

acoustic-and-strings recordings, Hart conveys hurt and heartbreak in Polyphonic Spree-approved orch-pop mashed with scratchy, danceable hip-hop beats. Yet, *Our Thickness* could be thicker. Hart's vocals, especially on the wonderful soft-soul schmaltz of "Two Dots On A Map" and the booming breakbeat Motown of "Still Life," sits at the back of the instrumental clatter like an auditorium apparition unsure of whether it should reveal itself; given Hart's excellent writing, it should. [www.russionfuturists.com](http://www.russionfuturists.com)—**BW**

CCCC

**THANKSGIVING** *The River* (Hive Fidelity/Scratch)

Adrian Orange, the young musician behind the curtain of Thanksgiving, may not write "songwriter" on his tax forms, but it's tattooed on his heart. With *The River*, Orange has produced a gorgeous collection of Will Oldham-style mope-folk — sad, slow songs told over a gently strummed guitar. While other instruments accompany him throughout, it's that voice/guitar relationship that all the tracks are built around. Orange's lyrics are simultaneously evocative and cryptic and he sings them carefully, while the songs unrelentingly march as if the whole LP is one long dirge, with a waltz or two thrown in. Nobody ever said simplicity was bad. [www.hivestudios.net](http://www.hivestudios.net)—**DMc**

CCCC

**THIRTEEN SENSES** *The Invitation* (Mercury/Universal)

Comparing Thirteen Senses to Keane is as inevitable as another bad film from Woody Allen. These are four kids from Cornwall U.K. playing heart-wrenching, piano-laden rock-pop for the same crowd who liked *Hopes And Fears*, but thought it was too upbeat. And so, we receive *The Invitation* — a notable debut, not likely to win them a Mercury Award, but good enough to produce a couple of quality singles with "Into The Fire" and "Thru The Glass" and inflate expectations for album number two. Rest assured, VIP status awaits when they desist aping Coldplay's willowy ballads. [www.thirteensenses.com](http://www.thirteensenses.com)—**MB**

CCC½

**OASIS**



*Don't Believe The Truth* (Big Brother/Sony BMG)

When the rockin' Brit-pop of *What's The Story Morning Glory?* made its way around the world, the quarreling Gallagher brothers claimed they were bigger than The Beatles. If Noel had kept writing this, their outlandish boasts may have come true. Well, that was 10 years ago and since then, the band have become masters of the mediocre. On *Don't Believe The Truth*, they fall even farther from their glory

days. Like almost every album before, Oasis waste time with their self-indulgent wankery — while that worked on "Champagne Supernova," on "Turn Up The Sun" it's just frustrating. The group's first three discs were filled with catchy hooks and memorable tunes, but you'd be hard pressed to find anything worth listening to twice here. Although "Lyla," the record's first single, is one of the better numbers, it doesn't compare to the band's other singles. All this proves is that Oasis are having trouble staying in rock's pantheon and moves them even closer to "washed up" territory. [www.oasisinet.com](http://www.oasisinet.com)—**Bryan Borzykowski**

