

summer

CDs

Music offerings include new cuts of rap, country, pop and classic rock

By Josh Krauter
Senior editor

The summer season will soon be upon us, and with it comes an integral component of the hottest time of year: the music.

What CDs will be blasting from sound systems in convertibles and Jeeps, blaring from radios at beaches and pools, escaping through open windows in bedrooms and playing softly on air-conditioned evenings?

Well, this summer, there may be a lot to choose from. Established stars and indie-rock legends are among the notables releasing new music in the next couple of months.

Every Tuesday means new release day, and this week is no exception. Tomorrow's releases of note include "Bachelor No. 2," the new album from Aimee Mann. Mann completed this album a few years ago

and has been selling it on the Internet, but thanks to the prominence of her music in P.T. Andersen's "Magnolia," the CD gets a proper in-store release.

Ska-rockers Mighty Mighty Bosstones continue releasing album after album (though some might wonder why), and their latest, "Pay Attention," comes out tomorrow, as does a tribute album to hair-metal icon and State Fair sell-out Def Leppard.

The two best new releases tomorrow, though, should belong to Sleater-Kinney and Ween. Melodic punk trio Sleater-Kinney returns after last year's superb "The Hot Rock" with "All Eyes on the Bad One."

Dean and Gene Ween give loyal fans another dose of their madcap musical antics with the follow-up to last year's live "Paintin' the Town Brown," "White Pepper."

May 9 provides a wealth of new music. The late Jeff Buckley's golden

voice will make it onto disc once more with his posthumous live album, "Mystery White Boy."

Everyone's favorite band from Akron, Ohio, Devo, finally gets the respect it deserves with a two-CD retrospective, "Pioneers Who Got Scalped."

Hanson returns after a bout with puberty to contemplate "This Time Around." Country-rock mainstays The Jayhawks give us a "Smile" and Wu-Tang's Killah Priest drops "View from Masada."

Also on May 9, now that Cisco's "Thong Song" has given da butt its most prominent exposure since Sir Mix-A-Lot's "Baby Got Back," booty lovers 2 Live Crew get in on the act with their new one, "Private Personal Parts."

Things keep rolling on May 16.

Peter Frampton comes out with another live album, "Live in Detroit," which may not sell as well as "Frampton Comes Alive" but is sure to be as mind-numbingly vacuous.

The late Curtis Mayfield will be honored with "Up," a collection of his singles. If you don't own any of Mayfield's stuff, this may be a good place to start. He was definitely one of our national treasures.

Motorhead makes a return on the 16th with "We Are Motorhead," just in case you thought you were buying Glass Tiger or something.

"Farmhouse," a new studio album from Phish, hits stores on the same day. A farmhouse could actually be built from scratch in the time it takes to listen to a Phish song.

Teenybopper Britney Spears' career officially will be longer than



Courtesy Photos
FAMED JAM-BAND Phish and Heavy hitters The 2 Live Crew both have new releases coming out during the summer months.

Glass Tiger's once "Oops! ... I Did it Again" hits stores on May 16.

And finally, disproving the rule that choking to death on your own vomit or getting shot in a drive-by are threats to immortality, AC/DC and Tupac Shakur both get tribute albums on the 16th.

There's lots of other stuff coming out this summer, but the release dates aren't yet official. Rumored to hit shelves soon are new albums from Sonic Youth, Pearl Jam, XTC, Don Henley and Matchbox 20 in May, Steve Earle, Belle and Sebastian, Willie Nelson, k.d.lang, Busta Rhymes and Wyclef Jean in June, Dave Matthews in July and Too Short, Mystikal and R. Kelly in August and early September.

All release dates are subject to change.

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Summer movies promise return of the blockbuster

MOVIES from page 13

The Comedies:

"Road Trip" (May 19) — It will draw inevitable comparisons to "American Pie." There's enough Tom Green to go around, but the best scene (or worst, depending on how you see it) comes in a sperm bank.

"Me, Myself and Irene" (June 23) — Jim Carrey plays a small-town cop with a split personality. I think that pretty much sums it up. Irene is Renée Zellweger.

"Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle" (June 30) — It hopes to achieve "Roger Rabbit" fame by combining art (moose, squirrel) and live action, as Robert DeNiro is Fearless Leader and Rene Russo is Natasha. These movies do not always work.

"Nutty 2: The Klumps" (July 28) — Not sure it needed a sequel, but Eddie Murphy deserves at least another shot at the Academy Award nomination he should've gotten last time by playing nine characters. Sometimes, we forget how funny he can be.

Animation:

"Titan A.E." (June 16) — A very big space action movie to fill the void between "Star Wars" movies. Matt Damon is the hero voice.

"Dinosaur" (May 19) — Disney continues to look for the next "The Lion King." It'll have to keep searching after what looks like a visually stunning but flat tale about the big reptiles.

Other notables:

"The Golden Bowl" (June 23) — A Merchant/Ivory adaptation of the Henry James novel. Uma Thurman and Nick Nolte star. An Oscar contender.

"Loser" (July 7) — Amy Heckerling delivered smart teen comedies for the 1980s ("Fast Times at Ridgemont High") and the 1990s ("Clueless"). "Loser" takes them to the freshman year of college. Jason Biggs and Mena Suvari star.

"Nurse Betty" (July 14) Neil LaBute has stayed out of sight since 1998's "Your Friends and Neighbors," the best movie of that year. "Betty" is even bigger than his last, as Renée Zellweger obsesses over soap operas to the point she thinks she's in one. Morgan Freeman and Chris Rock co-star.