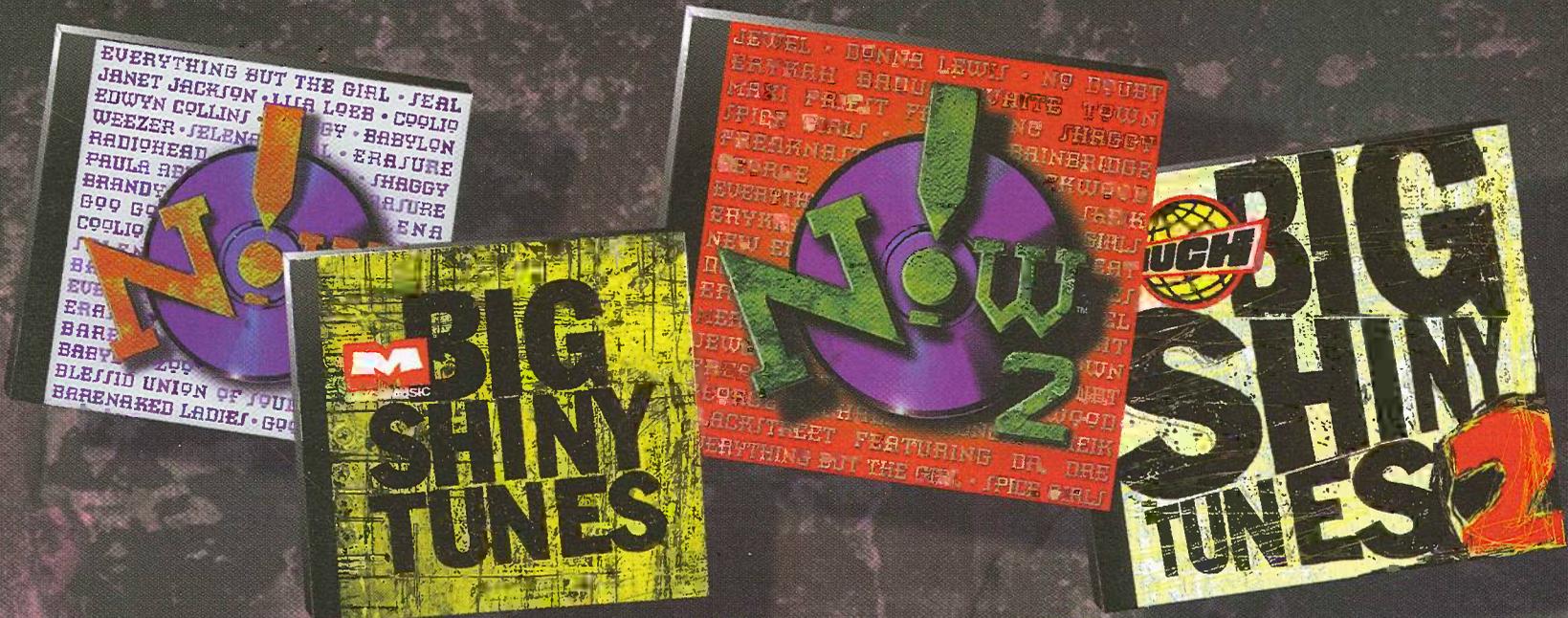


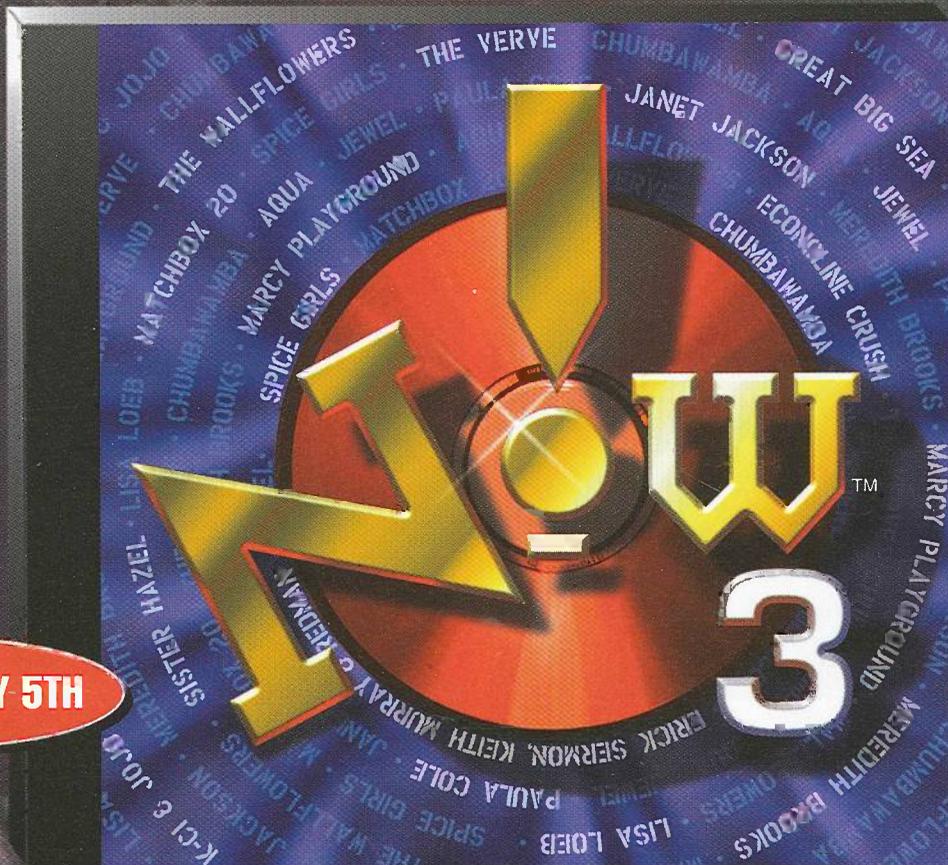
Volume 67 No. 2 - April 6, 1998
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 Mail Registration No. 1351

TWO MILLION IN TWO YEARS!

THANK YOU RACK & RETAIL!



Now Let's Go For Three!



TUESDAY, MAY 5TH



UNIVERSAL MUSIC
www.universalcanada.com



Warner Music returns as marketshare leader

Garry Newman was appointed president of Warner Music Canada on Jan. 22 of this year (RPM - Jan. 26/98). During his 11 week tenure at the helm Warner has chalked up excellent sales, much of it due sell-through from the Christmas season buoyed by a number of high-profile releases, which has resulted in the company commanding 21 per cent of the RPM Top 100 CDs, with four titles in the Top 10: Madonna, Van Halen, Big Shiny Tunes 2, and Eric Clapton (April 6/98). Warner Music now has the marketshare lead.

"It's nice to be back up there," says Newman. "And it's all because of a number of things. It all comes down to what Stan (Kulin) has been saying for a number of years . . . it's the music. Look at our top sellers for the month: Eric Clapton, Van Halen, Madonna, our Frank Sinatra TV package which just shipped, the new movie soundtrack City of Angels, the Wedding Singer, Loreena McKennitt, and Great Big Sea . . . it just goes on and on."

Warner's concentration on Cancon is also paying off with huge sales being registered for McKennitt, Great Big Sea and Blue Rodeo.

Too often of course, it's the tail that's wagging the dog and scheduled releases by some high-profile artists are rescheduled and rescheduled again, which can be frustrating.

"It comes down to the fact that when the artist wants to see it out there, the artist puts it out there. A lot of these releases we have right now were scheduled for the fourth quarter last year and they never showed up. If they had showed up, we would have been on fire . . . we would have entered the new year on a real high note. The artists weren't ready to put them out . . . Madonna, Clapton and Van Halen control their own destiny."

Also of particular note is the success of Big Shiny Tunes, the joint venture between Warner, Universal and EMI, which was heavily promoted by MuchMusic. "It's sold a million and thirty six thousand albums, and it's still selling," says Newman.

Newman is also looking forward to releases scheduled over the next few weeks that should maintain Warner's lead. Included are new albums from country star Faith Hill, who will beef up the

release with Canadian promotion dates; a new Kevin Sharp, who is also a high-profile country artist who went gold in Canada with his last album; a new Page & Plant who will be touring this summer; a new Tori Amos, who has an April 28 date at Toronto's Phoenix Concert Theatre; a live John Fogarty, playing all the past Creedence hits; the Corrs, who sold more than 100,000 copies of their last album in Canada; and a new George Fox.

Also scheduled are releases from Colin James, the Waltons, Moxy Fruvous, plus soundtracks from the Avengers' movie and the soundtrack to the X-Files movie.

Coming up is a major promotion campaign with three Warner acts and an as yet un-named cookie company which will be tied in with Music World.

Although the year is still young and Newman's baptism of fire is still ongoing, he is confident the company will continue to retain its marketshare. "Kim (Cooke) is quietly moving into his new position (senior vice-president and managing director, U.S. division), as is Doug Raaflaub (director, national sales and marketing). Yes, I'm very happy. Everything's working well."

Music Hall holds casting call for Aida male extras

The world premiere of Aida being mounted by Belgium producers Music Hall is looking for more than 500 "culturally-diverse" male extras between the ages of 18 and 35. The extras will portray Egyptian soldiers and guards, Ethiopian prisoners and war victims and the people of Egypt.

The world premiere of the Verdi opera will be performed for one night only at Toronto's SkyDome on May 9.

Extras won't be required to sing or dance, but must be available for rehearsals three evenings a

week beginning April 8. The name of every extra will be included in the souvenir programme and each extra will receive two tickets to the premiere performance. As well, everyone who attends the audition will also qualify to win tickets to the SkyDome event.

The casting call is set for Sunday March 29, 10 am check-in 11 am and 4 pm at Toronto's Randolph School for the Performing Arts at 2 Gloucester Street (at Yonge Street). For more information call the Extras Matter hotline.

Power 88.5FM residency for Tarzan Dan and Don Berns

Tarzan Dan and Don Berns have been added to the on-air lineup at Power 88.5FM in Newmarket, Ontario effective April 6.

Tarzan Dan takes over the morning slot weekdays (5:30 to 8 am), while Berns has control of the afternoon drive (2 to 6 pm), also on weekdays.

Adding these well-known radio personalities is being heralded as "an unprecedented combination in Canadian radio . . . the hottest in dance music and the best in radio talent."

As Program Director Randy Brill points out, "It's all about great radio . . . giving the listeners

what they deserve," stressing that the station is "the only dance radio station in Canada, and as such gives listeners a true alternative to the sanitized programming currently on the market. Tarzan Dan and Don Berns give us the opportunity to showcase one of the most exciting musical styles on the planet."

Tarzan Dan's thoughts on the news was "When I was a kid, I grew up listening to guys who had personality, I'm looking forward to bringing back personality to radio," adding "I'm tired of saying 'Do you want fries with that?'"



Warner Canada president Garry Newman presents Madonna with special award during the Maverick star's Toronto promotion date.

NO. 1 ALBUM



MADONNA
Ray Of Light
Maverick - 46847-P

NO. 1 HIT



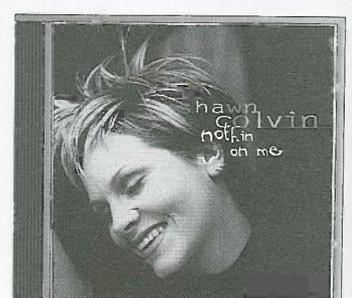
MY HEART WILL GO ON
Celine Dion
5050 Music/Sony-H

ALBUM PICK



LEFT OF THE MIDDLE
Natalie Imbruglia
RCA/BMG - 67634-N

HIT PICK



NOTHIN' ON ME
Shawn Colvin
Sony-H

The Mervishes to stage a celebration of Celtic culture

Ed and David Mervish have announced a brand new 100 per cent Canadian creation to be staged at Toronto's Princess of Wales Theatre. The production of *Needfire: Passion of the Heart*, will bring together an all-Canadian company of more than 60 performers from across Canada (RPM - March 30).