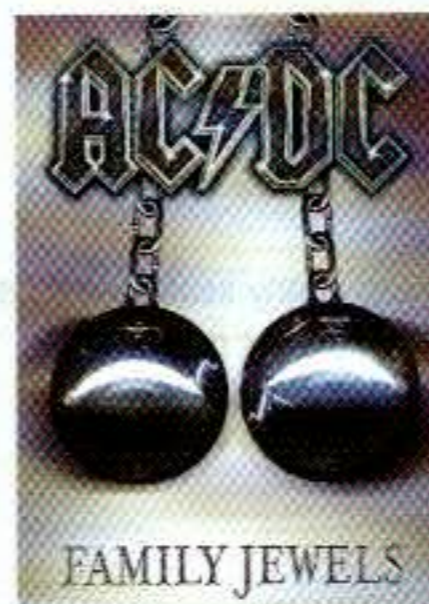
CC

**THRICE** *If We Could Only See Us Now* (Island/Universal)

For all their community-minded do-goodery and heart-on-sleeve earnestness, it's hard not to like Thrice. *If We Could Only See Us Now* — a documentary DVD bundled with an odds 'n' sods EP of B-sides and live cuts — is basically just a placeholder to tide over the faithful while the band ready their follow-up to 2003's *The Artist In The Ambulance*. Fans of other bands should be so lucky to be this well looked after. The visual component is questionable (does a band that's been active less than a decade truly warrant the in-depth documentary treatment?), but the EP — which includes surprisingly respectable renditions of "Eleanor Rigby" and synth-pop chestnut "Send Me An Angel" — is an utter blast. [www.thrice.net](http://www.thrice.net)—**SE**

CCC½

**Contributors:** Mike Armitage (MA), Bryan Borzykowski (BB), Marc Boudignon (MB), Aaron Brophy (ABr), Keith Carman (KC), Steve English (SE), Shehzaad Jiwani (SJ), Caitlin Hotchkiss (CH), Noah Love (NL), Dan Lovranski (The Mouth), David McDougall (DMc), Deanna McFadden (DMf), David McPherson (DM), Pete Richards (PR), Matt Semansky (MS), John Teshima (JT), Shannon Whibbs (SW), Brian Wong (BW)



**AC/DC** *Family Jewels* (Legacy/Epic/Sony BMG)  
*Family Jewels* provides more than enough material to fuel the ongoing debate amongst fans about which AC/DC era is better — the Bon Scott years or the Brian Johnson years. While this DVD doesn't favour one frontman over the other, it does include enough rare TV appearances, promo videos and live concert footage of both singers to keep the debate raging.

Best listened to loud.—**DM**

CCCC



**COHEED AND CAMBRIA** *Live At The Starland Ballroom* (Columbia/Equal Vision)

Blending video and film footage to make a DVD that is equal parts "real" and "professional," *Live At The Starland Ballroom* will appeal to a small pocket of metalhead A/V nerds. For those who want something visually interesting, this is simply ho hum. While performing, the band barely move as they deliver high-octane prog-emo, so while the lights look pretty, the whole thing is blah.—**KC**

CC½



**MOTÖRHEAD** *Classic Albums Ace Of Spades* (Eagle Vision)

The *Ace Of Spades* record is the ultimate testament to Motörhead's 30-plus-year career and their beer-guzzlin', speed-chewin', ear-bleedin' rock 'n' roll attack. Here, Lemmy and the rest of that era's band members, run us through the record and how it was made. This includes extra footage not seen in the original TV special. Bite The Bullet!—**The Mouth**

CCC



**NIRVANA** *Classic Albums Nevermind* (Eagle Vision)

Classic Albums' treatment of *Nevermind* is an in-depth, interview-filled documentary on the making of Nirvana's 1991 grunge masterpiece. The presentation is bare bones, but there are some interesting bonus features like a live version of "Polly," a making-of the "Smells Like Teen Spirit" video and recollections of recording in L.A. Dave Grohl's stories alone make this worth picking up.—**CH**

CCC



**TIËSTO** *In Concert 2* (Black Hole Recordings)

In 2004, trance DJ Tiësto filled three Dutch stadiums with thousands of partygoers and played eight-hour sets. This DVD boils the events down into three hours. How do you make a trance marathon look boring? Start with a shot of people clapping to the beat, cut to the DJ bobbing his head, cut to fireworks and flashing lights. Then repeat.—**MA**

CC



**TURBONEGRO** *The ResErection* (Bitz Core/Turbojugend)

When death punks Turbonegro went down in a blaze of un-glory some five years ago — to later regroup — most fans had no clue what happened, until now. Documenting their fall and rise — mostly through singer Hank Herzog Von Helvete — this subtitled rockumentary is compelling and sad. Accented by live footage and a few behind-the-scenes bits, *The ResErection* puts Turbonegro into the slot of "Craziest Band Of All Time."—**KC**

CCCCC