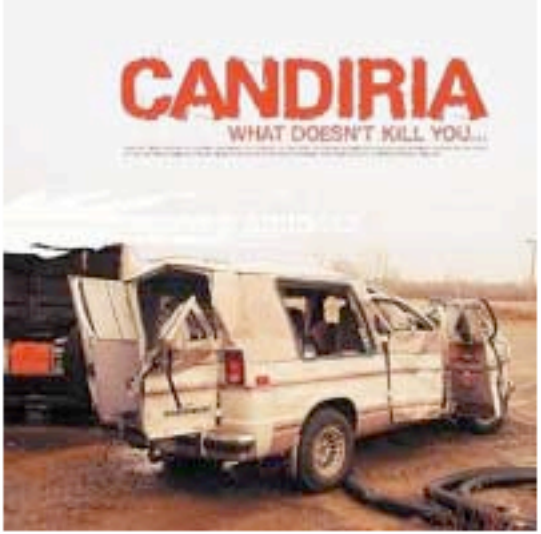

Candiria - What Doesn't Kill You...
Earache Records, 2005

8/10

Brooklyn natives Candiria started out in 1992 but ten years into their lengthy musical career they suffered a serious car crash while on tour in the US which left all members hospitalized for a long period of time. There is not much use of imagination necessary to grasp what the album title refers to as if the cover art is not enough already. I don't know if they are trying to cash in on their accident even further than their insurance money but this is above all a result of their hard struggle to get back to where they were before the crash and move ahead into the future once again. "What Doesn't Kill You" will further distinguish Candiria from the growing grey mass today known as metalcore. Candiria do not settle down with a simple mix of Gothenburg riffs, breakdowns and pseudo-hardcore vocals. Instead they explore, tear down walls and cross borders and do not care if the metal fans think its right or not to include jazz danze beats, rap vocals, reggae rhythms or fusion elements in their mix. Candiria is a band that will definitely not appeal to the majority of metal fans but if you consider yourself open-minded and liberated from the metal community's group mentality don't be afraid of what these New Yorkers are all about. "What Doesn't Kill You" is a solid disc and one of the most interesting and innovative metal releases of 2005. Stand-out tracks: "Remove Yourself", "Down", "9mm Solution".

Vincent Eldefors