ALBUM REVIEW "KISS MY ARTS" ON JOY 94,9



Go Fly A Kite Ben Kweller

By Amy Bastow

This is one case where the phrase "he got better with age" certainly doesn't apply.

The once lyrically clever powerpop kid of the early 2000's is certainly well and truly done being a prodigy.

Even as someone who rarely listens to the Beetles, I picked up on the blatantly obvious Fab Four references, from the noticeable "I'm a Believer" guitar riff in *Free* to the Beetles-inspired harmonies in the opening of *Full Circle.*

Maybe it's just me, but I found it extremely unprofessional having three successive songs on this album beginning in the same key. Perhaps it just laziness from the producers, or perhaps it suggests Kweller can only sing in these keys? Either way, it's best not to put these songs one after the other. For me, everything in this album is predictable and uninspiring. Occasionally Kweller manages to throw in a slick time-signature change, done reasonably well in *Gossip*, but there just isn't enough musical development or lyrical charm to keep me interested. This is certainly one unmemorable album.

I give it 1 out of 5 kisses