

Today, I'll be reviewing the flashy instrumental guitar album 'Shredworx' by Rob Johnson, a man I previously thought was called Robert Johnson. That doesn't make a difference? It's actually the exact same name? Think again. It's like Simon and Si (sounding like 'sigh'). The first is my name, a good name, the second version makes it sound like people get tired of seeing me!! When researching the album with the longer form of Rob (and the longer form of Bob too! I want three names!), A.I. told me that Robert Johnson did NOT release Shredworx as he was a delta blues singer from the 1930s. I KNOW the blues guitarist Robert Johnson didn't release Shredworx, as he'd have to be 97 years old when recording the 2008 release being discussed. He actually died ages ago, making his appearance on the album far, far stranger. That would be Zombie Johnson. (Although to be fair, there is an artist called Rob Zombie, but he's different, too). Furthermore, Robert would have to change his style COMPLETELY and practice infinitely long to get to the shred level. Can you imagine B.B. King changing his style and playing Far Beyond the Sun by Yngwie Malmsteen? The only person who would be impressed would be Yngwie himself, everyone else will be baffled/angry. What can we learn from this? Expecting a child soon, and hoping he'll end up becoming a musician? Well, Rob and Robert are two completely different people! The short and fun Rob shreds and the longer and more mature sounding same Robert, fittingly plays more mature and soulful sounding music. The tradeoff being it's not as technically advanced. Personally I like Rob more, but that does mean he'd at least sound like a thief.

This sounds crude and childish, but the name Rob Johnson could refer to someone who steals someone's pe... No, I'm not going there. This was a misunderstanding on my part, but I first read that Shredworx was a compilation cover album of a variety of different artists. I was thinking to myself '.... but all these songs sound the same...' Then I read the paragraph again and it explained it WAS a compilation album, but only of ROB'S (not Robert's) material. Things aren't perfect though, as Rob really should try harder. But thank God the whole genre doesn't sound the same, right?? (Although many would disagree and yep, fair enough). I'm wondering what his progressive metal band 'Magnitude 9' is like, let's check it out on Youtube. Ah, in the search bar, 'magnitude 9 earthquake' is coming up. What do you get in earthquakes? Destruction, making the 'progressive' metal genre rather ironic. Ok, I'm listening to Magnitude 9 BAND, right now. It's alright I guess, it's certainly better than an earthquake, but it's kinda meh. Oh, I've just noticed a M9 track features near the end of the SW album, I didn't have to search for it on Youtube after all. However, my internet search probably doubled the amount of views M9 previously had, so I think I did the right thing with my internet usage. Rob Johnson could arguably promote his solo act more as well. As there is a much more famous musician called Robert Johnson, I think he should call himself completely different. He could call himself Bob Johnson, but my dad is called Bob, and you don't want to go there. How about something like Brad Frankfurt??

Now what to say? The internet doesn't seem to know for sure what record label the album is on, I'm presuming because the LP is so obscure. One theory is the Shredguy label which is fitting, but another theory is the label Ultimate Guitar Series which is more irony for you. Ha, ultimate. The CD case tells me it's Shredguy, but maybe Rob made a mistake after thinking to himself 'no one is going to buy this album, so it doesn't really matter what label I'm on...' Usually I'd say that attitude would be very dumb but in Rob's case, yeah, fair enough. As all but two tracks on

the album are instrumental and all the vocal-less tracks are very similar, Rob could also pick his track names at random and assign them to any of his songs, if he really wanted to. He has a track called 'Seven String Rhetoric' and I may just be wrong because I'm not paying proper attention to his music as I'm typing (his forgettable music) but I think he uses seven string guitars on all his songs, further proving any song title will fit any song. Do I like the music, though? Yeah, it's not bad, I give it a solid 9/10! I suppose I was exaggerating when I said all songs sound the same... Just not by much. And good luck finding the album, the fact my CD and cover is in very good condition only makes me feel more special. But what do the professionals think? Let's visit Allmusic.com, again. Zero stars?? Oh, the score is blank because no one has reviewed it. I mean zero wouldn't surprise me, but come on, at least one star, right? Well, I think it deserves 4 and half stars. Bye!