

NEW TUNES

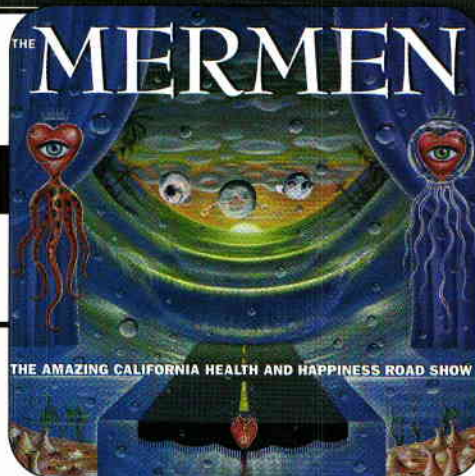
The Mermen

The Amazing California Health and Happiness Roadshow (Mesa/Blue Moon)

I may be sticking my neck out here, but this is the best 'surf' record I've ever heard. It is a true journey into the realm in which we live. This San Francisco band has delivered a masterpiece that negates space and time.

No metal noodle guitar, just plain old soul and craftsmanship. Psychedelic and obsessive in its quest, it relegates the 'new' breed of surf bands and to the back of the bus. If there's ever an "Endless Summer 3", the soundtrack is already done.—**Tim D.**

CD of the Month



Various

Psycho Beach Party
Nettwerk America

Killer stuff from bands like Man or Astroman, Los Straightjackets, Halibuts, the Fathoms and the Hillbilly Soul Surfers. It's surf music that's made by inlanders, and with bands from Boston, Nashville and Alabama it ends up campy and fun as hell. It's so good somebody walked off with my copy at a recent party and still hasn't returned it. Bring it back you bastard, bring it back!—**Tim D.**



you're not necessarily going to be expecting a hip-hop album this hard. Yep, De La pull all the stops out. This album's bassy and techy and tight as hell. The surprise is the collaborations here, a new thing for a De La album. Guests include Redman, Busta Rhymes, The Beastie Boys and Xzibit, all adding to the flow without overshadowing the true De La style. Just buy it.—**S.R.**

Loud Rocks

Loud Records

Back in '89, two bands from NY came together to blend hip-hop and metal. Public Enemy and Anthrax's collaboration set the stage for what has transpired in the last couple of years: the suburban rage and urban beat that have scared parents and energized disconnected groms everywhere. With the Wu-Tang Clan as the hip-hop centerpiece, they share tunes with System of a Down, Tom Morello (RATM), Chad Smith (Chili Peppers), and Ozzy! East and west coasts are represented to the fullest. Maximum velocity pre-amp surf music.—**Tim D.**



Cold

13 Ways to Bleed on Stage
A&M

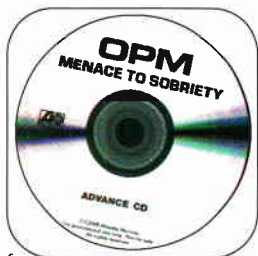
Despite a voice that is a little reminiscent of Gavin 'Bush' Rossdale, Cold are a welcome addition to the searing, soaring sound of bands like Tool, Soundgarden or NIN. If you like your guitar bands to know more than three chords, to know when to turn the distortion off and on, and if you appreciate songs that take you more than one place in the musical landscape, then you'll dig these guys. More for the long road trip than the surf spot parking lot, but still good.—**S.R.**



OPM

Menace to Sobriety
Atlantic

Those up in Santa Cruz know of this trio, and know the rest of the world will soon know how good these guys are. Real tales of debauchery strung with notes of California beauty. Like a reality-based TV show, OPM bring you right to point without faking hydroponic or supersonic. Mixing mariachi, hip hop, reggae, punk rock and humor in the Sublime style, this record is for the hardcore and no core crowds alike. Brad Nowell must be smiling down with pride.—**Tim D.**



Rancid

Rancid
Hellcat Records

If you like Rancid, you'll love this record. Even if you don't like Rancid you'll love this record. Tim, Lars, Matt and Brett deliver a punk rock tour-de-force in a time when punk rock has become bastardized and commercialized. The songs of lost dreams, hope, and redemption are an open book. They sing of reality, not of boobies and eighth grade pranks. Smart, ornery and true, Rancid has not missed a boot step in this time of goofy-ass punk rock. They haven't gone away, but it's time for you to come back to the band that matters. Rancid continues to rock without compromise.—**Tim D.**



Adam Freeland
Tectonics
Ultra

Adam Freeland's a British DJ that, in his own words, is 'trying to bring the hip-hop back to dance music.' That's what you get on this mix of his: a bunch of tracks that reference hip-hop beats and sounds in a time when listeners are just as likely to be bumping Rancid as they are, say, a tape of their fave trance dj. This is funky post-modern breakbeats for the open-minded. Need another reason to check it out? Freeland surfs and skates—his first album was called 'Coastal Breaks.'—**S.R.**



De La Soul
Art Official Intelligence
Tommy Boy

Did someone just turn the lights on? At last, a new De La album! If you're down with the De La sound, then