Needfire music director Rick Fox, John McDermott and writer Tom Lackey (Photo by Tom Sandler).

The musical is being touted as "a theatrical evening of story, music, song and dance celebrating Canada's unique Celtic culture," and a peek at the principal artists solidifies that claim. The lineup includes John McDermott, who is credited with fostering the new Celtic revolution in Canadian music, Gaelic songstress Mary Jane Lamond, well-known down home/Celtic/country artist John Allan Cameron, and Juno award-winning Irish Descendants.

The musical will also introduce new performers: the Ennis Sisters, singer/songwriter Jim Fidler, multi-instrumentalist Duncan Cameron, pipers Sandy & Rob Campbell, Celtic harpist Paul Lauzon and 12-year old fiddling prodigy Jeffrey Gosse.

Denny Doherty, the Papa of the Mamas &

Papas, and a native of Halifax, will play John Michael, around whom the *Needfire* story revolves.

Ottawa Valley and Cape Breton stepdancers along with Scottish and Irish dance routines will showcase the talents of Deirdre Athaide, Siobhán Blake, Carlos Bustamante, Clare Casey, Aine Corr, Patricia Finnegan, Dana Jardine, Kelly Jones, Sheryl Joyner, Jennifer Kennedy, Aidan Kelly, Joyce Kite, Shaun Langley, Carleigh Leighton, Jessica MacLeod-Dent, Rebecca Malone, Deirdre McCloskey, Fiona McCloskey, Michael McCloskey, Jennine McConellogue, Julie McDonnell, Susan Mendoza, Angela Philip, Dan Stacey, Darrin Smith, Laura Staples, Sharon Taylor, Rebecca Tucker and Monique Woods.

A \$3 million production, written by Tom Lackey and directed and choreographed by Kelly Robinson, *Needfire* was two years in development. The production features additional music and musical direction by Rick Fox and choreography by Sandra Bald Jones, Sara McCloskey and Chanda Gibson.

The set is the design of award-winning "design magician" Graham Thomson. The lighting is the creation of Howard Ungerleider and Steve Ross, who have designed lighting spectaculars for the Rolling Stones and Pink Floyd. Costumes are by Victoria Wallace with David Patridge in charge of sound design.

Concert birthday party for Louis Applebaum's 80th

To celebrate the launch of the Louis Applebaum Composers Fund and to pay tribute to Applebaum on his 80th birthday, Soundstreams Canada, under the artistic director Lawrence Cherney, will present a special concert. The concert will be held April 6 beginning at 8 pm at the Jane Mallett Theatre in Toronto's St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts.

The concert, sponsored by SOCAN, will be hosted by Douglas Campbell and will feature Benedict Campbell and other Stratford Festival actors; Elmer Iseler Singers; the Canadian Brass; Encounters Chamber Ensemble with Gary Kulesha conducting; soprano Monica Whicher; harpist Erica Goodman; and flautist Robert Cram.

The program will feature works for the theatre

Needfire begins performances on June 12 with opening night set for June 16 for a limited engagement until July 12.

Telemedia funds Ryerson communications

Ryerson University received a \$175,000 boost last Wednesday from Telemedia Communications Inc. to help the educational institute research into new forms of electronic communication. The company will fund the Chair in Emerging Communications Technology at Ryerson's School of Radio and Television Arts. Telemedia and Ryerson expect the project to become a leading edge laboratory for exploring and developing new technologies, specifically prototype Internet and wireless Internet broadcasting environments, as well as researching user reaction to new interactive forms of communication. There are also plans for the project to develop and test new models of production, advertising, royalty, copyright and profitability. The first project will be an online tutorial and resource website devoted to diversity training for the use of broadcasting community and students. Ryerson plans to develop a self-paced learning and awareness module incorporating text, graphics, and audio, along with resource materials to support diversity training. Distribution will be through the Internet and CD-ROMS.

and concert stage written by Applebaum. The evening also includes a post-concert reception for the entire audience.

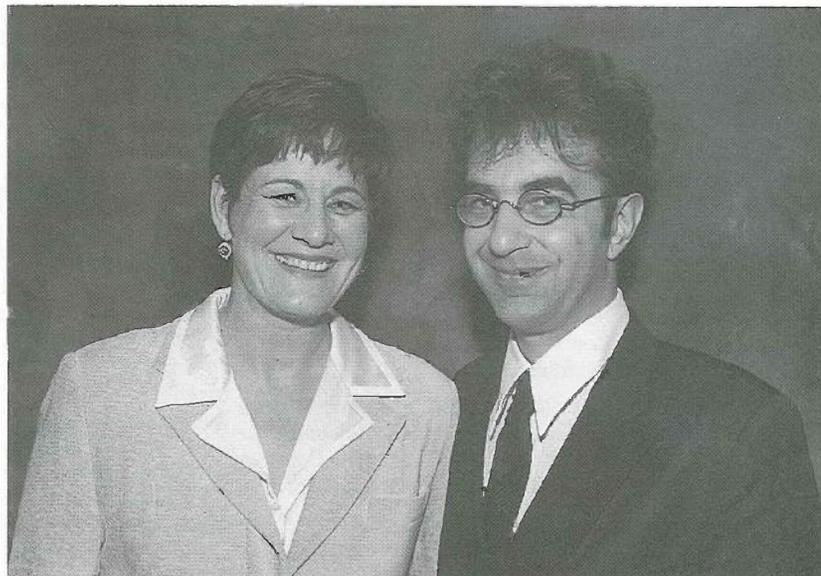
This is the first in a four-concert series to be presented by Soundstreams Canada for the 1998 season in partnership with CBC Radio Two.

The Louis Applebaum Composers Fund was established to support Canadian composers and recognize excellence in composition in any genre. The fund will be administered by the Ontario Arts Council Foundation.

Among the many honours and awards received by Applebaum over the years is the Walt Grealis Special Achievement (Industry Builder) award which was presented to him at the 1996 Junos.

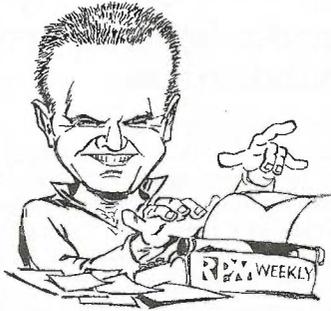


Outpost/Universal Music's Days Of The New receive gold awards for their self-titled debut release from Universal's Cori Ferguson, Wesley Hayden, Stephanie Robertson and Paul Eastwood.



MuchMusic Vice President Denise Donlon schmoozing with Academy Award-nominated Director Atom Egoyan at the Canadian Society of Cinematographers annual awards gala (March 28/98).

WALT SAYS . . . !



with Elvira Caprese

Well . . . finally!!! The fat lady sang. We can look for bigger and better things in the future. (*EC: I don't think so!!!*) Hello out there. Watch for a star-studded show with all the past winners sitting in the first 20 rows. With a whole new production approach that will keep listeners glued to the screen. A show that will say . . . look who's here! Look who's nominated! Look who is presenting! Look who the fresh new faces are! (*EC: That won't leave much room for those really great performances!!!*) We'll see!!!

Who buys records??? An informal study! On the spur of the moment and on a Saturday . . . I walked into one of the record chains in a larger mall to see who was browsing and who was buying. This was in answer to the argument that young people have stopped buying records. An informal survey proved: the four people at the cash register were all over thirty, the two high schoolers who were walking out the door were young but, when asked, they had bought a video. All eight browsers were over thirty. A young couple who walked in told me they were going to buy a cassette. They watched the Junos for a while and tuned away to something else. The show was too slow. They tuned away during a performance. They liked the David Foster part because he thanked a lot of people. (*EC: Yeah! but this was an INFORMAL study!!!*) It's time we started to scan the age of the record buyer!

Steve Coady has a first??? Could be that Sony promo guy scored a first. He squired fiddlemeister Mark O'Connor over to Classical CFMX-FM for an on-air interview, followed by the same at country super station CISS-FM. It says something for New Country, wouldn't you say. (*EC: That's gotta be a first!!!*)

Tear a page out!!! By the roots! I watch with envy the promotion and publicity that has been generated by the team at Roots. They had a hit hat and they started to work on it. What a great job they did in Vancouver. It must be an inspiration to the rest of the business community. Even the negatives they got where good for sales. My hat goes off to the Roots people and their hit hat! (*EC: You're so good with words!!!*)

Céline Dion to be honoured!!! A note from the press office of Government House, advises that Céline Dion was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada on Jan. 6. Don't know why this news was kept quiet for so long, but the timing couldn't have been better, from a political standpoint. By the way, Céline indicated she will be at Rideau Hall on May 1 for the investiture. (*EC: Good news and bad news, depending on what your political outlook!!!*)

Stan Klees at the Junos!!! This week we have extensive coverage of the Junos by RPM's roving reporter Stan Klees who was in Vancouver and came back with photos and the whole story. Mr. photo-op made the celebrity scene and thanks to paparazzi Kris King caught the excitement of the big day. Take a look at how glamorous it became. (*EC: Just like the good old days!!!*) And you were there!

The fat lady was busy!!! GN reports that he drove by Quality's old refuge, you know the comps, mops and brooms, and sometimes music place, and he saw a fat lady on the front lawn . . . and she was singing. (*EC: She was happy they didn't sign her!!!*)

Jimmy Flynn's on the loose!!! That very funny "coaster guy" Jimmy Flynn is set to launch his What A Party tour, and he hits Toronto for the Mother's Day weekend party in The Big Room at Fionn MacCool's Irish nightclub. He does more than 200 shows each year, has four best selling videos, seven CDs, a joke book and gangbuster merchandising. Here's one of his jokes fit to print. "Jimmy says to the barber, how much for a haircut?. Barber says \$25.00. Jimmy says, how much for a shave? Barber says \$10.00. Jimmy says, Okay, shave my head." (*EC: I prefer one that's not fit to print!!!*)

Follow the yellow brick road!!! Yes! The Wizard Of Oz is coming to Toronto's Hummingbird Centre for the Performing Arts from June 5 through 21. At the press conference, it was nice to renew the old acquaintance of Eartha Kitt, who will be playing the Wicked Witch of the East. Mickey Rooney will be seen as the Wizard. It will take some doing to come up to the standards of Judy Garland, who played Dorothy, but they found a 16-year old New Yorker name of Jessica Grové, and with just a sampling of her version of Over The Rainbow, she's pretty close. It's a great show for the kids. Lots of music. (*EC: Original cast album is in the works!!!*)

Speaking of theatre!!! Guess who's trying out a new gig? Alan Thicke, that's who. He's taking the part of lawyer Billy Flynn in the touring cast of Chicago, which is currently playing Toronto's Royal Alexandra. The 51-year old Thicke, a native of Kirkland Lake, who left home many moons ago, apparently auditioned for the part in Los Angeles. The Mirvish people are doing everything possible to promote Thicke, and even had him sitting at the head table at the Variety Club salute to the Blue Jays. (Photos next week). And, according to reports, he's the first Canadian to be cast in a starring role for Chicago. (*EC: Television sitcoms can be deadly!!!*)

Jim Slotek can find them!!! Many times over the years the name Joey Reynolds came up. He was at one time the top disc jockey in North America. That was back in the late '60s when he was at WKBW in Buffalo, a clear channel 50,000 watter that beamed into many parts of Canada and 14 U.S. states. He often referred to Montrealers as "frogs", which they accepted because of his approach, of which he was a master. Howard Stern should dig up some of Joey's tapes. Anyway, in his April 1 (April Fool's Day) Buzz column, Slotek reveals that Reynolds is in fact in Stern's territory, hosting the Joey Reynolds Show, an all-night syndicated radio show. One of his regular guests lately has been Ben Kerr, who is usually perched at Bloor and Yonge Streets, accompanying himself on guitar and singing about environmental issues. Kerr has been Greyhounding himself across the U.S. stopping in every city where the Reynolds show is heard where he finds a woman listener he can write a song for.

