

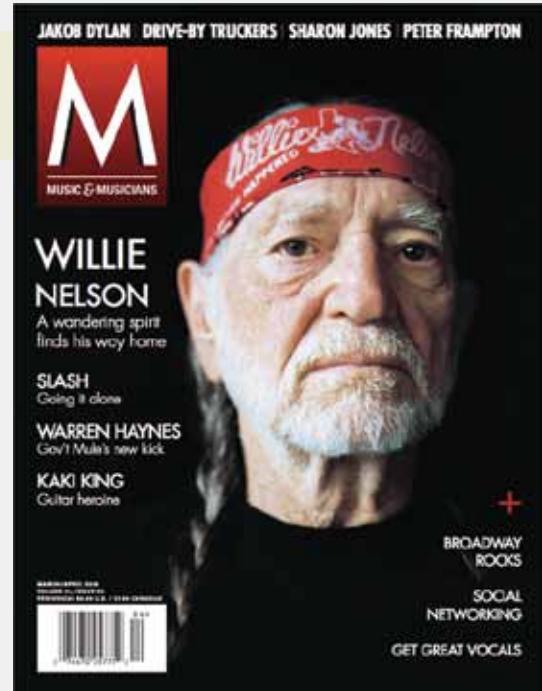


BLACK FRANCIS

NonStopErotik
[Cooking Vinyl]

Occasional Pixies leader Black Francis has tended to alternate between albums full of honeyed crooning (*Honeycomb*, aptly enough) and noisy collections of unhinged sonic mayhem (*Bluefinger*). He marries the two on his latest, making for an intriguing union that turns unsettling with creepy vocals on the minor-key ballad "Rabbits" and the seemingly unconnected rhythm track that chugs along under "My Tidy Sum." He shows off his volatile side elsewhere, going all loud-quiet-loud on "Six Legged Man" and unleashing a raw scream or two on "Dead Man's Curve," a terse rocker that piles lacerating guitars on top of soulful piano. Sometimes the sex is veiled but more often it's not: "Cinema Star" extols the joys of, er, home movies, and "When I Go Down On You" is self-explanatory (and surprisingly sweet). It's a bold suggestion, but then Black Francis has never been shy. – Eric R. Danton

AS SEEN IN:



"Francis marries honeyed crooning and noisy collections of unhinged sonic mayhem—making for an intriguing union.

- *M Music & Musicians*

March/April 2010