



CD REVIEWS

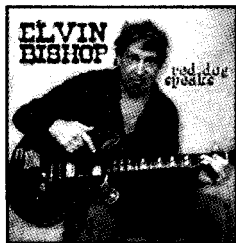
Jesse Aycock: *Inside Out of Blue* (Organum Records)

The next time I'm stranded on a surreal island for five years, I want this album to help me survive. Containing only six gems (tunes) spanning about 30 minutes, the quality overwhelms the quantity. I hear shades of **Tom Petty** and **Neil Young**, but this is unmistakably Jesse's music, who is becoming one of the best song writers to ever come out of Okie Land. *Sometimes* has the most complex arrangement and happens to be my favorite in an album that has become one of my most beloved. This is a very personal, emotional album that gives me goose bumps and/or tears. - **Bill Martin**



Elvin Bishop: *Red Dog Speaks* (Delta Groove Music)

This is a great CD, if you are an Elvin Bishop fan, like me. Several of his CD's refer to his Red Dog. The way he referred to it, I knew he loved that dog. My mind was in the gutter, so I'm quite relieved to find out the "Ole Red Dog" is his guitar. He has several guests on this CD, such as **John Nemeth**, and **Tommy Castro**, among many others. Elvin has been playing the blues a long, long time and the Red Dog is really howling here. This CD tells a lot of his stories about being on the road, and is kind of a retrospective of his journey. I highly recommend this CD if you like his booty bumping sound. By the way Red Dog is a 1959 Gibson ES-345. - **Sharon Thornhill**



Seasick Steve: *Man from Another Time* (Atlantic)

California native Seasick Steve (Steve Wold) has become a sensation in the UK with a platinum selling album and having a sold out performance at Royal Albert Hall. This is raw, basic, roots blues with only Seasick Steve and Dan Magusson performing. *Diddley Bo* is a scorching tribute to the one string instrument created in the old, deep south. *Big Green and Yeller* is a song about an old Model B John Deere tractor, very similar to the 1940 model I used to plow with as a kid. The title track aptly describes the artist. This is an excellent album I highly recommend. - **Bill Martin**

Smokin' Joe Kubeck and Bnois King: *Have Blues*

Will Travel (Alligator Records)

This album shot to the top of iTunes downloaded blues albums when it was released last May and has remained near the top since. Fine guitar work, sweet vocals and blues rock tunes taking you on a journey through life. This band remains one of my favorites. - **Bill Martin**

Magic Slim & The Teardrops: *Raising The Bar*

(Blind Pig Records)

This is a 20-year-old collaboration celebration between Magic Slim and Blind Pig Records. Magic Slim is the greatest proponent of the intense, electrified, Mississippi-to-Chicago blues style that has influenced most of the music played by today's modern blues artists and rockers. - **Curt (Curt's List) Fillmore**

John Nemeth: *Name The Day!* (Blind Pig Records)

Retro and modern blues with soul that's simultaneously old and new. Blues Brothers kind of Chicago blues with horns and an **Al Green** groove, sound, and feel. - **Curt (Curt's List) Fillmore**

Grady Champion: *Back In Mississippi Live* (Earwig Music)

Singer, harmonica player, guitarist and songwriter **Grady Champion** kicks this one off in live juke-joint fashion with a rowdy intro and **Willie Dixon's I'm Ready** and keeps the high energy going until the very end! This is the 2010 IBC Band Winner, beating out 110 blues bands from around the world. This album rocks all the way through! Grady rips up his own originals & covers with equal enthusiasm in his own trademark R&B **James Brown** style. - **Curt (Curt's List) Fillmore**

Les Copeland: *Don't Let The Devil In* (Earwig Music)

Self taught **Les Copeland** in his debut with Earwig Records, is an acoustic, moody blues album with a lot of jazz, flamenco, and classical licks. This is Americana roots blues music with legendary **Honeyboy Edwards** sitting in on guitar for two tracks, and Honeyboy's manager playing harmonica on three tracks. It is a bit uneventful, except for the acoustic guitar work, but not bad. - **Curt (Curt's List) Fillmore**


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