(*EC: I bet he found writing about cayenne pepper a lot easier!!!*) Can you name the programmer who wanted to bring the JR show into Canada . . . and still might?

Well, Mr. Brian Chater!!! It's hard for me to believe that the Broadcast Act mentions anything about creating a record business in Canada. You may be right, but I think the idea of the Act was to regulate the content of what was on the airwaves of Canada and how the licensees must conduct themselves. The fact that the result was . . . an industry, is incidental. Didn't the Act refer to live music? The debate can go on forever . . . and if I'm wrong, I'll work to have the Act changed to make some sense! (*EC: TOO LATE!!!*) But what if Brian is wrong? (*EC: TOO LATE!!!*) Check the Broadcast Act . . . NOW!

Who will it be??? In the running are SK and JS and SK! (*EC: That's one too many SKs!!!*) I've been saying that all along!!!

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MAPL Canon

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M - Music was composed by a Canadian
A - Artist who is featured is a Canadian citizen
P - Production was wholly recorded in Canada
L - Lyrics were written by a Canadian

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RPM

RPM



100 HIT TRACKS

& where to find them



Record Distributor Codes:

BMG - N EMI - F Universal - J Quality - M
Polygram - Q Sony - H Warner - P Koch - K

Canada's Only National 100 Hit Tracks Survey

TW LW WO APRIL 6, 1998

Rank	Artist	Track	Label
1	Celine Dion	MY HEART WILL GO ON	550 Music/Sony 68861-H
2	Natalie Imbruglia	TORN	Left Of The Middle RCA 67634 (comp 34)-N
3	Madonna	FROZEN	Ray Of Light Maverick 46847 (promo CD)-F
4	Eric Clapton	MY FATHERS EYES	Pilgram Reprise 46577 (promo CD)-P
5	Billie Meyers	KISS THE RAIN	Growing, Pains Universal 53100 (promo CD)-J
6	Jimmy Ray	ARE YOU JIMMY RAY?	Jimmy Ray Epic 69014 (promo CD)-H
7	All Saints	I KNOW WHERE IT'S AT	All Saints London 314 556 004 (CD Track)-Q
8	Savage Garden	TRULY MADLY DEEPLY	Savage Garden Columbia 67954 (CD Track)-H
9	Sarah McLachlan	ADIA	Surfacing Network 39708 (CD Track)-F
10	N Sync	I WANT YOU BACK	N Sync RCA 74321 57189 (CD Track)-N
11	Marcy Playground	SEX AND CANDY	Marcy Playground Capitol 53589 (Pro CD)-F
12	Chumbawamba	AMNESIA	Chumbawamba Tubthumper Universal 53099 (CD Track)-J
13	Ben Folds Five	BRICK	Whatever & Ever Amen Sony 7554 (promo CD)-H
14	Spice Girls	TOO MUCH	Spice World Virgin 42174 (CD Track)-F
15	Sheryl Crow	HARD TO MAKE A STAND	Sheryl Crow A&M 314 540 587 (CD Track)-Q
16	Matchbox 20	3 AM	Matchbox 20 - Yourself Or Someone Like You Lava/Atlantic 92721 (CD Track)-P
17	The Verve	BITTER SWEET SYMPHONY	Urban Hymns Virgin 44913 (CD Track)-F
18	Philosopher Kings	HURTS TO LOVE YOU	Famous Rich And Beautiful Columbia 80291 (comp 069)-H
19	Backstreet Boys	ALL I HAVE TO GIVE	Backstreet's Back BMG 41617 (comp 33)-N
20	Loreena McKennitt	THE MUMMER'S DANCE	Book Of Secrets Quinlan Road - 19404 (comp 344)-P
21	Janet Jackson	TOGETHER AGAIN	Velvet Rope Virgin 44762 (CD Track)-F
22	Aqua	TURN BACK TIME	Aquarium Universal 6075 (promo CD)-J
23	Will Smith	GETTIN' JIGGY WIT IT	Big Willie Style Columbia 68683 (comp 068)-H
24	Great Big Sea	IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD	Play WEA 18592 (comp 347)-P
25	Bryan Adams	BACK TO YOU	Bryan Adams Unplugged A&M 314 454 0831 (promo CD)-Q
26	Green Day	TIME OF YOUR LIFE	Nimrod Warner 46794 (CD Track)-P
27	K-Ci & JoJo	ALL MY LIFE	Love Always MCA 11613 (promo CD)-J
28	Jann Arden	WISHING THAT	Happy? A&M 314 540 789 (promo CD)-Q
29	Third Eye Blind	HOW'S IT GONNA' BE	Third Eye Blind Elektra 62012 (CD Track)-P
30	Sister Hazel	HAPPY	Somewhere More Familiar Universal 53030 (comp 17)-J
31	Sarah McLachlan	SWEET SURRENDER	Surfacing Network 39708 (Promo CD)-F
32	The Tuesdays	IT'S UP TO YOU	Self-titled Arista 0782219001 (promo CD)-N
33	Sass Jordan	DESIRE	The Present Aquarius 6075 (CD Track)-F
34	Hanson	WEIRD	Middle Of Nowhere Mercury 314 534 615 CD Track)-Q
35	Robyn	DO YOU REALLY WANT ME	Robyn Is Here Arista 67477 (promo CD)-N
36	The New Meanies	LETTING TIME PASS	Three Seeds Virgin 53443 (promo CD)-F
37	The Rolling Stones	SAINT OF ME	Bridges To Babylon Virgin 44712 (promo CD)-F
38	Holly McNairland	COWARD	Stuff Universal 53075 (promo CD)-J
39	Bif Naked	SPACEMAN	- I, Bificus Aquarius 00584 (CD Track)-F
40	Bran Van 3000	EVERYWHERE	Glee Audio Gram 10105 (CD Track)-Select
41	The Wild Strawberries	TRAMPOLINE	Quiver Network 30119 (Promo CD)-F
42	Love Inc.	BROKEN BONES	Much Dance '97 Mercury 51559 (CD Track)-Q
43	Shania Twain	YOU'RE STILL THE ONE	Come On Over Mercury 314 536 003 (promo CD)-Q
44	Days Of The New	SHELF IN THE ROOM	Days Of The New Outpost 30004 (comp 1)-J
45	Festball	THE WAY	Make Your Mama Proud Hollywood 620452 (promo CD)-Q
46	Holy Cole	ONION GIRL	Dear Dark Heart Alert 615 281 034 (Promo CD)-Q
47	Lisa Loeb	I DO	Firecracker Geffen 25141 (Promo CD)-J
48	Backstreet Boys	AS LONG AS YOU LOVE ME	Backstreet's Back BMG 41617 (CD Track)-N
49	Elton John	RECOVER YOUR SOUL	The Big Picture Mercury 314 568 109 (comp 030298)-Q
50	Smash Mouth	WALKIN' ON THE SUN	Fush Yu Mang Interscope 90142 (promo CD)-J
51	Blessed Union Of Souls	LIGHT IN YOUR EYES	Blessed Union Of Souls Geffen 25131 (comp 20)-F
52	Alana Davis	32 FLAVOURS	Blame It On Me Elektra 62112 (Promo CD)-P
53	Our Lady Peace	4AM	Clumsy Columbia 80242 (Promo CD)-H
54	Blues Traveler	CANADIAN ROSE	Straight On Till Morning A&M 314 540 750 (pro single)-Q
55	Everclear	I WILL BUY YOU A NEW LIFE	So Much For The After Glow EMI 36503 (comp 28)-F
56	Collective Soul	SHE SAID	Disciplined Break Down Warner Bros. 82984 (CD Track)-P
57	Chantal Kreviazuk	SURROUNDED	Under These Rocks And Stones Columbia 67926 (promo CD)-H
58	Robyn	SHOW ME LOVE	Robyn Is Here Arista 67477 (promo CD)-N
59	Bonnie Raitt	ONE BELIEF AWAY	Fundamental! EMI 563972 (promo CD)-F
60	Meredith Brooks	WHAT WOULD HAPPEN	Blurring The Edges Capitol 36919 (comp 23)-F
61	Barney Bentall	SHOULDER OF THE ROAD	Till Tomorrow Columbia 80292 (comp 064)-H
62	Oasis	ALL AROUND THE WORLD	Be Here Now Sony 68530 (CD Track)-H
63	Black Lab	WASH IT AWAY	Your Body Above Me Geffen 25127 (CD Track)-J
64	Aerosmith	TASTE OF INDIA	9 Lives Columbia 67547 (CD Track)-H
65	Tonic	OPEN YOUR EYES	The Lemon Parade Mercury 315 431 042 (promo CD)-Q
66	Kenny Wayne Shepard	BLUE ON BLACK	Trouble Is Giant 24689 (CD Track)-P
67	Janet Jackson	I GET LONELY	Velvet Rope Virgin 44762 (CD Track)-F
68	Van Halen	WITHOUT YOU	- 3 Warner 46862 (comp 350)-P
69	MacKee	STAR OF THE COUNTRY DOWN	Plaid A&M 268 842 002 (promo CD)-Q
70	Econoline Crush	ALL THAT YOU ARE	The Devil You Know EMI 38244 (CD Track)-F
71	Chantal Kreviazuk	HANDS	Under These Rocks And Stones Columbia 67926 (promo CD)-H
72	Paula Cole	ME	This Fire Warner Bros. 46424 (comp 349)-P
73	Pearl Jam	GIVEN TO FLY	Yield Epic 68164 (promo CD)-H
74	Tru Gz	PICTURE ME LEAVING YOU	From The Heart Spinner 611
75	Chumbawamba	TUBTHUMPING	Tubthumping Universal 53099 (comp 16)-J
76	Sugar Ray	FLY	Floored Atlantic 83006 (comp 326)-P
77	Paula Cole	I DON'T WANT TO WAIT	This Fire Warner Bros. 46424 (comp 329)-P
78	Zuckerbaby	SHAMPOO	Zuckerbaby Mercury 314 534 657 (comp 532)-Q
79	David Usher	FOREST FIRE	Little Songs EMI 321152 (promo CD)-F
80	Sandbox	CARRY	Murder In The Glee Club EMI 57585 (comp 23)-F
81	Junikhouse	SHINE	Fuzz Sony 80285 (promo CD)-H
82	John Mellencamp	WITHOUT EXPRESSION	The Best That I Could Do Polygram 314 536 738 (Promo CD)-Q
83	Usher	YOU MAKE ME WANNA	My Way EMI 26043 (comp 26)-F
84	The Sundays	SUMMERTIME	Static And Silence Geffen 25131 (CD Track)-J
85	Wide Mouth Mason	THIS MOURNING	Wide Mouth Mason Warner 17328 (CD Track)-P
86	Creed	MY OWN PRISON	My Own Prison Attic 1500 (CD Track)-J
87	Matthew Good Band	EVERYTHING IS AUTOMATIC	Underdogs A&M 280 994 001 (CD Track)-Q
88	Space Monkeys	SUGARCANE	The Daddy Of Them All Interscope 90153 (CD Track)-J
89	Holly Cole	I'VE JUST SEEN A FACE	Dark Dear Heart Alert 615 281 034 (Promo CD)-Q
90	Big Wreck	THE OAF	In Loving Memory Of... Atlantic 83032 (comp 336)-P
91	Jewel	FOOLISH GAMES	Pieces Of You Atlantic 82700 (comp 330)-P
92	Sass Jordan	DO WHAT I CAN	Present Aquarius 6075 (promo CD)-F
93	The Wallflowers	THREE MARLENAS	Bringing Down The Horse Universal 90055 (comp 15)-J
94	Shawn Colvin	NOTHING ON ME	A Few Small Repairs Columbia 67119 (CD Track)-H
95	Elton John	SOMETHING ABOUT THE WAY...	The Big Picture Mercury 314 568 109 (comp 520)-Q
96	Wide Mouth Mason	THE GAME	Wide Mouth Mason Warner Bros. 17328 (CD Track)-P
97	Tonic	IF YOU COULD ONLY SEE	The Lemon Parade Polydor 315 431 042 (CD Track)-Q
98	Fiona Apple	CRIMINAL	Tidal Sony 67439 (CD Track)-H
99	Lisa Loeb	LET'S FORGET ABOUT IT	Firecracker Geffen 25141 (CD Track)-J
100	Moist	GASOLINE	Creature EMI 36188 (comp 19)-F

Moist frontman David Usher flies solo

A little peek at Little Songs on new EMI release

by Rod Gudino

Making a solo album, especially if you're in a band, is probably one of the most politically challenging things to go through. We don't mean the actual writing and recording of the album, or any of the million and one decision making processes which must be met and tackled before anything actually gets done. We're talking about tackling the front lines of the popular media, specifically the press, once the thing is out. It's the press you see, who are all over David Usher, for a couple of good reasons and some not so good.

