

**THE VOID** — Death to Graceland with Tubring and Peelander-Z. Indie/Punk. \$6.  
**YORK STREET CAFE** — Hard Molly with Denial. Rock. Cover.

## MONDAY DECEMBER 30

**BABA BUDAN'S** — Sonya Gaier. Acoustic/Folk. Free.  
**BAR HUMBUG** — DJ Round Boy presents the Dark Side of Pop. Dance/House. Free.  
**CODY'S CAFE** — The Brian Newman Quartet. Jazz. Free.  
**CODY'S LOUNGE** — Andrew and Jeremy. Acoustic. Free.  
**THE CRICKET LOUNGE** — Herb Kirchener. Jazz/Lounge. Free.  
**DEE FELICE CAFE** — Earl Waldman. Jazz/Solo piano. Free.  
**DEUCE'S WILD** — Bob Cushing. Acoustic/Rock. Free.  
**JEFFERSON HALL** — Rick Douglas Band. Rock. Cover.  
**MAD FROG** — Tropicoso. Latin. Cover.  
**NORTHSIDE TAVERN** — Kim Taylor. Pop Rock. Free.  
**RARE ELEGANCE CAFE** — Absolute 1. Jazz/R&B. Free.  
**SOUTHGATE HOUSE** — Thistle, Fizzgig, El Gigante, Caruso and Abigail. Rock. Cover.  
**STANLEY'S PUB** — New Year's Eve "Eve" Party with Big Whiskey and Ossified. Rock. Cover.

## TUESDAY DECEMBER 31

**A.J.'S ALLEY** — Porcelain Will. Rock. Cover.  
**AIOLI** — Pamela Mallory and Wayne Yeager. Acoustic/Jazz. Free.  
**ALLYN'S CAFE** — Katie Pritchard. Acoustic. Free.  
**ARNOLD'S BAR & GRILL** — Fred Gary. Acoustic. Free; Side Cars. Western Swing. Free.  
**ART'S BILLIARDS AND BAR** — DJ Lily Luv with Mista Rare Groove. Dance/Funk. Free.  
**BARRELHOUSE BREWING CO.** — Worldwide. Funk. Cover.  
**BRIARWOOD** — Bill Smith. Solo piano. Free.  
**BURNING DESIRES** — DJ Jimmy Mack. Dance. Free.  
**CABARET CLUB** — The Back Street Band. Classic Rock/Dance. Cover.  
**★ THE CAVERN** — The Giant Judys (see To Do picks, page 23) and Boy Radio. Dance/Indie/Pop. Cover.  
**CODY'S CAFE** — DQ. Hip Hop. Free.  
**CODY'S LOUNGE** — Tristen Shields. Acoustic. Free.  
**THE CRICKET LOUNGE** — Herb Kirchener. Jazz/Lounge. Free.  
**DEE FELICE CAFE** — Earl Waldman. Jazz/Solo piano. Free.  
**FELDY'S** — Kenny Cowden. Acoustic. Free.  
**HAVANA MARTINI CLUB** — Mickey Esposito. Lounge. Cover.

**HILL STATION** — Outlet. Rock. Cover.  
**HOPPS** — Rusty Griswolds. Rock. Cover.  
**JACK QUINN'S IRISH ALEHOUSE** — Roger Drawdy and The Firestarters with Speakinginagreen. Celtic. Free.  
**JAZZMANIA** — Bruce Menefield Trio. Jazz. Cover.  
**JEFFERSON HALL** — Friar Tuck. Rock. Cover.  
**JUDI'S PUB** — Lethal. Rock. Free.  
**KNOTTY PINE** — Dallas Moore Band. Outlaw Country. \$10.  
**LA NORMANDIE** — Danny Frazier. Acoustic. Free.  
**LUCILLE'S** — The Natalie Wells Band. Blues. Cover.  
**MADISON INN** — Sonny Moorman Group. Blues. Cover.  
**MADISON THEATER** — Fuzzy Feet. Rock. \$60.  
**MANNA VEGETARIAN DELI** — Segunda Venida. Jazz. \$2.  
**MILLION'S CAFE** — Higher Ground. Rock. Cover.

