

Mp3 Chris Velan - It's Not What You Think

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A passionate display of singer-songwriting on this debut album that deftly weaves pop/rock, soul and reggae into a style drawing comparisons to Ben Harper and Paul Simon. 8 MP3 Songs ROCK: Folk Rock, POP: Folk Pop Details: The first guitar came at age nine - a junior size classical guitar from Sears that he could hardly fit his arms around. The first song was written at fourteen on a Fender knockoff that he only knew to pick with his fingers rather than a pick (and still does). In 1998, he formed "Equalizer" with his two brothers, a seven-piece reggae band that quickly built a following in hometown Montreal and earned itself opening spots for big reggae names like Burning Spear, Michael Rose and Andrew Tosh. But it was during the summer of 2002, while playing concerts in refugee camps in Guinea and filming a documentary about Sierra Leonean refugee musicians that Chris had a revelation about his own musical future. "I always had the idea that music is something you can choose - These people taught me that music had chosen me and that I had no choice but to listen". Now, with his debut solo album, "It's Not What You Think", we are getting an exciting look into the musical world that Chris has been creating for a long time. "It's Not What You Think" presents songs that reflect Chris' search to fuse the lyrical sensibilities of singer-songwriting with the strong rhythmic backbone of his influences. What we get is a brand of folk-rock drawing upon reggae, blues, soul and funk that grabs hold and does not let go.

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