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# SOUNDGARDEN

In less than half a decade, Seattle quartet Soundgarden has steadily risen from credible underground indie roots into one of the most formidable and respected new bands in rock today. Purveyors and innovators of the now-famous Northwest scene which has since spawned the likes of Nirvana, Pearl Jam and Alice In Chains, this power-laden outfit—vocalist Chris Cornell, guitarist Kim Thayil, drummer Matt Cameron and bassist Ben Shepherd—have made their mark by unleashing a deep catalogue of rock with balls; uncompromisingly believable yet metallically blistering.

Soundgarden's career reads like a virtual Who's Who of alternative rock: 1987's **SCREAMING LIFE EP** and 1988's **FOPP EP**, (both on Sub Pop). The latter is a collection featuring covers by the Ohio Players (the title track), and "Swallow My Pride" by local faves Green River, (penned by future Mudhoney members Mark Arm and Steve Turner). The Grammy nominated **ULTRAMEGA OK** album was released in 1988 on the SST label and was followed by two well-received A&M offerings—'89's critically-acclaimed **LOUDER THAN LOVE**, and last year's **BAD-MOTOREFINGER**, certified gold with over 750,000 units sold domestically at press time (also nominated for a Grammy), and features MTV "Buzz Bin" video hits "Outshined" and "Rusty Cage." In between their two Terry Date (Pantera, Screaming Trees) produced major-league efforts, Cornell and Cameron teamed up with future Pearl Jam members Stone Gossard and Jeff Ament to record the **TEMPLE OF THE DOG LP**, a tribute to the late Mother Love Bone frontman Andrew Wood, Chris' ex-roommate who died of a 1990 heroin overdose.

The past year has seen Soundgarden make the leap from club circuit heroes to arena stalwarts; opening for Metallica in front of 65,000 at the prestigious Day On The Green concert at Oakland Coliseum last October, performing to over half a million Guns 'N' Roses fans in a little over two months, on the behest of longtime supporter W. Axl Rose (including a successful June 6 Paris pay-per-view special as part of their European stadium jaunt with G 'N' R and Faith No More), a sold-out nationwide headlining tour supported by Swervedriver and Monster Magnet, as well as a coveted position on Lollapalooza II with the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Ministry, Pearl Jam, Ice Cube, The Jesus and Mary Chain and Lush. To coincide with their Lollapalooza appearances, Soundgarden have repackaged **BADMOTOREFINGER** with a free bonus **SOMMS EP**—the title is the abbreviation of Satanoscillatemy metallicsonatas, the world's longest known palindrome—including covers of Devo's "Girl U Want," and the Rolling Stones' "Stray Cat Blues," a re-working of Black Sabbath's "Into The Void (Sealth)" with lyrics culled from an 1852 letter from Indian Chief Sealth to the U.S. government, as well as a live version of "Slaves and Bulldozers" and the previously commercially unavailable "She's A Politician."

Also on the near horizon comes the late summer release of Cameron Crowe's latest film shot in Seattle "Singles," which features Cornell in his minor-part big screen debut, as well as the band's riveting offering "Birth Ritual," and the Chris Cornell solo track "Seasons." The power-packed soundtrack album will also feature contributions from Mudhoney, Pearl Jam, Alice In Chains and many more.

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A key to Soundgarden's success has been the crossover appeal of their music. From metalheads hooked on Thayil's searing guitar work and Cornell's soaring vocal style, to alternative rock fans who set the band's fan base from day one, to average pop listeners pulled in by a combination of Chris' songwriting finesse and dynamic presence, Seattle's finest create a sonic brew that defies definition. "It would be great if people didn't label us but they do," offers the longhaired singer. "I guess my point is that it doesn't bother me because they're not all saying the same thing, which means that we really don't fit into a category, and that's good. It'd be really nice if they wouldn't try to do that; it'd be nice if they just took one band at a time instead of the whole genre at a time." From the respect and success they've attained, Soundgarden seem poised for world domination, one fan at a time.

#### Soundgarden Discography:

Deep Six (Comp w/ 2 tracks)	C/Z	1986
Screaming Life (EP)	Sub Pop	1987
FOPP (EP)	Sub Pop	1988
Ultramega OK (LP)	SST	1988
Flower (12")	SST	1989
Louder Than Love (LP)	A&M	1989
"HIV Baby"/"Room A Thousand Years Wide" (7")	Sub Pop	1990
BADMOTORFINGER (LP)	A&M	1991
above w/ Ltd. SOMMS (...)	A&M	1992
Soundtracks & Films:		
Lost Angels	A&M	1989
Pump Up The Volume	MCA	1990
Singles	Epic	1992
Movies Only (w/o soundtracks):		
Say Anything		1989
Pacific Heights		1990
Sex, Drugs And Rock & Roll		1991
Wayne's World		1992