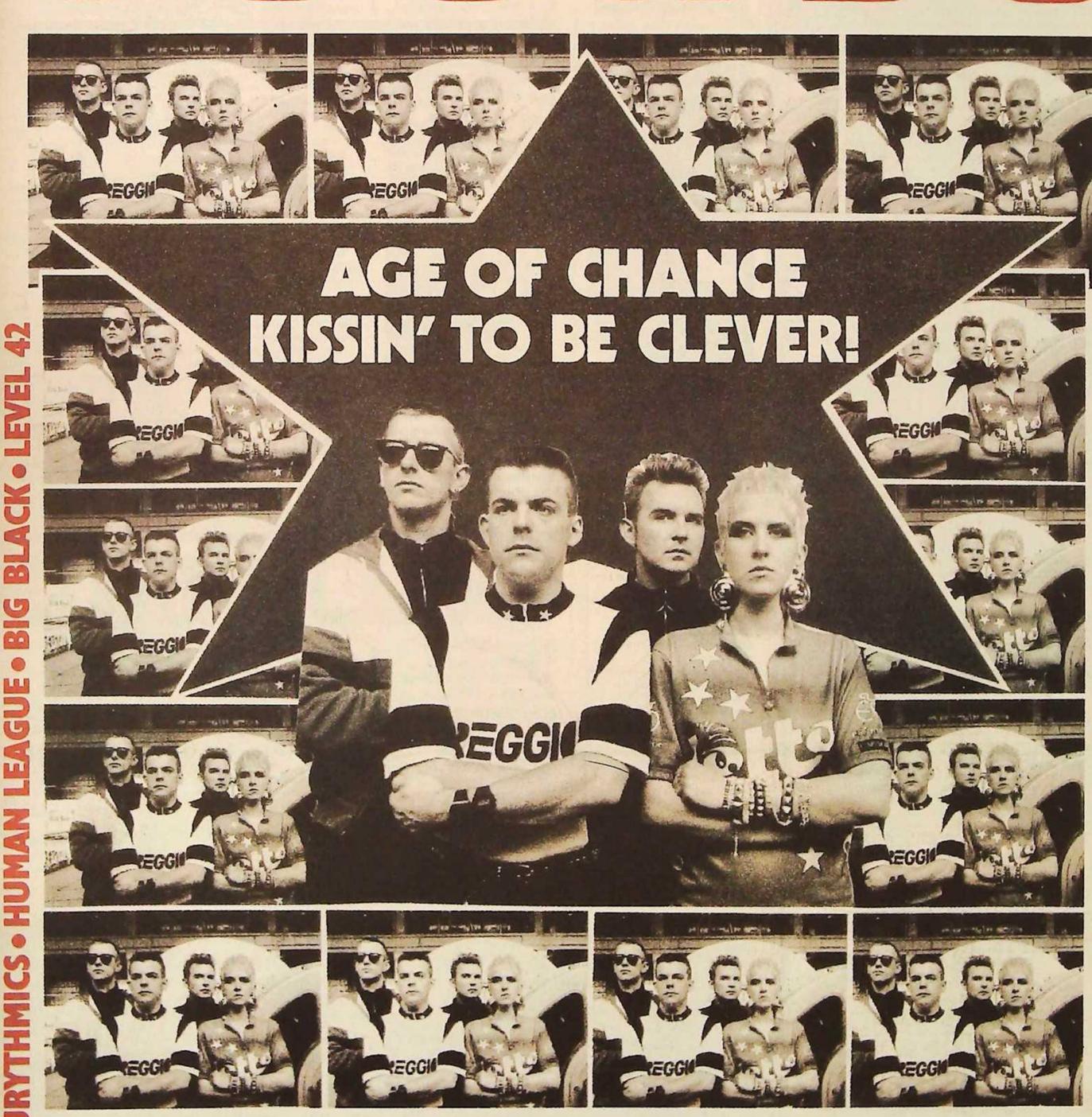
# WIN £900 WORTH OF NIKON CAMERAS - PAGE 15



SUZANNE VEGA+HURRAH!+MARK E. SMITH POP WILL EAT ITSELF+7-PAGE IN-TECH SPECIAL

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### MARILLION, who announced a couple of dates for Web members at Aylesbury Maxwell Hall last week, have taken pity on their northern fans and lined up two shows at Liverpool Royal Court on December 29 and 30 and one at Glasgow Barrowlands on

the 31st. Tickets for Liverpool (which are not restricted to Web members) are £6.50 and £6, while Glasgow tickets are

As we told you last week, these are likely to be Marillion's only British gigs before next autumn as they start recording their next album in January.

THE FALL release a new single, 'Hey! Luciani', on **Beggars Banquet on** December 8, to coincide with the opening of Mark E Smith's first play. See Jaws, page 8.

# SEX BOMB BOGEY

**More Sputnik** mischief ahead as the band avoid chart competition with video-only "single"

### SIGUE SIGUE SPUTNIK

release the third in their "singles trilogy" this week - a video-only single of 'Sex Bomb Boogie' (see Singles page 21).

This new version - which will not be available on vinyl in this country - has been rerecorded and produced by Giorgio Moroder. The video comes from the band's recent Royal Albert Hall concert and

also features excerpts from the Terminator movie.

The "B-side" of the video is a 12-inch version of 'Love Missile F1-11' again using live footage.

The band are still sneering at their critics, claiming that they've sold a million copies of 'Love Missile FI-II' around the world and that their 'Flaunt It' album has just gone silver (with worry?) in this country.

They also maintain that 3,500 people saw their Royal Albert Hall show in October, a figure disputed by many journalists there.

European tour.

Their critics, who defy anyone to spot the difference between the new 'Sex Bomb Boogie' and the old, reply that a video single is the only product the band can release which is not eligible for the charts and can therefore not be judged against the sales of other singles. But at least Sputnik now seem to agree with their detractors over one point - they're only a three singles band.

Unbowed, they're now recording their second album for EMI. Advertising rates have not yet been revealed.

### Frank Pushes A Head ...



FRANK SIDEBOTTOM makes a timely reappearance with the release of his 'Christmas Is Really Fantastic' EP on his new label In Tape (through Red Rhino) on December 12. It features such seasonal tracks as 'Mull Of Timperley' and 'Christmas Is Really Fantastic'.

Frank will also be appearing at Manchester The Ritz December 11, Stafford College 12, Blackburn King Georges Hall 24, Cheltenham Town Hall 27.

ZEKE MANYIKA, ex-Orange Juice, is finally free to tour abroad after 12 years as an illegal immigrant. His Dr Love band has a new line-up featuring Aubrey (ex Hugh Masekela) vocals, Andy Anderson, drums, and an unnamed guitarist from Transistor.

Before they pack their bags for Spain, Africa, and the USA, you can catch them at Glasgow Rooftops December 4, Liverpool University 5, London Imperial College 6, Blackpool Winter Gardens 7, London Astoria Ballroom 12.

FLESH FOR LULU, who have "relinquished all previous vices" in celebration of signing to Beggars Banquet, will play Camden Electric Ballroom on December 8 to promote their new single 'Idol' which is out this week. EEK-A-MOUSE, who was last seen at London's Kentish Town Town And Country Club back in May, returns for two gigs on the South Coast later this month. December 15 and Bournemouth Town Hall 20. a new recording deal.

> THE MOODY BLUES have added three more dates to their forthcoming 'Other Side Of Life' UK tour at Oxford New Theatre December 3, Liverpool Empire 11, Birmingham Odeon 12.

Their previously announced Wembley date on December 5 will be a charity performance for the Duke Of Edinburgh's Award 1986 30th Anniversary Tribute Project, in the presence of HRH Prince Edward (who says the youngest child always gets spoilt?).

He'll be playing more dates early next year when he's finalised

THE ROSE OF AVALANCHE, who've just finished supporting the

mission, undertake their own headlining tour at Wolverhampton

Rays 10, Cardiff Mars Bar Club 11, Hammersmith Clarendon 12.

New Year while they continue to support The Mission on their

WE'VE GOT A FUZZBOX AND WE'RE GONNA USE IT, who are

currently in the middle of their nationwide tour, release their new album entitled 'Bostin' Steve Austin' on WEA on December

translated as "splendiferous, accomatic or just plain brilliant."

The LP is produced by Vindaloo supremo Rob Lloyd, and

He'll be showcasing his new band at Brighton Top Rank

8. According to the Fuzzbox dictionary, the album's title is

includes their current single 'Love Is The Slug', as well as remixed versions of 'XX Sex' and 'Rules And Regulations'.

