

## Album Reviews

**The Beach Boys**  
**The Greatest Hits**  
**- Volume 1**  
EMI

the bands' career from the "cars and surfing" days, the studio marvels of Brian Wilson, and wraps up with the groups' 1988 hit "Kokomo." With gems like "Little Deuce Coupe" and "Good Vibrations," this is a solid CD worthy of steady listening.

-O'Connor

Arguably the greatest musical group ever, the Beach Boys were known for their outstanding harmonies and innovations. This CD (A+) takes the listener through

**Eve**  
**Let There Be...**  
Ruff Ryders/  
Interscope

her first album with funny and original skits, only a few featured artist, wicked-ass beats from Swizz Beatz, and hard rhymes. Ruff Ryders' First Lady makes the grade (A-).

-MacDonald

Eve, originally on Dr. Dre's Aftermath label, has since relocated to the Ruff Ryders camp. She comes through on

**Moist**  
**Mercedes Five And Dime**  
EMI

before. If their hit "Breathe" tickles your fancy, you're liable to enjoy the full album. More mature sounding than before, this CD will keep the fans happy - as well as convert some new fans.

-O'Connor

The third full length release from the David Usher lead group (B), it sports their driving rhythm in a more textured, heavily produced way than

**Richard Wood**  
**Fire Dance**

It's impossible to listen to this CD (B) and not feel Wood's passion for the fiddle. His fourth release, it features a mix of originals, covers and traditional pieces. Ranging from an emotional air such as "Kimura," to the rocking dance beat of the title tracks, this CD is a delight.

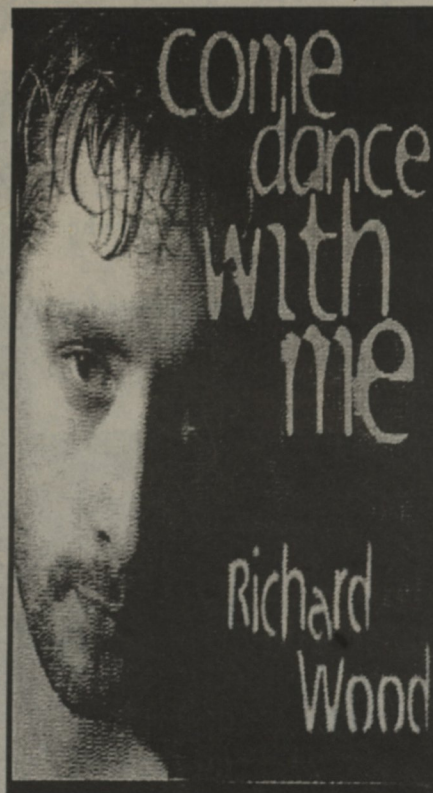
-O'Connor



**Richard Wood**  
**Come Dance With Me**

If you thought the previous CD was cutting edge - think again! His fifth release (A), Wood manages to keep the integrity of the traditional fiddle sound as it is worked together with new styles and sounds. The title track is a piece of studio wizardry, capturing his raw energy perfectly. Find out what all the fuss is about!

-O'Connor



**Chris Cornell**  
**"Euphoria Morning"**  
A&M/Universal

Surprisingly low-key considering that this is his first solo post-Soundgarden release, Chris Cornell has created a very fine and somewhat eclectic release (A-). Except for a few songs, don't expect something that you'd expect from Soundgarden. Most of it isn't heavy and fast rock, with his usual loud lyrics. It's a bit lighter, and much more attention has been paid to melodies and subtle studio effects. Some of his side melodies would make very fine songs on their own. This was totally digitally recorded, but old equipment was filtered through the new high-tech gear, so unique sounds emerge. It's emotional, a bit more personal, and at times quite touching. These songs, some soft, one an homage to 60's R&B ballads (my fave), and some rockers have won me over. Kudos to Chris on what I deem an excellent start to a solo career.

-McQuaid