

## ***Stylus Magazine, Winnipeg MB***

Bar Band Americanus: The Best of Charlie Pickett and...

Charlie Pickett is a bit of an anomaly. In the 1980s underground scene in America, which was still heavily influenced by the punk and new-wave movements, Pickett carved out a niche for himself without co-opting his love for all things bar band. His heroin-influenced songwriting hints at both the voodoo rock of Johnny Thunders, as well as *Exile on Main Street*-era Rolling Stones. *Bar Band Americanus* is a thorough collection of his best tracks from his two LPs as Charlie and the Eggs with the addition of a few live tracks (something all bar-band albums ought to have). It's a captivating document of an indie-rock pioneer who brought together the "no future" motif of punk and the "screw it, let's drink!" mentality lurking beneath most great rock records. (Bloodshot Records, [www.bloodshot.com](http://www.bloodshot.com)) **Jeff Friesen**