A single entitled 'Always There', backed with their version of The Doors' classic 'Waiting For The Sun', will be released in the

Scruples December 4, Retford Porterhouse 5, Hull Adelphi 6, Manchester Boardwalk 7, Leeds Warehouse 8, Brighton Sister

# ALENTRO

January 15 is the date when more Womacks than you can shake a stick at get together for a Valentinos-style reunion at the Albert Hall

THE WOMACK Reunion Show at London's Royal Albert Hall - exclusively revealed in Sounds' November 8 issue has been confirmed for January 15.

Womack And Womack -Cecil and Linda (Sam Cooke's daughter) - will be joined by The Brothers Womack featuring Curtis, Friendly ... and hopefully Bobby, who together made up The Valentinos in the early '60s.

Tickets for the show which will be broadcast live by Radio London - are £10, £9 and £7.50 from the box office and other agents.

Bobby Womack hasn't yet confirmed his appearance at the concert. He's got a new

album out on MCA this week called 'Womagic' (see review page 27) and is producing albums by Ron Wood and his back-up singer Alltrinna Grayson. But there's nothing that couldn't be interrupted if the politics can be sorted out. Observers put his chances of appearing at 60 per cent.

As lead singer of The Valentinos, Bobby's contribution is obviously important. But even then the Valentino reunion couldn't be complete as brother Harry

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THE CHAMELEONS have had rumours of an impending split strenuously denied by their record company. The band were reportedly disillusioned by the cancellation of a US tour that was supposed to take place this month.

Mark Burgess, the band's singer, apparently went on holiday the day before they were due to play their New York gig – which had to be cancelled due to

"promotional problems". But a spokesman at Geffen said the band had merely taken separate holidays after spending all year on the road and in the studio. A single from the band is due out late February.

PAUL SIMON has a half-hour Whistle Test special screened by BBC2 on December 3 at 8pm.

Interviewed while he was over in London this summer producing an album with Ladysmith Black Mambazo, who also appear on his 'Graceland' album, Simon explains how he was introduced to South African "township jive" music and went over to record there. He also defends himself against charges that he was aiding or abetting South Africa's apartheid regime.

The programme includes videos for his 'You Can Call Me Al' hit, the new single 'The Boy In The Bubble' and 'Homeless'. The album is already Paul Simon's biggest selling solo effort.

ROUEN, the Midlands quintet who got hefty Radio One airplay for their 'Young For A Day' single on their own Kick label last summer, have signed to EG and release a new single in January.

Meantime they have a series of London dates lined up at The Marquee December 3, University Of London Union 4, Tottenham Middlesex Polytechnic 5, Kennington Cricketers 8, Fulham Greyhound 15.

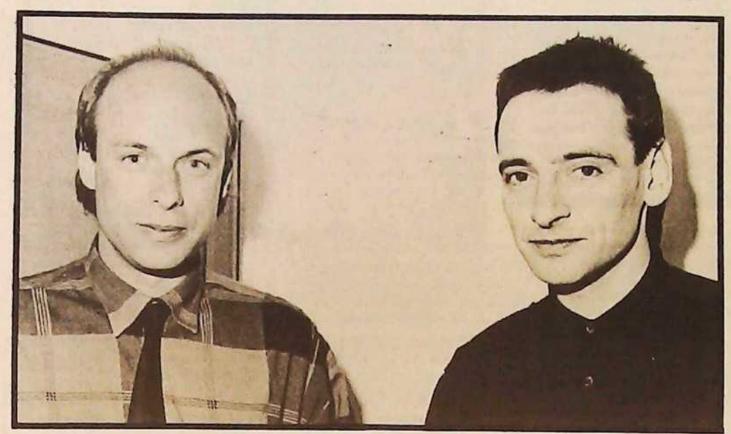
# DAY

died in 1978.

The Valentinos' '60s
recordings – including 'It's All
Over Now' which was a hit in
1964 for The Rolling Stones
who recorded it after hearing
the original version on their
first American tour – have
recently been acquired by
Bobby's manager Allen Klein.
It's expected that an album will
be released next year.

There's also a Womack reunion album in the pipeline, as well as a new Womack And Womack album which will be out before the concert.

# EG-LISTENING



ENO AND Mills: providing visuals for January South Bank performances

ROBERT FRIPP, Harold Budd, Bill Bruford, The Penguin Cafe Orchestra and Michael Nyman are all taking part in a South Bank Editions Week at London's Queen Elizabeth Hall from January 5-9.

Billed as "the first ever festival of the sounds and ideas that have changed the face of popular music", all the acts involved just happen to have close connections with Editions EG.

Bill Bruford introduces his new band, Earthworks, on the opening night, Janauary 5, with Michael Nyman. They are followed by Harold Budd (who's recently been working with The Cocteau Twins), Roger Eno (Brian's brother), Michael Brook Laraaji and John Bonnar on the 6th, who will be performing to designs and visuals by Brian Eno and Russell Mills.

The Penguin Cafe Orchestra will be in concert on the 7th while Robert Fripp will be bringing his League Of Crafty Guitarists (18 students of "varying abilities") over from North America for his show on the 8th.

Man Jumping, the systems music/jazz fusion band, most of whom used to be in avant garde orchestra Lost Jockey, round off the festival on the 9th.

Tickets are £7, £6 and £5 per night from the box office. There are also a strictly limited number of season tickets at £25.

NEW MODEL ARMY, who were denied entry to the USA earlier in the year on the grounds of "lacking artistic merit", have finally been granted their work permits.

"We can't understand why the US government should have been so worried by three musicians," says drummer Robb Heaton, and vocalist Slade The Leveller adds, "I hope the administration live to regret it".

The band will return (if all goes according to plan) to play Kentish Town Town And Country Club on December 23. Tickets are priced £4.75.

Pete Murphy also encountered problems with the American embassy when he was refused a work permit last week. Nevertheless, he hopes to set off for the USA in February to undertake a month long tour.

The Bolshoi, who were supposed to be supporting Murphy, have gone to the US and will now headline.

THE DAINTEES get themselves in a good mood for 1987 by playing Manchester International December 4, Keele University 5, Harlesden Mean Fiddler 15, Newcastle Tiffany's 17. They then head off to the studio to record their second album.

the national Top 40, has added five extra dates to his tour next month, at Colchester L'Aristo's on December 15, Folkestone Leas Cliff Hall 17, Aberdeen Music Hall 20, Edinburgh Queen's Hall 21, and Manchester Free Trade Hall 22.

ONE HUNDRED MEN, who feature ex-Jam bassist Bruce Foxton, will play London Marquee on December 9 and Poole Mr C's 11. Some vinyl product is anticipated in the New Year.

PETE SHELLEY, who has just completed a British Tour, will be supporting The Smiths at the Anti-Apartheid Movement benefit gig at Brixton Academy on December 12. Shelley will then head off to tour Europe in the New Year, before going into the studio to record his new album in the Spring.

THE LARKS, whose 'All Or Nothing Girl' sneaked into the indie charts at number 49 at the beginning of the month, have confirmed a date at the London Marquee on December 15. They will be supported by Timothy London. Tickets are £3.50.

MARY COUGHLAN, the top Irish vocalist who recently supported Robert Cray on his British tour, returns to play London Ronnie Scotts December 7, and Harlesden Mean Fiddler 9.

CULTURE have added three more dates to their upcoming British tour at Sheffield Limit Club December 7, Cardiff New Ocean Club 18, Cambridge Corn Exchange 22.

Their London gig at The School Of African And Oriental Studies is for students only, but their Camden Dingwalls and Central London Polytechnic dates on December 10 and 12 are open to all.

KANSAS, who've lain dormant for the past three years – their last album was 'Vinyl Confessions' back in '82 – return with a new album on MCA this week called 'Power'.

Original members Phil Ehart on drums, guitarist Richard Williams and keyboard player vocalist Steve Walsh (who's had a longer holiday from Kansas than the rest of them, having quit five years ago), have been joined by ex-Streets bassist Billy Greer and guitarist Steve Morse, who has just been voted "Best Overall Guitarist" in the US magazine Guitar Player for the fifth successive year, having earned the reputation with The Dixie Dregs and various solo albums.

The album was recorded in Nashville, mixed in Los Angeles and London (where a 60-piece orchestra was brought in for four tracks), overdubbed in Atlanta and mastered in New York.

The first single, 'All I
Wanted', is described as
"unmistakable" for anyone
who bought the 15 million
albums they've sold up to
now.

