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# Album Review: Rex Orange County's latest album possibly shadows a new era of positivity

MAR 24 WRITTEN BY ZAIDA PRING - STAFF WRITER



**WHO CARES?**  
Rex Orange County



1	KEEP IT UP	3:03
2	OPEN A WINDOW (feat. Tyler, The Creator)	3:38
3	WORTH IT	2:44
4	AMAZING	3:29
5	ONE IN A MILLION	3:14
6	IF YOU WANT IT	3:07
7	7AM	3:19
8	THE SHADE	3:01
9	MAKING TIME	1:55
10	SHOOT ME DOWN	4:52

On Friday, March 11, indie artist Rex Orange County released his fourth studio album, "WHO CARES?" Alexander James O'Connor, a 23-year-old singer from the UK who is known



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The 11-track album is incredibly on par with O'Connor's previous work, such as his second studio album "APRICOT PRINCESS." The singer has made a name for himself with his take on boy-next-door, sad indie music. However, in comparison with what we've seen O'Connor accomplish since he made his debut in 2017, the latest album felt pretty tame.

The album opens with the track "KEEP IT UP," a poppy ballad in line with most of O'Connor's music. The song is filled with one-liners about pushing yourself forward through the tough times, with lyrics such as "Keep it up and go on / Yeah you're only holding out for what you want."

While it is an upbeat track, it still leaves listeners wanting more from the artist who has brought such powerful songs such as "PLUTO PROJECTOR." The opening track is an overly safe play from O'Connor.

The second track on the album features a reunion track with Tyler, The Creator titled "OPEN A WINDOW." This is the only track featuring another artist on "WHO CARES?" The song tackles feeling stuck and grappling with these feelings while dealing with a relationship with someone you love. With lyrics such as "Stuck here and I never seem to get away," the album takes a soulful approach to Rex Orange County's typical indie characteristics. While short, the track seems to stick out the most from the album and lends excitement to the rest of the album.

"ONE IN A MILLION," is another track that stands out from the album. A song about following your heart for the person you love the track covers the typical sad indie route O'Connor usually follows. O'Connor sings of how hard it is to pretend to feel indifferent about someone while your heart is telling you to follow them. This song has a beautiful mix of vocals and instrumentals.

Following "ONE IN A MILLION" is the hyper track "IF YOU WANT IT." The fifth track explores feelings of wanting someone who doesn't want you back, and the attempts made to change their mind. The song has a fast, poppy beat, coming off as more upbeat. The track brings listeners to the feeling of the dating field and waiting for a call back from someone who is never going to call. The song is the most pop centric, radio safe track on the album.

Despite this album being a safe choice for O'Connor, it is tastefully mixed with stellar lyrics and meaningful writing. While O'Connor has made strides in a career that took off quickly, the album leaves something to be desired from the artist. However, playing it safe worked out in



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**EDINBORO UNIVERSITY REX ORANGE COUNTY MUSIC ALBUM REVIEW**

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