

INTRODUCING...

By BRAD ANGLE



TOKYO DRAGONS

ALBUM

Give Me the Fear (Escapi Music)

THE SOUND

Riffy stadium-rawk anthems

HISTORY After wooing the denizens of U.K.'s shabbiest pubs, these North London blokes are set to seduce the world with their Motörhead-roadie looks and the twin-guitar, Kiss-meets-AC/DC anthems found on their debut, *Give Me the Fear*.

TALKBOX "There's not a lot of people doing it, so we decided to make a good-time party record," says guitarist/singer Steve Lomax. "With *Give Me the Fear*, we wanted to capture that balls-out rock and roll vibe. We wanted to kick ass and keep blasting it out."



MATT O'REE

ALBUM *Shelf Life*

THE SOUND Fiery blues rock

HISTORY This Jersey axman has been gaining momentum ever since his 1997 debut, *88 Miles*. O'Ree's playing has won him consecutive Top Guitarist honors at the Asbury, New Jersey, Music Awards, as well as spots opening for Johnny Winter, Buddy Guy and Gov't Mule. O'Ree's Robin Trower-meets-Billy Gibbons style is showcased on his latest CD, *Shelf Life*.

TALKBOX "I wanted to make a record beyond what I have done in the past: new sounds, heavier tone, more production. *Shelf Life* is more rock blues than blues rock, and it's soul-fried to the max."



JACKKNIFE

ALBUM

Moment of Reckoning (Zero-Sum)

THE SOUND

Southern-fried hardcore metal

HISTORY Since forming in 1999, Jackknife have gone through multiple lineup changes, while their music has steadily moved in a more aggressive direction. Jackknife whip up a down-and-dirty batch of "Texas-style brutality" on *Moment of Reckoning*, their debut for ex-Damageplan manager Paul Bassman's Zero-Sum records.

TALKBOX "The band's sound is getting more toward where we want it to be," explains vocalist Joe Ortiz. "I keep the vocals heavy throughout, while the music alternates between melodic and heavy. We don't have any gimmicks; we just get up there and play."