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Random Notes – Pat Whyte

Top Notch Debut

Brisbane musician and teacher Ian Powne is the man behind the self-titled, *Stress of Leisure*, a real treasure of a bedroom album, that was released independently late last year. And it is, dear reader, the best debut I've heard in a while.

The iconic song, *Jennifer Sharp* (“She’s an accounts clerk from the city of London”) is like The Go-Betweens’ *Lee Remick* for the 21st century. “Her name in my inbox – sends prickles all over my skin.” Then there’s the pop perfection of *Calm It Down* and *Yoko’s Presents*.

There are echoes of Lou Reed, David Bowie, Marc Bolan and Television. You can’t be doing too badly when only the greats will do for comparison.

Stress not, Powne is recording a second album as we speak.