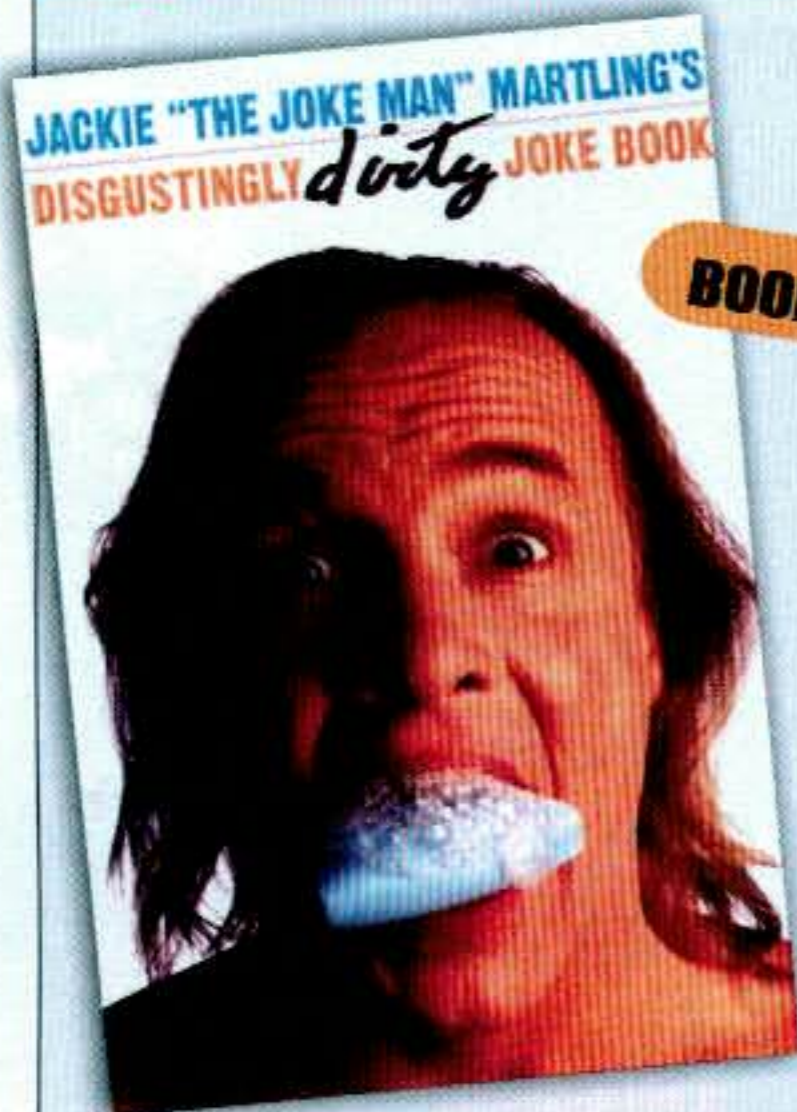


Disgustingly Dirty Joke Book

By Jackie "the Joke Man" Martling



BOOK

No matter what Jackie "the Joke Man" Martling does with his life, he'll always be remembered as the head writer and vital piece of *The Howard Stern Show*. He was Stern's prize jester for 15 years before he walked away, a move that some called career suicide. The move didn't kill him; it might have slowed him down a touch at first, but by all accounts, the nasty wisecracker is back in high-heat form. The pot-loving Joke Man branched out with his own weekly show on Sirius Satellite Radio called *Jackie's Joke Hunt*, joining the Howard 100/101 Sirius Radio channels. We received a copy of Jackie's book first printed in 1998 and pissed ourselves empty skipping through the pages, proving crude, rude and disgusting dirty jokes have no shelf life. This book will have you laughing out loud, all the while feeling guiltier than a rabbi eating pork chops watching a Catholic Priest abuse an alter boy.

The End of the Jews

By Adam Mansbach



BOOK

At first glance, one would expect some sort of political or historical tale to unfold over the 300 or so pages of Mansbach's offering. However, the cliché "Never judge a book by its cover" could not be more apt. *The End of the Jews* details the lives of several characters struggling to balance traditional religious roots with secular, cultural passions. Whether the story focuses on the life of writer Tristan Brodsky; his grandson (also named Tristan); or Nina Hricek, a young Jewish Czech able to free herself from the shackles of homebound limitations thanks to her skills with a camera; the theme is prevalent and the cultural struggle between the spiritual and the secular remains consistent throughout.

However, Mansbach is not attempting to raise personal questions about faith and belief, or create an unsettling self-awareness of ethnic identity. Mansbach is asking what it means to be Jewish; a question that cannot be answered, nor is he attempting to. All one can do is read this stunning literary work and surmise their own judgment. Wait—I guess that is raising personal questions about faith and belief, but it's good to do that every now and then.

