

# Midnight Oil and Black Crowes reviewed

## THE VINYL LOWDOWN



**Hot Spots:** "Blue Sky Mining" "Forgotten Years" "King of the Mountain" "One Country"  
**Grade:** B

Midnight Oil made the move from an Australian surf band to a powerful political music machine. This band bases every song on the political environment around them, but they don't let it flood the musical flow. They are one of the best bands around who express their opinions and still make a solid musical album.

The band's big break came with the release of the album "Diesel & Dust" in 1988 and they've now returned with "Blue Sky Mining."

The new album is a good mix

of slow and hard driving songs. The song, "Forgotten Years" is a prime example of the energy Oil puts out. The song gives you that solid beat the Oilers like to deliver. "One Country" is a slow powerful song and it seems the band wants us to focus on a subject important to them and they want you just to concentrate on lead singer Peter Garrett's vocal message.

The Oil also supplies haunting songs like "Bedlam Bridge." Reminiscent of Pink Floyd, it gives this surreal sound of weird noises and wild music.

The whole album is filled with all types of musical approaches and the band has established themselves as a great foreign music export.

They provide great music with a message and are moving from the College charts to the national musical scene. If you get a chance to see them live, I suggest going because they give an energetic live show.

**BLACK CROWES:** "SHAKE YOUR MONEYMAKER"  
**DEF AMERICAN/ GEFEN**  
**Hot Spots:** Anyone of them!  
**Grade:** A+

It's about time a band went back to playing the roots of rock 'n' roll! There are so many glam bands in the music world when an original band such as the Crowes come along I can only smile.

The Crowes mix rhythm and blues with a hard rock fell and their mix of songs is great. Chris Robinson provides the perfect blues voice to fit the band.

"Sister Luck" is the most powerful song on the album and mixes

piano with the organ — sounds great. Chris Robinson delivers his best vocal performance on this song.

The single radio/MTV release of "Jealous Again" is one sample of the great blues feel this band has such as with a cover of Otis Redding's "Hard to Handle." The Crowes gave the song a great feel and managed not ruin it at all.

The band also has the raw power of a new band. They recorded a member of the band ramming his '66 Dodge Dart into a dumpster outside the studio, and after seven tries finally got the right sound they were looking for as an intro into "Thick 'n' Thin." This off the wall antic fits well within the song and provides a bit of intriguing character.

The Black Crowes is a group to watch-out for and they have a great base to grow from. If you like down and dirty blues mixed with a rock 'n' roll feel, then the Crowes are for you!

With this being my last column this semester, I thought I would try to get you all ready for the summer music scene. There are, of course, a million bands on the road, but I put together a few of the big names that you might try to see.

### TOURS TO SEE THIS YEAR:

DEPECHE MODE, DON HENLEY, MIDNIGHT OIL, AEROSMITH, SMITHEREENS, ROBERT PLANT, WHITESNAKE, MADONNA, COWBOY JUNKIES, PHIL COLLINS, DAVID BOWIE, ERIC CLAPTON, THE MISSION U.K. AND THE CHURCH.

Whether you're heading home for the summer or are stuck here in summer school, try to catch some of these acts and have a great time.

John Glynn

## Radio Symphony Orchestra Berlin at Ham Hall

Making their first appearance in the United States since 1985, the award-winning Radio Symphony Orchestra Berlin will perform at 8 p.m. on Monday, May 7 at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall.

The program for the evening will include Brahms "Tragic Overture, Op. 81," "The Beethoven Symphony No. 4 in B-flat Major, Op 60" and Scriabin's Symphony No. 3 Divine Poem, Op. 43."

Featured on London/Decca and Deutsche Grammophon, the RSO Berlin is conducted by Vladimir Ashkenazy. In addition to their United States tour, Ashkenazy and the orchestra also tour Japan this year.

Since its inception four decades ago, the symphony has earned lavish praise from critics and audiences throughout the world. Under the direction of famed pianist and conductor, Vladimir Ashkenazy, this powerful 105 member

orchestra's performance will mark the final performance of the Charles Masters Vanda Series for this season.

Ashkenazy was appointed chief conductor of the Radio Symphony Orchestra Berlin for a three-year period beginning with the 1989 season. Ashkenazy is the principal guest conductor of the Cleveland Orchestra with whom his contract was recently extended through the 1991-92 season. Ashkenazy, a household name as a master pianist throughout the world, has become increasingly active as a conductor the past 10 years. In January, 1987, he was appointed music director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

Other orchestras with whom he has recently appears as guest conductor include the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra and the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra.

Radio Symphony Orchestra Berlin's achievements have been enhanced by collaboration with such

eminent conductors as Karl Bohn, Eugen Jochum, Zubin Mehta, and Eugene Ormandy. The Radio Symphony Orchestra Berlin plays a vital role in the musical life of Berlin, performing both as a radio and concert orchestra. With a widely diversified repertoire the orchestra has performed in more than 50 concert tours in Europe and abroad.

In September of 1989, the orchestra won acclaim for its performance in the International Music Festival of Lucerne and the London Promenade Concerts. Its recordings have won numerous awards including the prestigious Grand Prix du Disque for music of Bartok.

Tickets and series information can be obtained through Teleguide terminals and the Performing Arts Center Box Office at (720) 739-3801. Group discounts are available for groups of 20 and over. The box office is open Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Visa and Mastercard accepted.

The Performing Arts Center at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas was founded in 1984. In the spring of 1988 it moved to its expanded offices at Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall. It serves an audience of over 150,000, and is the home of the Charles Vanda Master Series which has offered the community outstanding classical music for 14 years. Renowned international artists have appeared at the center include Andre Previn, Eugene Ormandy, Isaac Stern and Itzhak Perlman.

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