



Art Brut

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Just when you thought the post-punk resurgence was finally dead along came Art Brut, a brash, idiosyncratic five-piece that brought with them an inane, but insatiably catchy tune about starting a band. Now, less than a year after releasing their debut, *Bang Bang Rock & Roll*, stateside, they're ready to deliver another jagged dose of their distorted indie rock.

"I think it will be more of the same, but better," says Eddie Argos, the band's lead singer. No major changes is a good thing for fans who've become accustomed to their gritty sound, and to make things that much sweeter, Argos wants to release two records. "We're going to write twenty songs and release them as a double record," he says. "I don't think we'd be allowed to release a double album, but maybe we can release two double albums. Like Guns N' Roses. We can release *Use Your Illusion III* or *IV*."

Argos is joking, he laughs pretty hard when he mentions GN'R (Ad Rose was name-checked in Art Brut's "Moving to L.A." after all), but he's not kidding when he says they're going to record 20 songs. With their debut the group only tracked as much as they needed, this time they want to pick and choose the best songs.

He promises that lyrically, the new tracks will be as outlandish as what was on *Bang Bang Rock & Roll*. "Last time I wrote about obscure Italian terrorists. I got away with some really weird stuff, so I'm sure I can do that again." To prove it, he says he wants to write a song about Dick Bruna, a picture book artist, and his most famous character, Miffy, a white bunny. "I've become obsessed with him," says Argos. "I'm sure he'll be in the album somewhere."

Because the record's following in its predecessor's footsteps, Argos says there are no big surprises on the new disc, save for one. "Beyonce's on it," he says. "But keep that a secret."

By Bryan Borzykowski • Photo by Wendy Lynch