

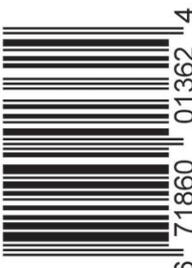
VOLTAGE

BABZ

*Living
The Rock
Life*



1/2/2018
£2.50



THIS MONTH
1/2/2018

NO.12

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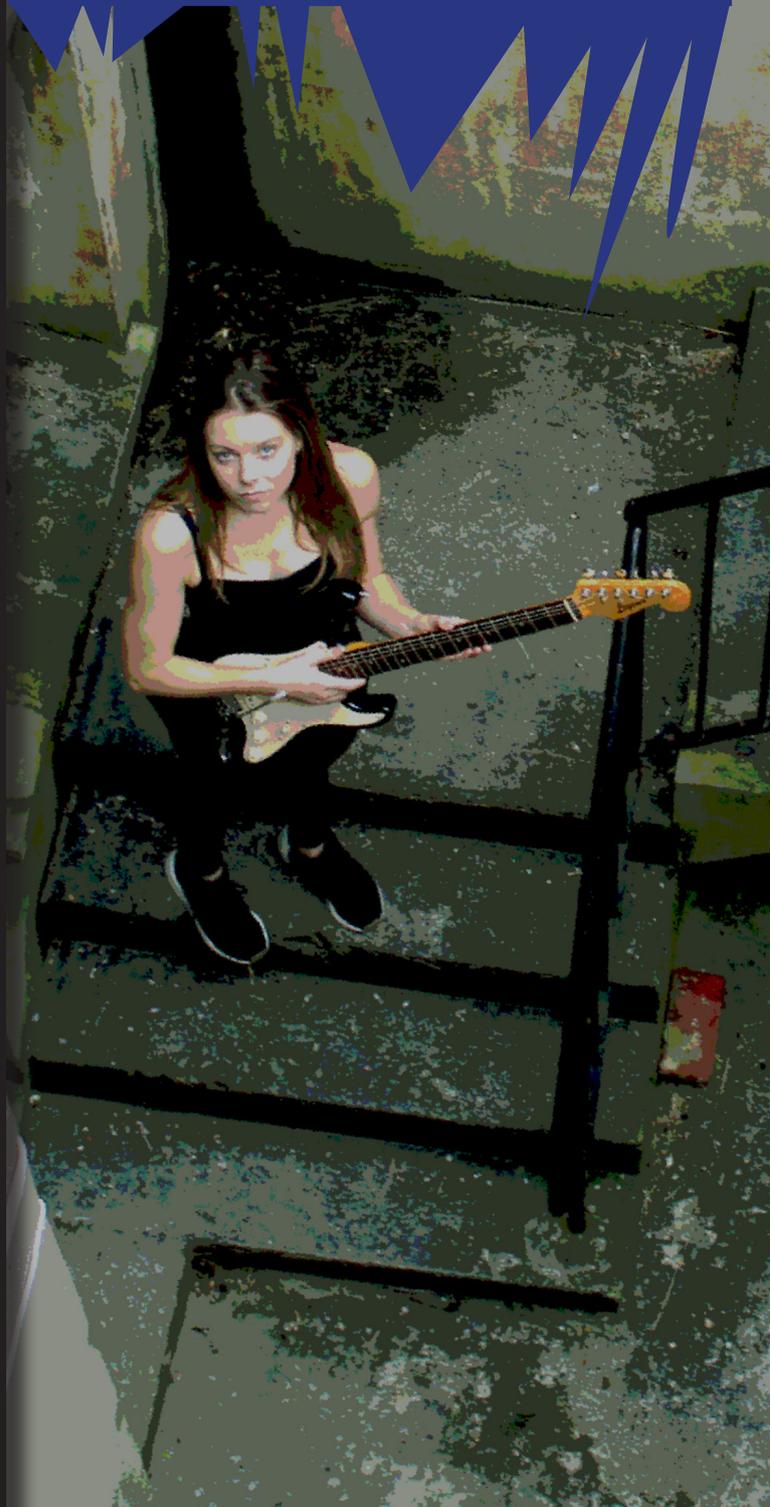
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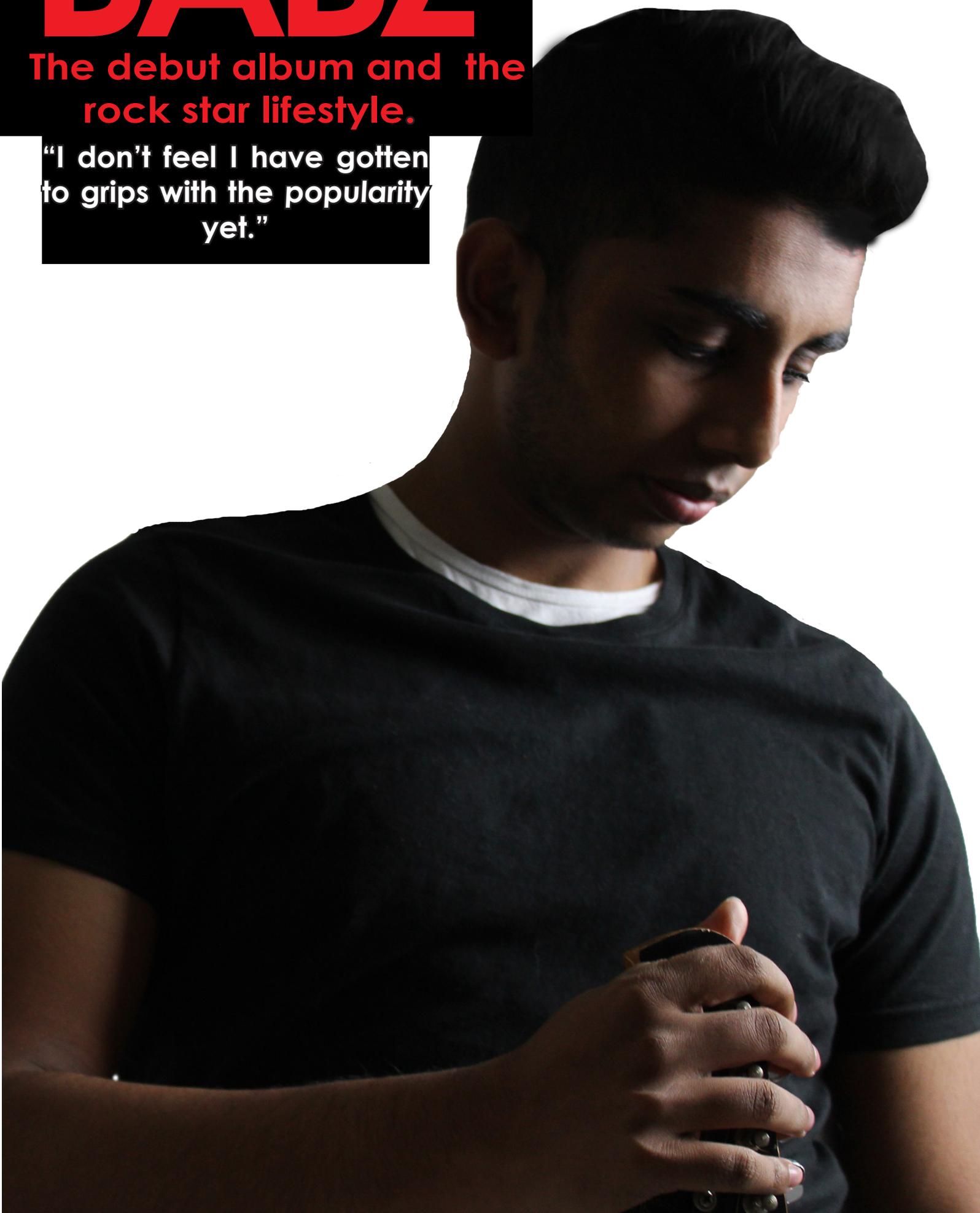
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BABZ

