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## MUSIC

### PJ Harvey releases best effort yet

For the past few years the Brits haven't brought forth any great music. Most of the recent British bands have been regurgitating already exploited musical paths, like Bush who seem to be trying to cash in on the "grunge sound," stealing riffs and the image of the Seattle bands.

But among the heap of trash are hidden treasures, and Polly Jean Harvey is one of them. This young woman has shown that the music scene on the other side of the Atlantic is not completely dead.

With her debut *Dry*, PJ Harvey got much critical acclaim for a raw and angry record. The follow up *Rid of Me*, was a bit more accessible, but still not forgiving - PJ Harvey wasn't about to make her music easy for the listener to understand.

With *To Bring You My Love*, Harvey has matured musically and has created an album with a diverse and powerful sound.

PJ Harvey's music is still complex and not easy to comprehend at first listen. The most noticeable change from her previous releases is the larger emphasis on her voice.



To Bring You  
My Love  
PJ Harvey

★★★★★

There is also a wider range of instruments used on this album such as the piano, strings and organs. This provides more variety and an interesting angle to the largely guitar based sound.

This album takes you on an emotional ride - from the angry "Meet Ze Monsta," to the melancholy "C'Mon Billy" and the subtle beauty of "Tecló." Many of the songs start out slower and build up. Others weave through complex bridges and changes.

Throughout the album is an underlying feeling of tension stored up, as if PJ Harvey was about to take a huge load off her shoulders, but can't do it. One waits for a release - an explosion of emotion, but it never comes.

This is a good thing, because it's very powerful and unfortunately was often drowned out on the first two albums.

There is

The band does a really good job of supporting PJ Harvey's singing - the drums are tight, and the bass is extremely effective in providing a backdrop for Harvey's voice. An example of this is the first single, "Down by the Water," where the bass and drums pound away, while Harvey belts out the song.

One of the best tracks on this album is "Tecló," which starts out with very quiet guitar and Harvey singing very low, making her voice sound extremely powerful and ominous.

It is very difficult to describe the sound of this album, because it is so varied and different from other bands. Sometimes it sounds like a punk band, sometimes like a blues band, yet other times like a darker version of the Cure. But it is undeniably her best, and one of the best albums in a while. So go to your local music store, pick up this album, and as Harvey sings in "Meet Ze Monsta," - "Big black monsoon, take me with you..." Let PJ Harvey and her music take you, it's not something you'll regret.

— LES ZACZEK  
Oregon Daily Emerald

### 'Infrared' a TAD disappointing

For some reason these guys just haven't had too much luck. After putting out two full-length albums and a couple of EPs on Sub Pop in the early '90s and touring with label mates Nirvana, Mudhoney, and Soundgarden, it seemed that the band had a promising career.

But TAD ran into many problems with record labels and a lawsuit concerning the cover to the album *8-Way Santa*.

Despite this, they got signed on a major label and released the LP *Inhaler*, and a live record, *Live Alien Broadcasts*.

*Infrared Riding Hood*, is another studio album, but unfortunately it's a disappointment. The album opens with "Ictus," and sets the pace with crushing guitar and a bass so deep it will tweak your speakers.



Infrared Riding  
Hood  
TAD

★★

thin. It seems that these boys have been listening to too much Ministry and Prong. The album is plagued by a lack of melody and creativity, which is really too bad because these are really good musicians. Except for a couple good songs like "Ictus," "Red Eye Angel" and "Dementia," this is fairly generic pseudo-industrial death metal.

The lyrics don't get too inter-

esting either and are the typical headbanger doomsday tales as in the track "Bludge," - "The streets are blood, your shoes will flood. And the killer's on the loose. Like the gargoyles perched outside. Radioactive, albino eyed."

But a couple songs into the album, the line wears

But a couple songs into the album, the line wears

But a couple songs into the album, the line wears

This album isn't bad, it's simply boring and doesn't break any new musical or lyrical ground. Listening to this makes you want to pull out your Indigo Girls albums just to reassure you that melody and vocals still sound nice. Fans of the industrial metal genre may like this album, but the band's work on Sub Pop is a lot better.

— LES ZACZEK  
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