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Featuring Johnny Cash's final album, Tim Barry, Jimi Hendrix's two new releases, Matt Pond, Ken Will Morton, and Tony Sly.

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Interviews & Features

Johnny Cash leaves us with one more gem in American VI: Ain't No Grave



Seven years after his death and on the week of Cash's would-be 78th

birthday, producer Rick Rubin and Lost Highway Records have released the final chapter in this beautifully haunting American series.

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Album Reviews

The Album Leaf: A Chorus of Storytellers



For The Album Leaf's four previous albums, almost every single instrument was performed by Jimmy LaVelle. On The Album Leaf's newest album, A Chorus of Storytellers, LaVelle switches thing up a little bit and decided to invite the whole band in to contribute throughout the recording process.

Aloha: Home Acres



The best albums seem to be the ones that surprise you each time you give them a listen. This one is no exception.

Former Avail frontman Tim Barry getting down to his business on 28th and Stonewall



"What appeals to me about playing shows with just an acoustic guitar and a microphone is that it scares the hell out of me," Barry said.

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A double dose of Jimi Hendrix; something old, something new



Extended reviews of two new Hendrix releases

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Matt Pond on dry leaves, pickles and milk



New York – by way of Philadelphia – based indie rocker Matt Pond has always been a musician's musician.

Roughly translated, he's a phenomenal talent that has been all but ignored by mainstream radio and media.

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Ken Will Morton blazing the solo trail with True Grit



Athens, Ga.-based Ken Will Morton has played in power pop bands and roots rock groups, but it wasn't until he went solo in 2004 that he finally found his sound.

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Seth Augustus: To The Pouring Rain



Here's an arresting debut by an older San Francisco musician that has all the Howling Wolf-style vocals and surreal lyrics that are the surface-level characteristics of Tom Waits and Captain Beefheart.

Big Audio Dynamite: This is Big Audio Dynamite



I love, love, love this album and have since it was originally released in 1985. For those in the dark, Big Audio Dynamite (B.A.D.) was the first project from Mick Jones after he was kicked out of The Clash in 1983 by Joe Strummer and Paul Simonon.

Captain Black Heart: Self-Titled



Captain Black Heart features long-time friends and musicians Erwin Hecceg and Dino Malito, who used to be in the alternative rock band Serum.

Car Stereo Wars: For Your Comfort and Safety



The debut album from Car Stereo Wars, For Your Comfort and Safety, is what survived numerous live shows, two EP releases, various band member additions, and creative divergence from their record label.

Eels: End Times



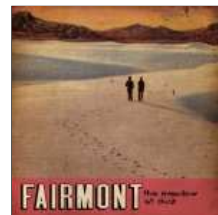
Wunderkind Mark "E" Edwards has released six albums as Eels. E's often-autobiographical songs are heartbreaking — he lost his father, mother, and sister in a relatively short time span — but he usually adorns the songs with experimental, beautiful sounds.

Electric President: The Violent Blue



Electric President is one of the more interesting groups working in this border world between electronic and indie.

Fairmont: The Meadow at Dusk



It's hard to imagine Fairmont frontman Neil Sabatino was once a punk rocker. His work with New Jersey's Fairmont is more likely to bring up descriptions like "lush" and "atmospheric."

Another punk, another acoustic guitar; Tony Sly of No Use for a Name releases 12 Song Program

After two decades with No Use For A Name, Sly is putting out a solo record. And the most surprising thing about the solo album – aside from the quieter sound – is the fact that he hadn't put one out before now.



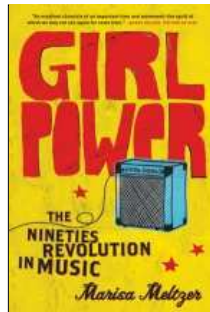
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Book Reviews

"Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution In Music" by Marisa Meltzer

Given all the ink that's been devoted to grunge over the past few years, it's a little surprising that more has not been written about the Riot Grrrl movement.



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"I Am Ozzy" by Ozzy Osbourne

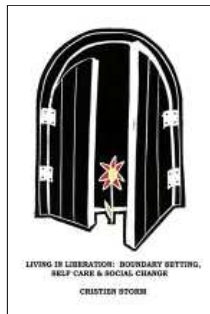
Regardless of how well you think you know him, Ozzy Osbourne has a remarkable sense of humor and pretty spot-on view of how the world sees him.



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"Living in Liberation: Boundary Setting, Self-Care, and Social Change" by Cristien Storm

As a social activist, therapist, and self-defense teacher, Cristien Storm has dedicated her life to no small task: ending violence, abuse, and oppression in our society.



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DVD Reviews

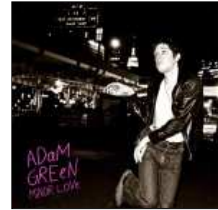
Fox Pass: Intemporel

"Intemporel" translates from French to mean "Timeless." The four gentlemen in Fox Pass carry with them a profound sense of rock history and a healthy dose of pop smarts that they bring to bear on this, their second release since reforming in the early part of this new century.



