



We have written reviews in haiku; we have done them with just eight words too. But here's a new trick; they're all limericks. And in time for St. Patrick's Day too! Enjoy.



COMEBACKS

Donald Fagen *Morph the Cat Reprise* | Warner

The co-leader of old Steely Dan
Is still one weirdly twisted soul man
With smooth jazz-funk grooves
And dark lyrical moves
He makes death seem as cool as a
tan

★★★★

Jessi Colter *Out of the Ashes* Shout Factory | Sony BMG

It's been 20 years since we've all
heard
From ole Waylon's beloved songbird
Her voice is still strong
She writes raw country songs
It's a welcome comeback; spread
the word

★★★★

ROCKERS

The Diablos *You Can't Break the Strings in Our Olympic Hearts*

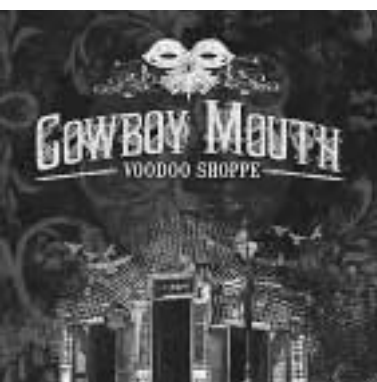
Baudelaire | Outside
Toronto roots-rockers they're not
It's the sound of New York that
they've got
With shoegaze and punk
And psychedelic junk
Think Strokes or The Walkmen.
Think hot

★★★1/2

Two Gallants *What the Toll Tells* Saddle Creek | Outside

You like dusty roots-rock laced with
noise?
Check out these two San Francisco
boys
They craft epic songs
Of heroes and wrongs
With just drums, guitar and a voice

★★★★



Limericks & Guitar Licks

In honour of St. Patrick, we're putting the rock in shamrock

Cowboy Mouth

Voodoo Shoppe Eleven Thirty | Outside

These New Orleans dudes are
eclectic
Stylistically, they're almost hectic
They're rootsy and spunky
Sometimes they're pop-punky
But their guitars are always electric

★★★1/2

METALHEADS

Dead and Divine *What Really Happened at Lovers Lane*

Verona | Sonic Unyon
More chugging, more grinding,
more hollers
From this week's new screamo-rock
maulers
They can bash with the best
And howl like the rest
But it's been done before; save your
dollars

★★1/2

Schulz *What Apology Sudden Death*

KMFDM's old guitarist
Produces a metallic harvest
With industrial grit
Gruff vocals that fit
And three shades: Dark, darker and
darkest

★★★

PUNKS

Love Equals Death

Nightmerica Fat Wreck Chords

Their image and name are quite
hairly
Still, horror-punk fans should be
wary

It's gothy hardcore
No less and no more
But the Billy Idolesque vocals —
they're scary!

★★★

The Sainte Catherines

Dancing for Decadence Fat Wreck Chords

Like most punk rock, they're
uproarious
These Montreal crusties don't bore
us
But they don't just blast
And grind real fast
They also can write a great chorus

★★★1/2

Anti-Flag *For Blood and Empire* RCA | BMG

If you thought Anti-Flag had sold out
Their new disc should erase any
doubt

They bash Bush and war
They rage and they roar
And they turn corporate punk inside
out

★★★

Hell is for Heroes Transmit Disrupt

Burning Heart | Epitaph
U.K. lads take their name from the
screen

It's a war flick with old Steve
McQueen

Their rock takes the plunge
Into emo and grunge
It's like punk with a melodic sheen

★★★

MUSIC DVDS

The Go-Betweens *That Striped Sunlight Sound*

Yep Roc | Outside
The Aussie popsters' new DVD
Has two shows with a bonus CD
First they play all the hits
Then they chat as they sit
And it's all quite delicious to see

★★★★

Michael Franti & Spearhead *Live in Sydney* MVD

No longer an angry rap fellow
On this live DVD Franti is mellow
You get groovy hip-hop
Jazz and reggae-pop
He comes to spread cheer, not to
bellow

