

Column: Punk Rock Scouting Report

Posted on May 6, 2020

Words by Jim Testa



Jim Testa founded the highly influential zine, Jersey Beat in 1982 which he continues to edit to this day. Through writing for his own publication and a number of other outlets, including as a staff writer for Hudson County's Jersey Journal, he has championed local, regional and national up-and-coming bands. Punk has always shunned credentials, but rest assured that Jim won't lead you astray.

There's no baseball, no shows, nothing to do but sit home and listen to music and wait for the quarantine to end. So every album gets to round the bases this month; it's a column of **HOME RUNS**. Stay well, be smart, try not to go crazy.

[Josie Cotton](#) – Invasion Of The B Girls ([Kitten Robot Records](#))

Here's another blast from the past, one-hit wonder new-wave diva Josie Cotton (of "Johnny, Are You Queer?" fame) returning to the spotlight. The theme here tickles the imagination, as Josie unearths shoulda-been hits from the forgotten soundtracks of trashy B-movies like *She Devils On Wheels*, *Green Slime*, *Beyond The Valley Of The Dolls*, and John Waters' *Female Trouble* (Waters wrote liner notes for the CD packaging.) And guess what? It works. These kitschy classics make perfect fodder for Cotton's sex-kitten vocals, from garage-rock to funk to lounge. Cotton never camps it up or condescends to the material, treating every one of these tracks with the care they deserve. She even turns "Goodbye Godzilla" from 1985's awful *The Return Of Godzilla* into a legitimate ballad that holds its own alongside any Bond theme.