

BSS presents:
Brendan Canning
Something For All Of
Us...
Arts & Crafts

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After Broken Social Scene's initial tryptic carried the collective Toronto scene to international acclaim, the Kevin Drew / Brendan Canning centred alt-pop collective had the wit, canny and sheer cynicism to launch a series of 'Broken Social Scene Presents:' records - beginning with Kevin Drew's 'Spirit If', a riotously experimental indie rock record, twinkling with wide eyed valiance - and near enough as collaborative as the original Broken Social Scene project. The second BSSP record has now hit. 'Something For All Of Us...' provides a platform for Drew's cofounder, Brendan Canning. More conventional, if no less energetic than Drew's debut, SFAOU spans the gamut from uptempo cinematic instrumentals ('All the Best Wooden Toys Come From Germany'), to dreamy shoegaze on 'Been at it So Long' & 'Chameleon', to grittily melodic alt folk of the Jeff Buckly school ('Snowballs and Icicles', 'Possible Grenade'). Less successfully are the weak Lisa Lobsinger driven pop song 'Antique Bull', and the blandly funky 'Love is New'. Overall, Cannings voice is warm, and his guitar and horn lines catchy, but there's no snare driven pop athem to compare with Drew's 'Safety Bricks'. None the less, this fuzzy, likable record should hit the spot for salivating BSS fans.

Gareth Stack