

Judi, Judi Judi (Chicago)



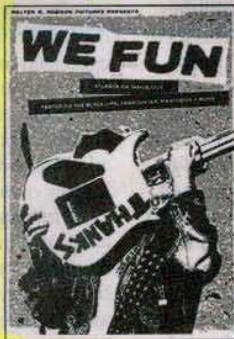
Erich Luedtke

layers of oddness you've likely missed if you've only heard them while slogged up on universal butter at the local sweatbox.

Speaking of, the release party is Friday, April 2nd at Lenny's. Do it.

Backed by Athens musicians including David Blackmon, Thayer Sarrano, AJ Adams, Tommy Somerville and Clay Leverett, Justin Evans does cowboy-hat-and-whisky-glass country & western music, starkly and God fearin', free of the sheen of modern-day Nashville and with an odd dash of Waits. He probably doesn't even own a cowboy hat, I'm guessing, but no matter. The Classic City songman's new CD, *The Owl & the Hounds*, is the third chapter in what he calls his "Chinatown Diaries." If you want to know more, see him next at Little Kings in Athens on April 16.

Director **Matthew Robison's** 2008 *We Fun: Atlanta GA Inside/Out* documentary is coming to a DVD player near you on April 17, which also doubles handily as Record Store Day. Shenanigans, staged and otherwise, from **Black Lips**, **Deerhunter**, **Mastodon**, **Mourndella** and **The Coathangers** figure prominently in the flick. There's also a bit of music, too.



David Barbe's been toiling in the trenches of the Athens music scene since before most of you were spitting up on your mama's shoulder, but much of it's been beyond the spotlight, in the production/engineering end of things. Thankfully, in recent years he's been emerging more often from behind the boards of Chase Park Transduction, and lo and behold his latest

ensemble, **David Barbe & the Quick Hooks**, have assembled a fine debut album (recorded at Chase Park, natch) which they released last month to coincide with dates opening for **Drive-By Truckers**. Perhaps maturing a bit from the full-frontal assault of past outfits like **Mercyland**, **Sugar** and **Buzz Hungry**, on *Love It, Don't Choke It to*



David Barbe

Death Barbe and cohorts (not surprisingly, some of Athens' premium players, including guitarist **Frank McConnell**, drummer **Kyle Spence**, pedal steel master **John Neff** and bassist **Jon Mills**) have crafted a spacious, haunted, heartfelt song cycle that ebbs and flows organically from pristine power-pop to stripped-down rock to spare, sparkling dreamers. Damn good stuff.

Holy shit, I couldn't tell you how many frantic letters, phone calls, emails and texts we've been

deluged with this year, all asking the same thing: "Jeff! Pleeeeeeze tell us all when Atlanta-based rock band **Sevendust** are releasing their eighth studio album (and first since 2003 with original guitar player **Clint Lowery**), titled *Cold Day Memory!* Please tell us!! When?? When can we buy it and listen to it over and over and over again??" April 20th, people. April 20th.

The **Zac Brown Band's** forthcoming live DVD is a star-studded affair. Recorded at their Fox Theatre show last October benefiting the rebuilding of Athens' Georgia Theatre, *Pass the Jar* features **Angie Aparo**, **Aslyn**, **Shawn Mullins**, **Barry Waldrep** **Joey + Rory**, **Little Big Town** and even **Waffle House** pitcher **Kid Rock**. Due out May 4th, the 19-song collection features cover songs, new unreleased tunes and all those Zac Brown country radio hits you can't get enough of. ☘



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