

Jessie Ware

Words: Jamie Boyd

Soulful London singer/songwriter Jessie Ware returns with a strident follow up to 2012 Mercury Prize nominated debut 'Devotion', revisiting the dubstep and R&B influences which underpinned it. Her ability to draft in a mixture of garage and electronic sounds on records sets her apart from other artists, providing a less nauseating take on heartbreak and unrequited love.

Crafted with the help of heavyweight producers Two Inch Punch and Benny Blanco, 'Tough Love' showcases a boost in sophisticated arrangements and sleek production, which allows Ware's vocal talents to reach stratospheric new heights.



Standout moments include sultry atmospheric brooding on the album title track which is compounded with reverberating synth and repeated drum machine beats; while 'You & I (Forever)' has pulsating rhythms that climax into a 'Call Me Maybe' lyrical flow far excelling its muse.

Having once been content to lurk in the shadows as Jack Peñate's backing singer while preferring collaborative efforts with the likes of SBTRKT on 2010's 'Nervous', this may prove to be the moment in which Ware fully embraces the limelight, along with cleansing her soul of past demons as she embarks on married life.