

New album punches up performer's typical style

Sondre Lerche is a gentleman. His talent is mind-boggling, and despite having shared a stage with the likes of Elvis Costello and fellow Norwegians a-ah, the 22 year old is the sweetest and most self-possessed rocker you'll ever meet. The DT Weekend interviewed Lerche by phone from his U.S. abode in New York.

Daily Texan: Let's talk about your new album, *Phantom Punch*, first. It's a pretty different sound for you. What draws you to any particular genre?

Sondre Lerche: Well, I just follow my instincts. It really has to do with what you're curious about and what you feel like. It's like with anything else: If you've eaten mashed potatoes for a whole week, you probably want

to try something else, y'know? For instance, [my album] *Two Way Monologue* was a record where I experimented a lot with arrangements and textures, and the songs were really long and sort of unpredictable. And having done that thoroughly on that record, I felt that I wanted to try something else. After having done a lot of solo shows, I really wanted to play with my band again, to get into the more physical side of playing on stage. I wanted to do something physical that reflected my restlessness at the time.

DT: *Phantom Punch* has received tons of publicity from major publications. Will a major success

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