

ALBUMS



PUBLIC ENEMY



**Most of My
Heroes Still
Don't Appear
On No Stamp**



**The Evil
Empire Of
Everything**

ENEMY RECORDS



KEY TRACK ▶ 'Notice (Know This)'

PUBLIC ENEMY STILL KICKING AGAINST THE PRICKS

One of the more important American bands of the last three decades, the highly politicised Public Enemy have not only defined hip hop, they've re-invented the genre numerous times, became darlings of the metal scene (thanks

to their incendiary collaboration with Anthrax) and 30 years on from their inception they continue to represent the best of what the genre has to offer. With their peers either shamelessly selling out or becoming parodies of themselves (yes, we're looking at you Ice-T) the eternally angry Chuck D and his time-piece loving hype man Flavor Flav have, for the most part, matured gracefully.

Never ones to do things by halves, they release two records (on CD) which they regard as "fraternal twins": *Most of My Heroes Still Don't Appear on No Stamp* and *The Evil Empire of Everything* amounting to a thunderous one-two punch that once again reaffirms their status as rap royalty. Taking its name from that famous line in 'Fight The Power', *Most of My Heroes...* mashes the PE script up in places. While in the past Chuck would handle vocal

duties on the lion's share of the numbers with Flav given a track or two to perform solo (as well as chipping in the odd 'yeahhhh'), the duo trade lines like married couples would insults on the likes of 'FassFood' and 'WTF' and there's also an ace guitar solo on 'Run Til It's Dark' too.

The Evil Empire, as the name suggests, is a darker, leaner animal that's full of righteous rhymes that rage against the machine, taking shots at the likes of Mitt Romney, Kanye West and Jay-Z and is aided and abetted by former Black Flag man Henry Rollins ('Riotstarted') and Ziggy Marley ('Don't Give Up The Fight'). Undisputed highlight is 'Notice (Know This)' which attacks the unbridled arrogance and rampant sexism of *Watch The Throne*. It's a timely reminder of who the kings of rap really are.

EDWIN McFEE