

- 75 or Less -

album reviews in 75 words or less
(but words with 2 letters or fewer do not count)

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75 or Less PRESENTS

Joel RL Phelps and
the Downer Trio

Treasure State

Six Star General

9:00 Saturday,
August 6 @
Houlihans in East
Providence, RI.
Admission is free.

[directions]

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Thursday, July 28, 2005



Steve Broderick - Self Titled (Find it on CD Baby) [audio] [upcoming shows]

The Southern roots-rock sound does not figure prominently in my CD collection, but I have to say this album grew on me. The earnest, soulful tracks reflect solid musicianship and songwriting skills; Broderick has been in several bands, including, of all things, the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. Mix up the Allman Brothers, the Black Crowes, and Collective Soul, and you get a sound much better than most of the "rock" that's currently on the radio. I pick "You Don't Even Know" to make it on the charts. - **meredith**

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Wednesday, July 27, 2005



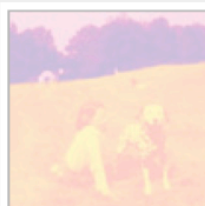
Maximo Park - A Certain Trigger (Warp) [audio] [upcoming shows]

You wouldn't fault a contemporary trumpet player for sounding like Miles, would you? Yet it's all too easy to dismiss a band like Maximo Park for sounding like XTC or the Jam without really understanding that post-punk is a musical form as valid as any other. So, considering they've chosen to work with such a specific palette, you should realize that what *A Certain Trigger* accomplishes is quite extraordinary. And, in the context of the current revival craze, it's an even more impressive feat to make such a timeless album. - **paul**

Released 05.31.2005

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Tuesday, July 26, 2005



Eels - Blinking Lights and Other Revelations (Vagrant) [video] [upcoming shows]

This two-disc set is the first Eels album I've owned since *Electro-Shock Blues*, and color me shocked. The first disc is an entrancing set of stripped-down pop, instantly inviting and familiar. The spell continues onto the second disc, and only after multiple listens can you shake the opium cloud off long enough to realize how many wonderful stand-alone songs there are in the latter half. If this is what I've been missing out on, I apparently need to backfill my collection. - **tom d.**

Released 04.26.2005

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Monday, July 25, 2005



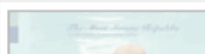
Flotation Toy Warning - The Bluffer's Guide to the Flight Deck (Misra) [mp3s/audio]

Orchestral, epic and spacious, at home with recent Mercury Rev or post-guitar, pre-electronic Flaming Lips. There are traces of the pomposity of Queen in the atmospheric production, yes *that* Queen - intersped with layers of sound bites, opera singers, violins and pianos. Grandiose music made for fans of Sparklehorse, Radiohead and early Granddaddy. A definite vibe record, the lyrically rhythmic vocals seem to have come from the unlikely gene splicing of Freddie Mercury and Jason Lytle singing for Sigur Ros. - **mark**

Due out 08.16.2005

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Friday, July 22, 2005



The Most Serene Republic - Underwater Cinematographer (Arts & Crafts) [audio] [upcoming shows]