



MXPX

BEFORE EVERYTHING AND AFTER

Mike Herrera (vocals, bass)
Tom Wisniewski (guitar)
Yuri Ruley (drums)

"We got together as a band when we were so young that we're still young and still having the time of our lives," declares frontman Mike Herrera.

That is precisely the status of MxPx, the Bremerton, WA trio, as they prepare to release their third album for A&M, Before Everything and After. More than ten years together - eight as a touring act - and a handful of indie records preceding their major label releases have left MxPx with a wealth of experience and a lot on the minds of guitarist Tom Wisniewski, drummer Yuri Ruley and singer/bassist and songwriter Mike Herrera. It is no surprise, then, that MxPx bring a rare combination of veteran savvy and youthful exuberance to Before Everything And After.

Never at a loss for infectious hooks, the trio refocuses their pop energy on its latest work, displaying a previously unheard range of sounds and depth of production on songs like "It's Alright," "Play It Loud" and the ballad "Quit Your Life." Though the band remains firmly rooted in the breakneck-packed skate-punk of predecessors like the Descendents, All and Lagwagon, MxPx show an eagerness to change the pace while exploring and developing the melodic possibilities of their fourteen newest tracks.

The first single, "Everything Sucks (When You're Gone)," wraps a poignant tale of longing and long-distance love around a bittersweet melody. The song strikes an emotional chord that is revisited not only on slower tracks like "Quit Your Life" but on the buoyant "Broken Hearted" as well. "Well Adjusted," meanwhile, turns that formula on its head with its fervently upbeat pace. Taking a playful stab at the notion of teetering on the brink of sanity, the song is built around a punchy, driving rhythm and an equally captivating chorus. "Well Adjusted" has already left crowds bouncing at recent live shows.