

Hair-Metal Bands Ride the Cover Caravan

Written by John M. James

Wednesday, 30 May 2007 02:21

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Now resigned to "classic rock" status, two of the 1980s' biggest arena-rocking bands are back next week with all-new cover collections. **Poison** passes - thankfully - on the eyeshadow and puckers up with *Poison'd* on Capitol Records, featuring eight new sessions and other rarities including a take on the

Kiss

party anthem "Rock & Roll All Nite," from 1987's

Less Than Zero

soundtrack. The party-people-pleasing set list features

Alice Cooper

's "I Never Cry,"

Tom Petty

's "I Need to Know,"

The Cars

' "Just What I Needed," and the

Marshall Tucker Band

's "Can't You See."

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Tesla takes complete control of the new cover caravan on its very own Tesla Electric Company Recordings imprint, releasing a single-CD edition of *Real to Reel* to retail this coming Tuesday, with a special second bonus disc only available on this summer's tour (included in the price of the ticket). Recording the sessions directly to analog tape, the old-school groove plays on with both discs also available in separate, two-LP gatefold vinyl editions. Offbeat selections over the discs include

BI

Black Sabbath

's "War Pigs,"

Robin Trower

's "Day of the Eagle," the

Temptations

' "Ball of Confusion," and

ZZ Top

's "Beer Drinkers & Hellraisers."

A new release showers love and respect down on the legacy of **The Clash**, with fellow musicians filling each slot of a track-by-track re-creation of 1980's

Sandinista

three-LP release. The indie 00:02:59 Records label fits the 37 songs onto two CDs and generously splits profits from the set between two charities: the

Joe Strummer

Memorial Forest and Amnesty International. Simply entitled

The Sandinista Project

, the retro trip includes

Camper Van Beethoven

,

The Smithereens

,

Steve Wynn

,

Willie Nile

,

Amy Rigby

,

The Sex Clark Five

, and

Ship & Pilot

with

Sally Timms

and

John Langford

. Slipping around in a variety of styles, the alt-country-heavy collection runs the gamut from sweet, front-porch lullaby to cranky old chair-rockin' new-wavers.

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Television Alert:

The Late Show with David Letterman hosts **Bright Eyes** on Monday and **Satellite Party** on Tuesday;

Late Night with Conan O'Brien

boasts

Kings of Leon

on Monday, and

Big Sandy

and

Los Straitjackets

on Tuesday overnight;

The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson

presents

Patti Smith

on Tuesday overnight;

Jimmy Kimmel Live

revs up

Black Rebel Motorcycle Club

on Thursday overnight; and

The Henry Rollins Show

on IFC features musical guest

Peeping Tom

this weekend.

New Releases Coming Tuesday, June 5:

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... and like the winds, young grasshopper, are subject to change.

Black Light Burns - *Cruel Melody* (I Am Wolfpack) new from Limp Bizkit's Wes Borland with drummer Josh Freese and bassist Danny Lohner, and guest vocalist Johnette Napolitano on one song

Cary Brothers - *Who You Are* (Bluhammock) new from the singer/songwriter whose work has appeared in the film *Garden State* and television's *Scrubs*, *ER*, and *Grey's Anatomy*

Cinematic Orchestra - *Ma Fleur* (Domino) featuring a trio of vocalists

Chris Cornell - *Carry on* (Suretone/Interscope) featuring his theme song from the latest James Bond film and a must-hear cover of Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean"

Matthew Dear - *Asa Breed* (Ghostly International) percolating, paranoid late-night electronica and spooky acoustics

Sara Gazarek - *Return to You* (Native Language) coy and easy lounge-club jazz with terrific originals by her pianist, Josh Nelson, and covers of songs by Joni Mitchell, Gillian Welch, and Paul McCartney

Get Him Eat Him - *Arms Down* (Absolutely Kosher) melancholy power pop from Providence, Rhode Island

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Hallelujah the Hills - *Collective Psychosis Begone* (Misra) peppy, sidewalk-strolling indie sextet featuring former members of Boston's The Stairs

Daniel A.I.U. Higgs - *Atomic Yggdrasil* (Thrill Jockey) limited-edition vinyl LP or CD featuring a hardcover book

The Ion Dissonance - *Minus the Herd* (Abacus) with new vocalist Kevin McCaughey, and on the road with the Summer Slaughter Tour

The Jesus Lizard - *Live* (MVD Visual) DVD filmed at Boston's Venus de Milo club in 1994, with five bonus tracks from CBGB's in 1992 and an early home video

Kaipa - *Angling Feelings* (Inside Out) all new, with Per Nilsson of Scar Symmetry replacing Roine Stolt

The Ladybug Transistor - *Can't Wait Another Day* (Merge)

W.W. Lowman - *Plain Songs* (Who-Hey Records) unique guitarist and arranger with guests from The Coctails, Aluminum Group, and Poi Dog Pondering

Mansbestfriend - *Poly.Sci.187* (Anticon) features members of Skyriider

Paul McCartney - *Memory Almost Full* (Hear Music/Concord) snuggling up to Starbucks in this multi-version new release

O.A.R. - *Live from Madison Square Garden* (Everfine/Atlantic) two-CD or two-DVD set

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David Olney - *One Tough Town* (Red Parlor) growlin', swampy, roadhouse blues, catching a tropical groove in "Panama City"

Pelican - *City of Echoes* (Hydra Head) punishing monster-riff nirvana and surprisingly tender cubic instrumentals in what guitarist Laurent Schreder-Lebec calls the group's "pop album"

Pissed Jeans - *Hope for Men* (Sub Pop) label debut of music to riot by

Shellac - *Excellent Italian Greyhound* (Touch & Go) featuring a special slipover cover design and a cover of The Raconteurs' "Steady as She Goes"

Sullivan - *Cover Your Eyes* (Tooth & Nail) on tour now with MXPX

Superchunk - "Misfits & Mistakes" (Merge) seven-inch single from the *Aqua Teen Hunger Force* movie

They Shoot Horses, Don't They? - *Pick Up Sticks* (Kill Rock Stars) with a host of horns and a calliope zing, these are nuthouse sing-alongs, with glints of XTC and The Polyphonic Spree

Tiger Army - *Music from Regions Beyond* (Hellcat/Epitaph) breakneck buzzsaw psychobilly with the soul of The Cult and the stomp of GBH, featuring guest vocalist Davey Havok of AFI and Morrissey guitarist Alain Whyte

Von Súdented - *Tromatic Reflexxions* (Domino) side project from Mark E. Smith of The Fall and Jan St. Werner and Andi Toma of Mouse on Mars

various artists - *Anchored in Love: A Tribute to June Carter Cash* (Dualtone) heart-warming companion project to the just published biography by her son John Carter Cash, highlighted by

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covers of "Keep on the Sunny Side" by Brad Paisley, Elvis Costello's soaring "Ring of Fire," and a duet of "If I Were a Carpenter" by Sheryl Crow and Willie Nelson

various artists - *Chasing the Sun: The Greatest Songs of Summer* (Time Life) in a box set shaped like a cooler, this three-CD and bonus-DVD package tracks the season from The Drifters to Kool & the Gang

various artists - *MOOGFEST 2006: Live* (MVD Visual) DVD featuring Jan Hammer, Keith Emerson, Bernie Worrell, and Jordan Rudess

various artists - *We All Love Ella: A Tribute to the First Lady of Song* (Verve) with cover contributions by Michael Buble, Etta James, k.d. lang, Linda Ronstadt, and Diana Krall