

ASYLUM STREET SPANKERS

SPANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

YELLOW DOG RECORDS

YDR 1496

Sometimes there's a thin line between tribute and parody, and Austin's acoustic **Asylum Street Spankers** walk that line with more grace and dignity than most. On their debut album, the Austin-based collective borrows classic jug band instrumentation, vocal mannerisms, and in some cases even repertoire, imbuing songs like Lucille Bogan's "Shave 'Em Dry" and Robert Johnson's seminal blues "If I Had Possession Over Judgement Day" with both authenticity and irony. For the most part, it works well, largely due to the fact that the **Asylum Street Spankers** know when to go for camp appeal and when to play it straight. The contributions of co-frontman Wammo take the former route, with originals "Lee Harvey" and "Startin' to Hate Country" dependent on humor for their effectiveness; covers of pop standards "I'll See You in My Dreams" and "Brazil" are less affected. More surprising is the album's emotional range. How many groups could get away with sequencing a whimsical ode to marijuana ("Funny Cigarette," which succeeds based on its attention to vaudevillian detail, even though the band bettered it in 2000 with "Beer," which was essentially a rewrite) back to back with a darkly earnest glimpse at the underbelly of small-town America (Guy Forsyth's devastating "Hometown Boy")? Not many, and that boldness is the greatest strength of **Spanks for the Memories**, an album that's among the rawest yet most nuanced in the group's catalog. The 2002 reissue adds "Drunkard's Wave," a lurching barroom anthem, and "Black Eyed Blues," a comic tale of revenge that slyly echoes the bawdy early blues numbers the band holds dear.

-All Music Guide

Key Selling Points:

- Over 25,000 albums scanned by artist to date
- National press and radio campaigns
- Actively touring group -- 100+ national tour dates / year
- Contact retail@yellowdogrecords.com for free store play / review copies and posters

"Consistently challenging in its influences. Nothing officially 'unplugged' has ever sounded this much fun."

—The Austin Chronicle

"The band flits between ragtime, country, old-style am radio pop tunes, swing, and country-blues with equal ease."

- Chris Handyside, AllMusic Guide



Track Listing

1. Intro
2. If I Had Possession Over Judgement Day
3. Superchief
4. Song With No Words
5. Intro
6. Lee Harvey
7. I'll See You in My Dreams
8. Hesitation Blues
9. Startin' to Hate Country
10. Walkin' & Whistlin' Blues
11. Shave 'em Dry
12. Brazil
13. Tradewinds
14. Intro
15. Funny Cigarette
16. Hometown Boy
17. Drunkard's Wave
18. Black Eyed Blues

Distributed by:

MVDaudio

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BIG DADDY

Artist	Asylum Street Spankers
Title	Spanks For the Memories
Selection #	YD21496
UPC	823800149621
Prebook	
Street Date	
Retail	\$15.95
Genre	Folk
Run Time	59:15
Box Lot	30, standard jewel case
Label	Yellow Dog Records
Format	CD