

All reviews by Darryl Sterdan. For more in-depth reviews of Hard-Fi, Ted Nugent and more, go to canoe.ca/musicreviews



HARD-FI'S RICHARD ARCHER

GARAGE BAND IDOL

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

Japhy Ryder
Toronto
www.myspace.com/japhy

There are two parts to any song: Words and music. Words are clearly not this Toronto band's strong suit. Exhibit A: Their name is Japhy Ryder. We know, it's from Kerouac's Dharma Bums. It still makes them sound like a hippie troubadour. Exhibit B: Their song is called Bhorus and the Cridge — nuff said. Exhibit C: Despite being a surprisingly serviceable and well-played slice of funky southern blues-rock dotted with congas and smokin' solos, lyrics like "I was invited / by invitation" make us wish they wrote instrumentals — or at least stole lyrics from Kerouac, too.

Want Darryl Sterdan to review your homemade, original song? E-mail us an online link where he can hear it. If he chooses yours, he'll tell readers if it sucks or not. Send the link to CDcritic@wpgsun.com

DARRYL'S VERDICT
★★
"Use your words, dudes."

LISTEN FOR YOURSELF
www.myspace.com/japhy



THE BEATLES

Music on DVD

All My Loving

Various Artists

British Pop

★★★

Back in '68, this hour-long BBC exposé on the commercial materialism that existed beneath the flowery facade of pop music might have seemed shockingly revealing. Of course, next to the Machiavellian machinations of today, it all comes off as quaint. But the artsy archival footage — of The Beatles, Stones, Who, Cream, Hendrix, Zappa and more — is still totally watchable.

GG Allin & the Murder Junkies

Hated: Special Edition

Punk

★★★★

Rockers like to act dangerous. GG Allin was the real deal: A drug-gobbling lunatic who usually performed naked, relieved himself onstage and physically attacked his fans. This mesmerizingly disturbing 1997 doc captured Allin (who ODed and died in 1993) in all his scuzzball glory, and includes new commentary tracks, interviews and music videos. And you think Britney's nuts.



KT Tunstall

Drastic Fantastic

Pop

★★★

Her earthy 2006 debut *Eye to the Telescope* made her a star. Now Scottish singer-songwriter KT Tunstall is starting to act like one. From the mini-skirted guitar-rock pose on the cover to the slickly produced rockers within, much of this 11-track disc blatantly aims for the pop charts. As makeovers go, it's definitely drastic. Whether old fans will think it's fantastic is another story. **Download:** *Little Favours, Hold On*



Pinback

Autumn of the Seraphs

Indie-Pop

★★★½

For years, this San Diego duo has endured comparison to The Police. With this fourth CD, we would liken them to the recent work of another new wave outfit: XTC. The layered acoustic guitar arpeggios, the meticulous songcraft, the plummy vocals, the bittersweet melodies, the wry lyrics; they're all here. And they add up to some of the best songs Andy Partridge never wrote. **Download:** *From Nothing to Nowhere, Walters*



Thurston Moore

Trees Outside the Academy

Indie-Rock

★★★★

At his day job in Sonic Youth, Moore makes a big noise. But on his second solo CD, the singer-guitarist plays nice. Turning down his amp and curbing his guitar-abusing ways, he fashions an artfully intimate slate of acoustic indie-rock featuring SY drummer Steve Shelley, shredding solos from J. Mascis, civilized violin and plenty of Moore's creaky bedhead vocals. Call it a beautiful noise. **Download:** *Wonderful Witches, Off Work*



Ted Nugent

Love Grenade

Hard Rock

★★½

There are two ways to deal with The Nuge. You can be offended by his racist right-wing rants. Or you can ignore his imbecilic gibberish and just dig the luntheaded fun of his umpteenth CD, which has the usual turbocharged guitar-wank odes to teenage sex and buffalo spirits — along with a smokin' remake of a hit from his Amboy Dukes days. We'll take Door No. 2. **Download:** *Journey to the Center of the Mind, Still Raisin' Hell*

Coming up

NEXT WEEK

Small Miracles

Blue Rodeo

Echoes, Silence, Patience and Grace

Foo Fighters

Shine

Joni Mitchell

Songs About Girls

will.i.am

2 WEEKS AWAY

Born Into This

The Cult

Revival

John Fogerty

Songs of Mass Destruction

Annie Lennox

Magic

Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band

All release dates subject to change

Ministry

The Last Sucker

Industrial

★★★

Ministry man Al Jourgensen isn't kidding about that title — the industrial pioneer swears this is his band's swan song. Fittingly, he goes out with a bang.

Hard-Fi

Once Upon a Time in the West

Brit-Rock

★★★½

How do you follow a hit debut CD? Some bands try to duplicate it; others try to top it. Hard-Fi are going for the latter. The suburban London foursome upgrade their spunky Brit-rock with deeper grooves and horns and strings.

HIM

Venus Doom

Goth-Metal

★★★

If you don't already know HIM stands for His Infernal Majesty, you are clearly not a fan of these Finnish goths. No worries; this sixth studio outing is as good a place as any to start. It's got all the funereal grooves, doom-laden lyrics and grinding guitars any urban vampire needs.

Th' Legendary Shack Shakers

Swampblood

Roots-Rock

★★★★

You like your roots seriously twisted? Bust out the 'shine and toast this fifth CD from wild-man singer Col. J.D. Wilkes and his Shakers.

The Sadies

New Seasons

Country-Rock

★★★½

"The years went by and we stayed just the same," claim The Sadies. Don't buy it. Truth is, the Toronto twangmasters continue to evolve on this eighth CD by adding more vocals and replacing the spaghetti-surf instrumentals with the psychedelic country-rock tragedy of late-'60s Gram Parsons.