It turns out that Usher, who fronts Moist, one of Canada's premiere alt-rock acts, has just cut a solo record, modestly titled *Little Songs*. The press, of course, have taken that to mean that he has left Moist, or is leaving Moist or is dissatisfied with the band or any other one of a hundred possible variations on a negative theme. Also, Usher's album was initially titled *Little Songs To Fuck To*, a decision, he says, which he rejected partly to avoid having everyone stall on the title and skip out on the music itself. His decision aside, when it comes to the press, he's paying on that count too.

For the record, Usher is *not* leaving Moist, in fact, it's closer to the truth to say that he is closer to the band than ever before. But as with all cases creative, there was room for something more (there's always room for that), and there was time and there was a will.

"Whenever someone starts something new there's always a question of what you're doing," he says on the cusp of a media junket for the record, "and that goes for everyone. The label knew I was tight with the band, so everything was cool and they let me go off and do it. Everyone was very encouraging."

Encouraging enough to drop by and contribute a few riffs, a couple of backing vocals and a little bit of emotional support. Usher needed it. *Little Songs* was a solo record in the full sense of the term; he made calls, handled the budgeting, rented cars, you name it. And although he didn't quite expect the solo part of his project to bring that much work, he welcomed the experience.

"Yea I found it a little stressful," he grins. "I was handling a lot of things and plus all the Moist stuff was happening at the same time. But I've learned a lot very quickly and I think it's going to

make it a lot easier next time."

Of course there will be a next time. Primarily because there are more songs and because there are lots of places the Muse yearns to go. The concrete reasons -- the ones that have been dogging him for the past while -- are nebulous at best, and that's a good thing.

"It's basically a collection of songs from the past two years of my life," he explains on the reasons for cutting the record in the first place. "Some of it is really personal and some of it is just reflections of the way the world affects me. What I did here is personalize issues, take it down to a smaller format, instead of talking about individuals, writing in the first person and putting yourself in situations. You want people to get something out of it, even if what they will get out of it you can never predict."

The saving grace? He is happy with the results. And so is EMI, who have taken *Forestfire*, the record's first single, to radio. It currently sits at 79, with a bullet, after 2 weeks on RPM's Hits 100 chart. Whether the album will ultimately do better

Velvet Jones heads new wave of Brit pop

If necessity is the mother of invention, sheer lunacy is probably the mother of re-invention. Especially when it comes to entertainment. That's because a clever shtick is hard to come by, harder to come by twice if you've gained some notoriety with it. Madonna has gone against the grain, and so has U2, but they've had the collective backing of a lot of fans to see them through their make-up changes. Not so with Velvet Jones.

This quintet of happy-go-cynics took a name from a Saturday Night Live sketch and promptly hit the bars with vengeance. They developed a type of cult following, even if, in their own words, they simply amounted to a "very bad white funk band." Velvet Jones saw what they're audiences could not, and decided, after little deliberation, that their days toying with bass heavy rhythms was over. They changed all right, into full-blown progressive rock... right in the middle of a gig.

"Everyone just kind of stopped," recalls bassist Giles Martin. "People were looking at us like, what the hell is all this about? So it was like, that was it, now we've pissed people off. We finished the song and went back to an old number and everything went back to normal. But I think we lost some fans right there."

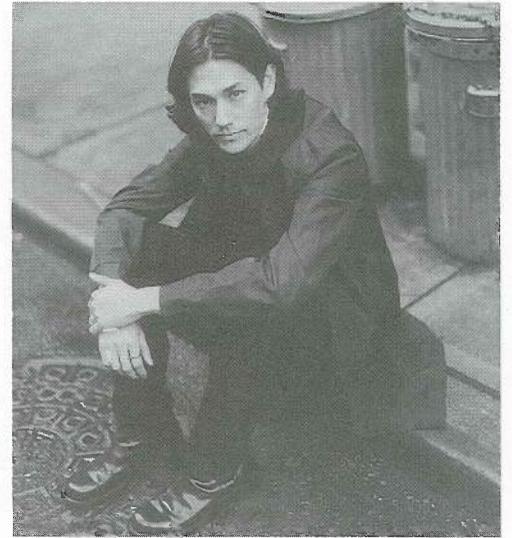
Martin, who is the son of Sir George Martin - the famous fifth Beatle, originally cloistered his band of misfit intellectuals, most with university degrees, in London, England. They cut a debut album after that change, described by the press as a "fiery explosive guitar driven sound," a couple of decibels ahead of their initial funk centred gambit. Colin immediately took off, working some wacky magic in the UK and attracting the attention of the folks at Iron Music, who have opted to give the group a substantial push in Canada. They put them on a plane following a gig in London, flew them overnight and got them through customs just in time for an appearance on the Dini Petty show.

"We play rock, so we go over very well," explains Martin with tongue firmly in cheek. "We can deal with pretty much most situations. If we get stuck in Winnie-peg in the middle of a snow

or less than expected, however, is not something the singer is terribly concerned about now or ever.

"Beyond the praise or the blame is just putting yourself out there; see what happens," he says.

Usher is still in the decision making process as regards an official tour but will be showcasing his *Little Songs* in the near future.



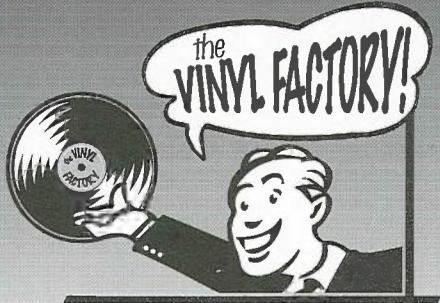
storm, it's sort of a laugh."

That's the precious wisdom these guys are bringing into the country, and it's working marvellously well, all things considered. Their fanbase, growing in leaps after the release of Colin, seems to be redoubling successes in their home town.

"They're all very upset because we're not in the UK," notes singer Mike Appleby, who has made the transition to rock with new enthusiasm; enough in fact, to remove his clothes as part of the live act. "It's quite a weird fanbase, it's very eclectic, there are all sorts of different sorts of people, from 11 year-old girls to ex-Strangler fans. They're really weird; we do have weird fans."

Weird and wonderful. Velvet Jones will be infiltrating the Canadian clubs in May after they finish up their initial run at media. Keep an eye out.





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Stan Klees with the stars at the post Juno party



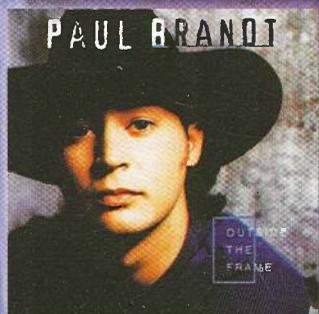
1. With Warner Canada President Garry Newman and wife Terri.
2. With MuchMusic's General Manager Denise Donlon.
3. With "the man in motion" Rick Hanson.
4. With country's Jason McCoy.
5. With jazz/pop keyboardist Long John Baldry.
6. With Farmer's Daughter manager Gerry Leiske.
7. With CTV talk show host Vicki Gabereau.
8. With BMG Canada President Lisa Zbitnew and Brian Stutz.
9. Rock Voisine and girlfriend Kim Bemis.
10. Patricia Dahlquist with David Foster.
11. Jazz nominees Carol Welsman and Ted Quinlan.

Photos by Kris King

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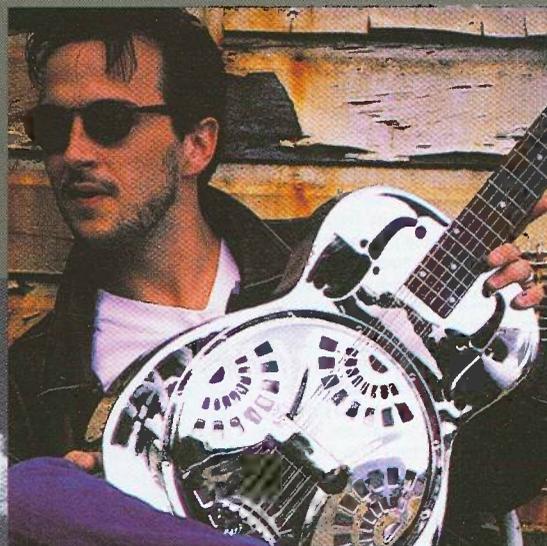
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youthfulness with which this group aligned itself to an entire generation. The meat and potatoes of it remains a razor sharp politic regarding the social evils of racism and other forms of intolerance, a message that can never be old or outdated. Check out It's You for classic Specials and Bonediggin' and No Big Deal for some very contemporary sounds. Leave it Out has the spooky allure of Ghost Town without being guilty of self-plagiarism. If you close your eyes and get past the name and you might even see this at radio, right along side the Bosstones and the No Doubts. Bottom line: it still works. **-RG**



LOST IN SPACE O.S.T. -Alternative/Techno Various Artists
TVT 8180-Q

Those crazy sci-fi heads are at it again; reprising the past in their attempts to get at the future. Ironic, yes, possibly even moronic, but we'll have to wait until later this week to make a definite call on that particular issue. Lost In Space is -- well, you ought to know something about it unless you've been lost in space yourself -- the newest offering from Tinsel Town on the latest grade of retro-progressive programming. The famous show from the sixties introduced a talking robot to television and a Swiss Family Robinson in space. Pretty dependable prime time stuff, right? Well, the soundtrack sounds nothing like it, which means the movie will probably resemble the show in premise and name only. With sounds coming from names like Apollo Four Forty, The Crystal Method, Junior Reactor & The Creatures, Fatboy Slim and Death In Vegas, its a give away that the effects are going to play the major role in this particular bag of eye candy. Also that soundtrack compilers have plumbed the budding underground of the scene to put them front line centre here. It's a great introduction to the music and probably a great overview of these new sounds. Could bring in some strong numbers. **-RG**

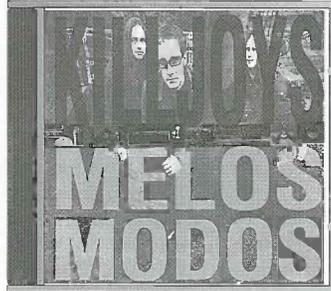
THE SPECIALS **-Ska/Pop**
Guilty 'Til Proven Innocent!
MCA 11735-J

