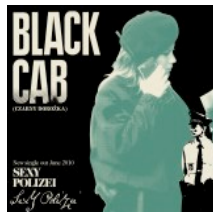


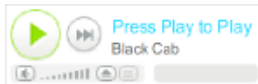
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Black Cab Track: Sexy Polizei

1 Track, **Single** (2010, Laughing Outlaw)
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Traditionally, the beauty of a Black Cab song takes grip gradually. Not so 'Sexy Polizei'. It's a looker from the start, a single that's been crafted to lure the lascivious gaze of strangers. 'Sexy Polezei' will please fans both old and new. Like the two nerds in John Hughes' *Weird Science*, who feed data into their computer to make the "perfect woman", Black Cab's creation has emerged from the machine sexy – and smart too.

The pulsating dance beat wasn't a shock, exactly, but it was certainly bracing. However, once I'd stopped waiting for the guitar to gain dominion or for a layer of velveteen synth to descend, the haze from the proverbial smoke machine began to clear. It might be a catchy dance number, but Black Cab's sound still simmers away beautifully under the beat as early '90s atmospherics swirl up like steam from the pan. There are pert little drum gallops, feel-good techno curlicues and a soaring arc of synthesiser laden with sentimental echoes of U2's 'With Or Without You'. Yet there's also a low-pitched buzz representing the often-inscrutable drone at the heart of Black Cab's sound. The band claims a New Order influence on 'Sexy Polizei'. It's more The Cure circa *Mixed Up* or Depeche Mode around *Violator*. Put succinctly: it's like taking a long, deep gulp of air from 1990.

To craft this more accessible track the band turned to sound engineer Simon Polinski, whose influence looms large. Polinski's formative heyday was in the '90s industrial dance techno scene alongside Psyharmonics label-founder Ollie Olsen (Max Q) and David Thrussell (Snog, Black Lung). Melbourne songstress Monique Brumby donates breathy backing vocals, which could just as easily suspend themselves in the drug-addled ether of an 18-minute trance track.

The song tells of a homicidal German highway patrolman ("Your hands are steady on the wheel/But you no longer feel"), with Andrew Coates' mournful vocals – which temper the more upbeat aspects of the song – sounding as though he's entered the scene of the crime too late. The overall effect is as warm, steamy and purposeful as the interior of a car streaking down a dark, rain-blurred autobahn ("I can feel you closing in on me /And you always get your man").

There's no LP in the determinable future for Black Cab. Rather, the song has been released to build a bit of buzz for their July [east coast tour](#). Mainstream radio should do itself a favour – 'Sexy Polizei' could actually weather the storm of interminable playlisting.

by **Kate Hennessy**

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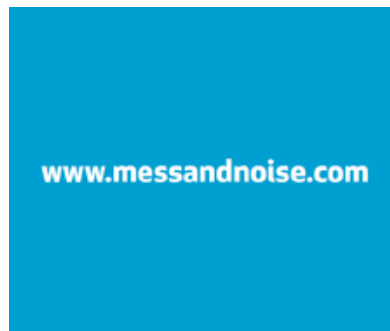
Ash-showoff said 11 days ago:

I LOVE the shit out of this band but I played this tune to a friend of mine and he said it sounded like The Bravery.... Although I like this tune, I had to kinda agree.



TRACKLISTING

- 1. [Sexy Polizei](#)



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shaun said 11 days ago:
That means you like The Bravery.



hyperfuzz said 11 days ago:
new naked on the vague sounds a lot like the bravery.



shaun said 11 days ago:
Good call hyperfuzz.



josejones said 11 days ago:
i'm digging the depeche mode-ness of this track -- and, for the record, i fucking hate the bravery.



hyperfuzz said 11 days ago:
new depeche mode sounds a lot like the bravery...
i dig it. from what my brother sez, simon polinski is a cool guy.



McGauz said 10 days ago:
cool track. I love the guitar sound. Indeed very reminiscent of The Cure.



McGauz said 10 days ago:
the guitar sound that is..



HennessyKate said 10 days ago:
most of the time the cure is leapfrogged and Joy Division is referenced instead, regardless of the sound. some strange sort of music reviewer orthodoxy.



anok said 10 days ago:
damn, it does sound like the bravery.



musojourno said 8 days ago:
Andrew Coates told me Sexy Polizei was influenced by New Order but the song sounds completely different live - looking forward to seeing them in a couple weeks' time.



FrankieTeardrop said 8 days ago:
There is quite a strong Neue Deutsche Welle early 80s influence in this song too, a bit of Grauzone or Die Gesunden maybe, but not as bleak and mechanical as those German/Swiss synth bands, which were hugely influenced by Joy Div and 17 Seconds era Cure in their turn. It all comes full circle really... the main thing is: I like it. This is what Max Q should have sounded like.



Goal attack said 8 days ago:
Hey max q wasn't so bad. I think I still have a cassingle in the shed. It sounds a bit like the bravery



FrankieTeardrop said 7 days ago:
Groin-grabbingly good!



shaun said 7 days ago:
This shit is the balls, alright.



FrankieTeardrop said 7 days ago:
I'm diggin' on it.

- **Witch Hats**, Before I Weigh
- **Damn Arms**, The Live Artex
- **The Mess Hall**, Devil's Elbow
- **Plug-In City**, Plug-In City
- **Clare Bowditch and The Feeding Set**, The Moon Looked On
- **Richard In Your Mind**, The Future Prehistoric
- **Various Artists**, Do The Pop! Redux, Part One
- **Tic Toc Tokyo**, Artefacts
- **Nunchukka Superfly**, If Ya Not Careful With Electricity It Will Kill Ya
- **Red Jezebel**, How I Learned To Stop Worrying
- **Ross McLennan**, Sympathy for the New World
- **Agents Of Abhorrence**, Earth.Water.Sun
- **Young And Restless**, Young And Restless
- **Harem Scarem**, Pilgrim's Progress
- **The Motifs**, Matches
- **The E.L.F.**, Stevie Nicks Hearts
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- **The Hitmen**, The Hitmen & It Is What It Is

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