

The Music Sounds Better With You. EN101A

Greek philosopher Plato once said “, music and rhythm find their way into the secret places of the soul.” Plato couldn’t have been any wiser. A song is more than something you hear on the radio or pay \$0.99 for on iTunes. The listener makes personal connection with a song that allows them to relate to and appreciate the artist’s message. When asked what my favorite song is, my first reaction is to panic. How could anyone possibly expect me to pick one favorite song? Countless genres, countless artists, countless songs; there is simply too many options for my mind to calculate. That was my typical response, until I heard “Music Sounds Better (Dirty Disco Youth Remix)” by Stardust. Never have I been filled with so much energy, ecstasy, and excitement from a single song. I can definitively say that this is my favorite song of all time. From its ingenious mix of musical genres, dance beats that inspire, and the new meaning it has given to my life, “Music Sounds Better (Dirty Disco Youth Remix)” is a song that all should enjoy.

“Music Sounds Better (Dirty Disco Youth Remix)” manages to do the impossible; seamlessly integrate at least four different genres of music into a sub-five minute listening experience. The song itself is organized like an elaborate Shakespearean play. The song rises to action with the repetition of three words: “oh, baby, oh.” These lyrics start out very distorted and computerized, so it takes the listener a few repetitions to even understand what the singer is saying. From there, the song introduces a conflict with the vocals: a piano melody. The combination of the harsh, electronic vocals and smooth, classical piano symbolizes a mixing of old and new. Alone, the piano would sound outdated and uninteresting, but by pairing it with industrial, modern vocals, it manages to stay relevant and original. After the piano and choppy vocals, the song begins to intensify. It builds with deafening bass and increasingly fast electronic sounds until it reaches the climax; a loud crash followed by a dance music free-for-all. One cannot help but immediately start moving to the beat. As the song nears an end, each instrument is slowly removed, one-by-one, bringing the listener down from the climax slowly and reassuringly. The song finally concludes the same way it began, with the simple repetition of “oh, baby, oh.” With catchy, constantly changing rhythmic beats coupled with thumping bass, choppy vocals and smooth piano, “Music Sounds Better (Dirty Disco Youth Remix)” is truly a poetic musical masterpiece.

From the second “Music Sounds Better (Dirty Disco Youth Remix)” starts playing, it is near impossible to keep oneself from standing up, dancing, and letting the music flow through one’s body. When I first heard the song, I was in shock. I had never heard song that, from the moment it started playing, inspired so much joy and intensity. The song feels like a fast, undulating musical roller coaster, full of twists, turns, loops, highs, and lows. Around each musical bend is a surprise, be it a sharp change in tempo or the addition of a throbbing bass line. It’s a ride that consumes the listener’s entire body and requires every ounce of energy one has. It’s a ride that leaves me feeling breathless and exhausted, while still completely content and euphoric. The listener can feel the beat inside their body and has no choice but to let it strap them in and never let go. “Music Sounds Better (Dirty Disco Youth Remix)” also introduced me to my passion for dance music. Before this song, I dabbled a bit in the dance genre, but never fully immersed myself. This song made me appreciate the genre’s musical simplicity. Though every dance song is full of complicated, pulsing beats, the message is always the same; to let the music consume the body and dance. The simplicity of this message and the intense passion with which it is

projected has made dance music by far my favorite genre. “Music Sounds Better (Dirty Disco Youth Remix)” has left an everlasting impression on my musical tastes and has opened both my eyes and ears to exciting new listening experiences.

More than anything else, “Music Sounds Better (Dirty Disco Youth Remix)” represents a turning point in my life; the transition from an angst-ridden teenager to self-confident, mature young adult. I stumbled upon this song during one of the first months I was attending Boston University. I was at an underground rave held at a dingy, musty dive-bar. The bar was filled to the brim with sleazy, grumpy old men; needless to say, I wasn’t expecting much from the night. However, the DJ started spinning, and before I knew it I was experiencing the most influential song of my life. It felt like time had stopped and I was immersed in bubble of sound, floating through the air to my own accord. From that moment on, I felt a major shift in my soul. All at once I had abandoned my previous self; the self that would allow negativity and unhappiness to affect him. While listening to the song, I felt nothing but pure joy, which was something I had yet to experience in a song. I realized that not only listening to music that stimulated negativity, but that surrounding myself with negative people and things was foolish and unnecessary. I realized that if one five-minute song can procure such passion and fire within my soul, then perhaps I was missing out on something larger. I now carry an outlook of openness and excitement because I discovered that there is no reason to allow negativity into my life. I only do things that satisfy me and give me positive feelings. Thanks to “Music Sounds Better (Dirty Disco Youth Remix),” I have transformed from a naïve, apathetic child to a much wiser and happier adult.

When Plato said that “music and rhythm find their way into the secret places of the soul,” he had no idea that his statement would remain relevant, hundreds of years later. There is more to a favorite song than it simply being a favorite. It is a connection of emotions and ideas that a particular song sparks within one’s soul. It’s a feeling of both helplessness and excitement; not knowing where the musical journey may lead, but being excited and happy to be experiencing it. For me, “Music Sounds Better (Dirty Disco Youth Remix)” by Stardust is my musical connection. It is my rollercoaster ride of emotions and beats. It is my escape. From its clever mix of musical genres, inspiring dance beats, and life-changing meaning, “Music Sounds Better (Dirty Disco Youth Remix)” is my favorite song.