# BRUMBEAT GOES ON



BALAAM AND THE ANGEL and The Mighty Lemon Drops (above) co-headline an impressive line-up of Midlands talent at Birmingham Powerhouse on December 23. The supporting cast will be made up of Pop Will Eat Itself and The Wild Flowers. A special encore is planned with an appearance of 'The Balaamy Lemon Angels, who promise a series of "Slade covers" among other treats. Tickets are £4.50 in advance or £5 on the door.

Balaam And The Angel have also announced that they will be supporting Iggy Pop's two

POP WILL EAT ITSELF, whose
'Poppiecock' single reached the indie Top Five, are also going on tour next month. They digest themselves at Dudley JB's on December 5, London University College 6, Basingstoke

London University College 6, Basingstoke
Caribbean Club 7, Portsmouth Basin's 11,
Leicester Princess Charlotte's 12, Manchester
Boardwalk 13, Birmingham Burberry's 16,
London Astoria Theatre (supporting We've Got
A Fuzzbox) 17, North London Polytechnic 18,
Hackney Glasshouse 19.

WHAM! could still solve your sister's Christmas present problem – although you'd better check she hasn't turned against them.

If not, 'Wham! – The Final Box Set' will comfort the bitterness with two gold vinyl picture discs, Wham! The Final T-Shirt, Wham! The Final Notebook & Pencil and Wham! The Final Calendar for 1987. And it won't cost you more than £16.

INTO A CIRCLE, whose debut record was Sounds' single of the week, release the follow-up entitled 'Inside Out' on Abstract Sounds (through Pinnacle) this week (see review, page 21).

They have rescheduled their London Hippodrome date for December 11, and also play Deptford The Cage 14.

TWENTY FLIGHT ROCKERS, the London based quartet who include ex-Generation X drummer Mark Laff, will be supporting Spear Of Destiny on their tour beginning this weekend. They will also headline at The Marquee on December 19.



INTO A CIRCLE

NEW FOUR TRACK E.P. - OUT NOW "INSIDE OUT"

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**HOLGER HILLER releases his** second album titled 'Oben Im Eck' on Mute this week as a follow-up to his highly acclaimed debut LP for Cherry Red 'A Bunch Of Foulness In The Pit'.

Watch out for "teutonic irony" on some of the lyrics supplied courtesy of Wolfgang Muller of Die Todiohe Doris or be square.

JOHN OTWAY has so much confidence that his new single 'The New Jerusalem' will succeed that, rather than waiting for a record company to sign him up, he has signed up WEA.

Otway strode into WEA's offices last week armed with 300 singles (with an Otweay label) he'd had pressed himself and an advance for the record company of some £200, an offer that the multinational company could apparently "not refuse".

Otway will be appearing at Manchester Bank On The Wall December 3, Wolverhampton Polytechnic 5, Southampton Connaught Hall 6, Kentish Town Town And Country Club 12, Cambridge Corn Exchange 13, North London Polytechnic 16, Portsmouth Polytechnic 18, Finsbury Park Sir George Robey 19, Brentford Red Lion 20, Fulham Kings Head 21, Oval Cricketers 22, Blackburn King Georges Hall 24.

THE INSPIRATIONAL CHOIR reach a new state of mind with their album 'Higher And Higher' on Portrait (through CBS) on December 1.

They'll be invoking the spirit of Jackie Wilson at Leicester Polytechnic December 10, Treforest North Wales Polytechnic 12, Kentish Town Town And Country 18.

THE ENID join the ranks of Pink Floyd and Genesis when they have a programme of their music staged at London's Laserium on December 5, 6, 13, 19 and 20.

### DISHING THE DIRT

WISEBLOOD's second single, 'Stumbo', finally comes out this weekend on K422/ Some Bizzare, over a year after their first 12-inch, 'Motorslug'.

But the pace is definitely hotting up. Wiseblood's debut album, 'Dirtdish', two years in the making, will be out in January.

On the album Wiseblood - a collaboration between Jim Thirlwell, aka Foetus, Clint

Ruin and Motorslug, and former Swans drummer Roli Mosiman - are joined by another Swan Norman Westberg, Robert Quine (ex-Lou Reed and The Voidoids) and Phoebe Legere.

Wiseblood have been touring Europe recently in the company of Lydia Lunch. But British dates are still awaited from the band who were on Sounds' cover last month.

HAWKWIND have added two more dates to their British tour at Reading Majestic December 8 and Bournemouth Academy 9. They'll be supported by The Babysitters who have a live EP out

Immediately after the tour, Hawkwind guitarist Hugh Lloyd-Langton rounds up his own band for a pre-Christmas sortie at Telford Barons Club December 11, West Bromwich Coach And Horses 12, Birkenhead Stairways 13, Brentford Red Lion 14, Brighton Richmond Club 15, Bristol Roxy's 16, Colchester The Works 17, Bradford Royal Standard 18, Northampton Five Bells 19, Wolverhampton Scruples 20, Gravesend Red Lion 21, Oxford Corn Dolly 22.

### Top Guns Go For It ...



BERLIN, still topping the singles chart with 'You Take My Breath Away' from the Top Gun movie soundtrack, are lining up their first British gigs early next year.

The band, who are currently touring America, have a new single out on Phonogram next week called 'You Don't Know', taken from their just-released album 'Count Three And Pray'.

### The Men With No Bass ...



THE MEN THEY COULDN'T HANG bassist and founder member Shanne Hasler has decided to leave the group at the end of their current tour following "amicable discussions".

Indeed, so amicable were the discussions that the band have added another batch of dates at Chelmsford Essex Institute December 5, Plymouth Academy 8, Reading University 9, Warwick University 10, Uxbridge Brunel University 12, Bangor University 13, Leeds Irish Club 15, Deptford Albany (Anti-Heroin benefit) 20.

The band will be auditioning new bassists at the beginning of 1987.

IRON MAIDEN handed over a cheque for £25,531.30p to the NSPCC last week following their benefit gig at Hammersmith Odeon earlier this month.

The amount was made up of the entire income from ticket sales and merchandising revenue from specially printed T-shirts saying "I am an idiot. I paid to see Iron Maiden and Bad News at Hammersmith Odeon. But the money went to the NSPCC", plus donations from Edwin Shirley Trucking, Phil McIntyre Promotions, Len Wright Travel, Brilliant Construction, Meteorlites, Bravado merchandising and Snakatak catering.

Handing over the cheque, Bruce Dickinson said: "This is a charity we all feel very strongly about. The band have three kids between us and we think that people should be made more aware in this country who are often in danger in their own

STATUS QUO, who are about to embark on their British tour, have a 26-track video called Rocking Through The Years released by Channel 5 next week at an exceedingly budget price of £9.99.

The 100 minute video, which traces the band's career from 1973 to the present, includes 16 promos which haven't been seen on video before, including their recent 'In The Army Now' hit and their new single, out this week, called 'Dreaming'.

THE POGUES have lined up a third London gig on their British tour at Kilburn National Ballroom on December 4.

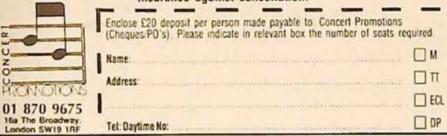
They've also got two Dublin dates at the Olympic Ballroom December 19 and SFX 20.

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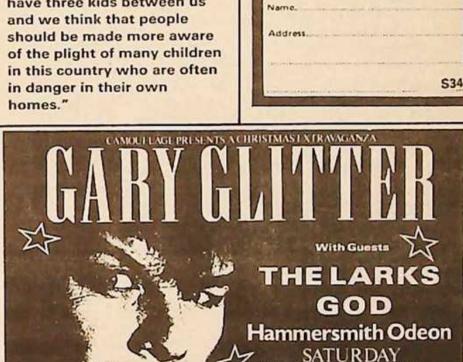


### CHRISTMAS **COPY DATES**

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January 3 Issue - Thursday Dec 18 January 10 Issue - Monday Dec 22





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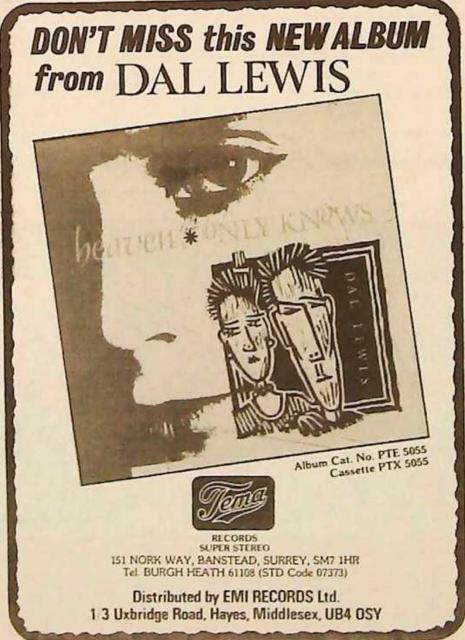


