

VOICED

GLENN DANZIG

Brawn to be wild!

GUN

Outta Glasgow and into the Urban Jungle

LITTLE CAESAR

'We wuz born cool!'

SONS OF ANGELS

Funkin' frenzy from the fjords!

THE ALMIGHTY

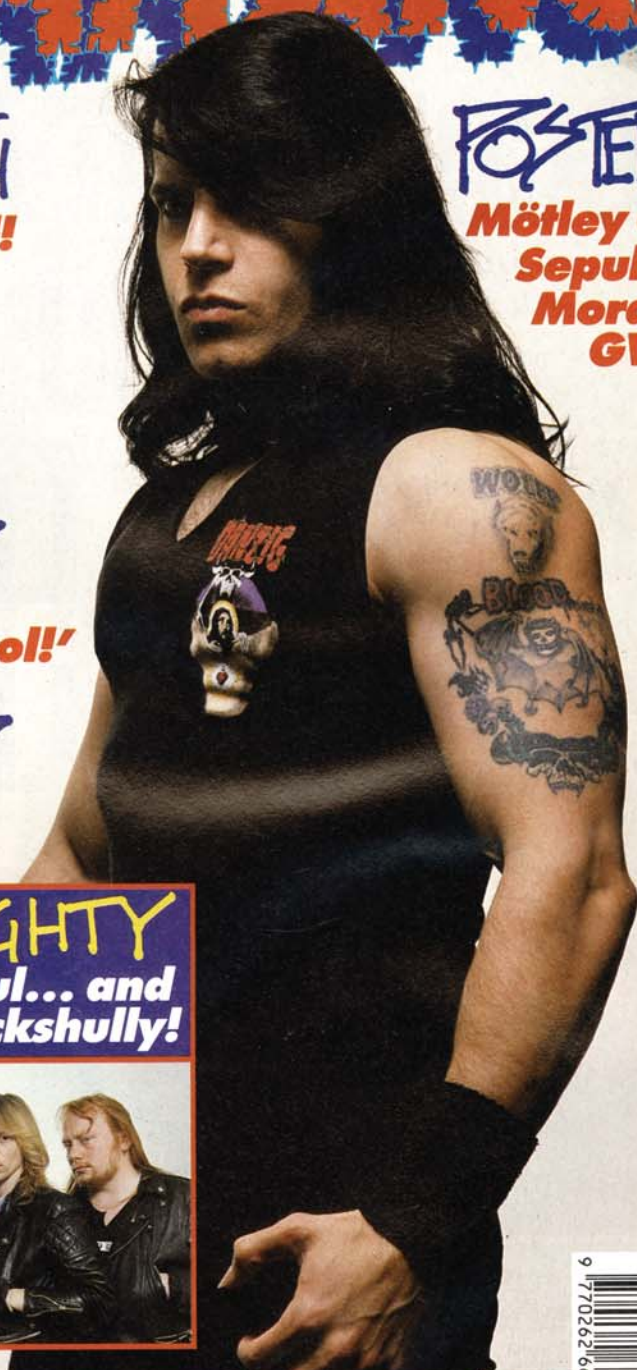
Wild, wonderful... and wather good, ackshully!



THE ALMIGHTY: pic Dave Willis

FOSTERS

**Mötley Crüe
Sepultura
Mordred
GWAR**



GLENN DANZIG: pic Ross Halfin

Uncle Sam ● Aerosmith ● London ● Bruce Dickinson ● Slaughter ● Y&T ● Quireboys ● Harlow ● Mudhoney ● Kill City Dragons ● Bad Company



BAD COMPANY (Brian Howe): draw on your own tattoos an' whack it on the wall!

Eau-kay!

BAD COMPANY
'Holy Water'
(Atco 7567-91371-1)
KKKK

THE LYRICS to the title track run that vocalist Brian Howe feels like he's 'Walking on holy water', and 'Walking on sacred ground'. And of course one of rock's genuine nice guys is talking about his emotions when the latest foxy chick comes to visit. But the words could also apply to Howe's own position within the surrounds of Bad Co.

