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## Selected Amazon Reviews

### "THE BEST OF BIG DADDY"

#### **JUKEBOX DAVE**

*4.0 out of 5 stars* **THE FATHER OF ROCK & ROLL**

Reviewed in the United States on February 7, 2022

BIG DADDY-THE BEST OF BIG DADDY:

Fans of DR. DEMENTO, his protégé WEIRD AL, and rockin' revivalists SHANA-NA-NA will dig BIG DADDY. Their shtick, rebooting pop hits like WHIP IT, DANCING IN THE DARK and SUPER FREAK as ELVIS era oldies, is unlike any other working band. Shades of PAT BOONE, THE COASTERS, LITTLE RICHARD, THE BEACH BOYS, even HARRY BELEFONTE run rampant throughout these kitsch-encrusted remakes. Half the fun is unraveling the myriad influences that twist CELINE DION's tepid MY HEART WILL GO ON and PRINCE'S erotic LITTLE RED CORVETTE into infectious ear candy. EYE OF THE TIGER done acapella style? MONEY FOR NOTHING channeled through TENNESSE ERNIE FORD? THE FAB FOUR reconfigured via their hero BUDDY HOLLY? This jive jukebox of juvenile delinquents has it covered! In terms of creativity, entertainment value, and sheer unadulterated fun, BIG DADDY is no joke.

RATING: FOUR STACKS O' WAX

#### **RICH**

*5.0 out of 5 stars* **Big Daddy**

Reviewed in the United States on September 23, 2012

I have the MP3's for the following Big Daddy CDs. Great group. I keep in touch with Marty Kaniger regularly. This is a great group. Anyone who went to 'Blast to the Past' in Disneyland in 1988 saw them at the Tomorrow Land Stage. You can see them on 'You Tube'. Anything by them is worth buying

(Continued on next page)

Best of Big Daddy  
Cutting their Own Groove  
Meanwhile, Back in the States  
Sgt Peppers Big Daddy  
What Really Happened to the Band of '59

## **MONTY ASHLEY**

*5.0 out of 5 stars* **Big Daddy are weird and great!**

Reviewed in the United States on November 19, 2000

The idea behind Big Daddy is that they take recent songs and play them as though they were from the '50s. For instance, "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" is sung with its original melody and harmony, but it's been arranged so it sounds like "Duke of Earl".

This album has selections from all four of Big Daddy's tragically-out-of-print albums, including the brilliant "Sgt. Pepper", where they remade every song on the Beatles' "Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band". "A Day in the Life" is done as Buddy Holly would have sung it, and it's mighty fine. There's also a new version of "My Heart Will Go On" with, it says here, "Sound Effects courtesy of Rhino Records 'SON OF SCARY SOUNDS'." Yikes!

All of the songs sound great, and in some cases (I'm thinking particularly about "Super Freak" and "Eye of the Tiger") are actually improved by the new versions. And it's important to keep this in mind: it's hilarious!

## **ROYAL CITY HOMEBOY**

*5.0 out of 5 stars* **It's About Time**

Reviewed in the United States on September 29, 2001

The first time that I had ever heard a Big Daddy tune was on Rhino Records 15th anniversary cd. The two tracks were Super Freak and Dancin' In the Dark. Wow!! I thought I had died and gone to parody heaven. Since then, I've purchased Cutting Their Own Groove and their Sgt. Pepper's tribute. These guys are totally awesome. When is Rhino going to reissue Big Daddy's first two releases and what about any live tracks that may be floating around???? All I can say is please Misters Bronson and Foos give us more Big Daddy.

(Continued on next page)

**Phyl**

*5.0 out of 5 stars* **I fell for the myth hook, line and sinker!**

Reviewed in the United States on April 6, 2001

When I was a teenager in the eighties I heard about Big Daddy on BBC Radio 1. Apparently they were imprisoned by Communist guerillas in Laos in the 50s and not released until the mid-80s. When they were released, they were given sheet music of modern songs and recorded them in their own inimitable style. On reading the sleeve notes I discover this to have been a hoax. Well done Marty Kaniger, and shame on you! I fell for the whole thing and told my husband about it 20 years later and bought the album. Twenty years on, it sounds just as entertaining and innovative, and I shall tell my friends all about it. We particularly like the totally irreverent take on Prince's "Little Red Corvette" I highly recommend this album.

