

High Bias

Listening with extreme prejudice

Album Reviews

11.27.05

THE THIEVES

Tales From the White Line

(Liquor and Poker)

Power trio the Thieves may be based in Los Angeles, but it migrated from Oxford, England. As such, the Stokes brothers and drummer Jamie Dawson meld the singalong melodies of British pop with the Detroit-fed noisemongering of American heavy rock for a predictably enticing confection. The Canadian band Sea of Green attempted this hybrid a few years ago, failing miserably due to inadequate songwriting. The Thieves have no such problem, as tracks like "Oh No," "It Still Goes On" and "The Road (It Never Leads Us)" balance pop finesse and rock & roll fury extremely well. *Michael Toland*