Tad

Busted Circuits and Ringing Ears
MVD

Few people know of Tad, thus won't really understand the significance of this band and the influence they had on the Seattle scene in the late 80's. If you are one of those whose knowledge of the whole grunge explosion start and stop with Nirvana and Pearl Jam, I highly suggest you pick this up. Tad was one of those bands that never received the accolades they deserved. Their albums were okay, but it was their live reputation that really made the band so special. This DVD doesn't just shed light on the band, but in fact, does a great job of chronicling a very special time in music history. With live footage, great little tidbits of knowledge and interviews ranging from Krist Novoselic and Kim Thayil, to the founder of Subpop, Bruce Pavitt; it's time for you to get a much needed history lesson. Any band that gets sued by Pepsi deserves at least a moment of your time.



DVD

Norman Granz Presents:

Duke Ellington at the Cote D'Azur/ DUKE: The Last Jam Session

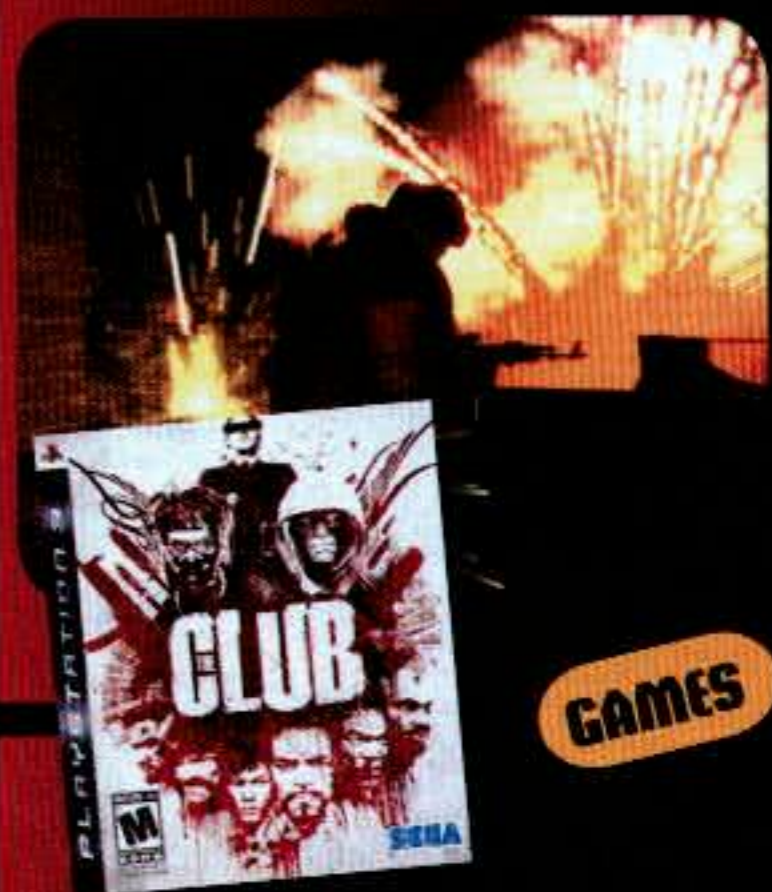
Eagle Rock

This third installment of this very endearing collection, named after the influential Norman Granz (founder of Verve Records, amongst other things), is stellar to say the least. This two disc collection—three hours worth—consists of some of the finest performances by big band extraordinaire Duke Ellington. The first disc pairs up Duke with the legendary Ella Fitzgerald in a treat that needs to be seen (and heard) to be fully appreciated.

The second disc, in my opinion, is the real gem of this set. Over an hour-and-a-half of Duke's last jam session, filmed while recording *Duke's Big 4*. Duke's quartet (featuring the highly influential Ray Brown on bass) gives a great fly-on-the-wall impression of the jazz world at the height of its success. Far too often, the world of jazz has been romanticized or dramatized to give the genre a more rebellious nature (I'm looking in your direction, Ken Burns). This rare bit of footage doesn't pull any punches, while giving a very natural glimpse into the creativity of one of jazz' finest.



DVD



GAMES

The Club

Sega of America
PS3, XBOX 360

We here at SKUNK absolutely LOVE hooters — um, I meant SHOOTERS; first-person shooters that is. Throw in multi-player, some hard-core characters to prance around as, a kick-ass arsenal at your disposal and beautifully rendered environments and we be happier than a pig in shit. Believe me, them pigs are pretty happy. So when *The Club* landed on our doorsteps, we were really looking forward to experiencing our own fecal matter of bliss.

It ain't called *The Club* for nothin'. The game revolves around a tournament that's somewhat inspired by the modern Hollywood classic *Fight Club*. Only *this club* forgoes the use of bare knuckles and relies heavily on guns—sweet, sweet guns. As a shooter, *The Club* doesn't disappoint but I should point out that this is a mostly goal-oriented shooter and that the pace is quicker than a crack whore pouncing on a five-dollar bill. The game designers made sure that you can't run for cover in this game. Sure, you can hide behind a wall every now and then but you can't crouch behind anything. As such, you're sure to get shot if standing idle for more than a flippin' nanosecond so you gotta be constantly on the move. This can be very frustrating at first but with a little focus and keen marksmanship, you'll be able to blast your way through each of the 8 arenas in no time.

It's a stylish, adrenaline-boosting shooter that would make a nice addition to any FPS-lover's collection.

