a rougher, more straightforward feel that invokes the Minneapolis sound of bands like Hüsker Dü more than the relatively refined Northwest approach. Second, the vocals are delivered deadpan-style as opposed to Corin Tucker's manic howl. This difference helps to define Lipkandy's own territory, but also leaves the music feeling a bit hollow at times. With greater inflection, the duo could create a greater emotional connection, which will lead to a more satisfying set. Nevertheless, this EP remains a strong release that delivers on nearly every indie promise you could hope for.

-- Ron Davies, Splendid



Larry-Bob's Queer Music Explosion
<http://www.holytitsclamps.com>
Lipkandy

"Pucker Up" 7". Lo-fi garage girls, playground taunts all grown up. Song lyrics of Pitifuck: "it's really not so complex / I was only using you for sex." PO Box 22104 Lex, KY 40522 (reviewed 3/98)



eclectic grrrl tantalizing tales from eclectic grrrl avra

<http://www.coolgrrrls.com/pages/eclecticgrrrlhtml>

October 3, 2002

Hey folks I've seen so many bands lately that it seems like a good idea to break into my travelogue and give them a shout-out. I just went to Brooklyn's opening night of LADYFEST (<http://www.ladyfest.org>) featuring a lineup of female bands. Drag king MURRAY HILL did a super job of MC-ing the night, complimenting the acts and putting everyone in a good mood.

LIPKANDY were great. The first part of their set was very catchy and tuneful: pop-py in a good way. Next, they played songs from their new album, which sounded a little retro-goth (also in a good way!) They showed range, their set was sort of a waltz through styles of the past. Not meant a criticism—I like those styles!



www.midwest-ursine.com

On the Turntable by William Gregory

Want some queer hardcore/punk in your collection? **Stand up and Fucking Fight for it** is a collection put out by Agitprop that will have you climbing walls, searching for rainbows to set them ablaze. Although this collection is more hardcore than punk, there are definitely a few standouts. **My faves are grrrrl rockers LipKandy and Deathcheck, I know nothing about these German rockers, but my God Oi Oi, they ROCK!!** Chicago's own Scott Free shows why he needs to be making more music. Fagatron and Skinjobs are definitely two of the best bands around, period. Alas, Rotten Fruits are no more; it's too bad these Germs-esque guys had a great sound, and some badass swank, Jeremy.



ManifestoNews.org 2002
by Shani Heckman

LipKandy *This Is Not A Love Song* Heatcore Records, 2001

Awesome! Very rarely can I ever say that every song on a release is really great, but with every track on LipKandy's *This Is Not A Love Song*, I can honestly say that each song holds its own. The fever starts earnestly with the first track "Long Way" is danceable and catchy with Bangles inspired vocals over solid punk drum beats. New York based LipKandy is Melissa More and Melissa S. They play fun, melodic tunes that are catchy and memorable. "Never Thought" is tender and ironic lyrically and is one of my favorite tracks.

LipKandy reminds of tormented teenage love in "Car Outside": "Drinking beer on the hood of your car, talk about boys looking at the stars, I'm high strung don't like to be touched, you say that kiss didn't mean that much." All six songs on this first release are really good with a touch that leads me to believe that LipKandy have just begun to soar.

Look for them in a city near you soon!

2/04 SouthernFace Reviews

www.southernface.homestead.com

LIPKAnDY Is EaRkAnDY

once in a while, i will get a wild hair and buy something obscure. or i will be lucky enough to know kick ass people who will send me cds through the mail. and once in a while, those cds that i either buy or receive will rock my socks off. lipkandy is one of those cds.

what little background i know of them is that they are from lexington, ky. how could you not love 'em? the duo consists of melissa m. and melissa s. unlike some grrrl bands were they are littered with jessicas and chrissys, you'll never forget their names. as for the music, they have a real old school grrrl band sound. if you heard them in the early 90's, you would figure they were yet another seattle band in the long line of seattle bands walking behind groups like bikini kill, 17 and the gits. however, like bikini kill or 17, they would stand out because of the honesty in their lyrics. songs about heartbreak and curiosity. about how life can really kick your ass when you're at your best. "no straight lines, the streets aren't paved."

I think by far, my favorite song on the "this is not a love song" ep, is "car outside". just listening to the lyrics, i feel like someone watched a moment or two of my life and wrote a song about it all. it kind of pisses me off since i really dig the song, but it's hard to listen to. hearing lyrics like, "i missed the wrong signs, gave you my last dime, i get up you bring me down, i think i live for your frown." it makes me think of a face i haven't thought about for a while.

the album as a whole flows so well and once you begin to listen to one song, you will end up listening all the way through. you can really identify with the lyric no matter what type of relationship you have been through.