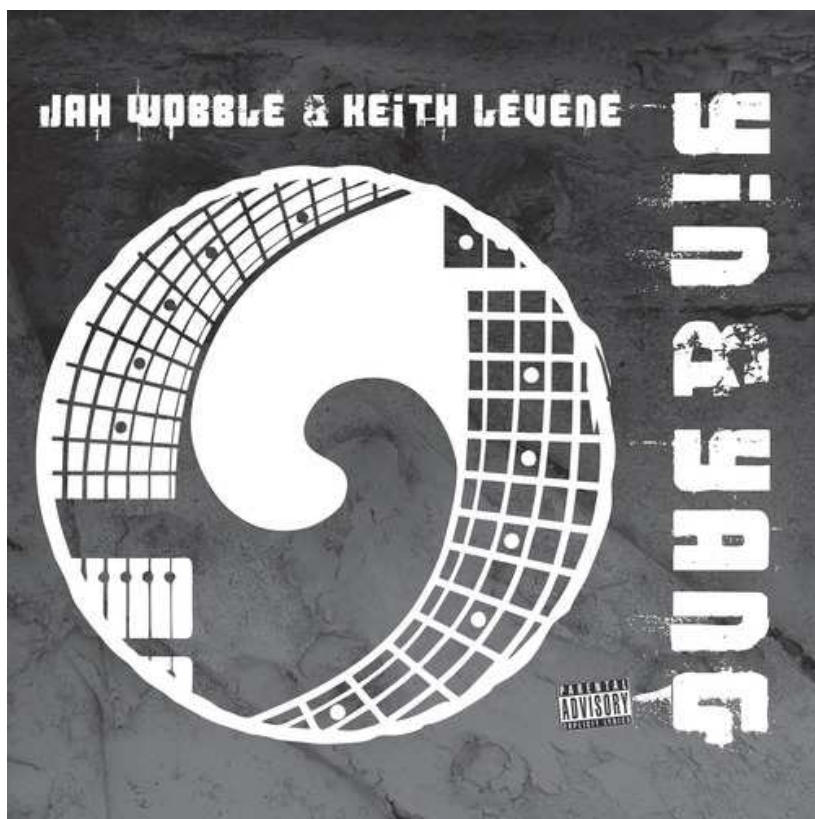


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The Impaler Speaks

Jah Wobble & Keith Levene - Yin & Yang**Jah Wobble & Keith Levene – Yin & Yang (Cherry Red/MVD Audio)**

In 1978, three seemingly disparate musicians changed... well, pretty much everything, when they banded together to form Public Image Limited. PiL's frontman, John Lydon, got (and continues to get) the bulk of the attention, but he will forever be Johnny Rotten, won't he? The bulk of the magic of PiL was derived from the six-string insanity of Keith Levene and the sonic-boom bass-work of Jah Wobble, though. Full stop. Bold statement? Perhaps, but evidence to support that assertion is now widely available to the world in the form of an infectious slab o' round plastic that has been digitally encoded with the music that is 'Yin & Yang'. It's amazing to think – and almost impossible to comprehend – that Wobble and Levene hadn't actually created new music together since 1980's indispensable 'Metal Box', particularly after a few dozen spins of 'Yin & Yang'. The most striking aspects of this new collaboration are the songs – and this is an album of songs, not a 'hit song template' track teamed with a mess of throwaways as so many 'reunion'-type recordings tend to be, and the cohesiveness of the album as a whole. There are many 'PiL moments' ('Jags & Staffs', for instance) – what else could you call them?! – to be sure, but there are plenty of surprises as well (the 90s Brit pop meets Beck eclecticism of 'Mississippi' springs immediately to mind). With the exception of a few minor flubs that are entirely the fault of modern technology being so readily available (the, ugh, AutoTuned vocal parts on 'Within You Without You'), 'Yin & Yang' is a near-brilliant record worthy of obsessing over, and certainly one not to be missed. **The Impaler** [@impalerspeaks](#)

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Source: theimpalerspeaks.com



The Impaler Speaks... supporting local music worldwide, from Austin TX to the United Kingdom and everywhere else. The Impaler has been a member of the Mass Movement creative team since it was a cut-n-paste fanzine many years ago. This is a way to add some depth to the coverage I am able to provide in MM, and so much more.... Support indie music. Support indie film. Support indie life.

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