

or Fat? If you're looking for punk, go somewhere else. — *Jeremy C. Wilkins*

The Vincent Black Shadows

Fears In The Water

Bodog Music

Street: 07.11

The Vincent Black Shadows = Save Ferris + Cherry Poppin' Daddies + Kings of Nothin'

The Vincent Black Shadows truly bring something enticing to the table. Lead singer, **Cassandra Ford**'s sultry vocals are reminiscent of an oversexed lounge singer straight out of film noir. *Fears In The Water* combines old and new, fusing swing music like the opening track "Metro," with synthpop on "Control" and sensual lounge music on "Don't Go Soft," all presented on the backdrop of good ol' rock n' roll. Their sometimes-erie lyrical content doesn't clash with the upbeat songs. This is a band to watch. In my eyes, a cabaret style rock band fronted by a sexy female can do no wrong. Unless of course Ford decides to drop 20 lbs, create a clothing line and start making hip-hop records. — *Jeanette Moses*



Voivod

Katorz

The End Records

Street: 07.25

Voivod = leader not follower

From the innovators who brought us *Killing Technology*, *Dimension Hatross* and *Nothingface* comes the latest offering from prog/thrash metal icons Voivod. The record is not only a living homage to guitarist **Denis "Piggy" D'Amour** who passed away last year from colon cancer, but hands down one of the best metal albums of the year. There is truly no way to describe the sound of this album. You've got thrash tendencies with a lot of straight rock, which ultimately possesses your foot and makes it tap. All instruments are clearly heard and ex-Metallica bassist **Jason Newsted** has made a great addition to the group when he joined up for group's previous album. I'd listen to the latest Voivod over the latest Metallica any day. Thank god the talented bassist jumped ship when it was going down at the helm of a surprisingly sober **James Hetfield**. It is saddening knowing that this will be the last album featuring the amazing guitar work of D'Amour yet one can remain happy that he exited in true metal fashion, guitars blazing. Relish in a style and genre

that only Voivod has created and remember the prior greatness of the guitarist, not only a fitting end to his career but a strong statement for metal in general. — *Bryer Wharton*

The Walkmen

A Hundred Miles Off

Record Collection Music

Street: 05.23

The Walkmen = Bob Dylan + Perry Ferrell + Indieness

The Walkmen's *A Hundred Miles Off* makes for some great montage music for lackluster adolescent drama. If you're feeling an inclination to saunter by your ex-girlfriend's dorm room during a stormy evening to catch a glimpse of her wearing your now-shabby **Postal Service** shirt while brushing her hair, then don't forget your headphones. Though I wouldn't describe The Walkmen's latest release the same way as your **Postal Service** shirt, I wouldn't call it the strongest release of 2006 either. My only warning is that if you find yourself with a copy of *A Hundred Miles Off* in your possession, do not expect to be listening to it in three months. After that, it will probably join your stack of old **Gomez** LPs on the floor, where you'll find yourself kneeling and crying, "I just don't understand why she left me!"

— *Michael Steffen*

DVD REVIEWS

GBH

City Baby Attacked by Rats

Secret Films

Street: 05.16

I'm glad that watching aging punk bands isn't as sad as watching aging hair-metal bands. I think it's because the majority of punk bands never went away, while the metal bands did, and thus their return was a little less than glorious. **Colin** still managed to slide into his skintight black jeans without looking desperate and the entire band is just as much of an adrenaline rush as when they first formed. The DVD was filmed in London at the **Coronet** in August of 2004, and I'm happy to say that I think they may have put on an even more amazing show when I saw them live this past March. I'm glad that some things, bands included, seem to get better with age. GBH speeds through 19 songs during their performance including "City Baby Attacked By Rats," "Gunned Down" and "Womb With A View." If you didn't get to see them in March, get the DVD, turn your

speakers all the way up, invite over as many people as you know, get drunk and have someone start a fight in your livingroom. It will be almost as cool as seeing them live. — *Jeanette Moses*

Metalmania 2005

Metalmania 2005

Metal Mind

Street: 06.06

This DVD/CD is a compilation, sort of. It is the third installment of the *Metalmania* series. *Metalmania* is a metal festival in Poland, that every year features Polish bands and the top tier of metal society. Clips range from bands such as **Pain**, **Dark Funeral**, **Amon Amarth**, **Arcturus**. The DVD highlight is definitely the three clips from the cello playing group **Apocalyptica**, a group who started out playing **Metallica** covers and moved on to creating their own material. This is the first instance I can recall that features live clips of the band, which in this instance also include a drummer. There is something odd about seeing guys playing the cello and banging their heads but when you hear the power bellowing forth from the group, you will see why, closing out their trio of songs is a version never released on CD of **Metallica**'s "Seek and Destroy." As far as European metal festivals go, *Metalmania* may not be the biggest, but the production of the DVD is excellent. The bands stage show is basic, since it is in the festival setting but that doesn't mean the bands performances lack anything. As an added bonus the DVD also contains an audio CD featuring groups from the Polish underground, that most have likely never heard of, so there is something expected and unexpected. This is by far the best installment of the series. — *Bryer Wharton*

Joe Strummer

Let's Rock Again!

Image Entertainment

Street: 06.27

Anyone who knows anything about the history of punk rock music or any music enthusiast for that matter, **Joe Strummer** is a hallowed name. Of course we know Strummer as the iconic leader of the pioneering punk band **The Clash** and as one of the most talented musicians of our time. *Let's Rock Again!* begins with a short segment documenting **The Clash** and then quickly jumps to Strummers' new band, **Joe Strummer and The Mescaleros**. The film shows the story of Strummer and **The Mescaleros** and spans a period of 18 months prior to Strummer's untimely death in 2002. Intermixed with interviews, live footage, trying

to sell records and Strummers' challenges of starting over in a business he was once king, *Let's Rock Again!* is inspiring and shows the true character and integrity of Strummer in a personal way. Also included are more than a handful of special features including several interviews and performances. — *Jeremy C. Wilkins*

The Selector

Live From London

Secret Films

Street: 08.01.2005

The Selector is an amazing band, but this DVD doesn't seem to capture their live performance as being all that great. The lighting effects, bad editing and uneven sound really detract from what a superb band the Selector is. The music sounds as good as always and the band performs fifteen tracks. Some of my favorites were "Three Minute Hero," "Missing Words" and "On My Radio". The DVD also contains an interview with lead singer **Pauline Black**. She is probed with questions regarding whether the Selector feels they have to always stick to their greatest hits while playing shows. My favorite part of the DVD is when she gives the reporter a little more attitude than he asks for after asking her if she is a supporter of Rastafarianism. To She replies, "Why would I be a supporter of Rastafarianism, I'm a woman." Kudos to you, Pauline, for making that reporter look like a real douchebag! — *Jeanette Moses*

Sixteen Horsepower

Live

Alternative Tentacles

Street: 12.02

This slick two-disc set gracefully avoids the common pratfalls of most concert films, such as poor editing, bad lighting, too few, static camera angles, and a low-quality sound mix. Instead, the dark beauty of 16 HP is digitally corralled and presented in an all-region compatible format. Featuring a 2002 show from Belgium, a performance for German Television's **Rockpalast** in 1996 and a look at the band's last show in Antwerp in 2004, Live is on a level with the legendary concert films of **Jonathan Demme** for its artful representation of the chaos and shuddering intensity of this goth-folk-country giant's live show. The best concert films acknowledge that viewers are not actually at the show in question, but somehow construct an experience that is arguably the next best thing. This is one of those few concert films, and thankfully, 16 HP are just the kind of uniquely talented band that deserves such attention. — *Tyler Ford*