

# In Tune

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**PLASTIC CRIMEWAVE  
SOUND, self-titled (MVD  
Audio/Prophase Music)**  
☆☆☆ — Chicago-based  
acid punk five-piece Plastic  
Crimewave Sound are one  
of those bands who seem  
to throw everything at the  
wall just to see what sticks.  
Led by Steve Krakow (aka  
Plastic Crimewave), the band  
have been big on the local  
scene and have a couple  
well-received albums to their  
credit.

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In attempt to broaden their fan base, Prophase/MVD Audio has reissued the band's dense, slightly off-putting 2004 self-titled debut. Though just five tracks in length, the record clocks in at more than 40 minutes — thanks mainly to the 17½-minute “The Pasture,” a sprawling multi-part odyssey that showcases the best and worst of this often self-indulgent band. At times the experimentation works wonderfully, though there are just as many moments where it sounds like somebody left the recorder on while the guys worked through new material.

Plastic Crimewave Sound are at their best on some of the more structured tunes here, with Krakow's gritty vocals anchoring keepers “(I Am) Planet Crushing,” “Shockwave Rider” and disc highlight “Punched in the Face.” (JS)