

## Psychedelic Nostalgia

By Matthew Hennessey

A wise woman once said that you truly discover your maturity when you realize that the volume button on your stereo also goes to the left. With that in mind, some would ascertain that we are in a stage of immaturity; after all the motto of our generation should really be *loud fast rules* when it comes to music. Soundgarden and Pearl Jam (among others) played with thunderous compassion and defined the culture of grunge music while Nirvana and Sonic Youth regarded punk tendencies to be their medium. What resulted from the blending of punk rock/hardcore and eventually pop is what we have seen today.

However, this theme is not new to the world. Two bands that I will focus on this week stated what it was like to be loud and fast and still have room for infectious melodies and ultra-catchy riffs. These two bands both originate from different time periods but greatly influenced the legion of rock musicians in North America.

The MC5 came from Detroit rock city (thus the Motor City five) in the late 60's and early 70's and blazed a trail for punk purists to interpret heavy guitar playing along with ideological propaganda, creating an exciting new sound that burned up every stage that the MC5 performed on. One of the most cited guitar heroes of punk/hardcore music hails from this Michigan band; Fred "Sonic" Smith (guitar). Along with Rob Tyner (vocals), Wayne Kramer (guitar), Michael Davis (bass), and Dennis Thompson (drums), the MC5 carved out their own niche with their first full length album entitled *Kick Out The Jams* released in 1969. The title track, coupled with "I want you", "Borderline" and "Come together" feature huge soundscapes; it is easy to see why the MC5 were considered the first ever punk band to hit mainstream America.

On the other hand, a Minneapolis, Mn band called Husker Du, brought the genre of hardcore to a new level. Instead of sticking with the "fuck society and everything involved with it" statements that Black Flag and others articulated so eloquently, Husker Du matured and dove into self-analytic lyrics that opened the door to personal hardships and emotional outpourings. Their 1985 album *New Day Rising* showcases the transition, the resonant song grenades that the trio devised are reminiscent of later groups such as Nirvana, Sloan and Weezer. The energy of the bands live shows cannot be complemented to disc very well, but "Girl who lives on heaven hill", "Celebrated summer", "Terms of psychic warfare", "Books about UFO's" and "Powerlines" all give new meaning to the term power-pop. Grant Hart (drums/vocals) and Greg Norton (bass) have since disappeared, but Bob Mould (guitar/vocals) continues to bang away at pop structures.

MC5 *Kick Out The Jams* (Elektra:1969) *ramblin' rose-kick out the jams-come together-rocket reducer no.62-borderline-motor city is burning-i want you-starship*

Husker Du *New Day Rising* (SST:1985) *new day rising-girl who lives on heaven hill-i apologize-folk lore-if i told you-celebrated summer-perfect example-terms of psychic warfare-59 times the pain-powerline-books about ufo's-i don't know what you're talking about-watcha drinkin'-plans i make- how to skin a cat*

## Name that quote!

By Queeg

Take a shot at identifying the following movie quotes. If you guess the right movie give yourself one point. If you know the actor's real name, (not the character), give yourself two points.

- (A) "Dogs and cats living together, mass hysteria!"
- (B) "What ... are you carrying a gun for? What, in case somebody steps to you, Snoop Dogg?"
- (C) "Raise your hand if you think that was a Russian water-tentacle."
- (D) "First you gotta' do the truffle-shuffle."
- (E) "Nothing shocks me. I'm a scientist."
- (F) "My mouth's bleeding Bert, my mouth's bleeding!"
- (G) "When this baby hits eighty-eight miles per hour, you're gonna see some serious \$#!t."
- (H) "Usual vault rules apply: Touch not, lest ye be touched."
- (I) "Do you have that one with that guy who was in that movie last year?"
- (J) "Must go faster!"
- (K) "Maybe he likes the way his wife welcomes him home."
- (L) "No time for the old in-out, love. I've just come to read the meter."

Answers to: "Name that quote!"

- (A) Ghostbusters - Bill Murray
- (B) Swingers - John Favreau
- (C) The Abyss - Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonie
- (D) Goonies - Corey Feldman
- (E) Indiana Jones and The Temple of Doom - Harrison Ford
- (F) It's A Wonderful Life - James Stewart
- (G) Back to the Future - Christopher Lloyd
- (H) Mallrats - Jason Lee
- (I) Clerks - David Klein
- (J) Jurassic Park/Independence Day - Jeff Goldblum
- (K) Rear Window - Grace Kelly
- (L) A Clockwork Orange - Malcom McDowell

Score:

0 - If you didn't get (G) you might as well bash your head off a brick wall, that brain is obviously not doing anything in there anyway.

1-5 - It's time to frequent the video store a little more.

6-12 - Not bad, obviously you've seen some movies.

13-19 - Nice to see some people know the actors/actresses names.

20-25 - I'll bet you're kicking yourself for not paying more attention to the people you forgot.

26-36 - Let me guess. You have your own spot on the local video store wall where they keep your recommended movies titles.



Cameron Diaz and Ewan MacGregor in *A Life Less Ordinary*; starts Friday Oct. 24th (20th Century Fox)