



NEW INVISIBLE JOY
Trust

Released in February of 2004, this is the Pittsburgh foursome's third studio offering. Riding a wave of success and critical acclaim from their debut album, *Pale Blue Day*, *New Invisible Joy* has tightened their sound and honed their songwriting skills.

Solid from start to finish, *Trust* explains in full sonic detail why they have been entrusted with the opening responsibilities for John Mayer, The Strokes, The Calling, Filter and Hoobastank, among others. NIJ has also received air-time on 105.9 "The X," 91.3 WYEP, and 102.5 WDVE. "Sweet Sally" has a crisp pop-rock sound à la U2. "It Ain't Easy" hits all the right notes. "Hold Me" has an earthy Coldplay-meets-Jeff Buckley feel to it. Song number twelve, "Thanks For Coming Down," is an ambient denouement to a consistently good dozen. Check it out.



MOTORPSYCHOS
Piston Whipped

"Don't tell me not to set your skin on fire / Don't beg me not to rape you 'til you're raw." These brutal lyrics from "Necrotina" embody the character of this metal-punk accomplishment: merciless. With the strength of these hard-pounding tunes, along with their unrelenting stage show, the Motorpsychos took top prize at this year's K-Rock / Hard Rock Winter Rock Challenge. Finally, some chicks who really know how to jam!

"Primer" is a fitting opener to this diesel-fueled headbanger. "Doomsday" is a seriously rockin' original - hard and fast. "Bullshit" is anything but. "Under The Knife" is a melodic metal jewel. Don't miss the drive thru chatter on "Fries With That." After listening to *Piston Whipped*, my skin began to burn, and my ass felt sore. Take this thrash metal album for a drive.



SHADE
Fedra

Pittsburgh's most identifiable shoegazer quintet released their second CD on the Lovely Recordings label. A good move as they have received the attention of such mainstream publications as *SPIN Magazine*. A consistent touring schedule has allowed these five Pitt grads to sharpen their live shows down to an impressive performance. Sharp songwriting seems to come naturally and *Fedra* delivers.

An electronic flood of calculated feedback and distortion, these seven songs reveal Shade's Brit pop roots. "Only One Wish" is a steady hit. "Swervebaby" buzzes with melodic synths and distorted guitars. "Gunner" is an addictive sing-along. Most notable is "Dragan Stajic," a sonic homage to the radio station manager-in-Yugoslavia who played their music. A definite must have.

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Pittsburgh, PA 15218