The Specials have been around for a long while. And despite the new faces, the changes and the weight of the years, they've maintained a kind of freshness of sound that goes beyond the typical party line: either you like 'em, or you don't. Sure, yea, that may be said of any group out there, but the fact is that the ska movement is undergoing some sort of revival in the commercial sense making these guys a lot more relevant that they were, say, ten years ago. It also places them in a pre-eminent spot seeing that they're the only real McCoy left in town. Guilty 'Til Proven Innocent! doesn't give us anything new and yet maintains the



KILLJOYS **-Rock Pop**
Melos Modos
WEA 22190-P

Hamilton's Killjoys seem enamoured of injecting a whale full of melody into pop rock songs the size of a snail. And despite a surge at retail for their independently released Stary, the band seems to have settled into a lackadaisical approach to making music. Not that it doesn't work. In fact, it's closer to the truth to say that this will be one of the easiest pushes on modern rock radio and CHR. Once there, however, it's hard to tell what it will do, or whether this album, which doesn't offer



anything really new from the guys, will break the drought at retail that has since followed their debut. Melos Modos offers a dependable collection of rock pop songs, written with a proletarian ethic by Mike Trebilcock and seemingly interchangeable one with the other. Trebilcock gives the impression that he is a proverbial fount of creativity when it comes to cranking this stuff out, and does so casually and realistically. Warner have seen the best in the trio's modest approach and they might be right somewhere along the line; the question remains where? Honesty Mistake will be a hit on the circuit while the more controlled Perfect Pizza and I've Been Good will head the album off at radio. **-RG**

GROOVE ESSENTIALS Vol. Two **-R&B**
Various Artists
Beat Factory 80008-F

The essentials keep coming faster than we can keep up with them. But that's entirely welcome because, by putting this out, the folks at Beat



Factory are basically telling us that the industry is still at the primer stage of learning about the format. They are undeniably right, which is why we recommend the release on principle to anyone even having marginal contact with domestic R&B. The scene, as this release makes abundantly clear, is replete with some of the best talent this country has to offer. Rayon leads off the disk with a tune called Never that pretty much crystallizes some of the best aspects of this ever-new sound. It's a sweet, stylish, effectively executed bit o' R&B

heaven that takes the best of the format's progressive and conservative poles. Divine Earth Essence follows with the more familiar sounding Inner City Livin,' before we get to Wade O. Brown (No Other Woman), July Black (Rally N), Infiniti (Clockin' Me), Danny Blanco (Let's Get Back Together), Jazmin (Stay), Delisha Thomas (I'm Movin' On), Tas (Why), Black Essence (It's Not Fair) and Derek Brin (R.U.S.H.). Ultimately Groove Essentials 2 will have a quiet lead off from the gate but will be looked back as a classic -- and critical -- release. **-RG**

JOAQUIN CORTES **- Flamenco**
Gipsy Passion Band
EMI-7-2438-57477-F

Billed as "the shining star of Spanish dance", Cortéz brings with this package a cleverly programmed audio look at the excitement that is Spanish culture. This is pure flamenco, as it's played and understood in Spain. Some of it



might be a little uncomfortable to the North American ear that's used to the more homogenized brand of flamenco that's making the rounds. But if it's purity you want, it all begins with Déjame dólares (Give me dollars) and continues to envelop the senses with Que va "pa Cai" (On the way to Cadiz), El querer que te tengo (The way I Love You), Gitanos de Europa (The European Gypsies), and Rosal de primavera (Winter rosebush). The album is somewhat unique in that the music, intricately performed by the Gipsy Passion Band (singers and musicians) is interwoven over the subtle yet omnipresent footwork by Cortéz. In effect, this is the same show on record that Cortéz and the Gipsy Passion Band present on stage, which premiered in Canada at the Ford Performing Arts Centre in Vancouver (March 31 - April 5) and will do the same at the Ford Performing Arts Centre in North York (Toronto) from April 8 through 19. Listening to the album before taking in the performance will add to the overall entertainment experience. **-WG**



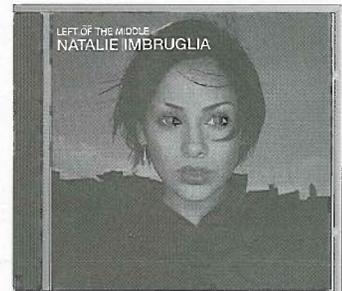
BLUE ROOM **- Blues Rock**
Into The Night
Sound Pulse

Paul Sanderson, well-known recordbiz lawyer, shows his other side here, that of a songwriter and guitarist and the ability to hook up with a couple of other professional musicians, drummer Frank Watt, bassist Fraser Lawrason, and lead singer Brian Neller, who are Blue Room. Their music is described as "blues rock and roots based rock with elements of rock 'n roll, tex mex and country," which covers a fair music agenda brought into proper focus by the indelible blues approach by Neller. This Toronto-based quartet have a pronounced identity that widens the blues genre immensely, which makes the Paul Irvine production so acceptable, not to mention entertaining. The band also called on the expert musicianship of session players: Ray Harrison, organ and grand piano on various tracks; Dave Chester, also on organ on a couple of tracks; percussionist Marty Morin; trumpeter Sarah McElcheran; Richard Underhill on saxes; and Irvine on drums and background vocals. Morin and Lawrason also provide background vocals on a few of the tracks. Sanderson solo wrote most of the material, sharing writing credits with Ron Hier on Two Young Heroes, Another Angry Young Man, The Power Of The Gun, and Get Out On The Highway And Go, all key tracks. But don't overlook Jack Kerouac, a song Sanderson wrote about the infamous late and great beat poet, and Sanderson's penning of Moanin' And Groanin', which he describes as "a simple straightforward blues song." Impressive sound and balance between the vocals and instruments, a credit to Toronto's Chalet Studio. All tracks are 100 per cent Cancon. Available by calling Sanderson at 416-971-6644 or fax 416-971-4144. **-WG**

ALBUM PICK

NATALIE IMBRUGLIA **-Pop**
Left of the Middle
RCA 67634-N

Dream pop like this comes along once every long while and it doesn't go unnoticed. The reason is because the elements come together; they click in just the right spot to give the artist lots of attention and the kind of breath and pump to send her soaring. Alas, Natalie Imbruglia. She was a soap star in her native Sydney, Australia (on the show Neighbours), but quietly entertained higher aspirations. As the first signing on RCA's UK label, she has benefitted from the full force of the label's international firepower; already her first single, Torn, has gone on to soar a mean streak on RPM's Hits 100 (#2 with a bullet this week and chances are high she'll be looking at the #1 spot next week). Obviously, the excitement has caught on at BMG, who are already looking at some tangible results at retail (Left of the Middle debuted at #44 last week on RPM's Top 100 CDs). Part of the reason is that the singer's edgy alternative pop seems to settle into the contemporary vibe of strong independent females, and the other part is in the wealth of material here. Production work led by a studio wise creative team has brought out the pop savvy of Imbruglia's music to the forefront. Due for a long, long ride, and one of the rising artists of 1998. **-RG**





LINN BARNES & ALLISON HAMPTON - The Spiral Castle
Oak Leaf-2107

The celebrated pluckers return with another album of music for guitar, Celtic harp and lute. The title track is an original composition by the two in Celtic form; the others are traditional and old favourites brought back to loving life by the addition of synthesizers, "uilleann pipes and goose calls" as well as hand drums (are they're any other kinds?), triangles and percussion. Truth is, it's difficult to know how authentic the music is, but it doesn't seem to matter. The duo is immensely popular as the sales of their recordings manifest. Authentic or not, their music is most certainly soothing to the ear and, given the new general popularity of Celtic music, no longer esoteric. -WG

THE STEPHEN BARRY BAND - Rock/Jazz
The Gold Record

Bros-70001: Les Disques Bros
There was a golden time when a band such as this could be described as simply another good bar band. Those times have gone. Many,



if not most, current rock groups, don't so much entertain as wail self indulgent compositions filled with angst. The Quebec-based Stephen Barry Band then, is a welcome echo of better days in rock. It's musically sound, but more than that, it entertains with happy music that one is glad to embrace. The leader does vocals and plays electric as well as acoustic guitars in several voices. He's backed by his musicians playing the same as well as percussion, tenor saxophone and good old harmonica. On this album they're joined by special guests Tom Walsh on trombone and Joel Zifkin on violin, an instrument that is still overlooked by too many as a jazz voice. The musical menu is a pleasant mix of original and trad, the latter including East St. Louis Blues. Good group and a good album if you can't catch them in person. 100 per cent MAPL. Produced by the band and Danny Greenspoon and recorded at Studio Audio Bec in Lennoxville. Mastered at Montreal's SNB by Bill Kipper. -BW

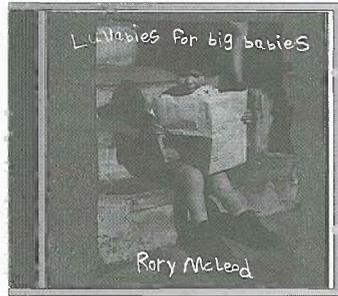
PANCHO SANCHEZ - Jazz
Freedom Sound

Though he's made numerous recordings, this is the first time your reviewer has heard Pancho Sanchez. Our opinion probably matters little, but we think he's something more than special. We know nothing of his probable other instrumental strengths, but here, he simply vocalizes and plays the congas. Yet, his compelling beat and seeming genuine emotion carries a small band combo to heights that recall the middle Kenton years of Cuban Fire with which one can't resist comparison. There are no best tracks among the eleven offered, only those that one enjoys the most. Our's are

Aleluia featuring David Torres on piano and the infectious Latin Bit. -BW

RORY McLEOD - Rough Soul
Lullabies For Big Babies
Cooking Vinyl/True North-0155-J

Vocalist Rory (sic) McLeod wrote all the music and lyrics. He also whistles, plays guitar, trombone, harmonica, spoons, harp Djembe drum, bandora and "tap shoes, feet and handclaps". He is obviously talented and palpably a one-man band should he so wish.



Regrettably he's like the born writer with nothing to say. The lyrics to his songs are stream of consciousness exercises in catharticism filled with sound and occasional fury signifying nothing. He isn't helped either by an accent that almost proves George Bernard Shaw's observation in his preface to Pygmalion. Look it up. -BW

VARIOUS ARTISTS - New flamenco
Gypsy Soul
Narada-72438-45506-F

Flamenco music, the commercialized brand, has brought this music form into prominence with North American audiences, and Narada has done its bit with previous releases of Flamenco Fire And Grace and Gypsy Passion. Gypsy Soul follows, in the same tradition, but with a noticeable edge. They call it "music of the spirit, an essence of tradition, bold invention and farsighted artistry." And that's true. Anyone in love with flamenco music and the angst and passion the flamenco guitar can deliver in the proper hands, will certainly want to count this release among their collection. The musicians here are highly professional purveyors of that fire and angst, and can rightfully assume the mantle of masters of their



trade, and ironically, most were born outside the confines of flamenco country. Interesting too for Canadian programmers are three tracks that are Cancon: Toronto's Jesse Cook, with Rattle And Burn, a song he wrote; Fire And Fury (Fuego y Furia) by Oscar Lopez, and Mi Carmen by Toronto's Miguel de la Bastide, all of which are two-part Cancon (MA). A couple of other tracks have interesting hooks. Obsession Confession was written and is performed by Slash (Saul Hudson) lead guitarist of Guns N' Roses, and jazzmeister Al Di Meola wrote and performs Mediterranean Sundance. An excellent sampling of what Narada has to offer in the flamenco field with 14 tracks in all. By the way, Narada is now distributed by Virgin. -WG

RPM ALTERNATIVE 30
Canada's only national weekly alternative chart
Record Distributor Codes:
BMG - N EMI - F Universal - J Quality - M
Polygram - Q Sony - H Warner - P Koch - K

