

Jim Thomas of the Mermen

Surfer From Hell

The Mermen's *A Glorious Lethal Euphoria* was not only one of the best-received guitar albums of 1995, but also a disc that redefined the concept of "surf rock." Instead of just twang, reverb, and a groovy beat, the Mermen also feature the guitar histrionics of Jim Thomas, a ferocious player who adds a dimension of Hendrixian insanity to the trio's surf-core beat. Now on shelves is an equally cool EP by the band, *Songs Of The Cows*, which continues to blow down all previously established standards of what is and what is not surf music. Judging by Thomas' massive rig, he's not the stock kind of surf-rocker who just plugs a stock Strat into a Twin drenched with reverb. *Moo!*

