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Thursday, Apr. 12, 2012

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Sound Check New traditional country, classic metal and more

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Highlights include the AC/DC-flavored opener "Deliver Me," the chugging "Sick as a Dog," the rabble-rousing "Freedom Song" and the brutal "Fade Out."

Fans of classic three-piece metal will enjoy this recording, especially Clarke's nifty guitar licks.

'Year of the Metal Tiger,' Ignitor (MVDaudio, HHHH)

This is the second Ignitor album featuring Jason McMaster ([Dangerous Minds](#), Watchtower) on paint-peeling lead vocals, and it is also an April 10 release. The rest of the band is lead guitarist Stuart Laurence, foxy guitarist Beverly Barrington, bassist Brandon Bigalow and drummer Pat Doyle (who I wish would use the double-bass pedals less). The curious album title comes from a Chinese zodiac menu, but this is one of the best classic metal (Iron Maiden, Judas Priest, etc.) recordings I've heard in quite awhile.

Highlights include the tempo-shifting "Raiders from the Void," the Crusader story titled "Beast in Black," a good-natured ditty called "The Kaiser," and the pile-driving band theme, "We Are Ignitor."

Fans of classic metal will enjoy this album.



GALLERY: [Sound Check New traditional country, classic metal and more](#)

'The Devil Ain't Got No Music,' Lurrie Bell (Aria B.G. Records, HHHH)

This April 17 release is Chicago blues guitarist/singer/songwriter Lurrie Bell's second for this label. It was made possible when he received the prestigious 3Arts Grant and told that he could use the funds any way he wanted to. Thus, he made the album he's dreamed of since his youthful time in Mississippi and Alabama playing [acoustic guitar](#) in the church where his grandfather was a pastor, naturally adding blues flavor to gospel songs.

Highlights of this recording that draws its title from a Mavis Staples quote include producer Matthew Skoller's title song featuring his haunting harmonica, a porch-blues version of "Peace in the Valley" with

guest Joe Louis Walker on slide, the traditional "Trouble in My Way" and Muddy Waters' "Why Don't You Live So God Can Use You."

Fans of unadorned spiritual music will love this recording.

Coming soon

The things promised last week that didn't get considered so far will be reviewed fairly soon, plus, a new CD from New Orleans' Swedish singer/songwriter/multi-instrumentalist Theresa Andersson will also be written about.

Ricky Flake, a former punk rocker and current music fan, lives in Biloxi.

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Guitarists Johnson

Lurrie Bell is an American blues guitarist and singer. He started playing guitar st the age of six. He polish his playing skills with the legends of Chicago blues. He is one of the best blues guitar player.

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