

OUT DEC IITH

With a smashing single and a music video that swirls *Beetlejuice*, *Blade* and *Mr. Rogers* into one three-minute thriller, Jeff Thompson is making the transition from front-of-house to front man look easy. Previously a world-touring sound engineer for acts like Tokio Hotel and Kid Bloom, Thompson is now Head Engineer for Fonogenic Studios in Van Nuys while also getting his own band, LaCore (*the core* in French), off the ground.

LaCore is a project that sprang from Thompson's passion for indie rock, and now consists of Thompson on commanding lead vocals and Serbian guitar wizard Mihailo Lukic. The two met at a studio party in early 2020. Thompson says he walked into a room where Lukic was playing The Smiths on his guitar and instantly thought "That guy needs to be in my band." The group delivers their first collaboration with standalone single "That Thing" – a track that hints at influences ranging from The Cure to Arctic Monkeys.

"The song is a nod to the things we tend to repeat," Thompson says, "sometimes things that keep us going, and sometimes things that we wish we could stop."

The music video for the single was directed and edited by owner of Fonogenic Studios, Ran Pink. Merging live action to green screen, the video casts Thompson as a secret agent vampire slayer delivering kills to monsters on his list. Among the hits are both director Pink and his brother, Tal, as well as bandmate Lukic. Thompson loves vampires and wanted to incorporate them into the video, which takes place in a miniature town that would seem cheerful if not for the noir lighting and gore.

"It was definitely a lot to tackle," Thompson says. "Making the video opened up a world of possibilities for future ideas. You can pretty much do anything these days."

"That Thing" music video drops Dec. 11th and is a sizzling preview of the future of LaCore. The group is already in the process of recording an EP, dropping early 2021.

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