

Sound Bites

by Lorne Caborn

Welcome back to another semester, music fans. I'm back again with all the reviews from the lovely world of music. Enough of the formalities though, let's trash some CDs!

Belladonna is first on the chopping block with their brand new self-titled CD. The band comes across with a hard rock edge that may interest fans of Van Halen. This isn't really my cup of tea, however, so I'm afraid this one is currently being used as a coaster in my apartment.

Speaking of coasters, **Keziah Jones** has just put out his latest release, *African Space Craft*. His synthetically styled jazz music lures the listener into submission and slowly drives him to the brink of insanity. If you bought someone this CD for Christmas you now know the reason why they stopped talking to you.

The producer of Alice in Chains and Pearl Jam has a new offering out on the market, **Into Another**. *Seemless* is the title of their Soundgarden-inspired CD. The hardcore slaming metal sound may be something fans of this music may want to check out.

Altitude is the acoustic CD from the musical trio **Alt**. Quite a switch from the driving sounds of *Into Another* -- it wasn't a switch for the better. Perhaps if it were just instrumental, the CD would have been better but as is the bad lyrics and worse vocals don't even make it worthy of coaster status.

Finally for this week we have **Peter Frampton** *Comes Alive 2*. Ever hear the saying, "Save the best for last?" Well, I didn't. I can't believe two of these were actually put out even though I wasn't alive when the first one was released. Too bad, perhaps I could have prevented this tragedy. That's all for now, but I'll be back again soon, whether the record companies like it or not.

More Muzik Reviewz

Ben Neill
Green Machine
(Caroline Records)

Self-described as a musical documentary of the birth, life, and death of an organism, this is the concept of modern art taken to music. What is being sold here is the explanation of the music, not the music itself. This is the only way they can market it, as the music, while not being hard or loud, is just boring and repetitive. Think elevator music for a new-age spiritual healing and transcendental meditation centre.

(2)

-- Jonathan Davis

Jim Norman
Grafite
(Thrum productions)

Surprisingly new-ageish, without the heavy fast beats one would expect from an album by a drummer. No lyrics, but a lot of synthesizers. Considering the normal drek passed as music these days, I have to give this a 4 out of 5 stars.

-- Jonathan Davis

Timeshard
Crystal Oscillations
(The Ultimate Recording Co.)

Techno. Bad techno (is there good techno?). I have better adlib sound files on my computer than what they put on this thing. Another re-hashing of the old standbys. "Music" made up of computer-generated beeps and human voice distortion.

(1)

-- Jonathan Davis

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