

SOUND BITES by Lorne Caborn

FM

Retroactive
(MCA)

Pop. Rock. Electric folk. You can call this CD a superfly melodic jamming mix and I still wouldn't like it. A rose is a rose by any other name and they may call it Retroactive but I call it garbage. This music dated itself a long time ago and I once again found myself playing with the CD Rom features, even that wasn't the greatest. Boycott this and pray they don't get the urge to make another.

The Silencers have released a new CD, and *So Be It* continues with the same melodic rock that is the norm on the radio these days, courtesy of Hootie. If the trend continues you'll hear these guys enough that you won't have to buy the CD, but if the funds are available you might want to pick it up anyway.

The Pharcyde

LabCabinCalifornia
(EMI)

The hip hop group best known for the smash hit, "Ya Mama", has just released its second album. With smooth rhymes and some great beats the group has proven themselves to be among the elite groups of the 90s. Although nothing resembling "Ya Mama" is on this one, fans will not be disappointed.

20 Fingers, the production masterminds behind such notables as Gillette and Max-A-Million have a new self-titled compilation CD out. Offering hits like "Short Dick Man", "Fatboy" and "Lick It", this is a definite must for techno fans. This isn't for the squeamish, however, as all the songs deal with sex in some form, including a cute one entitled "Choke My Chicken."

Kris Kross

Young, Rich and Dangerous
(Sony/Columbia)

They're back and they're going to make some noise. The duo's third release may be by far their best yet. They've managed to distance themselves from their younger years and offer up some serious grooves. With appearances from Da Brat, Mr. Black, and others watch out for this one to be huge -- and no, they don't dress backwards anymore.

Club Cutz 7. This compilation CD takes hits like "Shut Up (And Sleep With Me)", from all over the world and puts them together in one complete package. Chris Sheppard still rules the techno world but Club Cutz can hold its own any day. I'm outta here like three strikes.

With that out of the way, on to the dance. Many of you will recognize **The Grid** from their smash hit "Swamp Thing." This song and many other banjo based techno songs are featured on their new Remixes CD. Simply put, this is mind numbing to the point of insanity. The banjo thing was cute for a while but with most songs over seven minutes long it gets a little tired.

How are things in *Scatman's World*, the latest CD from **Scatman John**, you ask? Weird. The songs are techno based with Leonard Cohenish "Scooby-doo-do-wah" lyrics over them. This is catchy to the point of being scary. I guess after Don Cherry did techno, everybody figured they could do it as well. If you're looking for something different, you found it.



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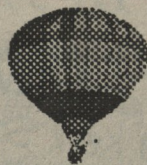
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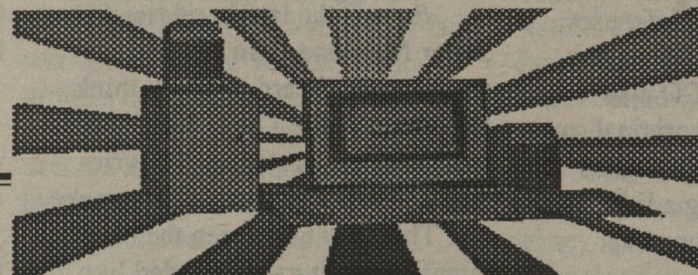
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