

LA MUERTE EXPERIMENT IN TERROR

Play It Again Sam

YOU know, there are times when all of us need a little filth. La Muerte, one of those well-dodgy Belgian combos that Play It Again Sam seem to unearth with unashamed gusto, know this only too well.

"Experiment In Terror" is an experiment in filth. An album of cover versions, it takes the art of desecration to unmitigated depths, like hearing a jukebox filtering through the bowels of Hell, but it does have a certain charm, one that gives way to a warped fascination. "Crazy Horses" (yes, *The Osmonds'* "Crazy Horses"!) is the sort of song that has been terminally uncool, but La Muerte have succeeded in unearthing — at the heart of Donny's Mormonic anthem — an almost neanderthal, ravaging mentality. Their version of Johnny Cash's "San Quentin" could be an outtake from Cave's "Kicking Against The Pricks", and is perhaps the most "straight" rendition here, while the Woodstock stomper, "On The Road Again", resurfaces as an unholy Black Sabbath-laden blast of R&B, and Bobby Gentry's "Ode To Billie Joe" is reborn (aborted?) as a sinister, whispery Young Gods epic of molten savagery.

Special mentions for a guttural rendition of Carl Douglas' perennially crap "Kung Fu Fighting" and a Sub Pop mud-brawl through "Summertime Blues".

Pure filth for row people.
DAVE SIMPSON

MELODY
MAKER

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