



SLUG Magazine April 2005 CD Reviews

[Back to the SLUG home page](#)

Foetus

Love

Birdman Records

Foetus = Early NIN ? Dresden Dolls

Grinding. Electronic noise. Feedback. All of these elements typify the early genesis of Foetus, a.k.a J.G. Thirlwell. What used to be his hallmark sound of groundbreaking industrial dance/noise has now come around to this: Love. Gone are most of the more noise-oriented mechanics in favor of sparse rock-structure and orchestrated dance songs. The first four tracks remind me of a twisted love boat ride in a carnival. Song five finds Thirlwell singing a touching moonlit love song punctuated with the caressing notes of some orchestra instruments passed through echoed electronics. The last half of the album is a bit more menacing, minimal and piercing—almost vaudevillian. Slightly more accessible than past albums, it is worth the price of admission to find Thirlwell and various guests tackle yet another quirky musical guise. —Eric Lopez

3 Inches of Blood

Advance and Vanquish

Roadrunner Records

3 Inches of Blood = Iron Maiden + Slayer + In Flames + Manowar

"Flash of iron, leather, spikes and swords/Those mighty warriors with metal on their side/Enemies of metal, your death is our reward!" This delicious tidbit from Deadly Sinners, the second track on Advance and Vanquish, will give you an idea how frickin' sweet this band is. Serious fuck-off metal riffs accompanied by melodic-high Iron Maidenish vocals as well as absolutely brutal At the Gatesish screams bring to mind the very epic battles depicted on the cover of this album. And in case warrior metal isn't your bag (i.e., you suck cockboogers), there is always the flawless musicianship and track 11, entitled Destroy the Orcs. That's right, they went there. —seven5zeroryan

A-Sides

Hello, Hello

Prison Jazz Records

A-Sides = Brian Wilson + Revolver + early British Invasion