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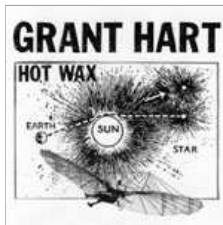
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REVIEWS

Grant Hart



'Hot Wax'

MVD Audio



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Ex-Husker Du legend returns with perhaps his finest solo record to date

In the opinion of your 'umble reviewer, Husker Du were one of the greatest bands to ever have existed. The Minneapolisian trio released a slew of albums throughout the '80's which embodied and defined a great leap forward for punk rock and music in general, and remain a key link between the hardcore pioneers – Black Flag, Bad Brains etc – and the bands who defined grunge a decade or so later.

Grant Hart was their drummer and co-songwriter, their Paul McCartney to Bob Mould's John Lennon – while the latter found endless ways of twisting as-yet-unheard chords from his guitar and creating sonic bombs, Hart stuck with simpler structures and strong melodies. It is a recipe which stays with him to this day, as "Hot Wax" attests to.

The Beatles comparison is an appropriate one; Hart in particular brought a melodic suss strongly influenced by Liverpool's favourite sons to punk rock, and a cursory listen to "Barbara", the second track here, shows he continues to successfully mine this seam. Though many of his solo recordings have been stripped down and acoustic, as a whole, "Hot Wax" is more orchestrated and fuller sounding than anything he has produced in a while. His voice is as unmistakable as ever; meanwhile, bold, forthright and ambitious, "Hot Wax" sees him in better form, and producing more interesting and unusual music, than he has done for years. Welcome back!

www.granthart.com

By: EDDIE THOMAS

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- 21 Manu Chao - Baionarena
- 21 Asobi Seksu - Acoustic At Olympic Studios
- 21 Dead Confederate - Wrecking Ball
- 21 Gogol Bordello - Live From Axis Mundi
- 21 Canterbury - Thankyou
- 21 The Raincoats - The Raincoats
- 21 Califone - All My Friends Are Funeral Singers
- 21 Flood of Red - Leaving Everything Behind
- 21 Brother Ali - Us
- 21 Mercury Rev - The Peel Sessions
- 21 Cuddly Shark - Cuddly Shark
- 21 Bullets and Octane - Laughing In the Face of Failure (A Song for the Underdog/ Bullets and Octane)
- 21 Dead To Me - African Elephant
- 21 Little Red - Listen To
- 21 Steven Wilson - NSRGNTS RMXS

FEATURES

- 21 Slayer - Tom Araya – Vocals/Bass
- 21 Josh Tillman -
- 21 New York Dolls - Sylvain Sylvain (guitar)
- 21 Heavy Trash - Jon Spencer
- 21 Kippi Kaninus -
- 21 My Tiger My Timing - Jamie [Bass Guitar]
- 21 Natalie Portman's Shaved Head - David Price (Guitar, keyboards and backing vocals)

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- Tiga / Brodinski / Busy P / The Whip / DJ Mehdi - The Warehouse Project
- Wolfmother - Coronet
- Therapy - King Tut's Wah Wah Hut
- Bowling For Soup / Zebrahead / MC Lars / The Leftovers - Camden Roundhouse
- Chthonic / Imperial Vengeance / Abgott - The Garage
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➤ THE WORD

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