SONG OF THE WEEK

On “Hold On, We’re Going Home,” from his new album “Nothing Was the Same,” Drake shows he has a more complicated view of romantic relationships than most current hit-makers.

Drake seeks good girl who is true to herself

The concept of the “good girl” has taken a pounding on mainstream radio recently.

To Robin Thicke, on the smash hit “Blurred Lines,” a good girl is a just woman whose repression is an obstacle for his natural magnetism to overcome. The good girl is dying to go bad; she just needs to be prompted to abandon her virtue by an irresistible persuader.

Thicke has been called out for the predatory overtones of “Blurred Lines,” but female hit-makers haven’t been much better. Long before Rihanna released her influential “Good Girl Gone Bad,” singers have attempted to establish their creative autonomy by flouting the “bad girl” stereotype: the party-hungry, fundamentally amoral ingenue.

Although fans of rougher hip-hop love throwing darts at him, Drake is not a “good boy”: the endless confessions on “Nothing Was the Same,” his third album (released on Tuesday), reveal him to be in a boastful, brooding, self-entitled mood. He is on his worst behavior on the set, and there’s even a song called “Worst Behavior” in case you somehow miss his turn.

ART

Science as inspiration

Rutgers University has long been a leader in proteomics, the study of proteins, which both make up and control (hormones are proteins) development and function of human tissue. The Center for Integrative Proteomics Research on the Piscataway campus last week installed a 20-foot-tall steel-and-glass sculpture by German-born scientist-turned-artist Julian Voss-Andreae at its entrance. The 3,200-pound statue is made of tubular steel fitted with some 200 plates of tinted glass, mimicking the structure of collagen, the most abundant protein in the body, as scientists know it from electron microscopy. The sculpture was dedicated to the center’s founding director, Helen M. Berman, and is on permanent display at 174 Frelinghuysen Road, Piscataway. Voss-Andreae is one of a growing group of artists who venture into abstract and high sciences for inspiration.

— Dan Bischoff

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