

# RHYTHM

March 2005

## THE THIEVES

The Thieves' drummer **Jamie Dawson** really did pilfer to get where he is today. Quite an appropriate name then...

### What have The Thieves been up to?

"We've been in LA recording with Richie Kotzen who was in Poison. We've also been out on the road working the new EP"

### Describe The Thieves' sound?

"If you take some Bowie and TRex and mix in some AC/DC for good measure then you're getting close."

### How did you start drumming?

"I would play my dad's Zeppelin records and become hypnotised by John Bonham. I found my dad's old kit in the loft and practised along to said records. I stole my brother's paper-round money to buy a Premier Jazz kit, and then I was hooked."

### Who are your main drumming influences?

"John Bonham is top, then Keith Moon, Phil Rudd, Dave Grohl, Phil Collins, Stewart Copeland and my room-mate Chris Slade."

### How and when did the band form?

"For a Spinal Tap covers gig at an Oxford club. After that everyone said we should do something together, but I was with a band

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called Narco who had a deal with EMI so I couldn't. The boys went to the US and played with various session guys. It wasn't working with Narco so I went to LA, we jammed, changed the band name, recorded new tracks and got a deal."

### What is the best drumming performance you have ever witnessed?

"I recently met Taylor Hawkins at a small gig he was playing in Malibu. Chad Smith was in the audience so he got up and did a song. He's a hard hitter. It was a great night!"

### Describe your current set-up?

"I have a '69 Gretsch and '67 Ludwig kit which I use for recording, but live I use a Tama Starclassic with 24" kick, 13" rack and 16" floor tom with various snares. I also use a Zildjian 24" A ride, 18" and 20" A Medium crashes, 22" K Dark ride with three rivets, 22" Oriental and 14" Mastersound hats." *Chris Barnes*

The Thieves: Someone stolen your chairs, boys?

