



John Kruth wears a lot of hats. He is a singer/songwriter and multi-instrumentalist (mandolin/guitar/banjo/harmonica). The Star Ledger (Newark, NJ) has called Kruth "a major talent, with an understanding of how to craft a first-class lyric." John has recorded seven albums and performed at **Carnegie Hall** as a soloist for composer **John Corigliano**. He has also performed with playwright **Sam Shepard**, poet **Allen Ginsberg**, performance artist **Laurie Anderson**, producer **Hal Willner**, folksinger **John Prine**, **Dogbowl** and other members of **King Missile** as well as **Violent Femmes**, the **Meat Puppets**, **Elliott Sharp** and formed the **Electric Chairmen** with members of **Camper Van Beethoven**. Kruth's curiosity and diversity continually leads him into a variety of intriguing musical settings, from New York to Nashville, from Morocco to Croatia, from Ireland to India as well as England, Spain, Germany and the Navajo Nation. U. Rajesh, the Carnatic mandolin virtuoso of India has called John "a true artist," while jazz guitarist John Scofield hailed his performance as "burnin'." Kruth's picking once inspired Robert Plant (of Led Zeppelin) to enthuse: "great mandolin playing, mate!" Blues/rock guitarist James "Blood" Ulmer told Kruth, "you're a real entertainer" after he watched him wow the crowd at a tribute to Neil Young in Prospect Park in 1994. And the godmother of punk, Patti Smith, after listening to Kruth's Songs from the Windy Attic told John: "I like your album. You've got a nice voice."

John Kruth is also a professor of music at Manhattan College, a journalist, producer of records and musical events and whenever the inspiration strikes, a poet. Kruth's latest book, *To Live's To Fly-the Ballad of Townes Van Zandt*, is due from Da Capo Press on March 2007 and his writing has appeared in New York Times, Rolling Stone, The Progressive, Sing Out!, Frets, Wax Poetics, Fretboard Journal and Signal to Noise.

10 years in the making, Kruth's new disc on Madison, Wisconsin indie label Crustacean Records is something to be thankful for. Produced by Paul "Evil" Kneever's the disc features 10 Kruth originals (with four instrumentals) and a cast of legendary Wisconsin musicians including **Brian Ritchie** and **Victor DeLorenzo** of **Violent Femmes**, **Dan Kubinski** of **Die Kreuzen**, **Sigmund Snopek III**, **Paul Kneever's**, **Mike Hoffman** of **Semi Twang** and the **Carnival Stippers**, **John Frankovic** of **Plasticland**, **Jason Loveall** of the **Danglers**, **Jeff Hamilton** of the **Probers**, plus members of the legendary **Milwaukee Creative Music Ensemble** and cellist **Melissa Barnard** of the Australian Chamber Orchestra. Kruth's mandolin is the driving force behind this wild mix of psychedelic and old world music. *Eva Destruction* Kruth's 8th disc, also features the strange and wonderful cover art of surrealist J. Karl Bogartte.



## Track Listing

1. Eva Destruction
2. Mrs. Chagall
3. Another Dimension
4. Majestic Ganesh
5. Dinner Music for the Mob
6. Poor Friedrich
7. Locomotives
8. Goudla's Gypsy Dance
9. The Voluptuous Virtuoso
10. Night Train to the Ukraine

All Tracks FCC Clean

Street Date 12/12/2006

RIYL: Gogol Bordello, Firewater, Calexico, Violent Femmes, The Beatles, Tom Waits

*Eva Destruction* began in 1995, after John Kruth had a life threatening illness that sent him to the ICU and left him bed ridden. In John's words: "After spending a month in bed, Paul "Evil" Kneever's offered to record what I was certain would be my last album. Thankfully, I was wrong. I had cut my first instrumental project, *The Cherry Electric* a year before with the Milwaukee Creative Music Ensemble and was gigging with the dynamic rhythm section of Tom Edler and Matt Morgan, along with Robert Russell on saxophone and guitar. With world beat and the rave scene in full throttle, it seemed like the old three minute song I had been writing for the last ten years was due for a serious overhaul. In my state of delirium, many of these songs in their original form were actually over ten minutes long. But Dr. Evil (Kneever's) got out his switchblade and turned these rambling nebulous sessions into the delightful disc that is now burbling in your ears. It is ten years later and I am punching it out in Manhattan. Things are okay, relatively speaking, considering the new levels of absurdity in Washington, Iraq and Korea, as well as the price of oil, health care and taxis. CBGB's is gone. The World Trade Towers too. And now the time has come to finally unleash *Eva Destruction* and pick up the mandocello once more and rock before (as they say in the Balkans) God says goodnight."

"The Madman of the Mandolin"--San Francisco Guardian



**Artist / Title**

**John Kruth/  
Eva Destruction**

**Compact Disc**



**Catalog #**

**CRST-65**

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