

Today I'll be reviewing Arcade Rock by Karate High School! The band claim they've invented a new genre called 'Nintendocore' but really the music is just pop punk with occasional retro game blip noises. It's not like the neoclassical metal revolution, where Yngwie fused classical music with heavy metal and then all of a sudden ALL heavy sub-genres have acts that use classical ideas. The idea that blips could find their way into death metal, black metal, power metal etc., etc. like another revolution is ridiculous! Do you really think Nintendo death metal could catch on? For example 'kill, kill, torture, kill!'... Blip! Do you think Nintendo black metal could ever work? For example 'Hail Satan!'... Blip! No! Of course not! KHS haven't invented a new genre, they haven't REALLY even invented a new sound. Had the band only or at least mostly used such blips instead of sparsely scattering them throughout the album, THEN it would be a new genre. That actually sounds like a pretty good idea. The band were SO close to doing something different, they had the idea for the instrumentations, they had the genre name and everything! They really must be kicking themselves. It would be like a metal band having the groundbreaking idea of tuning a semitone lower to sound extra heavy. Yeah, try an octave down like lots of modern metal. The semi tone? It does next to nothing.

There is a song on the LP that goes 'Fear does not exist in this dojo!! :O' Wow, impressive. Or is it impressive? Because that suggests everyone in the dojo is a psychopath. Oh wow. Would you like to be in a hospital where all the doctors and surgeons are psychopaths? No? How about those people who blow up disused buildings for a living? Would you trust a psychopath to do that? Or how about pilots or those people who diffuse bombs? The list goes on. But fear not existing in a dojo is completely fine, isn't it? Stupid song. And the lyric just mentioned followed by a blip? Why? How in the world does that make any sense? As in 'We're all warrior psychopaths! The toughest people in the whole world!'... Beep! And guess what one of the labels these guys were on was called... It was called 'Evolution.' Now come on. All things considered is there any evolution with KHS? Technically speaking the use of old school sounds is DEVOLUTION. Another label the band was on was called 'EVO'. I'm hoping that wasn't short for 'evolution'. If so, the positive sounding companies could have given the band the wrong impression that the road they went down was realistic and good, ultimately leading to disappointment. That could well be why the musicians look so fed up in the pic I'm looking at now. Disappointment DOES exist in this dojo.

Ironically, when the band matured over time by experimenting with REAL genre fusions, they were dropped by the labels mentioned and signed to Eyeball Records. During the band's 6 year lifespan, the act got through a good 6 different bass players. Why could that be? Maybe the bassists got sick of being around people not feeling fear in the dojo. That of course is a euphemism for being sick around psychopaths. An average of one bassist a year? People in the Vietnam war were required to fight for at least two years, does that mean being in the band is twice as bad? I have heard of there being tensions in various musical groups, but KHS really do take things to a whole new level. Why was it mostly the bassists that got fed up, though? My theory is that such musicians are usually more in the background in rock groups in general. The band leader could have been like 'why aren't you doing enough in this dojo?' No one likes to feel devalued, perhaps explaining the frequent retirements. I don't understand how that's twice as bad as war, but I was never in the band. MAYBE... it was terrible. Anyway, do I like the album? Yeah, let's give it

8.75/10. Bye!