TW LW WO APRIL 6, 1998

1	1	15	SEX AND CANDY Marcy Playground - Marcy Playground Capitol 53569 (CD Pro)-F
2	2	5	I WILL BUY YOU A NEW LIFE Everclear - So Much For The After Glow EMI 36503 (comp 28)-F
3	3	7	SUNSHOWER Chris Cornell - Great Expectations O.S.T Warner 83058-P
4	5	8	BLUE ON BLACK Kenny Wayne Shepard - Trouble Is Giant 24689 (CD Track)-P
5	6	9	SAINT OF ME Rolling Stones - Bridges To Babylon Virgin 44712 (CD Track)-F
6	10	4	STEREO The Watchmen - Silent Radar EMI 59031 (comp 4)-F
7	11	12	GIVEN TO FLY Pearl Jam - Yield Epic 68164 (promo CD)-H
8	8	4	WITHOUT YOU Van Halen - 3 Warner 46662 (comp 350)-P
9	4	6	SHE SAID Collective Soul - Disciplined Break Down Warner Bros. 82984 (CD Track)-P
10	7	5	INDESTRUCTIBLE Matthew Good Band - Underdogs A&M 280 994 001 (CD Track)-Q
11	9	11	WASH IT AWAY Black Lab - Your Body Above Me Geffen 25127 (CD Track)-J
12	12	10	MY OWN PRISON Creed - My Own Prison Atlantic 1500 (CD Track)-J
13	14	8	CANADIAN ROSE Blues Traveller - Straight On Till Morning A&M 314 540 750 (pro single)-Q
14	20	3	CUT YOU IN Jerry Cantrell - Boggy Depot Sony 68147 (February comp)-H
15	19	5	SHELF IN THE ROOM Days Of The New - Days Of The New Outpost 30004 (comp 1)-J
16	15	11	TIME OF YOUR LIFE Green Day - Nimrod Warner 46794 (CD Track)-P
17	17	21	BITTER SWEET SYMPHONY The Verve - Urban Hymns Virgin 44913 (CD Track)-F
18	13	24	SWEET SURRENDER Sarah McLachlan - Surfacing Nettwerk 30116 (CD Track)-F
19	16	13	THE MUMMER'S DANCE Loreena McKennitt - Book Of Secrets Quinlan Road 19404 (Comp 344)-P
20	18	22	3AM Matchbox 20 - Yourself Or Someone Like You Lava/Antic 92721 (CD Track)-P
21	25	2	CLOSING TIME Semisonic - Feeling Strangely Fine Universal 11733 (pro single)-J
22	26	2	THE WAY Fastball - Make Your Mama Proud Hollywood 620452 (promo CD)-Q
23	28	2	TORN Natalie Imbruglia - Left Of The Middle RCA 67634 (comp)-N
24	NEW		UNINVITED Alanis Morissette - Jagged Little Pill Maverick 45901 (CD Track)-P
24	29	12	BRICK Ben Folds Five - Naked Baby Photos Caroline 7554 (CD Track)-F
26	27	12	LETTING TIME PASS The New Meanies - Three Seeds Virgin 53443 (promo CD)-F
27	23	16	SHINE Junkhouse - Fuzz Sony 80285 (CD Track)-H
28	22	7	LONG DAY Matchbox 20 - Yourself Or Someone Like You Lava/Antic 92721 (CD Track)-P
29	24	21	SURROUNDED Chantal Kreviazuk - Under These Rocks And Stones Columbia 80246 (comp 66)-H
30	NEW		HARD TIMES COME EASY Richie Sambora - Undiscovered Soul Mercury 314 536 972 (CD Track)-Q





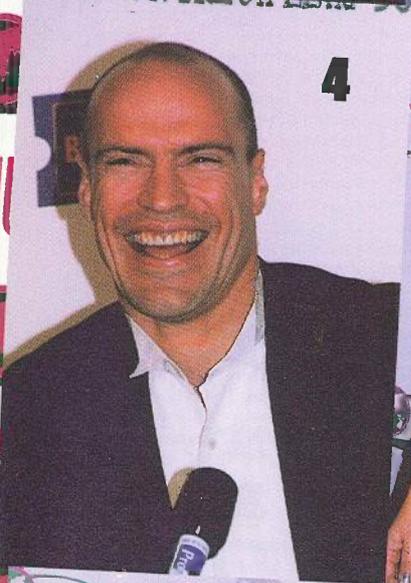
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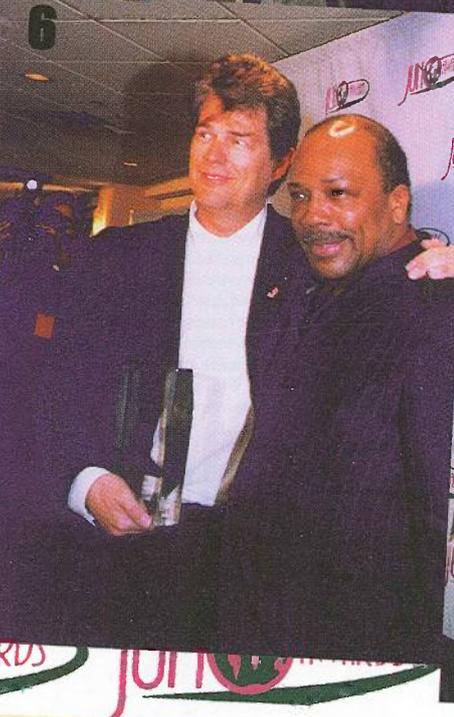
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1. Sarah McLachlan sags under the clutch of her four Juno Awards.
 2. Paul Brandt winner of both the male vocalist and country male vocalist Junos answers questions in the media room.
 3. Shania Twain beams with her country female vocalist Juno.
 4. Mark Messier, Captain of the Vancouver Canucks, dropped by the media room after making a Juno presentation.
 5. Vancouver jazz pianist Diana Krall talks to media representatives after her Juno win and performance.
 6. Internationally-acclaimed producer and songwriter David Foster with Quincy Jones who inducted him into the Hall of Fame.
 7. Country star Michelle Wright shows off her made-specially-for-the-Juno gown.
 8. Holly McNarland with her best new solo artist Juno which was sponsored by FACTOR.

Photos by Kris King

Brandon's CKX celebrates 50th year

Western Manitoba Broadcasters (now known as Craig Broadcast Systems Inc) celebrated 50 years of broadcasting by CKX-AM on April 1st.

The station was purchased from the Manitoba Telephone System on April 1, 1948 by J.B. Craig for \$65,000. The station signed on with a total of 18 staffers.

The company now has broadcast holdings (radio and television) across western Canada, employing more than 650 people.

The business is still family run; Stuart Craig is President and CEO based in Brandon, Drew Craig runs the Alberta television operation, Boyd Craig handles radio and television in

Winnipeg, and Myles Craig is the Vice President of Craig owned Skycable.

The Brandon operation also pulled an April Fool's joke on their listeners. Longtime KX96FM morning personalities Ray Walker and J. Alexander (Ray & J) shocked their early morning listeners with news that they were leaving the station for a morning show in Orlando, Florida. They attached credibility to the joke by patching into former KX96FM drive personality Craig Richards, who is now at K-ROCK in Edmonton who acted as their successor to the morning slot. The response from listeners was immediate, before Ray & J admitted it was an April Fool's stunt.

Storm blamed for lagging CRIA stats

CRIA stats for the month of February showed a significant drop in the net value of sales; down 27% in single sales, 34% in cassette album sales and 1% for CDs. Overall, the net value of sales was down 3% from same time last year, while units shipped also was down a total of 7%.

"They could be a bit of a hangover from the ice storm in eastern Ontario and Quebec which certainly kicked a hole in the retail sales in those areas for almost three weeks," commented CRIA president Brian Robertson. "I'm anticipating if that could be an

influence, we'll have to wait until March to see if it's anything more than that but at this point it's a wait and see situation."

January and February are usually the slowest periods, and Robertson thinks there may also be a hangover period from the last quarter sales.

"The figures are disappointing obviously," commented Robertson. "We're coming off a fairly vibrant year. It was a little bit of a surprise to us I must admit, and I think we'll just have to wait and see that there are no long term effects in terms of that trend."

CANADIAN RECORDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

Industry Statistics for the month of February 1998
Units and dollars expressed in thousands

	MONTH			YEAR TO DATE		
	1998	1997	%change	1998	1997	%change
UNITS SHIPPED						
Music Video	107	41	161%	206	100	106%
Cassette Single	0	0		-1	0	
Other Singles	26	41	-37%	65	85	-24%
TOTAL SINGLES	26	41	-37%	64	85	-25%
CASSETTE	501	743	-33%	975	1433	-32%
CD	3390	3435	-1%	6971	7174	-3%
TOTAL ALBUMS	3891	4178	-7%	7946	8607	-8%
GRAND TOTAL	4024	4260	-6%	8216	8792	-7%
NET VALUE OF SALES						
Music Video	963	454	112%	1902	1038	83%
Cassette Single	0	0		-2	1	
Other Singles	148	241	-39%	346	473	-27%
TOTAL SINGLES	148	241	-39%	344	474	-27%
Cassette	3028	4842	-37%	6104	9213	-34%
CD	39835	39592	1%	81031	81765	-1%
TOTAL ALBUMS	42863	44434	-4%	87135	90978	-4%
GRAND TOTAL	\$43,974	\$45,129	-3%	\$89,381	\$92,490	-3%

Sales information is supplied by members of CRIA and tabulated by KPMG without audit.
The category of DCC/Mini Disc has been eliminated from the report due to negligible sales.

RPM URBAN TOP 30

Canada's only national weekly urban music chart

TW LW WO APRIL 6, 1998

1	1	7	WHAT YOU WANT Mase/w/ Total Bad Boy-N
2	2	7	DJ KEEP PLAYIN' Yvette Michelle Loud-N
3	3	7	4,3,2,1 LL Cool J Def Jam-N
4	25	6	WE BE GLUBBIN' Ice Cube A&M-Q
5	5	7	GETTIN JIGGY WIT IT Will Smith Sony-H
6	4	6	DON'T STOP THE MUSIC Playa Def Jam-Q
7	7	6	10 CRACK COMMANDMENTS Notorious B.I.G. Bad Boy-N
8	8	6	TOO CLOSE Next Arista-N
9	6	7	GUESS WHO'S BACK Rakim Universal-J
10	13	6	NICE & SLOW Usher LaFace-N
11	15	5	ROYALTY Gangstarr Noo Trybe-F
12	14	5	SPANISH HARLEM Coca Brovaz Priority
13	9	7	RAPPERS DELIGHT Def Squad Priority
14	11	6	PHONE TAP The Firm Sony-H
15	10	7	YOU MAKE ME WANNA Usher LaFace-N
16	12	7	ALL MY LIFE K-Ci & JoJo MCA-J
17	17	4	RAIN S.W.V RCA/Loud-N
18	23	3	BOUT YOUR LOVE Glen Lewis Illvibe Records
19	16	7	ROXANNE '97 Sting/w/ Puff Daddy A&M-Q
20	30	2	DE-JA-VU Lord Tariq w/ Peter Gunz Cotidine-H
21	18	7	YOU KNOW MY STEEZ... Gangstarr EMI-F
22	19	7	NO NO NO (PART II) Destiny's Child Columbia-H
23	21	7	FEEL SO GOOD Mase Arista-N
24	20	7	DANGEROUS Busta Rhymes Warner-P
25	22	7	GOT 'TILL IT'S GONE Janet Jackson Virgin-F
26	24	7	NASTY BOY Notorious B.I.G. BMG-N
27	26	4	24/7 24/7 Loud/RCA-N
28	27	6	MY MELODY Queen Pen Interscope-J
29	NEW		MONEY, POWER, RESPECT The Lox Bad Boy-N
30	29	2	IF YOU THINK I'M JIGGY The Lox Bad Boy-N

Random thoughts from the 1998 Juno Awards

by Warren Cosford

WOW . . . you can just hear the spirit and anticipation from the audience right off the top can't ya? And look at that stage? Set designer types might not be into it, but the clean crisp look is cool. Maybe this means we'll get substance over style this year. **Jason Priestely** is doing a nice job. It helps when the audience wants him to. What's with the smoking in the silly bedroom scene with **Jann**? C'mon! Who needs it? Aren't you "role modelling" up there? Too bad about **Raine Maida**. **Our Lady Peace** has worked hard. The darlings of the chat groups. **Arnold Lanni**'s the man though. He's a great story waiting to be told. Gee, it's been 20 minutes and there hasn't been a **Yankee** on the stage yet. Hey **Walt**, remember back in '90 when we dared to complain about **Rod**, **Milli** and **Lyle** getting in the way? And shouldn't the Junos go on tour? **Farrell** called me "parochial. Nice to see the producers finally grow up enough to cross the street on their own. Give 'em a call **Halifax**, they're almost ready!



