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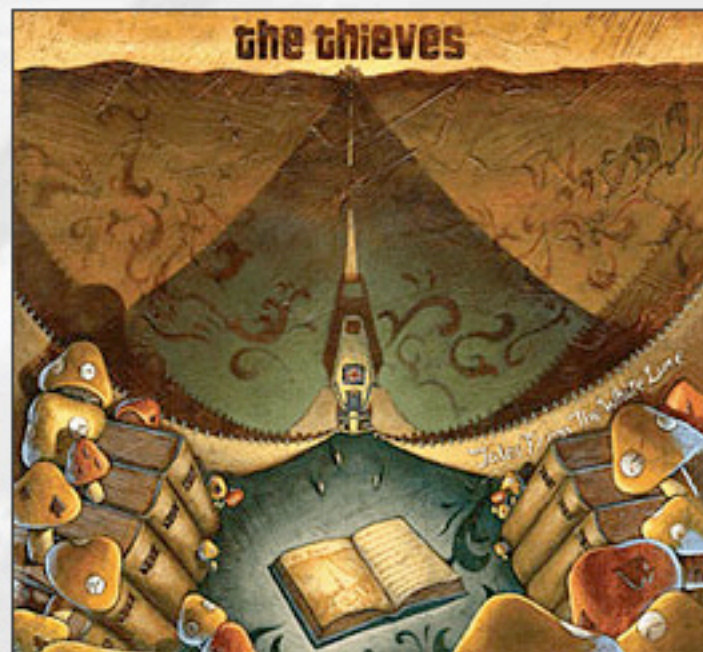
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The Thieves :: Tales From The White Line

Liquor and Poker Music 2005

CD Review

By Bill Rowan aka "The Rocker"



The thieves are a local band. Yes, they are from Oxford, England, but they reside here in Los Angeles and are signed to the local label, Liquor and Poker. The Thieves are a trio that play Rock and Roll with an attitude and rough edge. Yes they Rock and yes they Roll. Their debut CD, "Tales From The White Line" was recorded right in the sleaze of Hollywood, after the success of their 4 song EP. With producer Chris Brown (RADIOHEAD, MUSE) at the helm, the band kept their

garage rawk feel, coupled with sing along choruses and Brit pop melodies. All the while trying to keep their heads above the murky waters of the filth and grime of Tinsletown. This was accomplished by moving to the outskirts of the city and building their own studio. They belt out songs that remind me of early CULT with BALAAM AND THE ANGEL, a couple of other British bands.

From the opening tambourine of "Gimme Some Lip" to the blending of acoustic and electric guitars on the last song "Silverliner", these guys cover all the bases. The rocker infused "Don't You Lose Me" has an AC/DC riff, crossed with the sound of a band from the 80's called THE FRONT. Check out the soft-spoken voice of guitarist Hal Stokes on the acoustic ballad "My Old Mind". Not that he needs it, but they add effects to his vocals on the title track and "It Still Goes On". Rolling along with Hal is his bass playing brother Sam and the WHO inspired drumming of Jamie "Dirty Daws" Dawson. Along with radio friendly songs like "Don't You Lose Me" and "You Get It Easy", there is also the over the top rocker like the title track, but it's the melodic harmonies of "This Road (It Never Leads Us)" that sets me adrift to a place where the thieves rob my heart. Rock on my brothers. This ones a steal.

Story by Bill Rowan aka "The Rocker"