



Ween

Shinola Vol. 1
(Chocodog)

Ween are perhaps best known for the jokey "Push Th' Little Daisies", one of the weirdest songs to ever become a hit back in the 1990's alternative boom. They've been releasing wacky records ever since, including "Shinola Vol. 1" - the first in a planned series of rarities collections. As can be expected from a band who thought "Push Th' Little Daisies" was "single-worthy", the stuff that was left off the album gets pretty strange. The maddening thing about Ween is that once you get past their stupid deconstructionist Zappa-esque material (like the endlessly dumb and irritating "Boy's Club" and "Big Fat Fuck") there are a few good songs like "I Fell In Love Today" and "Gabrielle" which is a surprising dead-ringer for Elvis Costello. If the brother Ween (Gene and Dean) could grow up and write an album with songs like these, it would be pretty cool...I guess it also wouldn't be Ween.

- David Mansdorf