

MXLX - Kicking Away At the Decrepit Walls Til the Beautiful Sunshine Blisters Thru the Cracks

This record takes you out, spits in your eye, and drives home without you – the explosive catharsis MXLX captures in *Kicking Away* is not for the faint of heart. The record features a blaring organ, growling guitar, and gutting dissonance that'll make your spine shiver. From sounds resembling pipes crashing on a nightmare wedding day to sounds of sitting inside a computer during a reboot, this album never knows boring. MXLX masterfully explores electronic ambient noise with metal and harmonization all in the same breath. By the last track on the record, MXLX powerfully releases the anger and tension he built in the record, and the listener subsequently experiences how a video game character must feel when they're dying, in true 8-bit noise fashion. The record is innovative, honest, and most importantly, it leaves a mark.

