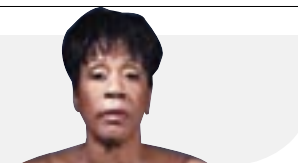


All reviews by Darryl Sterdan. For more in-depth reviews of Twista, Bettye LaVette and more, go to canoe.ca/musicreviews



BETTYE LAVETTE

GARAGE BAND IDOL

Let us listen to your original song, and we'll tell you if it sucks or not



KEITH RICHARDS

Music on DVD

Keith Richards

Under Review

Biography

★★★★½

Stones docs are a dime a dozen. But here's a treat: A two-hour bio of the inimitable and indestructible Keef. This instalment of the sterling U.K. series *Under Review* details the many highs (and lows) of the Glimmer Twin's remarkable life — from affairs and drug busts to solo albums — through archival footage and the usual pack of expert interviews. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Improvisation

Various Artists

Jazz

★★★★½

Any DVD with previously unreleased footage of legendary bebop sax king Charlie Parker is a keeper in our book (even if it is mostly silent outtakes). But this version of Norman Granz's 1950 jazz documentary also has vintage performances by Duke, Dizzy, Prez, Ella, Basie, Hawk and more, along with tons of interviews, photos and extras. Absolutely indispensable for jazz fans.

A Coal Goat Rum Smashed
Calgary
www.myspace.com/acoalgoatrumsmashed

"My tunes are retarded and will be the best thing you hear all day," brags Doug MacRae (a.k.a. A Coal Goat Rum Smashed). Amazingly, he's right on both counts! Cut at home on his Mac, these demented ditties are built from stock beats, distorted metal-guitar riffs, growly vocals — and lyrics lifted from grocery labels. And they rule! From the noise-funk of *Dijon Smokie* to the gritty loopiness of *WonderBread* ("Do not place bag in microwave"), MacRae's fat-free nuggets of Weenish no-fi rock laughingly obliterate the line between genius and stupid. We have a winner!

Want Darryl Sterdan to review your homemade, original song? E-mail us an online link where he can hear it. If he chooses yours, he'll tell readers if it sucks or not. Send the link to CDcritic@wpgsun.com

DARRYL'S VERDICT
★★★★
"All hail the doofus maximus."

LISTEN FOR YOURSELF
www.myspace.com/acoalgoatrumsmashed



Twista

Adrenaline Rush 2007

Rap

★★★★½

Twista released his first *Adrenaline Rush* in '97. A decade after that debut, the rapid-fire rapper still tries to live up to that title with his distinctive tongue-tripping rhymes and gangsta swagger. Some stylish sonics and samples from Toxic — along with guests like Kelly, Cee-Lo, T-Pain and Pharell — add some extra excitement, though a few too many skits disrupt the flow. **Download:** *Say Say, Seven Day Hustle*



Devendra Banhart

Smokey Rolls Down Thunder Canyon

Acid-Folk

★★★★

Neo-hippie cult hero Banhart's fifth CD was cut in a Topanga Canyon home once occupied by Neil Young, Joni Mitchell and The Doors. But as always, he's in his own far-out world — a commune where folk, rock, soul, psychedelia, doowop, gospel, salsa and reggae pass the bong and jam all night as he croons freaky poems and trippy tales in English and Spanish. Turn on and tune in. **Download:** *Seahorse, Lover*



Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds

Playlist

Soul

★★

Kenny? When did Babyface decide to start calling himself Kenny? It must have been about the time he decided it would be a good idea to cut tepid urban-soul revamps of acoustic-guitar chestnuts like *Fire and Rain*, *Time in a Bottle*, *Wonderful Tonight* and — why, Lord, why? — *Knocking on Heaven's Door*. If we made an album this uninspired, we would change our name, too. **Download:** *Not Going Anywhere*



Mark Knopfler

Kill to Get Crimson

Americana

★★★★

"It's a quiet life from here on out," explains former Dire Straits ringleader Knopfler on his fifth non-soundtrack solo CD. He stays true to his word, applying his sleepy Dylanesque croak and understatedly tasty fingerpicking to 12 slices of laid-back, Celtic-flavoured roots ballads. It's closer to Van Morrison than his headbanded MTV heyday — but it still beats working for a living. **Download:** *Punish the Monkey, Behind With the Rent*

Coming up

NEXT WEEK

Born Into This

The Cult

Revival

John Fogerty

Songs of Mass Destruction

Annie Lennox

Magic

Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band

2 WEEKS AWAY

Necessary Evil

Deborah Harry

Rock 'n' Roll Jesus

Kid Rock

Brave

Jennifer Lopez

Coast-to-Coast

Carpet of Love

Robert Pollard

All release dates subject to change

Dirty Projectors

Rise Above

Post-Rock

★★★★

Know that title? Yep, it's Black Flag. But Dirty Projectors didn't swipe it. The avant-popsters are bowing to the punk gods by covering most of their 1981 disc *Damaged*.

Bettye LaVette

The Scene of the Crime

R&B

★★★★

A great singer like LaVette deserves a great band. And they don't come much better than Drive-By Truckers. The southern rockers team with piano vet Spooner Oldham to back the soulful comeback queen here — and the results are spectacular.

Stars

In Our Bedroom After the War

Indie-Pop

★★★★½

All's fair in love and war. Especially in the love wars on T.O. quintet Stars' fourth CD. Voiced again by the sugary Amy Millan and the Mozish Torquil Campbell, these romantic duets blend sweet melodies with lovelorn lyrics.

Super Furry Animals

Hey Venus!

Indie-Pop

★★★★½

You can always count on Gruff Rhys and his Welsh weirdos to deliver the goods. Which, in the case of this eighth album, consists once again of delightfully demented and daring pop tunes.

Down

Down III: Over the Under

Metal

★★★★½

Phil Anselmo has had a tough few years. The ex-Pantera frontman and NOLA resident has weathered Katrina, neurosurgery, and the murder of Dimebag Darrell. To his credit, Anselmo and his Down bandmates have turned those tragedies into triumph.