**NORTHSIDE TAVERN** — Rat Fuel with The Not. Rock. Free.  
**ONE EYED JACK'S** — T-Sly Trio. Fusion. Cover.  
**PANE E VINO** — Nick Fryer Trio. Jazz. Free.  
**PAPA GALLO'S** — Tension, Neveah and Psychobabble. Rock. \$10.  
**PEECOX I** — ESP. Rock. Cover.  
**PEECOX II** — Skut Fargus. Rock. Cover.  
**PLUSH** — Gravity Bass. Drum and Bass. Cover.  
**RARE ELEGANCE CAFE** — Absolute 1. Jazz/R&B. Free.  
**RICK'S TAVERN AND GRILL** — Trump Tight. Dance/Funk. Cover.  
**ROUNDING THIRD** — Rounding Third. Rock. Free.  
**SHADY'S PUB** — Swinging Johnsons. Blues. Cover.  
**★ SOUTHGATE HOUSE** — Ray's Music Exchange, The Comet Bluegrass Allstars, The Swarthy Band, Iswhat?!, Peach Melba and The Walker Project (see To Do picks, page 23). Various. Cover.

**STABLES** — Corona Styles. Rock. Cover.  
**STANLEY'S PUB** — Open Mic Night. Various. Free.  
**THE STRIKE ZONE** — Boe Davis and the Broken Arrow Band. Country. \$10.  
**TURNER GILL'S** — Dakota. Country. \$3.  
**VILLAGE TAVERN** — The Kevin Fox Band. Rock. Cover.  
**WOODEN HORSE TAVERN** — Twisted Fate. Rock. Cover.  
**YORK STREET CAFE** — Masala. Rock. Cover.

## WEDNESDAY JANUARY 1

**BAR HUMBUG** — Brit Nite. BritPop. Free.  
**BEACH'S GROESBECK TAVERN** — Ken Cowden. Acoustic/Rock. Free.  
**BLIND LEMON** — Ray Solinski. Acoustic. Free.

**BLUE WISP JAZZ CLUB** — Blue Wisp Big Band. Jazz. Cover.  
**BREAK ROOM LOUNGE** — Pedro-X Blues Explosion. Blues/Various. Free.  
**BRIAN'S SPORTS BAR** — DJ Jimmy Mack. Dance. Free.  
**BRIARWOOD** — Bill Smith. Solo piano. Free.  
**CHEZ NORA** — Ricky Nye. Blues. Free.  
**THE CRICKET LOUNGE** — Herb Kirchener. Jazz/Lounge. Free.  
**CROW'S NEST** — Bob Cushing. Acoustic/Rock. Free.  
**DEE FELICE CAFE** — Phil Burkhead, Lou Lausche and Ron McCurdy. Jazz. Free.  
**DUCK CREEK COUNTRY CLUB** — Open Mic. Singer/Songwriter. Free.  
**FELDY'S** — Rick Leighton. Acoustic. Free.  
**THE GREENWICH** — Open mic poetry with Tsunami. Spoken word. Free.  
**HARDY'S ROCK CAFE** — Open Mic hosted by Justus. Acoustic. Free.  
**JEFF RUBY'S** — Airwave with Dixie and Ted Karas. Adult Contemporary/R&B. Free.  
**LA NORMANDIE** — The Goshorn Brothers. Rock. Free.  
**NORTHSIDE TAVERN** — Jeff Wehmeier. Acoustic. Free.  
**ONE EYED JACK'S** — Open Mic with Nicholas Tuttle. Various. Cover.  
**PI'S ON THE SQUARE** — Ray Heckman and friends. Rock. Free.  
**PANE E VINO** — Nick Fryer Trio. Jazz. Free.  
**PETE'S CAFÉ** — Michael and Jeff from House Party. Acoustic. Free.  
**PIRATE'S COVE TROPICAL BAR AND GRILL** — Ras Shaggai. Rock. Free.  
**RARE ELEGANCE CAFE** — Absolute 1. Jazz/R&B. \$5.  
**STANLEY'S PUB** — Big Whiskey. Acoustic/Rock. Free.  
**STEIN AND VINE AT THE HERITAGE** — Kenny Poole. Jazz. Free.  
**VILLAGE TAVERN** — Snowshoe Crabs. Rock. Free.  
**WEEZEE'S** — Open Jam with Rick House Band. Rock. Free.

## Upcoming Concerts

**JASON MRIZ** — 20th Century Theater. Monday, Jan. 13. \$8/\$10 day of show. 513-562-4949.  
**DAVE HOLLAND QUINTET** — Lexington Opera House. Saturday, Feb. 1. \$23-\$14. 859-233-4567.  
**PHISH** — U.S. Bank Arena (formerly Firststar Center). Friday, Feb. 21. \$37.50. 513-562-4949.  
**PHISH** — U.S. Bank Arena (formerly Firststar Center). Saturday, Feb. 22. \$37.50. 513-562-4949.  
**REGINA CARTER** — Lexington Opera House. Sunday, March 2. \$23-\$14. 859-233-4567.  
**BEN KWELLER** — 20th Century Theater. Thursday, March 6. \$12. 513-562-4949.

