

SOUL JAZZ

OPINIONS

Mystic
Perpetual Being
 (Sonic Underground/Massacre)

The only thing that mystifies me about this group is how they managed to get a record deal. Sloppy power chords and emotionless speed metal riffs abound on this album, marking Mystic as just another second-rate Metallica impersonator. I suggest that they either write some original songs, or become a Metallica/Megadeth tribute band.

(2)
 -- M.B.

Hoodoo Gurus

Crank
 (Zoo/Praxis/BMG)

A hooky pop groove successfully melds with guitar heavy power-punk sounds throughout this release. Hoodoo Gurus are not deep or profound, but they do create an infectious and powerful sound without being depressing, stupid, or overly commercial. This is an achievement in itself considering the mass produced, radio friendly crap that makes up the top forty these days.

Crank is less dissonant and depressing than Nirvana, yet it is still miles from the formulated, schlock-metal of Aerosmith. The middle ground has finally produced some decent music.

(4)
 -- M.B.

WhiteTail Singers
Forever Dancing
 (First Nations Music)

Forever Dancing is a collection of all original songs performed in the traditional native Pow Wow spirit. The steady beats of the drums (representative of the heartbeat of Mother Earth) are infectious, and the range of emotions portrayed is vast. The listener does not have to understand the language to comprehend the meaning and feeling of each song. This album is strongly recommended to all fans of traditional native music.

(4)
 -- M.B.

Garth Brooks
The Hits
 (Liberty/EMI)

With his six previous releases, Garth Brooks has climbed to the pinnacle of country music. Few musicians can claim such success in recent years, and those that are more popular can be counted on the fingers of one hand. It's no surprise that he has produced a best-of compilation.

This CD contains a host of Brooks' most successful and popular songs, including "Friends in Low Places", "The Thunder Rolls," and "Standing Outside the Fire". Of greatest note, however, is his inspirational air "The River".

This is an excellent CD, even if you are not a big fan of country music. True, the typical country motifs of love, drinking, cheating, and gambling are all present, but that most infamous theme, depression, is noticeably absent. With eighteen songs and over sixty-six minutes of quality sound, this is one CD you should definitely check out.

(4.5)
 -- Marko Peric

ALL REVIEWS

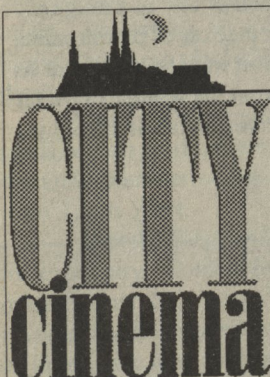
BY

MIKE BEGAN UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Todd Snider
Songs For The Daily Planet
 (MCA/Magaritaville)

With a sound constructed of equal parts country, folk, rock, and jazz, Todd Snider builds a surprisingly listenable backdrop for his realistic, humorous, and often viciously sarcastic lyrics. Snider musically slams his generation, White North America's poor attitude toward native people, abusive parents, and the Seattle grunge scene. Much of the album is simply modern country music, but the jazz and rock-influenced tunes are the true bright spots. *Songs For The Daily Planet* is certainly worth a listen.

(3.5)
 -- M.B.



This Week
 Wed to Sun

Little Women
 Winona Ryder
 Susan Sarandon
 Gabriel Byrne

AND *Only You*
 Marisa Tomei & Robert Downey Jr.

upcoming
 I Like It Like That, The Advocate

Annual Memberships \$15.00 (Students only \$10.00)

Richmond
Dorchester
King
Water

CITY Cinema
64 King St.

Admission
 Regular \$6.00
 Members \$3.50

368-3669

- 5- THE MUSIC OF THE GODS
 - 4- MMMMM, TASTY
 - 3- IT'S BETTER THAN WATCHING FULL HOUSE RE-RUNS
 - 2- IT MAKES A NICE, SHINY COASTER
 - 1- THE MUSIC OF THE DOGS