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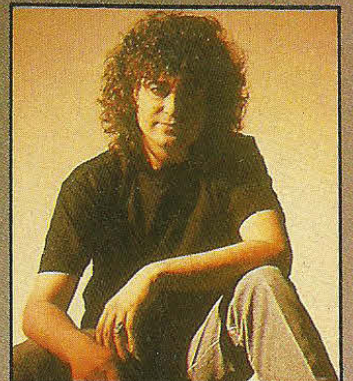
ANTHRAX

NOT BUBONIC-PLAGUE

EUROPE

PLAY BALL!

**JIMMY
PAGE**



A LITTLE TOUCH
OF SCHMILSSON
IN THE NIGHT



RECORDS



DANZIG
(Geffen)

"Gonna bring your world down in fire!" howls lycanthropine crooner Glenn Danzig. Don't doubt the man. Chaos-bringer, storm-loud voice of human primacy, Danzig's time has come. Once the driving force behind underground legends the Misfits and Samhain, with the aid of studio wunderkind Rick Rubin, Danzig now unfolds his most savage vision to date.

It's stupid to try and compare the

Danzig band—comprised of Glenn, guitarist John Christ, Samhain bassist Eerie Von, and legendary skin pounder Chuck Biscuits (ex-Black Flag/Circle Jerks/DOA/Subhumans)—to the crudely-hewn chainsaw melodies of the Misfits. If anything, Danzig is a better attempt at the morbid intellectualism that Samhain aspired to, but never quite touched due to the limited range of the players involved. For once, Glenn has assembled a band comparable to the vocal abilities he first fully explored on the title track of last year's *Less Than Zero* soundtrack. Christ is the guitarist Danzig's always needed, clearly rooting himself in the Sabbath/AC-DC/Zeppelin mold but also proving versatile enough to attempt solid experimentation as on the writhing, undulating opener, "Twist of Cain."

By centering the album's entire sound around Glenn's newfound vocal prowess, *Danzig* becomes a tremendously personal record, dripping with the full range of emotion his oftentimes impressionistic lyrical sense has long embodied. Life, death and the extremities of human nature are Danzig's domain. From "Soul on Fire," a brooding call-to-arms, to the impassioned "Am I

Demon," to the explosive range of "Mother," Danzig reveals himself a melancholy, stormy individual. Comparisons ranging from Roy Orbison to the Damned's Dave Vanian to Elvis to Jim Morrison are all appropriate.

Meanwhile, drummer Biscuits nearly threatens to steal the show, while Eerie's bass work remains a solid and steady backbone for Danzig and Christ's histrionics. Producer Rubin has opted for a solid, steady, in-your-face wallop along the lines of Slayer's *Reign In Blood*, allowing for a controlled yet natural sound, with little effect or reverb to detract from the band's unique power.

Misfits newcomers seeking recapitulated versions of classics such as "Night of the Living Dead," "Last Caress" or "Children in Heat" are advised to look elsewhere. While not quite putting his past behind him (Misfits and Samhain faves still pepper Danzig's live set), Danzig moves on with his highly individualistic twilight vision. Rising phoenix-like from the ashes of his former combos, Danzig, once again walks among us, Beware, the storm is coming!

Mike Gitter

