

INDEPENDENTS

QUICK LISTENERS

NEW INDIE RELEASES SEPT. 19-OCT. 2

CLING
Juice

7-song cassette
(813) 733-2535

JAMIE "KING" COLTON
Streets, Souls & Saxophones
12-song cassette
(954) 785-0850

THE CURIOUS
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DISAPPEAR

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JUBA GOSPEL

Red

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http://ww

SCARLET LETTER

Revelation

10-song CD

(954) 476-6111

SPIDER MONKEY

Frenzy

15-song CD

(904) 645-5587

http://

www.spidermonkey.com

JIM STUDNICKI

The Second Day

3-song cassette

(813) 971-6467

TIGER TIGER

Dream Scout

13-song CD

MARC VEE

Speaking In Sounds

8-song CD

SWEET ANGUISH Phase One (6-song CD) **001/2** A debut CD from a spirited quartet (vocalist/guitarist Mike Sanchez, vocalist/lead guitarist Michael Gundlach, bassist Duane Michaels, and drummer Dave Di Cicco) that's attempting to use Alice In Chains' accelerated dynamics with some of Eddie Vedder's vocal dramatics (especially the opening pounder "Vicarious"), but end up sounding like Ugly Kid Joe's little brother. Not such a hurdle for an inexperienced group, since both vocalists sound young and the songs' simple structures will eventually flesh out with some club work. Nice vocal trade-offs between Sanchez and Gundlach—that sort of interlocking dual harmony thing that works for folkies, but is very effective here also at higher volume. Phase One ought to hammer out some of those fresh-



JOY KATZEN-GUTHRIE *How Good And How Pleasant* (27-song cassette)

0001/2 If the idea of tackling 27 Judaic hymns, 16th century Kabbalistic prayers, and medieval metaphysical song/poems, seems like a challenging idea to you, you're not alone. But performance/recording artist Joy Katzen-Guthrie's third release of Yiddish and Hebrew musics, *How Good And How Pleasant*, makes the inevitable cultural gap not only tolerable, but downright entrancing. Blessed with a powerfully serene voice, these ancient prayers—backed only by Katzen-Guthrie's lilting harp-like keyboard—possess a simple and beautiful magnificence. The fact that she's willing to demystify the language and meaning behind the material in her extensive liner notes makes the endeavor all the more meaningful and enjoyable for the uninitiated. **Contact: PO Box 1257, Palm Harbor, FL 34682-1257, (813) 785-4568.—Bill Templeton**



duced sound effects, and tampered voice snippets is damn near impossible to determine. Though cheaply recorded and showing the tell-tale signs of a one (demented) man set-up, *Nuthin' Sheik'n!* is, by all standard units of measure, an unqualified mess. So why then does it convincingly suggest serious forms of *musique concrete*, feedback expressionism, and controlled chaos? Maybe I'm reading too much into it, but this is not the work of an amateur. There's sound theory behind this undefinable madness and a twisted vision that transcends its rackety incoherence. Oh yeah, there's fan club info, too. **Contact: 8581 SW 36 Street, Miami, FL 33155, (305) 223-1324.—Bill Templeton**

MOTHERSMILE Reddye (13-song CD) **001/2** These Merritt Island thrashheads (guitarist/vocalist Christ, bassist Meird, and drummer Jaisus) churn out their doom metal without much cosmetics. Sounding like Sodomy, Venom, and other musical severities, Mothersmile's brutal sound is back to the basics—chug-a-lug rhythms, fierce leadwork,

and growling vocals. While the homemade production doesn't allow for a lot of sonic variety (that is, all the instruments remain cemented to one basic tone and constant level in the mix), the band's mixed-bag songwriting does provide for some unexpected tumbles and turns (including the mourning ballad, "Mothersmile"). Not a watershed release, but folks into this grind may appreciate their effort. **Contact: Bentmother Records, P.O. Box 541244, Merritt Island, FL 32954, (407) 630-3232.—Richard Proplesch**



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SATURN'S CHILD *Saturn's Child* (3-song cassette)

00 Intense, well-recorded heavy metal from former members of Scared, Roadkill, and a host of Jersey and Dayton bands mines the prerequisite hard metal rule book of blistering power chords, rumbling, borderline speed-metal drumming, and high-end vocal wailing, courtesy of frightening frontman Tattoo Frank. Hailing from Ft. Lauderdale, the band's twist is its three female members (lead, bass, and rhythm), but you'd never know it from the music (no backhanded compliment is intended). Lead guitarist Amy Still rips. But despite the band's power and Frank's above average emoting, the music itself—as well as the genre's telltale and well-worn characteristics—offers little in the way of uniqueness or hidden rewards. **Contact: (954) 390-7951.—Bill Templeton**



RUBAYAT *Tropical Power* (5-song CD)

001/2 It's the unflinching combination of disparate influences (disguised as some form of world beat/rap/jazz fusion) that is of interest on 27 year old Rubayat's debut, as tropical sound effects form the background for drum machine beats incorporating funk licks, synth swells, hard guitar samples, gut sax, reggae rhythms, and Spanish-tinged rap. Rubayat Beck Barros' multi-cultural mix of styles is uncluttered and unique, though at times lacking vision and direction. The spacey instrumental, "Foreign Nations," with its feminine spoken-word French fares the best. Rubayat's rapping style, compared to the hardcore urban stuff, is a bit stiff, though his trilingual approach is both shrewd (in a marketing sense) and confusing (to hapless unilingual reviewers). **Contact: 8581 SW 36 Street, Miami, FL 33155, (305) 223-1324.—Bill Templeton**