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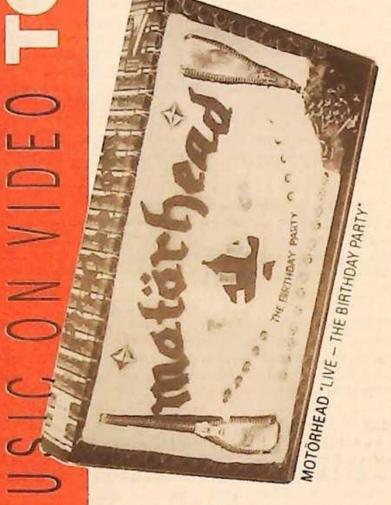
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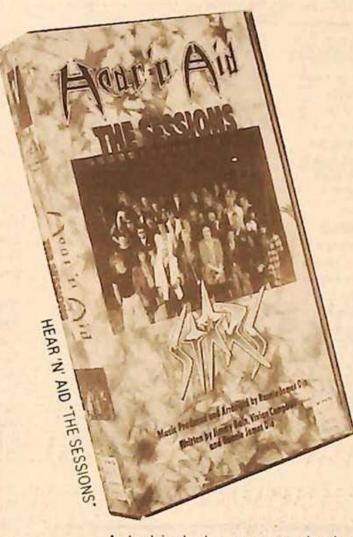
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A behind the scenes look at the making of a very special record called 'STARS; that will raise money for famine relief, featuring Mötley Crüe, Iron Maiden, Dio, Twisted Sister, W.A.S.P., Queensryche and Spinal Tap.

A look back at the best of Bronze - the classic heavy metal label! Featuring Motorhead, Girlschool, Uriah Heep, Robin George and Bronz. Performances at their peak captured forever on video. Watch them and you'll never switch 'em off!

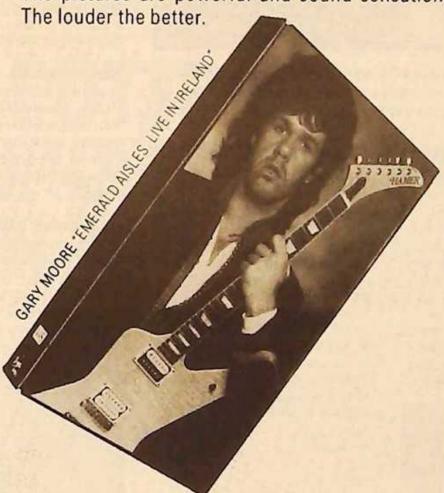
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PEOCK BOLLOW THE BEST OF MUSIC ON VIDEO

### ECORD ECORD NE S



TAFFY, the renowned Italian fashion model and cult film star aka Kathleen Quaye, continues to widen her talents with her debut UK single entitled 'I Love My Radio' on Rhythm King this week-end.

ROB OLSEN, a Chicago-based radio DJ, has selected the best dance tracks from the 200 tapes sent to him, and releases them on an album called 'Chicago Jackbeat' on Rhythm King this week.

METAL CHURCH, who have been likened to "a rhinoceros on amphetamines", release their new album entitled 'The Dark' on Elektra this week.



ELEANOR RIGBY, who has been laying dormant for over a year, releases her new double A-sided single called 'Kiss Me Quickly It's Christmas'/'Mad Christmas' on Waterloo Sunset (via Backs) this week.

DECEMBER

THE POGUES
ROBYN HETCHCOCK
DR FEELGOOD
SHAKIN STEVENS
MOODY BLUES

134722304 STATUS QUO THE SANTS I BENI BONDAGE & THE BOMBSHELLS I TED HAWKINS I THAT PETROL EMOTION "about the experience of singer Donald recently being sacked from his job at Encyclopedia Britannica for replacing every reference to Jesus with the word beetle", and entitled 'Never Understand The Ignorance Of The Rich' on El (via Cherry Red) this week-end.

PIGBROS follow up their 'Blubberhouses' EP with the release of a new single called 'Cheap Life' on Backs this weekend.

NIKK, a pop star in the making from Newcastle, releases his debut single called 'A Song From The Heart' on his own So Romantik label this week.

KEN BOOTHE, the Jamaican reggae singer, releases a cover of Sam Cooke's 'Bring It On Home To Me' on Trojan this week.

METALLICA have their
'Masters Of Puppets' LP rereleased as a double album
which will play at 45rpm on
Music For Nations (via
Pinnacle) this week, following
problems with the running
time of the single LP which
used condensed grooves
(man)

PERENNIAL DIVIDE, a Swindon band, release their new single called 'Burn Down' on Sweatbox (through The Cartel) this week.

RICKY SCAGGS AND JAMES TAYLOR join forces in a "duet for Christmas" entitled 'New Star Shining' on Epic this week.

2 OH & MEDICS
221 NEW MODEL ARMY
24/26/27 SPANDAU BALLET
27 GARY GLITTER
29 CHRIS REA
30:31 AHA
31 ZOOT & THE ROOTS

JANUARY
3 LINDISFARNE
67/8/10/11/12 ERIC CLAPTON
12/13 FRANCE GOES TO
HOLLYWOOD
12/13 HUMAN LEAGUE

FEBRUARY

MARCH 12 MEATLOAS THE BLOODBROTHERS and Last Look continue their close relationship by sharing their debut single with the former on one side with 'Chasin' The Blues' and the latter on the flip side with 'I Won't Hurt You'. It's out on Plastic Head (via Rough Trade) this week.

DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR release their debut single, produced by Andy Fairweather-Low, called 'We Are The Humans' on Rebel this week.

COBRA, the heavy rock group, return with their second album – the revelation that they're 'Back From The Dead' – and it's out on Ebony this week.

XYMOX, the Amsterdambased band, release their second LP called 'Medusa' on 4AD (via Pinnacle) this week.

PHIL COOL, the media manof-the moment, releases a "tribute" to Rolf Harris in the form of his new single 'Bridge Over Troubled Water' on Virgin this week.

THE SNOWMEN are back for their annual single. This one's a festive version of 'Nik Nak Paddy Wak' on Priority.

ALAN RANDALL, a leading exponent of George Formby music, turns a labour of love into a commercial endeavour for a single called 'Ooked On Formby' which is released by Superb (through RCA) this week.

AUTOMATIC SLIM, an Essex R&B band, release their first album on Square One (through Backs) this month. Called 'Slim Love', it was recorded last summer at Colchester Works and Essex University. C-CAT TRANCE release their third album entitled 'Zouave' on INK (via Nine Mile) this

COLIN LLOYD TUCKER tries his luck by releasing a single and a mini-LP on the same record. The A-side is the single called 'Use It' and is 45rpm, while the flip side contains six songs collectively titled 'Mind Box and is out this week on DJ/ Plastic Head (through Rough Trade).

THE JUNK, a "new breed guitar four piece", follow their first single, 'The World Doesn't Turn', with an album called 'Cuckooland' on Sheffield indie label Native this week.

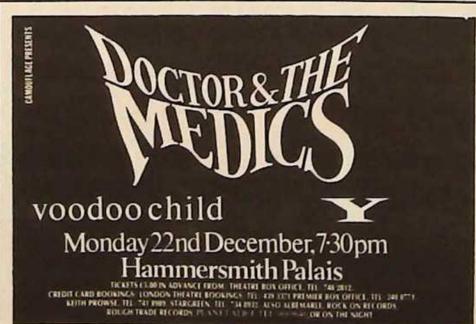
KLYMAXX, the American female rock sextet who can be heard singing their 'Man Size Love' single in the Running Scared movie, have their new album out this week on MCA, called simply 'Klymaxx'. At least veteran jazz-funksters The Crusaders have been able to come up with a more imaginative title (just) for their new MCA album, 'The Good And Bad Times'. And Ready For The World, whose self-titled debut album went platinum in the States, have found a title for their follow-up album on MCA. It's 'Long Time Coming'.

ATTACCO DECENTE, who've been playing their hammer dulcimers, tongue drums and zither harps around the community centres and youth clubs around Britain, have a five-track mini-album out on All Or Nothing (through Red Rhino) this week called 'UKA (United Kingdom of America)'.



SEVERED HEADS have their latest EP – which features a 23 minute mix of the title track, 'Gashing The Old Mae West' – released on INK (through Nine Mile) this week-end.





