

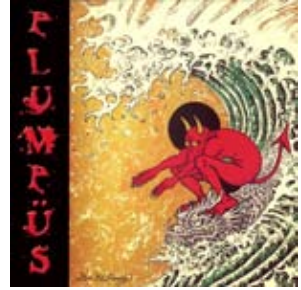
## CD Reviews

**Plumpus:** A CD with a particularly striking cover arrived in my mailbox a few weeks ago. The band's name: Plumpüs. The cover: an oriental-style drawing of a devil riding a wave on a dragon's head. Very, very cool.

The music? I imported the CD into iTunes and gave it a whirl. Suddenly, I was 14 again, watching Def Leopard and Gun 'n' Roses on MTV. A heady Axle-esque voice wailed from the speakers, backed by standard rock power chords, machine gun drum fills, and breakneck guitar solos.

Plumpüs' music is filled with rock, metal, blues, and country influence. Song themes revolve around truck stops, sex, driving fast, sex, fetish, oh, and sex. They slow it down about halfway through, pull out the acoustic guitars and piano and introduce a female singer with a Melissa Etheridge sound.

If you're a fan of Lyrnyrd Skynyrd, Charlie Daniels, Metallica, or the bands mentioned above, you ought to be enthused that Plumpüs is out there creating good ol' rock music despite the push towards the over-produced emo bands of the now. [myspace.com/plumpus](http://myspace.com/plumpus), [www.plumpus.com](http://www.plumpus.com)



**ISOULJAHS:** On their myspace site ([myspace.com/isouljahs](http://myspace.com/isouljahs)), the ISOULJAHS list their influences as "Truth, Righteousness, Love, Life, Equal Rights & Justice." Their music, like their message, is real roots reggae. Their latest recording is from their session on KTUH's Monday Night Live.

Musically, ISOULJAHS runs along the Marley, Bunny Wailer, Buju Banton vein. Many songs have an introspective quality, praise Jah, warn against the evils of Babylon, and hail the saving grace of Zion. Other songs are brighter, faster, and celebratory, inviting the listener to skank away.

The ISOULJAHS foundation resides in three members, Ras Mikey, Chris Bassie, and Edgar from California. They came to HI in '04 and joined with musicians from Hawaii's reggae community. ISOULJAHS is the only American artist to release a single on the former lead singer of Black Uhuru's (Jr. Reid) recording label.

If you'd like a CD reviewed, send to: 1084 Kinau St. #6, Honolulu, HI 96814



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