### **Selected Amazon Reviews**

**"CRUISIN' THROUGH THE RHINO YEARS"**

**See next four pages...**

# Cover Classics: Big Daddy's 'Cruisin' Through the Rhino Years'

Posted by Patrick Robbins at 5:00 pm  
Oct 10 2014

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*Cover Classics* takes a closer look at all-cover albums of the past, their genesis, and their legacy.



Weird Al Yankovic got a lot of attention this summer (and deservedly so) for releasing a new album that made it to number one on the charts, but he's not the only novelty master from the '80s to be doing well for himself lately. Big Daddy, the band that sprayed american graffiti all over the hits of the day back in the day, have a new album coming out next week – *Smashin' Songs of Stage & Screen*, which Big-Daddifies songs from hit musicals ranging from *Wizard of Oz* to *Saturday Night Fever*. Earlier this year, they also put out a collection of their greatest hits of the '80s and early '90s, *Cruisin' Through the Rhino Years*, that cherry-picks highlights from the four albums they released for the Rhino Records label. If you've already got *The Best of Big Daddy*, their 2000 compilation, you'll have sixteen of these songs already – but you'll want to spring for this to get five more.

Longtime readers of Cover Me may remember our salute to the band's full-album cover of *Sgt. Pepper*; if you liked what they did there, you're in for a treat (or five, if you keep reading)...

**Note...video links are active through YouTube but not directly from these pages.**

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## Big Daddy – Super Freak (Rick James cover)



If the Everly Brothers album *Songs Our Daddy Taught Us* had included a song about the kind of girl you don't take home to Mother, it might have sounded something like this. "Super Freak" goes from street-smart to backwoods-trail-smart, and it left MC Hammer shaking his head and muttering, "Certainly can't touch *this*."

## Big Daddy – Baby Got Back (Sir Mix-A-Lot cover)



Jonathan Coulton's not the only one to turn this salute to the callipygous among us into a brand new song. Here, Big Daddy give "Baby Got Back" the Kingston Trio treatment for another appreciative audience; they don't need to hang down their heads and cry about the results.

*Cruisin' Through the Rhino Years* is a download-only release, available on [iTunes](#) and [Amazon](#), and more Big Daddy material can be found on [their website](#).

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## Big Daddy – Eye of the Tiger (Survivor cover)



Remember at the beginning of *Rocky* when Sylvester Stallone walked past the street corner singers (including his brother Frank) singing "Take You Back"? Here's how those guys might have sounded seven years down the road, recording the theme to *Rocky III*. The Frankie Valli nod is a nice touch.

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## Big Daddy – Once in a Lifetime (Talking Heads cover)



Big Daddy takes the Talking Heads' world-musical bent to its logical conclusion, giving "Once in a Lifetime" the calypso stylings of Harry Belafonte. David Byrne is on record as enjoying this version; one can imagine him listening to it until daylight come and he wanna go home.

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## Big Daddy – Little Red Corvette (Prince cover)



You have to know the million-selling song “**Beep Beep**” by the **Playmates** in order to fully get the joke, but not to enjoy what Big Daddy did to “Little Red Corvette.” What’s especially fun about this live performance is how the audience clearly doesn’t know the song that’s being remade until the chorus kicks in; their horror at the end of the third line is delirious fun.

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## From Amazon for “CRUISIN’ THROUGH THE RHINO YEARS”

### Cali Rose Brandau

5.0 out of 5 stars I love the song list because it looks like the best ...

Reviewed in the United States on July 11, 2014

Whoo-Hoo! The release of this Big Daddy compilation album is big news to me! I love the song list because it looks like the best of the best from all the Big Daddy Rhino albums, plus there are bonus tracks I have never heard. It's a win-win. Music that is fun, makes me feel good and gets me through the day.

### Off Your Rocker Productions

5.0 out of 5 stars So happy to hear of this release -- Thanks Rhino

Reviewed in the United States on July 26, 2014

So happy to hear of this release -- Thanks Rhino! -- it's a compilation of some of the most clever mash-ups ever -- and those Big Daddy guys sure know how to sing!!