



GARAGE BAND IDOL

Let us listen to your original song, and we'll tell you if it sucks or not



PINK

Music on DVD

Pink

Live From Wembley Arena

Punk-pop

★★½

The punk-pop love child of Madonna and Billy Idol struts, gyrates and sneers her way through a garden-variety stadium show — with all the costume changes, strip club dance routines, pyrotechnic lighting, erotic acrobatics, confetti cannons and balloons now required by concert law. The usual behind-the-scenes footage pads the disc out to two hours.

Tim Buckley

My Fleeting House

Rock

★★★½

It's *Happy Time* for fans of the tousle-haired, tender-hearted '60s and '70s troubadour. This single-disc set collects more than a dozen vintage TV appearances, interviews and live clips from the patron saint of sensitive singer-songwriters. Collaborators and critics put the clips in context, but in the end, the late, great man's passion and creativity speak for themselves.



Leonard Cohen

Songs of Leonard Cohen/Songs From a Room/Songs of Love and Hate

Folk-rock

★★★★

The folk-rock poet-laureate's first three albums get a deluxe upgrade, with glossy hardback-book packaging, new liner notes and bonus tracks. 1968's magnetic debut has *Suzanne* and *Sisters of Mercy*. '69's so-so *Songs From a Room* has *Bird on a Wire*. And '71's superb *Songs of Love and Hate* has *Famous Blue Raincoat* and *Joan of Arc*. Prepare to be bummed out.



Cowboy Junkies

At the End of Paths Taken

Roots

★★★½

"We're still lost," croons Margo Timmins. Hardly. This 10th studio set finds the somnambulant roots foursome right on course — and accenting guitarist Michael Timmins' woozy, languid laments with lush strings, a children's choir, psychedelic flourishes and even a searing blast of raw-boned blues-rock. Paths may be mostly familiar, but the trip is well worth taking. **Download:** *Cutting Board Blues; My Little Basquiat*.



Michael Buble

Call Me Irresponsible

Jazz/Pop

★★★★

Irresponsible? Not a chance. Granted, the world's best-paid lounge crooner does change his tune slightly on this fourth CD by adding a few more Latin grooves, contemporary touches and original cuts to the list of swinging jazz classics and smoky pop standards. Still, this disc is designed to sit between your mom's Tony Bennett and Rod Stewart CDs. And undoubtedly it will. **Download:** *Comin' Home Baby, I'm Your Man*.



Mavis Staples

We'll Never Turn Back

Rhythm & Blues

★★★★

Any new disc from smoky-voiced gospel legend Staples is a treat. But this stirring batch of classic civil rights anthems — soulfully reinterpreted and performed with the help of blues guitar master Ry Cooder, a swampy band and Ladysmith Black Mambazo — is the kind of minor miracle that's enough to make you believe in a promised land. And Mavis? She'll take you there. **Download:** *In the Mississippi River; This Little Light*.

Coming up

NEXT WEEK

Volta
Bjork

The Boy With No Name
Travis

The American Dream
Mike Jones

Live in Concert 2006
Barbra Streisand

2 WEEKS AWAY

Minutes to Midnight
Linkin Park

United Abominations
Megadeth

Release the Stars
Rufus Wainwright

Sky Blue Sky
Wilco

All release dates subject to change

Dinosaur Jr.

Beyond

Indie-rock

★★★★

After 18 years apart, Dino Jr.'s invincible original lineup — guitar hero J. Mascis, bassist Lou Barlow and drummer Murph — turn back the clock with this anachronistic set of ragged, lo-fi indie-rock.

Noisettes

What's the Time Mr. Wolf?

Post-punk

★★★½

One part Yeah Yeah Yeahs. One part Bow Wow Wow. One part P.J. Harvey. A dash of Billie Holiday. Put it together and you get London's Noisettes, a post-punk power trio. Now get their crackling debut.

Golden Smog

Blood on the Slacks

Pop/Rock

★★★★

On this eight-track EP, this Midwestern semi-supergroup play it typically fast and loose, tossing off an easygoing, rambunctious set of backporch alt-country, Beatlesque pop-rock and quirky instrumentals.

Joel Plaskett Emergency

Ashtray Rock

Rock

★★★★

The concept: Two pals start a band, only to split up over a girl. The reality: Plaskett's ambitious fifth CD is his most fully realized work, utilizing everything from power-chord arena-rock and melodic '60s pop to falsetto electro-funk and '50s doo-wop.

Various Artists

Lucky You

Movie soundtrack

★★★★

Come to this soundtrack for the new Bob Dylan track *Huck's Tune*, a muted roots waltz. Stay for Bonnie Raitt's last-call version of *Bartender's Blues* and Kris Kristofferson's folk gem *They Ain't Got 'Em All*.