

KARATE BOOGALOO



Photo: Carl Lindeberg

Sitting at the core of Melbourne's thriving movement of cinematic instrumental soul are Karate Boogaloo.

KayBee's roots go deep into the DIY soul idiom; Henry Jenkins, Hudson Whitlock, Callum Riley, and Darvid Thor have been playing funk together since their playground days. Meeting as high school preteens, these four friends explored the teachings of the great small combo instrumental bands à la Booker T & The MG's and The Meters. With these lessons in one hand and their characteristic sense of goofy humor in the other, the ensuing years saw Karate Boogaloo develop the kind of shared musical language that can only be built through countless hours spent together existing as friends and musical allies.

Now, a mainstay of the Naarm underground over a decade, KB's steadfast commitment to their craft has resulted in a rich catalogue imbued with KB's patented freak factor; their now sought-after three-volume '*KB's Mixtapes*' series, three original albums (2020's *Carn The Boogers*, 2024's *Hold Your Horses* and the forthcoming *Access All Areas*) and collaboration with US singer Danielle Ponder are evidence of their long-standing contribution to the development of the Melbourne / Naarm cinematic soul sound.

Coming off of a booming tour of Europe with College Of Knowledge labelmates Surprise Chef, 2026 will see KB's third album '*Access All Areas*' released via Colemine Records (US) and College Of Knowledge Records (AU).