# BACKTRACKS



**BOB MARLEY: More new oldies** 

BOB MARLEY has an album of early material called simply 'Roots' out on Blue Moon/Magnum. There's no clue on the sleeve or label where the songs come from but side one, which includes versions of 'Concrete Jungle', 'Stop That Train', 'Stir It Up', 'Kinky Reggae' and 'No More Trouble', would seem to date from just before he joined Island. And side two appears to be Coxonne Dodd-produced tracks from Studio One in the mid-'60s.

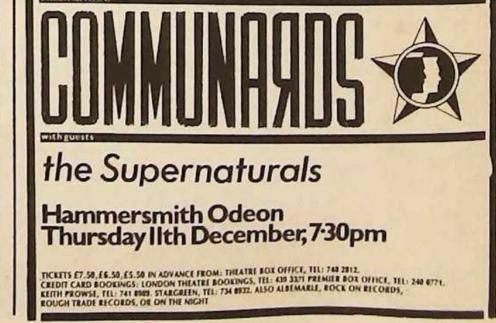
STEVE YOUNG, an Alabama-raised singer-songwriter who hung around the West Coast country rock crowd at the end of the '60s and wrote 'Lonesome, On'ry And Mean' for Waylon Jennings, has his long-lost 1969 solo album, 'Rock Salt And Nails' reissued by Edsel. It remains Mr Young's personal favourite.

THE GRATEFUL DEAD's 'Skeletons From The Closet' (Thunder Bolt/Magnum) is a straight reissue of the 1973 Warners compilation of the same name and contains their hit singles 'Uncle John's Band', 'Sugar Magnolia' and 'Truckin'', all made when Pigpen was still a member of the band.

MICHAEL McDONALD has a 'Best Of' collection out on Warners named after his recent hit, 'Sweet Freedom'. It includes his Doobie Brothers' classic 'What A Fool Believes' and tracks from his two solo albums as well as his duets with Patti Labelle, 'On My Own', and James Ingram, 'Ya Mo B There'.

DUFFY POWER, a '50s crooner turned '60s R&B singer, has a batch of mid-'60s sessions released by Rock Machine under the title 'Mary Open The Door'. The album originally came out on Transatlantic in 1970 titled 'Innovations' but was released more because of the reputations of the backing musicians – Jack Bruce, John McLaughlin, Danny Thompson, Terry Cox and Phil Seaman – than Duffy's. It remains a very eclectic British R&B album of the era.





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> THE GO-BETWEENS WARTIN STEPHENSON 16 JESUS + MARY CHAIN

ELVIS COSTELLO - 22/23/24/26/27/28 JAN

FRANKIE GOES TO HOLLYWOOD - 12/13 JAN

THE STYLE COUNCIL - 16/17/18 FEB

# GARY MOORE THE NEW SINGLE OVER THE HILLS AND FAR AWAY



### LIMITED QUANTITY IN GATEFOLD SLEEVE

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MON · 30: NEWCASTLE · CITY HALL
APRIL

WED · 1: LONDON · HAMMERSMITH ODEON THURS · 2: LONDON · HAMMERSMITH ODEON

TEN 134



**TENT 134** 

Ollika

# PREMI CHAOTIC

Pure chaos or a new form of perverted pop? JONH WILDE watches the falling apart of Australia's **DIED PRETTY. Mugs by ALEXANDRA BURKE** 

'M TALKING to a group that seems like it is about to shake itself to pieces.

Died Pretty are smack in the middle of a six month tour of Europe and their drummer has just broken his ankle. The singer just popped down the road to get a jar of coffee and thought about not coming back, ever.

Discontent splutters and their shows are cracking apart with a psychopathic verve. The perfect document to all this



**DIED PRETTY things . . .** 

is the recently released debut LP 'Free Dirt', a severely buckled rock record.

Three years young, Sydney's Died Pretty are away from home for the first time, arriving here to a thoroughly mixed reception.

In one corner, there's the dissenters, those who would have you believe that this group suffer from a morbid traditionalism, merely some unwanted bastard son of r'n'r conceived in some grubby garage corner, then let loose to rape and pillage through the urban indie wasteland.

Then there's the proponents, like myself, who would willingly lay down on the tracks to convince you that this is the most prominent, most seminal Australian racket to be found.

Climbing from the wreckages that were The End, The Hellcats and The 31st, Died Pretty have filled two EPs ('Out Of The Unknown' and 'Next To Nothing') and now the current LP with dense, shattered rocknoise. Died Pretty get stuffed in the same bag as The Doors, the Stooges and Dylan, but scramble out like tormented alley-cats, eyeballs bugging outward.

INGER RONALD S Peno decides to return with the coffee. He says that his group are a "great big noise, full of fierce ingredients, a very odd chemistry, something that spills from a beautiful

The very last thing Died Pretty want to become is a palatable pop group. That would be impossible anyway. They're too damned perverse underneath it all, too wound-up with badass ramblings They'd make a terrible mess out of being a normal pop group.

"There are elements of the traditional and the perverse in this group," announces keyboardist Frank Brunetti. "We don't bludgeon our audience with our perversity, it's more subtle than that. It's not quite as straight as it first appears. On first impressions, next to a group like The Go-Betweens, we probably look very straight. Well, we're idiosyncratic in a very different way.

"We're not obviously quirky. We cover a huge range of emotions, an entirely wide musical range But it's not like, this one's a reggae song, this one's a country song, this one's r'n'r. It's just that there's lots of short melodic songs, lots of long, meandering numbers, plenty of gentle ballads. Other bands seem to want to restrict themselves. We have a low attention span and that's a great thing."

N THEIR more tentative form, slowly unwinding spirals like the lurching 'Desperate Days', they amble but they don't slacken. In their more energised moments, like most of 'Free Dirt', they scrape a knuckle across your flesh and spit their infected wrath in your gaping faces.

Talk about this group's "professional trad tricks" is simply wrong. This group makes most modern rock sound like a tinny transistor hum, drops a slug in the slot, has a thirsty look about it. That's when it wants to sound like it's choking to death. There are other times when it makes a miserable din, but a very untraditional din at that.

"The gigs that career out of control are the best ones to judge in retrospect," they reason. "But, while it's happening, they can be too harrowing. A lot is made of our inconsistency, but it all comes back to how we feel. Sometimes, we might go out and play a very melancholy kind of set, rather than a real kick out the jams sort of noise.

"Whatever it sounds like, there's always that natural perversity trying to make itself felt.

"We have quite an urban sound, hardly hardcore inner-city, but definitely urban. But Sydney is just like any other large city. You don't get particularly affected by the environment. Not that we're ashamed of being Australian, it's just not an issue.

"Lyrically and musically, we're very different from a band like The Triffids. When they go on tour, they'd have to drive to the Eastern states. Perth, where they live, is two or three day's constant drive away from all the major population areas in Eastern Australia. We haven't been to all those places that they drive through, all that endless flat plain. Environment and landscape plays an important part in their songwriting and probably doesn't in ours."

"We're not obviously quirky. We cover a huge range of emotions, an entirely wide musical range . . . We have a low attention span and that's a great thing!"

# PAPAL VISIT?

"SOMETHING THAT should be known is that Hey! Luciani is not an anti-Catholic rant. It is a play based on The Fall song 'Hey! Luciani' which I wrote having read David Yallop's book In God's Name. It is a play about the characters that appear in the book, it isn't a play of the book. No one talks in Italian accents or anything.

"If the suggestion that it is anti-Catholic has arisen, it is because the press releases have been written by people who know nothing about the play. That's because they haven't seen the script yet, then again not a lot of people have, ha ha ha ....

Mark Smith's laugh soundly spanks the atmosphere in the Hampstead hotel bar. Both of us are carrying huge grins about the basic possibilities of a play written by Mark E Smith, playwright, and featuring The Fall, cool group.

"There are so many people just waiting to see it fall. That's what keeps it exciting, keeps me on my toes. I'm not nervous. A lot of people involved keep coming to me and worrying about it, but that will probably end when I show them the script. Ha ha ha."

The delightful world of Mark E Smith, packed with violent colour and huge crazynormality, is about to be showcased in its most delicate form. This Friday, at London's Hammersmith Riverside Studios, Smith's first play Heyi Luciani opens. At the time of writing, the script is yet to be completed, the rehearsals are yet to start, and the cast Includes but one actor and one drama student.

The play features Smith as narrator, Stephen Hanley as Pope John Paul II, and cult dancer Michael Clarke in a mere one minute role. Actors are frowned upon: Smith has his own people doing the music and production, and The Fall may well read their lines from scripts.

Will Mark Smith be as capable a playwright as he is lyricist?

