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Columns : Ear Candy

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Ear Candy (September 14, 2005)

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Sigur Ros

Takk ...
Geffen

Sigur Ros are like your not-quite-asleep nap-mind: Drowsy, hallucinatory and incomprehensible. Still content to sing to us sweetly with a Thom Yorke-esque voice parading over the swelling peaks and tender valleys with their own made up language, Sigur Ros hold true to form on Takk. It's slow. It builds up. It sounds like that swell in your heart you got with your first crush. It sounds just like their other two albums, and that's the problem. Sigur Ros have talent by the sugary spoonful; virtually no one else can command mood like these pretentious Icelanders. The first two albums were supposedly signs of even greater things to come. Instead of a giant leap or at least a subtle step, Sigur Ros are content to stick to their guns and go with what works. A safe, majestic release sure to be touted as genius by the indie elite. **-BK**



Devo

Live 1980
DualDisc

Originally released as an EP and then a limited edition full-length CD, Devo Live 1980 expands to a CD/DVD. I always loved the CD and now it's cool to be able to watch Devo performing live at their artistic peak. The DVD is full of everything you always wanted to see: the flowerpot hats, computer-esque moves and lots of cool music. **-WW**



Various Artists

HVW8 Presents: Music Is My Art
Ubiquity

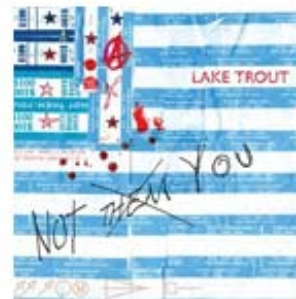
This is probably one of the best compilations of this year, period. While the types of music vary between hip-hop, soul and electronic, the album seems to have a great underlying tone that brings it all together. With a lineup like John Arnold, Rich Medina and Seiji, along with future stars like Black Spade, Radio City and Plantlife, there is nothing but unabridged funk on Music Is My Art. **-KF**



Lake Trout

Not Them You
RX Records

There's nothing fishy about Lake Trout — Not Them You is wildly experimental and with varying influences, yet easy on the ears. The band do not at all sound like they're from Baltimore or, at times, even this world; strains of the Flaming Lips, Nine Inch Nails and even the better parts of Coldplay collide on tracks like "Now We Know." -**KC**



Leng T'che

The Process of Elimination
Relapse



Leng T'che had long been one of those obscure grind bands that every die-hard Soulseek maniac obsessed over. Relapse got smart and swooped in, and now we have their big break.

Supersonic, multi-genre "razorgrind" blasts forth from these Belgian noise terrorists. The perfect mix of groove and hammer; it will inevitably become a staple of the genre. -**RBT**

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Old Time Relijun

2012
K

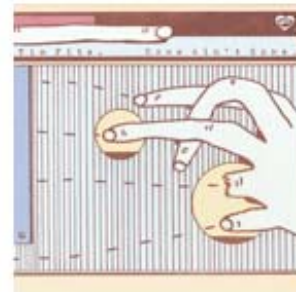


Sometimes I try to dance in my house when no one's around. That probably looks as awkward as this record sounds. As dance music, it fails by trying too hard to freak you out — like !!! without the groove. As an academic exercise, there's something here. But as with my housebound body movin', they over think it and mess up everything. -**KND**



Tim Fite

Gone Ain't Gone
Anti



Tim Fite is being introduced as a meld of hip-hop and country, but Uncle Kracker he's not. With words not quite spoken or sung but drawled, and lyrics like "Little mama, what you done? / You been smoking marijuan [sic]." Fite is an oddly pleasant surprise. Indie folksters will dig it, and lovers of hick-hop can now turn away from Kid Rock. -**KC**



local

Todd Lerner

If Right Now Played Guitar
Todd Lerner Music

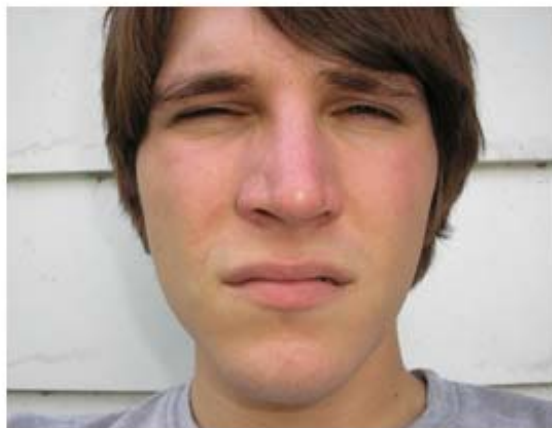


This former rock-mag scribe decided to quit his day job and release ten They Might Be Giants-worshipping tunes. The songs are bouncy and forcedly cute; something seems a little short of sincere about the quirky lyrics, but it's probably just my jaded-scribe side rearing its ugly head. -**BK**

in my ear

Jason Croff

I love me some classic AM Gold and few more perfectly update it for the hipster set than local fella Jason Croff. There are electric pianos, ooh-ing background vocals, tight rhythm guitars and smooth melodies — it's the whole deal, it's quite good and it's endlessly listenable. Croff's about to release his first full-length album at a CD release party on 9/23 at the Belmont and he plays tonight at Club Bart.



XTC

Drums & Wires

Ween

Shinola Vol. 1

Super Furry Animals

Rings Around the World

Air

Premiers Symptomes

Common

Be

Konk

The Sound of Konk: Tales From the New York Underground 1981-88

Starling Electric

Clouded Staircase

Joe Jackson

I'm the Man

Laura Nyro

Eli & the Thirteenth Confession

The Moon Rocks

Houston, We Have a Party!

Dmrc top 10

1. Hush — Bulletproof • 2. BRMC — Howl • 3. The Bled — Found in the Flood • 4. Every Time I Die — Gutter Phenomenon • 5. Suicide Machines — War Profiteering ... • 6. New Pornographers — Twin Cinema • 7. Arch Enemy — Doomsday Machine • 8. Beautiful Creatures — Deuce • 9. Staind — Chapter V • 10. Stooges — Stooges