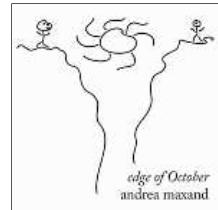
Adam Green: Minor Love

Though once a member of Moldy Peaches, Adam Green has done a decent job of forging his own identity as a solo act. His latest effort, Minor Love, is no exception.



Andrea Maxand: Edge of October

It's been a while since we've heard anything from singer/songwriter Andrea Maxand, six years in fact. Now she has returned with this low key release, Edge of October.



Rich McCulley: Starting All Over Again

Although Rich McCulley's music is probably a bit too simple and formulaic to be well-received by critics, it's not too simple to be full of emotion, thoughtful lyrics, and polished musicianship.



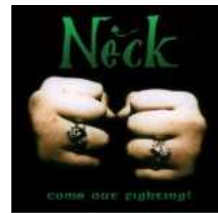
Moneybrother: Real Control

If Joe Strummer was raised on nothing but old Stax records and "Soul Train" episodes, he'd likely come out sounding like Anders Wendin (aka Moneybrother).



Neck: Come Out Fighting

American bands have done such a good job of picking up from The Pogues and moving forward Celtic punk rock that you'd almost be forgiven for forgetting that European bands not only invented the genre, but still have something to contribute to the canon... almost.



Pantha Du Prince: Black Noise

While Pantha Du Prince draw comparisons from across the electronic music heavy weight circuit, from Fourtet to Caribou, and at points even Autechre or Aphex Twin, this is in a league of its own.



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The Fags: Rock 'n' Roll Variety Show

The Fags have been around the block a few times. In fact, their blog page proudly states they've been "burning rubbers since 1981."



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The Pretenders: Live in London

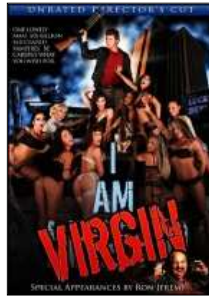
I have a memory of lying on my parents' couch with a fever on a long ago Friday night. I was about 11 and they let me stay up to watch a music video program. Despite the discomfort, I remember it as being a very special night because the video for "Brass in Pocket" debuted that night. That three-minute experience also marks the exact instance I fell in love with Chrissie Hynde and the music of The Pretenders.



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I Am Virgin: By Sean Skelding

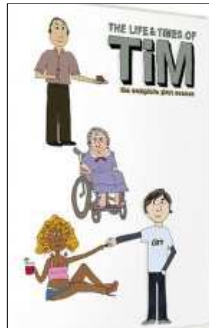
When there is a disclaimer on the DVD cover stating "special appearance by Ron Jeremy" you can pretty well figure there is going to be some kind of sex in the movie. With the film "I Am Virgin," that is certainly the case.



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The Life and Times of Tim: The Complete First Season

You'd think with "The Simpsons," three offerings from Seth McFarland and every other show on Cartoon Network's Adult Swim, we'd have enough adult cartoons by now. But HBO's "The Life and Times of Tim" shows we have room for at least one more.



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Pawn Stars: The Complete Season 1

The concept of "Pawn Stars," the History Channel's latest stab at reality TV, is admittedly yawn-inducing. Set in a family-run pawn shop off the strip in Las Vegas, the show works thanks to the personalities of the shop owners and employees and an interesting collection of items that come into the shop.



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Ike Reilly: Hard Luck Stories

As an impassioned fan of his music, I've often wondered what toll his untamed lifestyle might take on an artist like Reilly whose energy and personality seem fueled by that endless quest to have the best time, all of the time.



Shearwater: The Golden Archipelago

Shearwater seems like a band which is committed to the concept of an album. How many other groups, in the time of mp3s, feel the need to include a 50-page booklet with their album?



Spriewald: Full Capsule

The majority of this album was inspired by Daniel Spriewald getting shot with a shotgun in a random act of violence which left 21 holes in his body. When he repeatedly sings "I want you to know, it takes a little more than what you got to take me down," you believe him and cheer for this guy to get up and keep fighting.



Thunder Buffalo: Self-Titled

If you don't like reverb, vocal distortion, and fuzzy everything, this isn't the music for you; otherwise, it's a metaphorical musical playground of sorts: fun, creative, and a bit dizzying.



Track a Tiger: I Felt the Bullet Hit My Heart

It was the opening track "Don't Let the Nightlight Dance" that sold me. The song is soft and upbeat from the very start. The track showcases the band's male and female harmonies over a catchy melody meant for a memorable experience.



Woodpigeon: Die Stadt Muzikanten

This is a mellow, unassuming gem from Woodpigeon, an eight-member Calgary band led by singer-songwriter Mark Hamilton. It's a sweet album, tailor-made for listening in the dawn of spring, with pleasant strings, bells, horns, and organ.



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Xui Xui: Dear God I Hate Myself

Affected, moi?



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