SOCAN's Marnie Thornton presents Amanda Marshall's Chart Topper Award at the Canadian Music Awards to Marshall's manager Thomas Stephen. (photo by Tom Sandler)

The tap dancers may be the best athletes in the building, including **Messier**. Nice touch. Here comes **Sarah**. And here comes Sarah. And here comes Sarah again. And again! Gee, I used to work "with" a guy who couldn't understand the "chick thing". Didn't see it coming. And REALLY didn't "get" Sarah. Guess how his ratings are? Would have been a nice touch to have tossed in a performance of one of the **Radio Award** winners from CMW. You know? Cross pollination.

"French me a fry?" Hey **Dana**, that was the line of the night so far. Nice to hear a real piano for a change. Remember when different parts of the country took turns being hot? It was **Winnipeg**. Then **Vancouver**. Then **Toronto**. Now its everywhere! Sarah, **Farmer's Daughter**, **Leahy**, **Shania**, **OLP**, **Wide Mouth Mason** (nice signing David), **Dana**, **Voisine** and lots on the bench. What other country has this kind of depth right now? We hardly missed **Celine** and **Alanis**. But couldn't they have made it if they had really wanted to? Hell, even **Gordon** showed up. And he didn't need to

any more than they did.

Best video so far, **Labatt's Blue**. That's right Jason, knock her hat off. This is Canada. No pretensions here. Hey **Dougie**, remember when we insisted that **David Foster** make the cut in The Producers back in '82 even though the money people hadn't heard of him? Class guy. And he still takes your calls! Is that **Dylan** or **Sexsmith**?

This is getting too nice. There's got to be something wrong here. I know! It doesn't quite look and sound like Canada! It's been a long time since Quincy's been a token anybody. Aren't we supposed to be multicultural? This is minicultural. The closest the Junos have come is **Celtic**. If there's anyone to blame, it's the **CRTC**. Ethnic radio is Canada's media ghetto. Get rid of the ethnic regs and maybe the country will look and sound like it really is. In the future if we let the ethnic dynamic of Canada be heard and seen, it may well be our secret weapon. We have more depth than we know! Nice job **Bozo**. You've just about got it.

(Warren Cosford is president of Production One Limited, 2215 Victoria Avenue, Windsor, Ontario N8X 1R2, fax 519-254-6940, voice 519-254-6940.)

NRCC appointment for Baron Manett

The Neighbouring Rights Collective of Canada (NRCC) has announced the appointment of Baron Manett as executive director. He joins NRCC from Future Shop where he managed the advertising and promotional activities.

NRCC was incorporated in the summer of 1997, after enactment by Parliament of the right of remuneration for producers and performers, the NRCC is an umbrella group representing collectives

formed by performers and producers whose eligible sound recordings are performed on radio and in public places.

A proposal was filed by the NRCC for such uses before the Copyright Board last September. A first hearing dealing with this proposed commercial radio tariff is expected by spring.

Manett, whose appointment is effective immediately, can be contacted in Toronto.

Ian Tremblay launches Sansô label with Mishka

Well-known Quebec record executive Ian Tremblay took advantage of Canadian Music Week to network the first signing to his Sansô label, Newport, Gaspésie native Mishka.

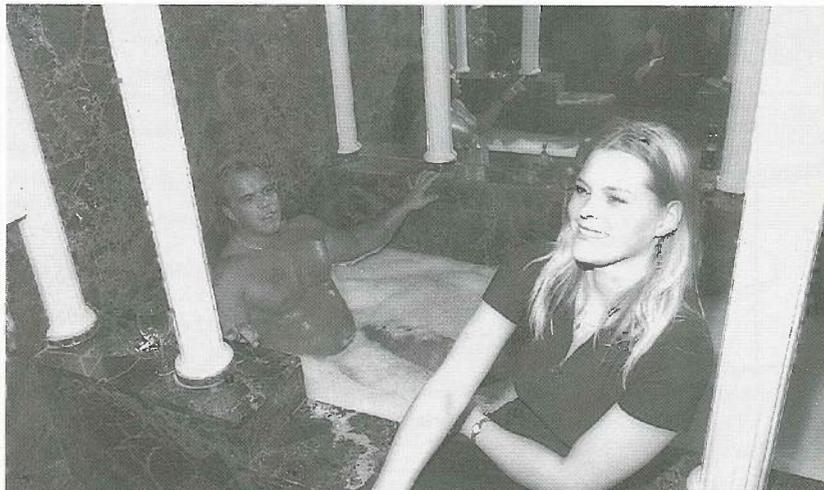
Tremblay and Sansô co-horts Pierre Demers and Dean Brisson were encouraged by the interest in his label which has a solid base in Montreal, and in Mishka's two-song CD that is now at radio. The CD contains a Mishka/Harry B. penning of Legal Love and a reggae treatment of James Brown's Try Me. She was backed by her band Urban Groove. Both tracks are included on Mishka's upcoming album, Legalize Love, which

will be in stores mid-April. The Sansô label is distributed by Select Distribution.

Mishka honed her talent while at college, performing to packed houses at established Boites à chansons (coffee houses) and college campuses in Quebec. She was tagged star material after playing a benefit concert in Montreal in the spring of 1996 for an important student exchange program. It was at this time when her talent was brought to the attention of Tremblay, who later caught her performance at a concert at a Montreal college. Tremblay signed her to the Sansô label a few days later and set the wheels in motion.



Prior to Toronto date, Maze is presented with triple platinum award for his debut album from BMG's Lisa Zbitnew, Nicole Chrysostom and Cam Carpenter.



"The only rock 'n roll happening all weekend," says BMG President Lisa Zbitnew, referring to RPM's Sean LaRose jumping into the tub at the BMG post CMW party. (photos by Barry Roden)

COUNTRY

Paul Brandt is a go with his latest Reprise single, Yeah, the most added this week. Brandt's handlers were smart this time around, making sure the single has that all-important Cancon hook. Brandt shares the writing of the music and lyrics with Nashville writer Steve Rosen, the combination of which gives him 50 per cent of the lyrics and the same for the music giving the single two-parts Cancon. The single, taken from his album Outside The Frame is included on Warner's promo CD No. 353, enters the chart at #81.

Kevin Sharp is firmed for a number of Canadian dates at Cowboys, beginning with Calgary (May 4) and followed by Grande Prairie (5), Edmonton (6),

and Ft. McMurray (7). Sharp is currently making gains up the chart with Love Is All That Matters (#82*)

Stephanie Beaumont has launched a self-promotion campaign on the release of her new single, Whoever Said That. The single is included on her upcoming self-titled album released on the Spooner Tunes label. The song was penned by Nashville writers Jeffrey Steele, Chris Farren and Chuck Jones. Steele and Tom Harding produced the album expected to be available by June. The

single displays a two-part Cancon logo (AP). The supporting video is scheduled to run on CMT beginning the first week in April. Beaumont is on her way to the east coast to open concert dates for George Jones. Beaumont is managed by Nashville's J.P. Newby Management.

Universal's Paul Cormack is touting a couple of new releases, George Strait's I Just Want To Dance With You, and Kris Tyler's I'm In Trouble Now. He's particularly excited with the Tyler single, being that she performed at a recent Universal Toronto showcase with The Mavericks and Jason McCoy. The Tyler single which she wrote with Gary Burr and Mark Hudson is included on her Rising Tide debut album What A Woman Knows which was produced by Tony Brown and Emory Gordy Jr. Tyler made an impression in Canada with her debut single which made a run up the RPM Country 100 earlier this year. The Strait single was written by Roger Cook and John Prine and is included on his upcoming MCA Nashville album One Step At A Time which was produced by Strait and Tony Brown.

Craven A Today's Country drew a packed house for the taping of their syndicated series last week which showcased the talent of new Cancon Sony signing Gil Grand, EMI's Jo Dee Messina and Universal's Tracy Byrd. In short interview segments, host Greg Shannon brought out the best in these acts. Messina's segment, where she performs a powerful set of several of her hits, is scheduled for the April 5 edition. Faith Hill, who flew into Canada to perform exclusively for Today's Country, is scheduled for the April 12 segment, while Kris Tyler is slated for the April 19 issue.

George Fox continues his Ontario April dates at Kirkland Lake's Northern College Auditorium on April Fool's Day, followed by the Dryden High

COUNTRY continued on page 19

COUNTRY PICKERS

CAL GRATTON

CJVR 750 - Melfort
Yeah - Paul Brandt

DANIEL SAVOIE

CHET 94.5FM - Chetwynd
Yeah - Paul Brandt

BRUCE ANDREI

Country 95.5FM - Lethbridge
Now That I Found You - Terri Clark

RAY BERGSTROM

Country 96 - Kingston
Now That I Found You - Terri Clark

BILL MALCOLM

KIXX 105 - Thunder Bay
Now That I Found You - Terri Clark

JANET TRECARTEN

CISS-FM - Toronto
Open Arms - Collin Raye

BOB PRESTON

Nornet Broadcasting - Edmonton
Just Want To Dance - George Strait

RICK KELLY

CKNN-FM - Prince George
Just Want To Dance - George Strait

JAMES RICHARDS

CHAT - Medicine Hat
Just Want To Dance - George Strait

GARTH STONE

MIX92.1FM - Regina
Just Want To Dance - George Strait

COLIN McAULAY

630 CFCY - Charlottetown
Movin' On - Rankin Family

PETE WALKER

KX95FM - Durham
Movin' On - Rankin Family

BRIAN SALMON

C-HOW 1470 - Welland
One Of These Days - Tim McGraw

RICK FLEMING

CKQM-FM - Peterborough
One Of These Days - Tim McGraw

DOUG ANDERSON

Y105 - Ottawa
Two Pina Coladas - Garth Brooks

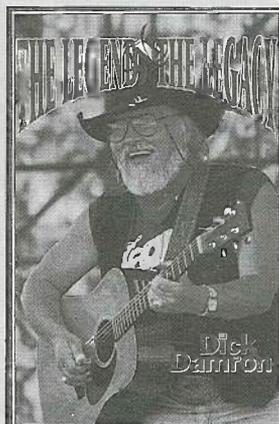
DOUG HARRISON

CJNB - North Battleford
Two Pina Coladas - Garth Brooks

BOOKS

THE LEGEND AND THE LEGACY by Dick Damron - 240 pages (paperback) \$19.95 - Quarry Press, Kingston, Ontario. What a pity a how not to book like this wasn't available to little Dickey Damron who was growing up in Bentley, Alberta more than 60 years ago. Not that he would have paid any attention. Damron comes from that trusting breed of country artists, whose naivety destroyed many of their careers. They listened to whoever was pissing in their ear at any one particular moment, changing their direction, their goals, and their friends almost as often as they changed their underwear. Have things changed? Will Damron's pillorying of himself create change? Not likely. But how fortunate we are that Damron didn't restrict his talent to performing and writing. Or maybe because he was and still is a good songwriter, he was able to direct these skills into writing prose resulting in this inner-self, almost bordering on pity, expose. Damron had it good. He lived the good life, wine women and song, much of it at the expense of his career. He took chances, some of which he regretted, others that were rewarding. Damron has definitely left us a legacy and he is a living legend of this legacy, and there aren't too many left. It's a dog eat dog business, and to survive all those years is a credit to him. Damron first appeared in the pages of RPM back

in the Oct. 4, 1965 issue. But it wasn't until five years later when he began charting. His first single, Countryfied, hit #1 on the RPM Country chart on Sept. 26/70, after which he entered into an association with RCA that lasted 35 years and a number of singles and exceptional albums. The trials and tribulations, the agony and ecstasy of being a part of the country music business. Although Damron wasn't a star in the much maligned use of the word, he was a star in his own right and recognized as such by those he worked with and the industry in general. The twinkle somehow just evaded him. A great read, particularly for those little country star wannabe's who think there really is a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. **-WG**



Melfort's CJVR gets nod from SCMA

Kevin Wilson, promotions director for 750 CJVR Melfort, Saskatchewan reports that March 22 was a big night for the station, named the country music station of the year at the Saskatchewan Country Music Association awards show which was held in Prince Alberta. This was the third straight year the station has been so honoured by the SCMA.

