

# REVIEWS



## LATIN

### FULANO

#### Individual

Producers: *Elsten Torres,*

*Brendan Buckley*

*Self-released*

Release Date: *Jan. 31*

★ Why is Fulano not signed to a major—or an indie, for that matter? The group is led by Miami-based singer/songwriter Elsten Torres, who writes evocative, heartfelt songs that are emotional but never sappy. The material is catchy and well-crafted. It veers from decidedly commercial fare that could play well on radio (the uptempo, guitar-rich "De Aquí A Mañana" and the warmly intimate "Olvídaré") to English tracks with a harder rock edge.

Traces of *tropicalia* are inserted in the Spanish songs, but elegantly so, for an effect that is organic and uncontrived. While the Spanish-language tracks are more palatable, Torres is equally convincing on his English renditions. Standouts include "I Will Always Have This Love," sung huskily over bluesy piano. As this album seeks a home, you can purchase it at [fulanomusic.com](http://fulanomusic.com). It is worth checking out. —LC

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