"Probably not, but it's something I thought I'd try. I Just didn't want to end the year again with The Fall playing London at Christmas; we did it last year and it's boring. I always wondered how people wrote plays, but I don't think you need to know anything about it to actually do it. I could probably write a book easier than a play - all the time you have to be thinking in three separate dimensions, which strangely enough, is quite my scene."

In his lyrics, stylistically Smith has trodden dirt into the floors and faces of Kathy Acker and her art lik who, with excessive use of filth, word

### AI LAJI THE MARY ANNE HOBBS SHOW!

AND YOU thought all Sounds hacks were bland nonentities, didn't you? Until last week, that is, when we launched our very own, very tall and very "sexy" Mary Anne Hobbs on an unsuspecting public.

Yes, "Sizzling" Mary Anne appeared on the front page of your snoreaway Sun in a compromising pose with "soap star" Simon Henderson - you know, that herbert in EastEnders who once muttered the immortal line, "Errr. . .where's me guitar?"

Snapped in some trendy London wine bar, they were gasp! - drinking from the same glass!

But more damning revelations ran with the snapshot, not least of all that Simon was two-timing his fiancee with "22-year-old brunette" Mary Anne. And - double gasp!! - the



THE SUN spread featuring Sounds' very own sizzier, far right

The title of an early Fall song proves prophetic as Mark E Smith (right) embarks on his new career as a playwright. with Pope John Paul I (below) as his first subject. James Brown gets in on the act



processing, and supposed sexuality, have falled badly in their declared task of writing In and about trash culture.

Indeed, he dismisses Acker's work as "pornography" and is scornful of the American literary world's embracing of It as high art. His own approach to writing is strictly low tech.

"The way I write is very laborious. I collect fragments, pleces of paper, diaries, cig packets, menus, all covered in scribbles, so when I sit down in front of the typewriter I've got this big spread of paper. I've been coming back from gigs and spending the rest of the night writing and it's been really enjoyable. Most of It has been written on the American tour - I've not been reading it back or changing it or anything, it's all getting very surreal. There are things that I couldn't include in songs because they'd Just become uncontrollable."

A common criticism of The Fall is that the lyrics are unintelligible. How does he



react to this, I wonder?

"That was part of the Idea of doing the play. People will be able to hear what's being said so supposedly that will be sorted out, ha ha ha. If you're bright or sussed, you'll get it, or If you don't understand It, at least you'll get some enjoyment from it."

is the script going to be as full of buzzwords and irrelevant alliteration as his songs are?

"No. It's quite conservative in that sense. I'm having to try to keep the characters well apart so that it doesn't sound like one long Mark Smith rant."

David Yallop's Investigation Into the corruption inherent In the Vatican Bank and the subsequent certain murder of Pope John Paul I, Albino Luciani, strips away the layers as vividiy and disgustingly as the often-broadcast timelapse film of maggots consuming a hedgehog's carcass. Smith's play is set to magnify the guzzling of the fattest foulest maggots - the

archbishops, bankers, freemasons and terrorists Yallop implicates in the conspiracy.

Boasting the confidence, the width of worldview, and the supreme arrogance that make Mark E Smith and The Fall so special, Heyl Luciani will rise triumphantly or topple resoundingly. Smith is set to bring a new degree of originality, lyrical perception, and Northern wit to British theatre.

"The music business needs The Fall, and In the same way, we'll probably do the theatre a lot of good as well."

To be sure. Can I have a part In the play then?

"Pardon . . . ? Oh yes, sure. I'm looking for someone to play a socialist playwright, ha ha ha. No, seriously, you can play a British soldier if you like, or what about the Vatican Radio broadcaster?"

All right. "Ha ha ha. This is the way plays are made."

They are indeed.

GET YOUR picture taken with Alice Cooper if you want to get into next week's papers, they told Belinda Beautay (she with young hopefuls Ego). And they were right. But so zealous was she in her task that Alice became decreasingly amused. You think we jest? This picture was not posed and one of the leathergloved hands does not belong to Alice. Wonder where the other one is?

EDITED BY BILLY MANN

MINE'S A

BAMBI SLAM

Ron Rom toasts a sparkling new talent; Steve snaps up a Double

THE BAMBI Slam (I-r): Natalle, Roy, Linda and Nick

WHAM! BAM! Here comes the sound of The Bambi Slam. Here comes a furious raid on all the stagnating germs around the sterile tollet of rock and roll. They revive the danger and threat that has been missing from the beast for too long, with poisonous lead guitars that twist through a primal beat like a slimy snake, while a cello hints at something as sensual as the red moon.

Let me put it another way. If you're bored with groups with nice guitars and nice female vocalists, and if you're bored with advertising campaigns that are better than the products they advertise, then The Bambi Slam are for you. They're excessive, intellectual, nasty and exciting.

They cater for the bastard offspring of punk's initial energy who are now being suffocated by the surrounding conformity.

If you listen to the powerful 'I've Left Wondering', all the cooped up anger, frustration and hate that you've wanted to express as negatively as possible can metamorphose into a monument of your Indignation for a time freeze-framed in ancient ideas and styles. The Bambi Slam, live, allow every emotion to run wild and free. As crazy as it seems, The Bambi Slam are you and me in a time when you're not allowed to be alive.

Y'see, The Bambi Slam are what we should expect from new bands. They're frenzied, spontaneous and dynamic. They challenge the new morality that's drowning music by being the equivalent of a sneering f" offl

In Roy, guitar and vocals, they have a main man as ambitious as sin, who is psychotic with his own disregard and his band's success. On stage, he plays guitar like a re-animated hairy skeleton who is dazed by the vicious soulfulness that his guitar weaves. Roy arrived in London from Canada where he met up with Natalle (bass), Nick (drums) and Linda (cello).

There's nothing avant garde or pretentious about The Bambi Slam, though - they are basic rock and roll but with a difference, partly because of the way their music borders on mayhem and beauty at the same time.

So will a major label fall for their explosive charm? Well, London Records were interested initially, but in fact The Bambi Slam will make their vinyl debut with 'Blamp Blamp' on Mute offshoot Product Inc because the majors all ran the other way when they saw them live; their ragged spontanelty clashes head on with current A&R demand for slick but mundane professionalism.

Roy states: "They're too f""ing chicken to take us, they're too scared. Nobody knows how to handle this. I'm not sure if I do. The Bambi Slam are bigger than me."

The single will be out in January so watch out - they're going to be one of the most exciting and important bands of '87!

real love of his life was none other than her sister, Sarah!! So that renowned organ of investigative journalism had performed a public service yet again - by alerting the

uninterested nation to the dubious bonking activities of a TV celeb. . .and a Sounds hackette. And we shall be eternally grateful, even if other national papers refused to show the same sense of public duty by ignoring the scoop completely. . .

Except, of course, The Sun's sister paper, the News Of The World.

Only days later, they pictured "terrifically sexy" Mary Anne and Sarah and that cad Simon. Bless her, Sarah had forgiven her sister and boyfriend their minor indiscretion, the wedding was still on, and Mary Anne would be bridesmaid! Hooray!

But why Sarah was so magnanimous became very clear two days later when that noble and distinguished organ (The Sun, you fools, The Sun) ran a double-page spread on the affair. Sarah had - treble gasp!!! - stolen Simon off Mary Anne in the

first place. Booooo! It is obviously fearless reporting of this kind that has made British journalism respected throughout the world, because now we know that Simon had bonked both Sarah and Mary

"In an ideal world," the "rat" Simon declared, "I'd have them both." And then cheat on them both - so Monday's Sun "revealed".

Quite what these disclosures have achieved beyond a certain amount of notoriety for the three parties concerned is anybody's guess. Has it helped Simon get a speaking part in Eastenders? Yes. Has Mary Anne been offered modelling assignments by the dozen? Yes. And what of Sarah? Will her wedding make The Nine O'clock News? We shall see.

Meanwhile, we're more than delighted that Mary Anne writes for us. Well, it keeps her out of trouble, doesn't it? RUPERT HADDOCK

And now, by special arrangement with Overlay Promotions (You Type 'Em, We Hype 'Em), we present:

**EUROPE** 'The Final Countdown' (Epic EPC 26808)\*\*1/2

INCREDIBLE, ISN'T it? Not one single band member appears in EastEnders. God knows, they don't even wear lipstick, let alone designer jock-straps, and yet Europe feature in this week's UK Top Five.

Good old British recordbuying public, as unpredictable and irrational as ever.