Cal Gratton, CJVR's music director for the past 12 years, also took home a number of awards, including music director, on-air personality and country music person of the year. "A big surprise," said Gratton after picking up his country music person of the year award. "The field of nominees was outstanding, and just to be nominated was a big honour."

Station manager Gary Fitz accepted his team's third award in a row. "Definitely a staff award," boasted Fitz, "Hats off to a terrific staff. It's nice to be rewarded for doing what you sincerely believe in . . . Saskatchewan country music talent."

Fitz also accepted CJVR's fourth straight SCMA Board of Directors selection for radio station, award of merit at the President's Awards Banquet.

"Congratulations to all of this year's nominees and award winners," says Wilson, "and a job well done by the Prince Albert host committee for putting together an outstanding week."

Determination is winning for Newfoundland's Hilda V

Hilda V's story is a classic tale where courage and determination have played a major role in her survival, rewarding her with an opportunity to realize her dreams of becoming a recognized recording artist.

Born Nov. 16, 1959 in Gander and raised in Hare Bay, Bonavista Bay, Newfoundland, Hilda V (she prefers this identity) was born with a defect in her digestive system and not given much hope to live past 25. At age of 12 she was diagnosed with Endometriosis which led to 16 operations by the time she was 17.

It seemed only a natural evolvement having spent so much time in hospitals that after finishing high school she went into nurses training and became an RNA. "I wanted to give back some of the love and affection that was given to me by hospital staff over the years," she fondly recalls.

In her new profession she worked in hospitals in Newfoundland and British Columbia, moving to Toronto in 1986 where she became a home care worker. She was still plagued with health problems making life a daily struggle. A fall injured the sciatica nerve in her back and she was unable to



walk and had to literally crawl on all fours around her apartment.

Rather than undergo a dangerous operation that might put her in a wheelchair for the rest of her life, Hilda V opted for exercise, a strong will and sheer determination which she felt would give her a better chance. Two years later she was walking, but it was obvious she had to choose another way to make a living.

A strong hankering to get into the arts led to her joining a vocal training course and a new career was born. Hilda V would perform at the drop of a hat, on a bus tour to Nashville, at the Grand Ol Opry itself, on General Jackson's boat cruise and at Nashville's RCA studio.

Returning to Toronto she became a karaoke hostess, performing one woman shows with pre-recorded tracks, signed with a modelling agency and added support roles in television and movie productions to her portfolio. A highlight of 1993 was when she modelled and performed in New York

HILDA V continued on page 19

RPM

COUNTRY ALBUMS

TW LW WD APRIL 6, 1998 MAPL: Indicates album has some Cancan

1	1	19	SHANIA TWAIN Come On Over Mercury-314-536-003-Q	MA PL	21	22	85	LEANN RIMES Blue Curb/EMI 77821-F
2	2	16	GARTH BROOKS Sevens Capitol-7243-86599-F		22	19	13	THE MAVERICKS It's Now It's Live Universal-70026-J
3	3	2	MAVERICKS Trampoline MCA-70018		23	30	39	LEAHY Self-titled Virgin-42955-F
4	4	29	TRISHA YEARWOOD Songbook: A Collection Of Hits Universal-7001-J		24	27	41	NEW COUNTRY 4 Various Artists WEA-35328-P
5	6	25	BROOKS & DUNN Greatest Hits RCA-18852-N		25	20	46	GEORGE STRAIT Carrying Your Love With Me MCA Nashville-15842-J
6	NEW		JOEDE MESSINA I'm Alright Curb-77904-F		26	28	13	VARIOUS ARTISTS Greatest Country Love Songs MCA-81059-J
7	7	27	LEANN RIMES You Light Up My Life - Inspirational Songs Curb-77885-F		27	29	22	KICKIN' COUNTRY 4 Various Artists Sony Music Direct-24028-H
8	11	70	DEANA CARTER Did I Shave My Legs For This Capitol-37514-F		28	32	7	WADE HAYES When The Wrong One Loves You Right Columbia-68037-H
9	8	41	TIM MCGRAW Everywhere Curb-77886-F		29	18	9	CHARLIE MAJOR Everything's Alright BMG-74321-523-732-N
10	23	11	LILA MCCANN Lila Asylum-62042-P		30	24	6	JASON MCCOY Playin' For Keeps Universal-81017-J
11	9	29	MARTINA McBRIDE Evolution RCA-07863-67516-N		31	15	27	PAUL BRANDT Outside The Frame Reprise-46635-P
12	13	8	BRUCE GUTHRO Of Your Son EMI-57175-F	MA PL	32	38	13	MARK CHESNUTT Too Cold At Home MCA-10032-J
13	17	17	JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY Greatest Hits Atlantic-83060-P		33	25	29	COLLIN RAYE The Best Of: Direct Hits Epic-67893-H
14	10	11	SAMMY KERSHAW Labour Of Love Mercury-536318-Q		34	33	7	KINLEYS Just Between You & Me Epic 67965-H
15	12	13	IF I DON'T STAY THE NIGHT Mindy McCready BNA/BMG-N		35	31	85	PAUL BRANDT Calm Before The Storm Reprise-46180-P
16	26	7	DIXIE CHICKS Wide Open Spaces Monument-68195-H		36	35	11	PATTY LOVELESS Long Stretch Of Lonsome Epic-67997-H
17	16	11	MICHAEL PETERSON Michael Peterson Reprise-46618-P		37	34	70	ALAN JACKSON Everything I Love Arista-18812-N
18	5	13	CLINT BLACK Nothin' But The Taillights RCA-67515-N		38	36	4	MATRACA BERG Sunday Morning To Saturday Night Rising Tide-53047-J
19	21	28	CMT CANADA '97 Various Artists BMG/EMI-1253-F/N	MA PL	39	37	13	CHELY WRIGHT Let Me In MCA-70003-J
20	14	13	JULIAN AUSTIN What My Heart Already Knows VIK/BMG-74321-473-472-N	MA PL	40	39	18	WYNNONNA The Other Side Curb-30612-J



CASEY CLARKE

VIDEO & INSTANT TOP TWENTY

1. You're Still The One - Shania Twain
2. Bye Bye - Jo Dee Messina
3. To Be With You - Mavericks
4. Back In The Saddle - Matraca Berg
5. Love You Better - Dixie Chicks
6. Walk This Road - Bruce Guthro
7. You'll Never Know - Mindy McCready
8. The Day She Left - Wade Hayes
9. Fall In Love - Lila McCann
10. Then What - Clay Walker
11. Perfect Love - Trisha Yearwood
12. Between You And Me - Kinleys
13. Inclemency - Farmer's Daughter
14. Dream Walking - Toby Keith
15. Over You - Paul Brandt
16. Your Heart - Sherrie Austin
17. Bones - Randy Travis
18. Found You - Terri Clark
19. Falling Down - Blue Rodeo
20. Too Good - Michael Peterson

BREAKOUT VIDEO

Now That I Found You - Terri Clark

PICK HIT

Almost Over You - Lila McCann

RPM

HILDA V continued from page 17

at the International Modelling and Talent Search. Unfortunately the balloon burst once more and she ended up in hospital in Toronto in 1996. The hospital stay was further complicated when she was prescribed a drug she was allergic to and which was almost fatal.

Rising to the challenge once more, the aggressive Newfoundlander managed to get back on her feet and realised another of her goals, recording an album. It was in December of last year

when she completed that album titled *East Coast Country*, produced by Robert McPherson and Fred Vokey and recorded at Toronto's Cherry Beach Sound.

The album is, in effect, a tribute to her home province of Newfoundland with memorable songs like *A Newfoundland Sunset*, *Take Me Home To Newfoundland*, *The Four Seasons of Newfoundland*, *Newfies*, *You Can't Take The Newfie Out Of Me*, and more, all written by Vokey. Session players included drummer Glenn Martin, Robbie Sagar on lead guitar and mandolin, bassist

Brian Dickie, Joe Sexton on accordion, Michael Lee on bagpipes, Igor Romanyk on violin and fiddle and McPherson on keys.

Hilda V's career was given a boost recently with a feature by Bob Cousins in his *Friends & Neighbors* "The Codfish" column in the March 8-21 issue of *TV Facts*. Cousins also hosts the popular *Breakfast Club* of the *Friends & Neighbours Radio Atlantic Show* on 1430 Radio (Brampton, Ontario) from 6 to 10 am Saturdays where he has been featuring tracks from Hilda V's album.

COUNTRY continued from page 15

School (3), the Fort Francis High School (4), Atikokan's Errington Hall (5), Wawa's Michipicoton High School (6), Shelburn's Grace Tipling Hall (8), and Victoria Playhouse in Petrolia (9). Fox is currently bulleting up the *RPM Country 100* (#64*) with his latest WEA single *I'm Gone* which was taken from his *Survivor* album which was produced by Kim Tribble.

Ray Bonneville is showing an impressive pattern of spins with his new CD single *When The Night Time Comes*, a Bonneville original. Mary Harris of Montreal's Musik Marketing is tracking the single which could chart soon.

The Thompson Brothers Band were in Toronto last week and dropped by RPM's offices for a chat with Jody Infumari. He caught up with them later at a BMG hosted dinner at Montana's and again at the Horseshoe where they showcased their debut album *Blame It On The Dog*. The band is making good inroads up the chart with *Back On The Farm* (#80*), the first single taken from the album.

Country Heat 1998 is getting a massive promotion kick from BMG. They are giving away

barbeques filled with BMG country CDs (ViK, RCA, Arista, Ariola), plus a trip to see Alan Jackson in concert in Calgary and Brooks & Dunn in Las Vegas. Included on the album are tracks by Michelle Wright (*What Love Looks Like*), Juian Austin

(*Little Ol' Kisses*), Charlie Major (*I'm Feeling Kind Of Lucky Tonight*) *Prairie Oyster* (*One Way Track*), *The Thompson Brothers Band* (*Back On The Farm*), Clint Black (*Half Way Up*, and Bob Carlisle (*Butterfly Kisses*; the country mix), and more.

CLASSIFIEDS

The charge for classified ads in RPM is \$1.00 per word, \$2.00 per word for upper case or bold copy, \$3.00 per headline word. Minimum charge for an ad is \$20.00. There is a \$10.00 service charge for reserving a box number. Please add 7% to the total. Ads containing more than 50 words will run as display ads.

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shift

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