★★1/2



"I stepped up on the platform, the man gave me the news

He said, 'You must be joking, son. Where did you get those shoes?' " > Steely Dan, *Pretzel Logic*



INDIE POPSTERS

Kelley Stoltz

Below the Branches
Sub Pop | Outside

Stoltz cuts discs at home with his friends
His influences seem without ends
We hear Wilson and Drake
In the pop that he makes
It's catchy, yet it bucks all the trends
★★★1/2

Cranebuilders

Sometimes You Hear Through Someone Else
Azra

Here's one band that's not in a big rush
They play gently, slowly and hushed
With that wozy pace
Comes ethereal grace
They're like Luna from Liverpool — plush
★★★

Karl Blau

Beneath Waves
K | Sonic Unyon

If you love lo-fi pop-rock, get set
For this third disc from this indie vet
It's lazy, it's charming
It's gently disarming
As unassuming as music can get
★★★

STRANGE DUCKS

David P. Smith

Striving For a New Tomorrow
Northern Electric | Universal

A loopy hillbilly Victorian

Yelping and pumping accordion
This poetic boozier
Paints himself as a loser
But his twisted roots shtik is euphorian
★★★

They Shoot Horses Don't They?

Boo Hoo Hoo Boo
Kill Rock Stars

Take the blubber and smoke of Van Vliet
To the circus beside Sun Ra's street
Make the horns skronky
Turn the grooves wonky
And you'll match this B.C. octet's feat
★★★1/2

CANADIAN POPSTERS

The Buttless Chaps

Where Night Holds Light
Mint | Outside

One gentle Vancouver roots-pop band
Has its jangle and twang well in hand
But the old-time sonics
Have lush electronics
That nudge them into more modern land
★★★

The Ride Theory

In This City
Sunny Lane | Universal

They channel the British Invasion
They're Hamilton's gift to the nation
Scrappy and choppy
Lovably sloppy
Like The Kinks with more agitation
★★★1/2

The Old Soul

The Old Soul
Hand of God | Universal

This free-wheeling orch-pop production
Is mostly a one-man construction
There's some Flaming Lips
And some Beach Boyish trips
Psychedelic aural seduction
★★★★

The Pettit Project

6 Week Summer
Vacation in Hell
Affluence

Weezerish co-ed power-pop horde
With howling synths and crunchy rock chords
Their melodies? Sunny
And they try to be funny
But mostly they just leave us quite bored
★★1/2

BLUES

Watermelon Slim and the Workers

Watermelon Slim and the Workers
Northern Blues

A truck-drivin' man rocks the blues
You can hear that he's paid his dues
His vocals are gritty
His lyrics are witty
From John Baldry he seems to take cues
★★★1/2

Duke Robillard

Guitar Groove-A-Rama
Stony Plain | Warner

The legendary blues guitar whiz
Plays tribute to some heroes of his

There's jazz, surf and blues
But whichever you choose
His picking is the star of this biz
★★★

Rodney DeCree

War Torn Man
Northern Electric | Universal

Lots of guys can sing like Bob Dylan
Hardly any write songs that are thrilling
But DeCree's words ring true
He rocks like Neil, too
On this live set, he's ready and willing
★★★

ODD COUPLE

Isobel Campbell & Mark Lanegan

Ballad of the Broken Seas
V2 | Sony BMG

She comes from pop's Belle & Sebastian
He's from QOTSA and other rock bastions
Put them together
It's like lace and black leather
Their lush Ballad glows with dark passion
★★★1/2

EXOTIC

Cesaria Evora

Rogamar
Lustafrika | Sony BMG

This Cape Verde singer is renowned
For the grace of her tropical sound
It's supple and smooth
With sensual grooves
It's as if her feet don't touch the ground
★★★1/2

TOP OF THE CHARTS

POP SINGLES

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Source: Billboard.com

TOP ALBUMS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Source: Billboard.com

C&W SINGLES

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Source: Billboard.com

10 YEARS AGO

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Source: Billboard.com

UNDERGROUND

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Source: UMF.com

