

THE BIG TAKE- OVER

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REVIEWS • Top 40

25. dum dum girls

I WILL BE

(SUB POP)



I thought I might love this. Any woman whose nom-de-band nods to **IGGY POP**'s 1977 Berlin work with **DAVID BOWIE** (*The Idiot*'s "Dum Dum Boys"), the pair's most artistically-challenging period (founding post-punk over four albums' sessions!) already has a tantalizing launching premise. And the lass in question, L.A.'s **DEE DEE** (not Ramone), takes the post-Velvets, Krautrock-esque less-is-more art-rock of *The Idiot*, *Lust For Life*, and side one of *Low* and *Heroes*, adds a sharp, defining buzz-drone a la Jesus & Mary Chain's *Psychocandy*, and marshals '60s/'70s writer/producer **RICHARD GOTTEHRER** to bring his original girl-group-era (and later work with **BLONDIE**) vocal panache and darkened **RAVONNETTES** sound. The result is vivacious, bouncing throb-rock, rattling, primitive drum machines, gnarly bass, guitars like 100 mini-daggers per minute, and melancholic, naïve-romantic vocals in a vibrant assault. Even better than buzz-worthy **VIVIAN GIRLS** (who contribute an ex-member to Dee Dee's touring ensemble), this Dum Dum Girl is actually one Smart Smart Chick. Anyone who marinates the present and future with such evocative past has got brains and heart; and tunes and teen emotions to boot! (subpop.com)