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Lez Zeppelin: Lez Zeppelin - Indie Music Review

By Nicole Mackie, [HOT INDIE NEWS .com](#)

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For some fans, the phrase "cover band" may trigger an easy gag reflex. Suddenly, your head is filled with memories of cheap tequila shots chased with even cheaper beer leading up to the night you spent on the floor of the ladies' room in the dirtiest dive bar you have ever seen (and frankly, smelled). Thankfully, the term "tribute band" has been introduced into American vocabulary, so you can just skip that nausea and move right into musical euphoria.

There's really no use in comparing the artistic genius of an iconic group, such as Led Zeppelin, to a tribute band (apples and oranges), so don't. Lez Zeppelin, an all-female tribute, proves to be amazing on its own. Sure it's weird hearing lead singer Sarah McLellan instead of Robert Plant, but that said, these girls take on the masterpieces of their male counterpart, and make them their own.

While each song on their self-titled Lez Zeppelin is definitely worth listening to, jump straight to "Since I've Been Loving You" and disregard the male version. Lez's recording of the bluesy track is soulful and clear; it takes direction from the original but adds something sultry and feminine, the best part being the improvisational guitar work of Steph

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Paynes during the intro and bridge. Follow that up with the more popular hits of "Rock N' Roll" and "Whole Lotta Love." The perfect execution of the percussion (a la Helen Destroy) in the former and the baseline (Lisa Brigatino) in the latter, along with the refreshing vocals of a precise and pitch-perfect voice, bring these songs back from commercially overplayed and into their own play list on my iPod. If you are looking to rediscover a favorite, Lez's cover of "Kashmir" comes back to haunt your ears. (To get that contagious guitar riff out of your head, play the sublimely cool "Winter Sun.")

Lez Zeppelin's sound is so Zeppelin-fresh, it's as if these songs are brand new. And while you may have had a bad experience watching a cover band of bald, pot-bellied middle-aged hacks sing Steely Dan songs at a reunion, they shouldn't be the standard to which you hold the Tributes, 'cause you'll end up missing out on some amazing music.

MORE INFORMATION

<http://www.lezzeppelin.com>

<http://www.myspace.com/lezzeppelin>

<http://www.redeyeusa.com>

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