# POSITIVELY YEAH YEAH YEAH

BY JOHN M. JAMES

With the rolling wheels of the record industry grinding down for a holiday break, here are more of my picks for the best of 2002:

### Best Spoken Word CD of the Year: Paul Krassner — *Irony Lives!* (Artemis Records)

Recorded earlier this year in the post-Sept. 11 dialogue, this thinking man's comedy release comes from the fertile and skewed mind of co-founder of the Youth International Party (Yippies) and all around muckraker. It's a nail among the balloons of government and the media elite. From his days on the run from the FBI with Jerry Rubin and Abbie Hoffman to publishing *The Realist* from 1958 to 1974 and numerous books published in the 1990s, Krassner's scope takes deadly aim at the hypocrisy of our abundant society and consumer culture. Conservative listeners might have to sit on their hands to keep from drawing up their fists in anger, but you might be surprised to hear your own mind click along with his logic between the laughs. Wide-eyed and sharply perceptive, this founding father of the underground press has his most fun shining his light on the media. Catching blips and sound bites from the mainstream, his take on major news networks' spin on the tragedy, overworked terrorists and homeland security is brilliantly funny and refreshingly paranoid. Other highlights include his observations on the CIA, conspiracy theorists and induction into the Cannabis Cup Hall of Fame.

## Best Cover Concept CDs of the Year:

OK, I admit it, I'm a cover fiend. My ears are always perked for those perfect moments when an artist transcends the original version of a song and calls it his or her own. From tender, loving tributes to wacky juxtapositions of unbelievable pairings, the art of the cover version is magic, drawing eyes up and puzzled grins — "Was that really what I think I just heard?" Here's my pick for three shining stars of the musical salute, each one proving that maybe it really is the singer, not the song:

### Various Artists — *When Pigs Fly: Songs You Never Thought You'd Hear* (Xemu/Aorta Records)

Featuring a dozen mind-melting tracks like

Don Ho's take on Peter Gabriel's "Shock the Monkey" and Lesley Gore of "It's My Party"-fame covering AC/DC's "Dirty Deeds Down Cheap," this collection has the most giggles and outrageous delight. Where else could one conceive indie inspiration Ani DiFranco and martial arts superstar Jackie Chan singing a duet of Nat King Cole's classic, "Unforgettable," or Billy Preston's R&B funkification of Duran Duran's "Girls on Film?" I can't pick my personal favorite track: a droll delivery of Cypress Hills' "Insane in the Brain" by The Connells or Alex Chilton and the Box Tops' spin on Blondie's "Call Me."

### Eva Cassidy — *Imagine* (Blix Street Records)

Tragically haunting, this collection of previously unreleased tracks from the late singer opens with a beautiful cover of Paul Anka's "It Doesn't Matter Anymore," best known by the hit renditions by Buddy Holly and Linda Ronstadt. Primarily discovered by most of the world after her death at the age of 33 in 1996, Cassidy possessed a most perfect voice — relaxed and pensive like a deep-warm bath, soaring pure and free. And it's no wonder that those who've heard her pause sadly at the thought of her heavenly voice stilled much too soon. Known for her gorgeous interpretation of other writers' songs, these selections come from archives of her limited recording output.

### Luther Wright & the Wrongs — *Rebuild the Wall* (Back Porch/Snakeye Music)

Knee-slappin' and delightfully weird, this steel guitar, lonesome back-woods howler is a corn-fed cover of Pink Floyd's double-LP opus, *The Wall*, in its entirety. Strolling along with finger picked six-strings, fiddle, banjo and clarinet, it's uncanny how well classics like "Mother" and "Run Like Hell" sound in this genre, asking the eternal question, "Daddy, what did you leave behind for me?" More serious than *Hee-Haw* silly, these good ol' boys have their tongues in their cheeks and their hands on the pedal steel guitar, the sound of drifting cattle at the end of "Another Brick in the Wall, Part 2," mooing in the moonlight. Highly recommended to tweak the mind of Floyd fanatics.

CONTACT JOHN JAMES: yeahyeah@one.net. Find more new "Yeah" at [citybeat.com](http://citybeat.com).

## NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY CHICAGO'S LEGENDARY DEEP HOUSE DJ: BOO WILLIAMS *deep house*

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