

# Time-Tested + True

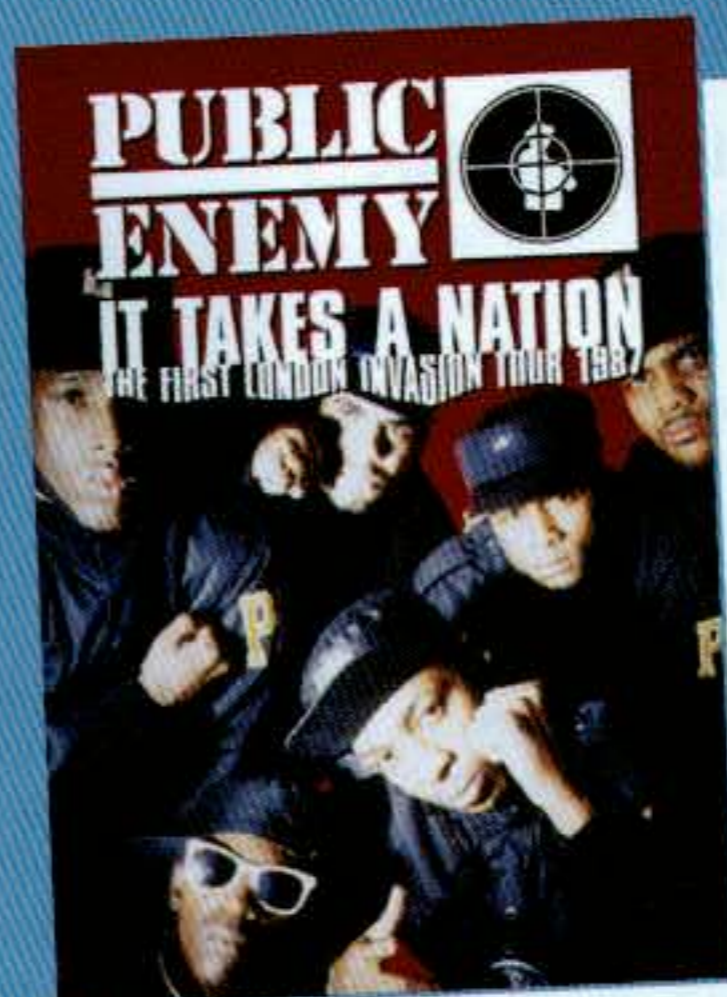
by A. Scott Galloway

ANTHONY HAMILTON SOULIFE



## Anthony Hamilton *Soulife* (Atlantic)

The world has finally caught up with back-to-the-future wonder Anthony Hamilton. The man toiled for a decade before he achieved breakthrough success with his So So Def album, *Comin' From Where I'm From*. Not surprisingly, Atlantic is now unearthing the album he recorded for its short-lived Soulife subsidiary, an earnest indie label that scored a hit with **Sunshine Anderson** but folded before they could follow it up. It's truly a shame. This Hamilton album is a graceful and gritty preamble to what the world got to eventually hear. Modern touches like subtle rhythm machines and synths are slight while the depth of Hamilton's soulful stories and voice are rich as Georgia soil. He had a hand in writing all 12 of the songs here. The first five songs are as good as the best he's done: "I Used To Love Someone," "I Cry," "Clearly," "Day Dreamin'" and "Georgie Parker" (musings on an old introverted friend who just wasn't made for these troubled times). There are duets with Anderson ("Last Night") and **Macy Gray** ("Love and War," used in the film *Baby Boy*), plus a virtuoso, Marvin-esque turn sung in layers from falsetto to baritone titled "Icing on the Cake." Delectable.



## Public Enemy *The First London Invasion Tour 1987 DVD* (Slam Gypsy Media Works)

PE is captured here at the very beginning of their ascent to politically conscious rap's peak in this film of their first tour of London. It is a raw, explosive marvel. Interspersed with interview footage and accompanied by a new commentary from leader Chuck D, this DVD is a time capsule of a band becoming a legend. Shot in November of 1987, this hour-long, 10-song concert predates the release of their second album, *It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back* by several months. What you are seeing are early versions of future smashes such as "Bring the Noise" alongside missiles from their first album, *Yo Bum Rush the Show* like "Rebel Without a Pause," and "Miuzi Weighs a Ton." Rewind back to the time when PE consisted of **Chuck D, Flava Flav, Terminator X, Professor Griff** and two **S1Ws** (Security of the First World officers)...and when Chuck wore a clock, too! (Package also includes a bonus audio CD of the concert w/ rare remixes.)

WAYNE SHORTER QUARTET *Beyond the Sound Barrier*



## Wayne Shorter *Beyond the Sound Barrier* (Verve)

Musical space traveler Wayne Shorter and his latest group have truly bonded into a seamless unit as evidenced on this, their third album (second live) together. This 8-song CD finds Wayne, pianist **Danilo Perez**, bassist

**John Patitucci** and drummer **Brian Blade** in 4-way conversation mode on a new piece titled "As Far As The Eye Can See," a group improvisation titled "Tinker Bell" and particularly fine new assessments of two songs from Shorter's mid-'80s classic *Joy Ryder*: "Over Shadow Hill Way" and the title track. Be sure to wear your helmet for this one, 'cuz it will take you O.U.T.



## Eddie Palmieri *Listen Here!* (Picante)

Legendary Harlem-born pianist Eddie Palmieri is celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary right... with a galvanizing new 10-song disc of no-misses!

Wailing in tight octet-mode, Palmieri gets busy with the great **Giovanni Hidalgo** and **Horatio "El Negro" Hernandez** puttin' the smack down on the congas and drums, respectively, and a quartet of horns that includes tenor man **Donald Harrison**. They blaze through great arrangements of Eddie Harris' "Listen Here" (f/ **Michael Brecker** and **Christian McBride**), Horace Silver's "Nica's Dream" (f/ **Regina Carter** on violin and **Nicholas Payton** on trumpet) and Monk's "In Walked Bud." Also sweet is a meditative Palmieri original titled "La Gitana" featuring **John Scofield** on guitar. Viva Palmieri!