The debut album and the rock star lifestyle.

“I don't feel I have gotten to grips with the popularity yet.”



THE RISE OF BABZ:

A Citroen 2CV arrives at the Etihad Stadium with Queen blaring out of the speakers. Out steps a 5ft 7 man wearing a plain black top, jeans and black and yellow vans. A singular Nirvana smiley face was inked on his hand. Next two 6ft plus blokes in black suits and shades. get out of the Retro French auto. The latest musical export from Manchester had arrived.

“I don’t feel I have gotten to grips with the popularity yet” was the first statement made by the Lockwood stones front man. “I still shop at Aldi and live in the same apartment I did before and drive the same car. The only change is I can now wake up whenever I want to.” So clearly Babz isn’t your stereotypical rockstar. He has been signed for six months now and just released his first album, before this he used his bedroom as a recording studio, “it is still full of cables, guitars, a piano, a PC and an electric drum kit. I have actually added a violin, that’s the next instrument I would like to learn.” Before signing this clustered bedroom was used to record and produce music and upload it to SoundCloud and Youtube, this is where the boys were spotted by Josh Homme (Queen of the stone ages front man) and recommended to Rosswell Records. Now that the Lockwood Stones have been signed they use a professional studio. “I was like a child in Disney on the first day in the studio.” Before being signed it was Babz who would produce the music “I still have a massive input on the production of songs and I do enjoy taking a step back in the studio. It gives me more free time.” So that is where the band are now but how did Babz get into Music? “My family bought a grand piano when I was seven and I learnt classic piano.” Fast forward three years and his cousin buys him a queen vinyl and a young Babz is hooked, so much so he entered a local talent show with Boheim Rhapsody and

“Ben was the best purchase I ever made from E-bay.”



Above: Babz on set at the photoshoot, he told us “Photoshoots are the biggest chore for me as a rockstar.”

“The only change is I can now wake up whenever I want to.”

won he used his prize money to buy a guitar “the guitar I won is still hanging up in my room and I used it in the studio.” He picked up guitar quickly and soon discovered GarageBand and started creating music.

He needed a bass guitar in order to cover Red Hot Chili peppers “Can’t Stop.” He went on to E-bay to find one a contacted a seller who lived near by, this seller was called Ben and a drummer. Babz invited him to help with drums on the cover and soon they were playing together all of the time. “Ben was the best purchase I ever made from E-bay, I found a bass player at my sixth form and we started performing at open mic nights as well as uploading music.” From there they were spotted and as they often say the rest is history.

Currently it is very early days in the career of the Lockwood Stones but they are already looking to the future: “We are looking at touring through Europe for six months of next year and we are always writing so visiting all of those inspiring places will help us in the process of writing a second album.” I then asked when we could expect a second album and he responded with “everyday when I open up twitter I get asked that question hundreds of times but I don’t want to rush the process, it will come out when it’s ready.

Babz and his two big bodyguards squeezed back into the 2CV and the opening bass line from “Under Pressure” began. He was back off living his ordinary life while creating extraordinary music.

Written by Matthieu Mayer
Photographs by Matthew Maher