

The real pioneers of punk — such as the Sex Pistols — and the members of the new punk order like Rage Against the Machine who, if they aren't really pissed off do a good job of faking it, make these guys look like 80's hair band posers. Paul Worden, the band's lead singer, can't seem to decide if he wants to be Johnny Rotten, Billy Joe Armstrong, or Jon Bon Jovi, and ends up coming across as a combination of the worst of all three.

There is absolutely nothing new on *Suckerpunch*. There's nothing that hasn't been done before and much better. Halfway through the CD I found myself longing to hear Green Day — that's how bad it was. A line in the song "Why Bother" reads: "Three chords is all it takes...Fuck the mistakes." Wrong. A better idea might be to stop at the title of that song.

The best I can say about this album is that no song drags on longer than 3:40. Unfortunately the songs do drag on for those 3 minutes and 40 seconds. These guys manage to make a 1:54 long song ("Beginners Luck") repetitive and annoying. However, if you've got a hankering for eleven songs that sound exactly the same (bad), *Suckerpunch* will give it to you on the chin but won't take anyone by surprise.

NEAL DAWE

the new grand
the new grand
Sonic Unyon

If these guys aren't careful,

they're going to out-Thrush Hermit Thrush Hermit.

The new grand are a band from London, Ontario, and they are, to use the vernacular, a power-pop kind of band and they are very good at what they do. I had high hopes for this group as they are on one of my favourite record labels, Sonic Unyon. They didn't disappoint.

The first few songs immediately grabbed and held my attention and the rest of them had me bouncing in my chair and/or dancing around the room.

Now, the new grand does something really weird on this CD. After the last track, there is 5 minutes of silence then — not a bonus track — but the entire CD over again. Who says the empty space on a CD has to be wasted?

I'm sorry to say that I don't know much else about this band. This is the first release of theirs that I have had the opportunity to listen to, but you can bet yer bottom dollar that it won't be the last. If you have taken a fancy to Thrush Hermit, the Superfriendz, etc., then definitely check these guys out.

STEVE DINN

Defenders of the universe
Dig
Radioactive Records

I should admit that I've never listened to this band before, and that I was attracted to *Defenders of the Universe* basically because the three members of Dig are credited as playing instruments including a banjo, Juno 6 synthe-

sizer and a Theremin. I was therefore expecting an eclectic, original sounding collection of songs, with lots of quirky and creative arrangements. This may help explain why I feel so let down.

This band — and this album — is uncreative, slavishly imitative, "alternative" crap. There's not, in all twelve songs on this record, anything I haven't heard done better many times before by many different bands. I can't see anyone with any musical taste at all sitting down and listening to this annoying album.

What are these jokers trying to prove? On all the tracks but "Mood Elevator" and maybe "Electric Cord", a vaguely promising opening descends into grunge rhythms and harmonies which were old four years ago. Even the two songs I cite as exceptions have not one musical idea in them that R.E.M. didn't do better on *Monster*. Just about everything about the music is cliched: I mean, there's even an "unplugged" song ("Stop Holding Your Breath"). Have mercy!

Notice that I haven't mentioned the lyrics or the singing. In order to avoid a lengthy, bitter tirade, I think "the less said the better" will suffice. This guy's voice (I don't even care what the idiot's name is) is just about the most irritating, throaty, whiny, poser voice pushed on an undeserving public since Alanis. And the lyrics...well the less said the better.

Did I say the undeserving public? Let's think for a second...these guys got signed folks! That means someone must listen to this drivel. Pathetic.

IAN DAWE

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the ticklish ten

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tc	lc	wo	cc	artist	title	label
1	1	3	◆	Various Artists	More of Our Stupid Noise	Squirtgun
2	22	2		Sebadoh	Harmacy	Sub Pop
3	4	3	◆	Pest 5000	Interaband(?)	Derivative
4	21	2		Various Artists	Volume 16: Copulation...	Vital
5	3	3	◆	Nerdy Girl	Twist Her	Janken Pon
6	11	4		Various Artists	The Crow: City of Angels	Miramax
7	5	5	◆	Rebecca West*	Six More Weeks of Winter	Cinnamon Toast
8	6	4		Scarce	Dead Sexy	Polygram
9	5	3		Cub	Box of Hair	Mint
10	2	7	◆	Beck	Odelay	DGC

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Dallousie Science Society

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Annual General Meeting - September 23th
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Meeting Time - 7p.m. Council Chambers, S.U.B.

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