

MUSIC

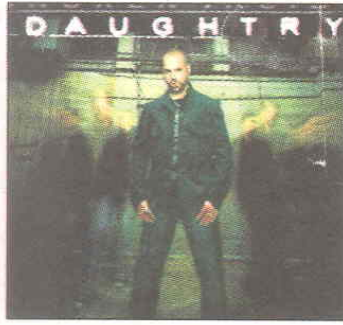
DAUGHTRY—
DAUGHTRY

Label: Sony BMG;
Price: Rs 399

On *American Idol*'s Season 5, semi-finalist Chris Daughtry sparkled with his renditions of

Johnny Cash's *Walk The Line*, Bon Jovi's *Wanted Dead Or Alive* and Creed's *What If*. And here comes his debut album. But alas, his wonderful vocals can't tone down the emotional overkill, typical perhaps of talent show participants. The opening track *It's Not Over* (featured on *Prison Break*'s new season promos) makes for quite an explosive start. Then there's the spirited ballad titled *Home*, again popularised by *AT*'s latest season. The surprise package is the head-bang-fest *I Want*, featuring who else but Slash. The spunky *There And Back Again* and the piano-laced *What About Now* are pretty good too.

HOT Tip: Decent debut; good as background music for a quick mood lift



funk, jazz and Carnatic thrown in. The opening number *Sadho Re* has been getting sufficient airtime and is easily the strongest on the album. *Kabira* follows up well. The lyrics for both come from

Kabir's *dohas*. *Shaam Tanha* is easy on the ears and hummable. The rest of the tracks follow suit.

HOT Tip: Quite an angst fest, with some different beats. Worth a listen.



KARAOKE KORNER

An extract from *It's Not Over*

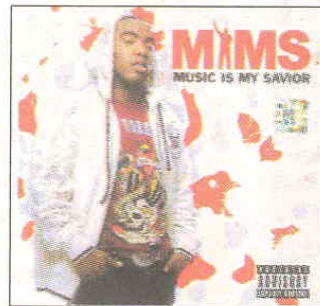
Let's start over.
I'll try to do it right this time around.
It's not over.
'Cause a part of me is dead
and in the ground.
This love is killing me,
But you're the only one.



AGNEE — AGNEE

Label: Sony BMG; Price: Rs 175

The album tagline—'The new face of indi-rock'. Not particularly encouraging, what with so many run-of-the-mill bands claiming their stake in the genre. But this one comes as a breath of fresh air, or should we say spark of fresh flames? It's a medley of folk rock and pop with some

MIMS — MUSIC
IS MY SAVIOUR

Label: EMI
Price: Rs 350

I'm not the biggest rap/hip-hop fan. So I scoff at the title Shawn Mims has chosen for his debut album.

It plays to all the clichés one has of rap/hip-hop artists, perpetuated beyond redemption by Eminem, Nelly and 50 Cent. Now that the gripe is out, let's talk music! Mims has scored a smash hit with the catchy *This Is Why I'm Hot*. The lyrics are something else though. Other decent tracks are *Cop It* and *Big Black Train*, apart from the danceable *Like This*. Fans of established rappers may like this album but it offers very little innovation.

HOT Tip: Bashful and self-indulgent with a few sparks of good music.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2001, 20-year-old Shawn Mims appeared on a Baby Blue Soundcrew compilation, *Private Party Collector's Edition Vol. 2*. He was featured in the first single *Love 'Em All*, with Canadian hip-hop artist Choclair.

