

**HANGMEN, The - East Of Western** {Acetate} Just like the recent 'Best Of..' album, this new studio album from one of sleazy Rock 'n' Roll's best had me reaching for superlatives to place alongside HEARTBREAKERS, HANOI ROCKS and REPLACEMENTS comparisons. Put simply, many bands try to do this decadent, effortless Rock 'n' Roll but few nail it with such aplomb as those bands mentioned - and THE HANGMEN. This is the first album to feature ex-SUPERSUCKERS guitarist Ron Heathman and he wastes no time in making his presence felt on tracks like 'Graverobbers' and 'She Cracked', both of which feature that unique SUPERSUCKERS burn. Elsewhere 'Had A Girl' is a cool acoustic-based saunter and 'Betrayal' could be the best outtake from 'Exile On Main Street' that never was while 'Drink Smoke' takes the title of album highlight. Vocalist Bryan Small again sounds impressive with a hint of Bon Scott coming through. While this will never change the world, it IS a fine slice of noxious, barroom Rock 'n' Roll that has certainly made my world a better place. (13.07.12)

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