You can't even dance to the single - in fact, it's a pretentious dinosaur suffocated by pompous synthesized horns. And unfortunately, the album is just as disappointing. It

staggers along plaintively disabled by its own monotony Singer Joey Tempest sounds like a second-rate Jon Deverill in places. . in fact, the odd chorus sounds like it could be an out-take from the Tygers Of Pan Tang's last album, 'Wreck Age'. And there's no sign of 'Truant', the one Europe song which, like 'Runaway' on Bon Jovi's debut album, could conceivably leap screaming from the grooves.

Europe are the short back and sides of rock 'n' roll, trudging along in dull, sterile and ever more insignificant circles

MARY ANNE HOBBS

### Public **Image** Limited



WILD SCENES at the HMV superstore in London last week when Heaven 17 turned up for a signing session. The band's carefully calculated cool, not to mention the Budweisers under the table, was in danger of being trampled underfoot as fan(s) rushed at them.

In fact the first guy to come up to them hadn't even bought a copy of their new album, he just wanted them to sign his copy of 'The Luxury

No wonder the band are looking pensive. Or perhaps, like the good little breed of popular capitalists their record company boss has been encouraging recently, they've been perusing a recent issue of Investors Chronicle.

In a profile of Virgin plc, managing director Don Cruickshank explained to IC readers that all new bands sign contracts to bring out six or seven albums, never more than 18 months apart

"If they're not successful, we have the right to terminate." Cruickshank told the magazine. "The definition of success is in our hands. The artists have no rights."

Some of us have long known that the face Virgin present to the public is not always the face they present to their bands. Some of the bands know it too.

# SOUNDS

WANNA HEAR
WHAT'S NEW ON
THE INDIE SCENE?
THEN JUST PHONE

L 孝 V E W 孝 R E

Your call will cost 46p per minute at peak and standard times, 23p per minute cheap rate

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BLACK ROOTS lead a bunch
of Bristol bands at an
International Year Of Peace
concert at the Colston Hall on
December 18. They are
supported by Adinkra,
Independence Day, Glaxo
Babies (who've just reformed
after five years) and The
Flatmates.

THE METEORS have added more dates to their British tour at Rayleigh Pink Toothbrush December 18, Hammersmith Clarendon 20.

DAN come out fighting for their 'Can You Dig It?' EP on Meantime with gigs at Leamington Spa Hod Carrier December 12, Middlesbrough Albert 15, Leeds Adam And Eves 16, Kendal Brewery Arts Centre 17, Birmingham Mermaid 20.

JEREMY HARDY, Arnold
Brown, Frederick Bentham,
Gary Howard, Kit Hollerbach,
Oblivion Boys, Stanley BigotSmith and Martin Besserman
are among the comics and
impressionists who'll be
appearing at the Magical &
Mystical Cabaret Party Night
at Camden Dingwalls on
December 11 in aid of
Freedom Of Speech.

THE FARM leave Liverpool to play Leeds Duchess Of York December 5 and Sheffield University 11.

THE OYSTER BAND return from a German tour in time to give their 'Step Outside' album a quick Xmas plug at Putney Half Moon December 18, Brighton Pavilion 19, Canterbury Westgate Hall 20.

MEL SMITH AND GRIFF RHYS JONES have added more dates to their Scratch 'N' Sniff tour at Aberdeen Capitol December 14, Crawley Leisure Centre 19, Gloucester Leisure Centre 20, Sheffield City Hall 21. TOUR



1000 MEXICANS (above) come back from a European tour and get stuck straight into British gigs at Hull Adelphi December 4, Leicester Princess Charlotte 5, Fulham Kings Head 7, Brighton Old Vic 10, Finsbury Park Sir George Robey 11, Whitechapel Three Feathers 13, Covent Garden Rock Garden 18.

ENGINE, the Mersey boogie trio, keep on truckin' at Rawtenstall Queens Arms December 4, Burton-On-Trent Central Park 6, Rochdale Tiffany's 11, Rugby Peacocks 13, Liverpool Milo's 17.

BLYTH POWER will bring their gig list over the ton for the year during their next batch at Wood Green Club Dog December 5, Nottingham Trent Polytechnic (with The Redskins) 6, Cardiff Mars Bar 10, Swansea University 11, Uxbridge Brunel University 12, Finsbury Park Sir George Robey 18 (with Thatcher On Acid and We Are Going To Eat You).

VIRTUE, Oxfordshire heavy rockers, headline a gala night at Bicester Services Club on December 19.

HONDO, the avant-garde reggae outfit, play Canterbury Kent University December 3, London Kings College 6, Bishops Stortford Snake And Gooseberries 16, Oxford Jericho Tavern 18, Huntingdon Waterloo 20.

THE QUEERBOYS, who have their debut album coming out in January, are supporting Tormé on tour and have a gig of their own at Bedford Boys Club December 13. bumpy's Rusty Nuts bring their fifth anniversary tour to a close with gigs at Telford Barons Club December 4, Melbourn Rock Club 5, Maidstone Dittons 13, Lee Green Old Tigers Head 21, Croydon Cartoon 22, Burton Central Park 24, London Marquee 27.

spacemen 3 "consummate" the release of their 'Walkin' With Jesus' 12-inch at Chesterfield Lagoon Bar December 5 and Hackney Club Mankind 12.

DEALER, Swindon heavy metal merchants, celebrate the release of their debut album, 'First Strike', with a gig at Stroud Marshall Rooms on December 12.

MOURNBLADE, the
"alternative metal band"
from Hillingdon, warm up for
their 'Dirty Black Leather, Wet
White Lace' EP at
Bournemouth 141 Club
December 12, Wood Green
Club Dog 13, North
Kensington Bay 63 16, High
Wycombe Nags Head 27.

THE KURSAAL FLYERS will be putting it back together again for a couple of reunion shows at Leigh Grand Hotel December 12 and London Kennington Cricketers 13. They'll be supported by Street Legal at both gigs.

sun House opera, a Welsh band who impressed those few who've seen their infrequent gigs, sneak up to London for a couple more at Camden Palace December 9 and Camden Electric Ballroom 16.

THE BATFISH BOYS follow up their 'Justine' single with gigs at Cardiff Mars Bar December 9, Warwick University 10, Birkenhead Stairways 11, Hull New Adelphi 14, London 100 Club 16.



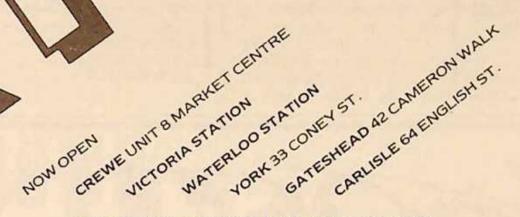
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'RADIO GA-GA', 'FRIENDS WILL BE FRIENDS'
AND MORE!

ALBUM AND CASSETTE OUT NOW



### Blondie's loose ends tied-up

DYED PRETTY

**OUR DEBBIE**, Debbie feature on the recording career of Ms Debble Harry and Blondie a couple of weeks ago aroused quite a bit of interest. One thing I missed was the track by Debbie Harry on the soundtrack album to the movie Krush Groove, which was released last year on Warner Bros (catalogue number 925295-1). Debbie sang the John 'Jellybean' Benitez-produced and co-written 'Feel The Spin', in the company of other tracks by Sheila E, Kurtis Blow, The Fat Boys, Chaka Khan and

others. Although the listing dealt primarily with UK releases, two readers - Hugh McKenna of Glasgow and Wolfie of Ipswich - pointed out that in the US, 'Feel The Spin' was also issued on a 12-inch single, and this is worth noting here simply because it has no British equivalent, and seems to have

been imported here fairly widely. The single was on the Geffen label (0-20391), and featured an extended dance mix of 'Feel The Spin' on the A-side, and a 'dub mix' version on the flip.

With regard to soundtrack recordings, it's also worth noting that the 1984 Chrysalls single 'Rush Rush' came from the remake of the movie Scarface. The US 7-inch release of the single. apparently, didn't have a dub version flip, but featured Beth Anderson's 'Dance Dance Dance' instead.

Assorted other information on the Blondie front also came from Dave Burcham of Battersea, Malcolm Waters of Dartford, and Julian Ross of Oxford. Julian confirms that all the Chrysalis singles, both 7 and 12-inch releases, had pic sleeves and Dave in fact notes 'Denis', '(I'm Always Touched

By Your) Presence Dear' and 'Hanging On The Telephone', at least, were limited editions of just 10,000 pic sleeves apiece.

Although I'd never been aware of one, both Dave and Julian state categorically that there was a 7-inch version of the Chrysalis release of 'Rip Her To Shreds' CHS 2180, which like the 12-inch had three tracks. The 12-inch itself appeared in two incarnations, the first being a limited edition (10,000 again) which featured a banner on the sleeve stating "a three-song 12-inch for 75p" When later reissued in 1981, the sleeve was minus this legend.

