

Brainwashed - Taylor Deupree, "Fallen"

Written by 12k

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"When I sit down to write an album I will usually come up with a technical and compositional concept to help focus my writing. Whether it is a restricted palette of instruments or a specific way of approaching the writing, this practice has helped me explore different processes and helps keep the album focused.

My previous album *Somi* was such an album. Hyper-focused and very deliberate in creation. However, there are times where I want to be more relaxed and just write what comes freely. In a way *Fallen* is such an album. When I began writing it the only strong rule I put on myself is that it would be my first album centered around the piano as the main instrument.

There were times when I wanted *Fallen* to be an album for solo piano but the more I pushed and explored the more I was drawn to accompanying the piano with modular and Moog synthesizers, tape machines and the occasional guitar.

Fallen was supposed to be, after all, a relaxed album, one that would come quickly, off-the-cuff, and with little regard to any rules or restrictions. It, however, ended up being one of the longest albums for me to create; well over a year and a half, as it had coincided with a particularly dark and difficult time in my personal life.

As the album progressed the thoughts of a freer, solo-piano sound quickly faded as layers of disintegration and noise came to the foreground. Half-broken tape machines and plenty of ghostly echoes helped hide the honesty of the piano as I hid myself, and my music, away under the cover of abstraction.

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In a way, I feel that *Fallen* is most like my album *Northern*. One that was intended to be more free-spirited but became very much about a particular place and time. "

- Taylor Deupree

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