

# PITCH

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## SOUND BITES

- **STEROID**  
**MAXIMUS**
- **GONDWANALAND**
- **(Big Cat Records)**

It's been a long time since I've really taken interest in any of J.G. Thirlwell's music. The thing about his Foetus projects that always intrigued me was the production and the way he would build the intensity of the song. The *Steroid Maximus* project took me off guard. Still using his talent for intensity, Thirlwell has incorporated a swing-band sound. Well, it's not as smooth as Harry James and not as catchy as Glenn Miller, but I could see the influence of these giants on the CD. Some of the songs sound a bit like 50's detective movie themes, not unlike the work of Barry Adamson or John Zorn. However, there's that twisted humor and anger that prevails over all of Thirlwell's music. It's the most interesting thing in a while to pop up in my CD player, and from a surprising source. (Also, fans of the traditional Foetus sound will want to check out Thirlwell's remix of "Wish" on the new N.I.N ep.) -Paul Boschi

