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SURFING THE WAVES OF POPULAR CULTURE
BY MICHAEL GILTZ & FRIENDS

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The Strokes: The Popsurfing Review

Just got around to digging into the new Strokes CD while driving through the rain to sell books, pick up mail and play chauffeur while directorboy -- a dandy if there ever was one -- spent time mulling over fabrics and textures at Bergdorf's and Saks.

Whether you ignored the hype or were disappointed by the second CD, don't hesitate to pick up "First Impressions On Earth." I defended "Room on Fire," but hearing this makes me realize how much more I should have expected. A slightly fuller feel without the Wall of Sound that was so exciting on the first CD but somewhat monotonous on the second. As directorboy said, you can pick out all the instruments now, singer Julian Casablancas does a good Ric Ocasek every once in a while and after three spins you just know you're going to keep liking it more and more. The Strokes are in it for the long haul.

Best line comes on "Razor Blade" -- "My feelings are more important than yours."

**** (4/4)

POSTED BY MICHAEL IN NEW YORK AT 2:28 PM



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