

Butthole Surfers Create a New Revolution

Written by John James
Tuesday, 24 July 2001 18:00

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• The long-awaited return of the Butthole Surfers is set with the August 28 release date of the band's *Weird Revolution* set on the Surfdog/Hollywood label. The group's signature sound of deep-shag acid audio scratch 'n' sniff has been scaring audiences since 1984, and this outing features founding members Gibby Haynes on bullhorn, guitarist Paul Leary, and drummer King Coffey. The first single, "The Shame Of Life," is co-written by another aficionado of trailer life in the Texas outback, Kid Rock.

• This Tuesday brings the second set of extended and re-mastered re-issues by Island Records of Bob Marley & The Wailers albums, this time from 1977 to 1981. Five albums are polished and presented with bonus tracks, complete lyrics, and new graphics: *Kaya*, *Babylon by Bus*, *Survival*, *Uprising*, and *Confrontation*.

• Cover mania continues this coming Tuesday, as three unlikely artists are given the tribute touch by admiring contributors. The Vitamin Records label is serving up two of them, one being its String Tribute to Björk, a violin, cello, and viola interpretation of the music of former Sugarcubes vocalist. Also on its platter is *Midnight in the Patch: A Tribute to the Smashing Pumpkins*, which features a wide array of musical styles from Solomon Burke Jr., Gringo Floyd, The Da Capo Players, Razorblade Smile, and more. The Shelflife Records label gets into the cover act with its *Pretending to See the Future* collection, with 18 artists – including Saturday's People Front, Simpatico, Brittle Stars, and Laura Watling – paying respects to the 1980s electronic pioneers OMD. ... Fans of the white-hot At the Drive-In should hunt down the full-length debut album from De Facto, an instrumental dub reggae side project of the band's Omar Rodriguez and Cedric Bixler. De Facto has been an experimental alter-ego for the pair since their earliest El Paso days, and the self-titled album is due this coming Tuesday on the Gold Standard Laboratories label.

• The uproarious comedy troupe Firesign Theater is re-issuing three of its hard-to-find albums on CD this coming week in conjunction with the Whirlwind Media label. From 1979 comes

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Anythin'ge You Want to, a satirical presentation of Shakespeare's "lost comedies," full of puns and Bard-worthy delight. The following year's Fighting Clowns album is up for a new listen, too, featuring live performance and crafted studio material. Rounding out the three is 1999's Radio Now: Live, a two-CD set that captured the mirth-makers recreating classic 1970s material.

Television Alert:

The Tonight Show with Jay Leno welcomes Aaliyah tonight, Weezer on Friday, and Blu Cantrell on Tuesday; The Late Show with David Letterman hosts Peter Gabriel and Afro Celt Sound System on Thursday and Nanci Griffith on Monday; Late Night with Conan O'Brien features special guests Brian Wilson of the Beach Boys this evening overnight, Blues Traveler on Friday overnight, and Jonatha Brooke & The Story on Monday overnight; and The Late Late Show with Craig Kilborn presents Stabbing Westward on Friday overnight and the fantastic Austin, Texas, singer-songwriter David Garza on Tuesday overnight.

New Releases Coming Tuesday, July 31:

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

American Pie 2 – original motion picture soundtrack (Universal) with Uncle Kracker, Blink-182, American Hi-Fi, 3 Doors Down, and Alien Ant Farm

The Apex Theory – Random Bursts (Dreamworks)

Dickey Betts Band – Let's Get Together (Freefalls) all new from the founding member of the Allman Brothers

Big Ass Truck – The Rug (Terminus) Stax Records-influenced Memphis funk

Bilal – 1st Born Second (Interscope) featuring "Soul Sista"

Mary J. Blige – Mary Jane ... No More Drama (MCA)

Junior Brown – Mixed Bag (Curb)

Laverne Butler – A Foolish Thing to Do (MaxJazz)

The Crystal Method – Tweekend (Geffen) with guests Tom Morello of Rage Against the Machine, DJ Swamp, and Scott Weiland of Stone Temple Pilots

Cyclefly – Tales from the Fishbowl (MCA) with guest Chester Bennington of Linkin Park

Snoop Dogg Presents Tha Eastsidaz – Duces n' Trays ... The Old Fashioned Way (TVT) with guests Nate Dogg, Mobb Deep, Lil Mo, and Kurupt

Electric Frankenstein – "New York Knights" (TKO) seven-inch single

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Perry Farrell – Songs Yet to Be Sung (Virgin) features guests Jon Brion, ex-Porno for Pyros bassist Martyn LeNoble, and former Jane's Addiction bandmates Dave Navarro and Stephen Perkins

Frisk – Rank Restraint (Adeline) featuring former members of AFI and the Criminals

Nanci Griffith – Clock Without Hands (Elektra) all-new songs

Judas Priest – Demolition (Atlantic)

Bill Laswell – Divine Light (Columbia Legacy) remixing tracks from Carlos Santana's albums Illuminations and Love, Devotion, & Surrender

Cyndi Lauper – Shine (Edel America)

The Les Brown Society – It Wasn't the Smoothest Time (Galaxia)

Mystic – Cuts for Luck & Scars for Freedom (Goodvibes/Jcor) featuring guests Shock G of Digital Underground and A-Plus of the Hieroglyphics

R. Carlos Nakai & AmoChip Dabney – Edge of the Century (Canyon) mixing Native American and African-American melodies

Owls – Owls (Jade Tree) members from the original lineup of Chicago's Cap 'N Jazz recorded at Steve Albini's Electrical Audio Studios

Sam Phillips – Fan Dance (Nonesuch) with guests Gillian Welch and Van Dyke Parks

Francine Reed – I Got a Right! (CMO Records) new solo album from this member of Lyle Lovett's Large Band with guests Willie Nelson and Tinsley Ellis

Ike Reilly – Salesmen & Racists (Republic/Universal)

Riddlin' Kids – Riddlin' Kids (Aware/Columbia) debut EP from this Austin, Texas, trio currently on tour with Goldfinger and Reel Big Fish

Rival Schools – United by Fate (Island) featuring Walter Schreifels of Gorilla Biscuits

Rush Hour 2 – original motion picture soundtrack (Def Jam) with Montell Jordan, Dru Hill, LL Cool J, and Ja Rule

Sylk 130 – When the Funk Hits the Fan (Six Degrees) featuring Gus Gus and others riffing on the African influence on club culture

Terence Toy – H2ouse (Water Music) mix CD from this Los Angeles DJ

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Utah Saints – Two (Nettwerk) featuring spoken-word vocals by R.E.M.'s Michael Stipe on four tracks

various artists – Troubleman Mix-Tape (Troubleman Ltd) two-CD set of previously unreleased material by Blonde Redhead, Unwound, Men's Recovery Project, Harriet the Spy, and more

various artists – Funky Precedent Volume 2 (Matador) featuring up-and-coming Bay Area hip-hop and turntable antics benefiting Los Angeles schools

various artists – Plastic Volume 5 (Nettwerk) featuring Lo Fidelity All-Stars, Fatboy Slim, Sarah McLachlan, Utah Saints, BT, and Delerium

Varnaline – Songs in a Northern Key (E-Squared/Artemis) new from the amazing Anders Parker

Kim Wilson – The Smokin' Joint (M.C. Records) all new and live from the former lead vocalist and harmonica player for The Fabulous Thunderbirds

Thalia Zedek – Been Here & Gone (Matador) solo debut from the former vocalist and guitarist of Come and Live Skull featuring a cover of Leonard Cohen's "Dance Me to the End of Love"