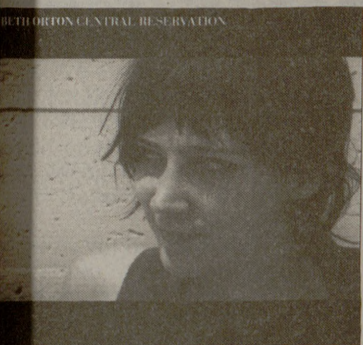
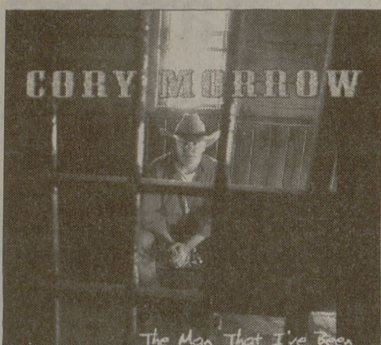


Volume Control



Beth Orton
Central Reservation
CD courtesy of Arista
Records



Cory Morrow
The Man That I've Been
Morrow Music



Fatboy Slim
You've Come A Long Way, Baby
Astralwerks

Beth Orton's somber and subtle vocals can be compared to the styles of Ani DiFranco and Tori Amos with the voice of Sarah McLachlan.

Orton first made her mark in 1996 when she released her debut solo album, *Trailer Park*. In 1997, Orton came back and had another great year by working with folk-jazz legend Terry Callier, singing on the Chemical Brother's album *Dig Your Own Hole* and touring as part of the Lilith Fair.

On March 23, Orton released her newest album, *Central Reservations*. Known for her poetry and somewhat gloomy subject matter, *Reservations* follows through in the Orton style.

To many people, the album may come across as bleak and too depressing. However, it has a quiet calmness that seems to hit a nerve with the emotions. It can become so much since every song seems to ring the same tune and harp on the same theme, but there is a quality to the album that makes a listener want to keep the CD on replay. The album has a definite somber side. For those is a good mood, beware. (Grade: B-)

— Marium Mohiuddin

With his second full-length release, Cory Morrow has created a permanent place for himself among a new generation of upcoming Texan songwriters.

The Man That I've Been greatly showcases Morrow's songwriting abilities.

Morrow does not have the best singing voice. Rather than being a hindrance, however, Morrow's vocals add character to his songs.

Besides, what great Texas troubadour is known for his singing prowess? Morrow uses his unique voice to sing about the traditional anthems of Texas — drinking, loving and, well, drinking.

With songs like "Stayin' Out Late," "Nashville Blues," "Big City Stripper" and his already famous song "Drink One More Round," Morrow has made this album a worthwhile listening venture.

Morrow even adds a little humor at the end of the album with his song "Songwriter's Lament." So hold your drinks up high and toast Cory Morrow. (Grade: B)

— Scott Harris

Feeling a bit low while getting ready for a night on the town? Drop in Fatboy Slim's latest album, turn the volume up and get ready for some phat tracks so addictive you might have to check yourself into techno rehab.

Pure techno. Pure stress reliever. Pure shake your money maker.

You've Come A Long Way Baby, Fatboy Slim's follow-up to his massive debut, *Better Living Through Chemistry*, English DJ Fatboy Slim (a.k.a. Norman Cook) mixes, remixes, samples and re-samples to create the dance album of the year.

"The Rockefeller Skank" takes a simple "Funk Soul Brother" vocal, a surf guitar track and some booming bass to create the biggest and most recognizable tracks off the album.

"Praise You" samples an old Camilla Yarrow soul record with a fast piano beat.

"Right Here, Right Now" and "Gangsta Trippin'" round out the rest of the album guaranteed to keep you movin' all night long. (Grade: A+)

— JP Beato

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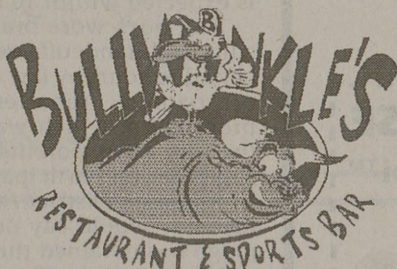
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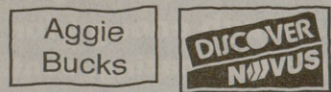
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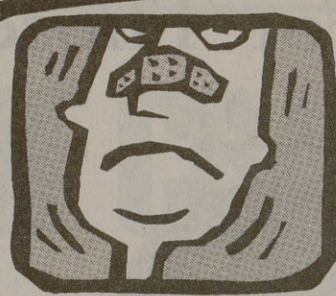
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