

## ARLING & CAMERON

*Hi-Fi Underground* Challenge



Taking a break from house and kitsch music, Arling & Cameron dive into electro-pop on their fourth release. If the

Dutch duo wanted listeners to “get naked [and] shake it” as requested in the opener, they should’ve created faster beats. Perhaps the lo-fi video on their website is meant to be an instructional dance clip for the song “Shake It.” Otherwise, the high-energy first half of *Underground* is worthy of a secret level in *Super Mario World*. Maybe their next venture should be videogame soundtracks, since they’ve already tackled television shows and commercials (with *The Sopranos*, Gap and Audi topping the list). From there, they drop the electronics and shift toward softer, less danceable beats. Compared to the deep and raspy vocals on tracks like “I Don’t Need It” and “Open,” “Change” comes off as jarringly calm and soothing—ditto for the instrumental closing track, “Slow Food.” Overall, *Underground* is like a night at the club: First the tracks make people dance their hearts out, but at some point the fun must crawl to an end. >>>JESSEKA KADYLAK

**Link** [www.arlingandcameron.com](http://www.arlingandcameron.com)

**File Under** Electro-cash-in

**RIYL** Goldfrapp, Imogen Heap, car ads