

# SLUG MAGAZINE

Description: SLUG Magazine

## East Bay Ray and the Killer Smiles

Self-titled

MVD Audio

Street: 09.13

The Killer Smiles = Dead Kennedys + Monster Magnet + X

I know a girl who has a great recipe for pot brownies and uses all the best ingredients, cooking those fuckers down to delicious, potent little cakes that will stone you off your tits for a day and a half. I'd hoped that this album would be the same. The ingredients are right, after all. Everyone knows that East Bay Ray (Dead Kennedys) can shred, and Killer Smiles vocalist Skip McSkipster sang for The Wynona Riders, who ruled. The project was even produced by Butthole Surfers guitarist Paul Leary, whom I trust to know a good thing when he sees it, but somehow, this record came out of the oven a little bit stale and tasteless. The track "I'm a User" feels like a cheapo imitation of anything off of Social Distortion's Prison Bound, and "Safe and Sound" might have been pulled straight from an embarrassing 311 album. The best track is the closer, a cover of Merle Travis's "16 Tons." Aging punx gotta keep busy somehow, right? -Nate Perkins