

## MUST HEAR



**SPRING HEELED JACK USA**



## SPRING HEELED JACK USA

**Songs From Suburbia (Ignition)**

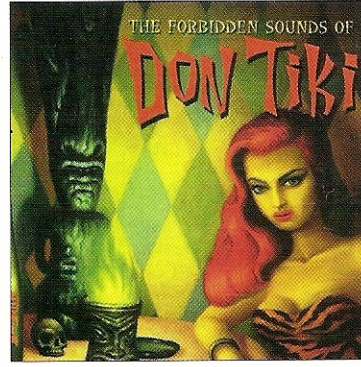
■ The Connecticut ska band Spring Heeled Jack has tagged "USA" to the end of its moniker to avoid being confused with British electronic artists Spring Heel Jack, but otherwise the band is unchanged. *Songs From Suburbia*, the follow-up to 1996's *Static World View*, proves the band to be a quality act, producing soul- and pop-influenced ska on par with the likes of Hepcat. With this album, the band establishes itself as one of the few active ska outfits that captures the carpe diem mentality so superbly seized by the Specials on its classic debut without sounding like pretentious bandwagon-jumpers. Matching the brilliance of the band's energetic live performances, this sophomore release doesn't have a single tune that misses its mark. Every band member proves to be experts at their roles — from the exemplary horns to the on-the-money rhythm section to the interplay that goes on between the rotating vocalists/guitarists. The songs are fun and danceable as honesty wins out over faux-poignancy, making these songs close to perfect. — *Kelso Jaks*

**For Fans Of:** Hepcat, Pietasters, Madness, Specials' self-titled debut

**Recommended Tracks:** "Beggin'," "Where I Belong," "Morning Sun," "MCMLIX (1959)," "Makisupa Policeman"

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**Release Date:** July 21; at radio now  
**Marketing Data:** Currently touring



## DON TIKI

**The Forbidden Sounds Of Don Tiki (Taboo)**

■ Listeners will have to go back decades to classic Hawaiian exotica albums such as Arthur Lyman's *Taboo* or Martin Denny's *Forbidden Island* to savor something as sweet and tropical as *The Forbidden Sounds Of Don Tiki*. The cast of nine (which includes a guest appearance by 87-year-old Martin Denny) follows the exotica revival of the mid-'90s with a mix of old and new sounds that instantly transports listeners to the famed Bora Bora Lounge in Waikiki; its Polynesian rhythms and romantic, torch-lit locales are pure paradise to the ears. The group, which displays great diversity by incorporating so many different musical nuances, remakes a Denny classic on "Exotica '97" and the satin-like voice of Teresa Bright croons "Close Your Eyes" for one of the album's most sanguine moments. The band spares no expense at creating sensual Hawaiian settings either, as it features the bird calls and jungle sounds of Lopaka Colon, the son of Augie Colon who provided the same types of sounds on Martin Denny's classic recordings. Each cut on this gem is as pleasurable and intoxicating as the next, so grab a fruity drink, pull up a chaise lounge and bask in the warm glow. — *Glen Sansone*

**For Fans Of:** Martin Denny, Arthur Lyman, Les Baxter, Yma Sumac

**Recommended Tracks:** "Exotica '97," "An Occasional Man," "Close Your Eyes," "Bam Boozled"

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**Release Date:** July 14  
**Marketing Data:** Passengers on westbound Hawaiian Airlines flights are treated to the video for "An Occasional Man"



## WINK

**Herehear (Ovum/Ruffhouse/Columbia-CRG)**

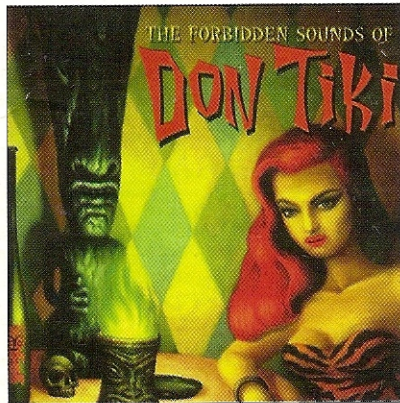
■ The production prowess of Philadelphia's Josh Winkelman (plain ol' Wink to his fans) has generated a slew of dance tracks that have become international techno anthems, making this 28-year-old producer/DJ/label exec one of rave culture's few recognizable superstars. He helped design and direct America's underground dance scene, but now the time has come for Wink to rise to the surface. *Herehear*, Wink's first full length major label release, is not the in-your-face dancefloor scorcher that fans may have expected — that would've been too easy. Instead, the album does that which has made Wink an innovator all along: It takes chances. While previously-released cuts such as "Are You There..." and "New Groove" follow Wink's classic formula, the ambient-jungle rhythms of "Young Again," the atmospheric trip-hop of "I'm On Fire" (featuring vocalist Carolyn Crowley), the industrial backbeat of "Black Bomb" (with Trent Reznor) and the rock stylings of "Simple Man" (with the Interpreters) take both producer and listener into unfamiliar territory. The end product is a fully-conceived musical journey that twists in numerous directions and dares you to follow its dizzying course. — *M. Tye Comer*

**For Fans Of:** Moby, Crystal Method, Hard-floor

**Recommended Tracks:** "Are You There...", "I'm On Fire," "Simple Man"

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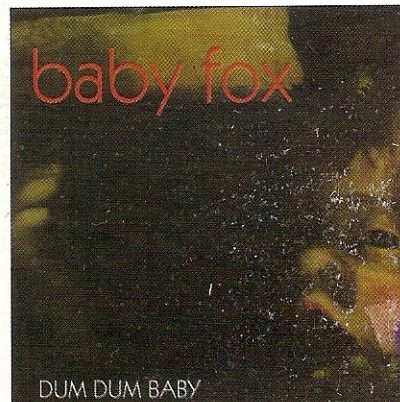
**Release Date:** June 16; at radio now  
**Marketing Data:** Currently on a U.S. DJ tour



**DON TIKI**



**WINK**



DUM DUM BABY

**BABY FOX**