This may be the third album that Howe has recorded with guitarist Mick Ralphs and drummer Simon Kirke, but there ain't no denying that the enormous spectre of Paul Rodgers is still hanging over his head.

And it's a measure of the man's influence that I still balk a little at Bad Company without Paul Rodgers. I'm amazed that Brian Howe's shoulders ain't curved under the pressure of all that business. Yet the way he handles himself on 'Holy Water' you'd never guess that our Bn had a care in the world!

The last BC album, 'Dangerous Age' did very nicely thank you in the States. And should I let you into a secret? 'Holy Water's gonna do even better, cos there's no denying that the material here is better than anything that Bad Company have done since the original line-up disappeared up its own arse.

SOOTHSAYER
'Have A Good Time'
(Colossal 7 72629-4)
KKK

FOUR FRENCH Canadians from Quebec, Soothsayer's 'Have A Good Time' has been long awaited in many quarters.

Despite their youth (several of the band are reputedly still at school) Soothsayer have been one of the underground's prime movers for some time and, a couple of appearances on New Renaissance's 'Trash Metal Attack' series notwithstanding, this is their vinyl debut.

Unlike most of the current crop of indie debuts on the market, Soothsayer are very much doing their own thing.

Whilst it's to the Thrash genre that they're looking for an audience, they don't just make the standard noises, and 'Have A Good Time' is diverse enough to escape any unnecessary Voi/Vod parallels.

As with most debuts, the material that composes 'Have A Good Time' has been kicking around for some time, and the gulf between the older, more Hardcore

But don't expect a return to the halcyon days of 'Seagull' and 'Can't Get Enough'. Nope, this album is unashamedly controlled, unremittingly structured and very much recorded with one eye firmly glued on the word 'business'. But guess what? 'Holy Water' takes on Bad English, Brian Adams, Foreigner and all the rest of 'em and gives as good as it gets. I admit it, it's nice boy party rock 'n' roll. Nothing too challenging. Nothing too... well... dangerous, but then again it doesn't pretend to be anything else and makes no apologies for being what it is. That I can appreciate.

That... and the fact that you can't deny a good tune when you hear one. The title track is the closest we get to Bad Company of old, all minimalist riffs and cocksure, cock-friendly vocal strutting. Then we have 'Walk Through Fire' flitching left, right and centre from Bryan Adams, and 'Fearless' showing Bad Company clones Foreigner that the rip-off tables can be easily turned.

Nobody who likes his AOR neat and perfectly formed is gonna be disappointed by the likes of 'Never Too Late' and 'I Can't Live Without You'. You know it'll never be in my all-time fave albums list, but I've played 'Holy Water' a damn sight more times than I ever expected to.

If Brian Howe had tattoos, I'd probably have his picture on my bedroom wall! **HOWARD JOHNSON**

orientated tunes like 'Buzz Fly' or 'Dig' and the newer compositions is distinctly noticeable, even on first hearing.

Yet it's that very width of material that lies at the heart of the band's appeal.

Hence, the album's severe Thrashers like the tongue-in-cheek 'Pimple Sprayer' snuggle more than happily against the cheery, almost poppy disposition of 'Together To Make A World' (including a guitar line nicked shamelessly off 'Hazy Shade Of Winter') and 'Changes', a quite beautiful yet somehow vicious tune that's without doubt the most complete Soothsayer composition to date.

However, it's really to the future where Soothsayer ought to be looking.

'Have A Good Time', for all its compelling lyrics (comprising a rich mix of humour and intelligent observation), vocalist Stephan Whitton's powerful delivery, and the band's aversion to easy categorization, is still nowt too staggering.

But give Soothsayer a year or two to progress, and we could be looking at a real class act.

PAUL MILLER