Other additional notes on singles: the 12-incher of 'Call Me' was actually a Euro-import, and had the Spanish vocal instead of the English one, also carrying the slightly different catalogue number CHS 12-2514. The US 7-incher was

widely imported here in the weeks prior to UK release; this had a differently-coloured sleeve, predominantly white rather than pink. The 'Picture This' 7-inch had a pressing of 10,000 on yellow vinyl, while the 7-inch of 'War Child' had a limited edition of 5,000 as a picture disc. Apparently, there was a reissue of the 'Heart Of Glass' 12-inch (probably in 1981, when several of them were repressed) which not only lacked the original picture label, but also the track 'Rifle Range'! The third track on '(I'm Always Touched By Your) Presence Dear' was actually 'Detroit 442' - that was a typing error on my part; what I had missed, however, was the fact that this track was on both 12-inch and 7-inch pressings. 'Denis' was reissued this year, on both 7 and 12-inch; it featured the same tracks and the same catalogue numbers. The difference is in the sleeve colours, originally red and white, but blue and white on the reissues.

A couple of album notes: 'Parallel Lines' was also released as a UK picture disc, while the Canadian version featured the extended mix of

'Heart Of Glass' as on the 12inch, and containing the 'pain in the ass line' which tended to get edited out of many releases notably DJ copies destined for airplay. The cassette version of 'Eat To The Beat' had a track not on the LP version - the French-sung 'Sunday Girl' which had also been on the 12-incher. The 'Hunter' LP had

a picture disc version. Wolfie has a couple of extra bits and pieces to add: A flexisingle from Flexi-Pop magazine entitled 'Yuletide Throwdown' featured Blondie doing a "strange version of 'Rapture'". And something I certainly didn't know about: demos of Blondie recorded by Alan Betrock in 1975, featuring early versions of 'Heart Of Glass', 'Platinum Blonde', 'Out In The Street', 'Puerto Rico' and one other uncredited track, became available as EPs. That's not on Chrysalis, you understand. . .

Finally, Malcolm Waters asks "Can you shed any light on a record by the New York Blondes featuring Madame X. on the Bomp label, titled 'Little GTO'? This was rumoured to be Debbie Harry."

Well, this was another peripheral item I knew of but omitted to mention; Wolfie has a little to say about it, too:

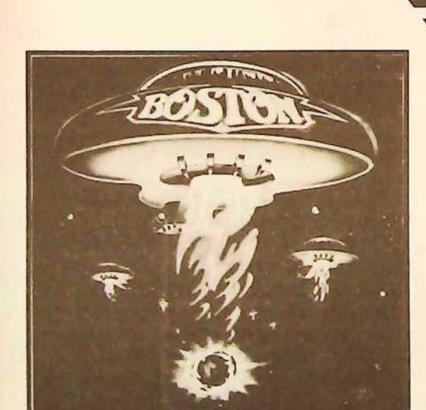
"Debbie was on the 'Little GTO' single on Bomp Records. This used an out-take of her guide vocal, later used with that of Rodney Bingenheimer to become the Rodney & The Brunettes single. It also came out in the UK, licensed from Bomp by London Records, with Debbie's vocal and again calling her Madame X."

Indeed it did. 'Little GTO' by the New York Blondes featuring Madame X, coupled with 'Holocaust On Sunset Boulevard' by Rodney & The Brunettes, was issued as a 7inch single on London HLZ 10574 in September 1979. The important thing was that it was barely on sale a matter of days before Chrysalis stepped in with heavy threats of legal action because of the presence of Debbie and Blondie on the Aside, and London was forced to withdraw its single hastily. Anybody who has a copy or finds one has a premium item, because there were never that many around; more promos than commercial copies exist, I should imagine.

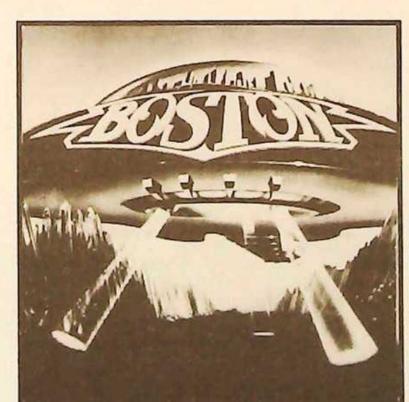
And I think that's it for Blondie and Ms Harry.



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**CBS** 

Sunday December 7 1942 Birthday of Harry Chapin, in Greenwich Village, New

1949 Birthday of Tom Walts, in Pomona, California.

Birthday of Mike Nolan of Bucks Fizz, in London. The four Beatles comprised the entire panel of BBC TV's

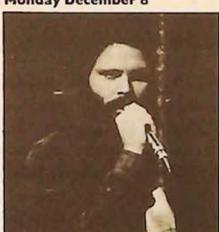
Juke Box Jury show.
Otis Redding recorded '(Sittin' On) The Dock Of The Bay', destined to be his biggest-ever hit, only three days before his death.

The Beatles' Apple Shop & Boutique opened its doors in London at 94, Baker Street. 1968 Eric Burdon announced the

of The Animals.

disbandment of the final line-up

**Monday December 8** 



Birthday of Jim Morrison of The Doors, in Melbourne,

Florida 1947 Birthday of Paul Rutherford of Frankle Goes To Hollywood, in

Liverpool. 1969 Jimi Hendrix was found not guilty in the Toronto Supreme Court in Canada, of possessing

heroin and marijuana. 1975 Death of Gary Thain, bass player with Urlah Heep.

from a drug overdose. 1980 Death of John Lennon, aged 40, murdered by Mark Chapman who shot him at the gates of the Dakota apartment building in New

York 1982 Death of country superstar Marty Robbins, aged 57, from a heart attack.

Death of Nicholas 'Razzle' Dingley, Isle Of Wight-born drummer with Hanoi Rocks, aged 24. He was killed in a head-on crash in California whilst a passenger in a car driven by Mötley Crue vocalist Vince Nell (who was uninjured).

Tuesday December 9 1950 Birthday of Joan Armatrading, in St. Kitts, West Indies.

Birthday of Donny Osmond, in Ogden, Utah. 1967 Jim Morrison of The Doors was arrested onstage in New Haven, Connecticut, following a backstage slanging match with a policeman. He was charged with a breach of the peace and resisting arrest.

1972 Lou Reizner presented his live orchestral staging of The Who's rock opera Tommy, at the Rainbow Theatre in London.

Wednesday December 10 1960 Elvis Presley's 'GI Blues' album entered the UK LP charts at number one within a couple of days of release.

DPA

Death of Otis Redding. along with four members of his road band the Bar-Kays, when their plane crashed into a frozen lake in Wisconsin, en route from Cleveland, Ohio

Frank Zappa received a fractured skull when he was thrown from the stage of London's Rainbow theatre in mid-concert, by a man who was annoyed because his girlfriend fancied him (Zappa, that is)

1972 Roberta Flack and two of her band were injured when they crashed her brand-new Citroen in Manhattan.

The funeral was held of Tommy Bolin, the former lead guitarist with Deep Purple, who had died of a heroin overdose the previous week in Miami,

Thursday December II 1954 Birthday of Jermaine

Jackson, in Gary, Indiana. Death of Sam Cooke, aged 29. He was shot by an LA motel manager in an incident involving a 22-year-old woman he had picked up at a party.

UK release date for John Lennon's first solo album 'Plastic Ono Band', which featured the controversial Working Class Hero'

1972 Genesis played their first live gig in the US, at Brandeiss University in Massachusetts. 1976 Ace Freheley of Kiss

suffered a severe electric shock onstage in Florida. 1982 The Jam played their final gig together, at Brighton.

Friday December 12 1915 Birthday of Frank Sinatra. in Hoboken, New Jersey Birthday of Dionne

Warwick, in East Orange, New Jersey. 1943 Birthday of Chas Hodges of Chas & Dave, in Tottenham,

North London. Birthday of Paul Rodgers, in Middlesbrough.

1962 EMI's George Martin journeyed to Liverpool to assess the recording prospects of Gerry & The Pacemakers, also spotting Cilla Black, who was singing part-time whilst working in the cloakroom at the Cavern Club.

1968 The Rolling Stones, plus guest artists including John & Yoko, Eric Clapton, Marianne Faithfull and The Who, filmed the neverscreened TV spectacular Rock And Roll Circus, at studios in Wembley.

1974 The Rolling Stones announced that Mick Taylor was leaving the

1983 David Bowle's Serious Moonlight world tour concluded, with a gig in Bangkok, Thailand.

Saturday December 13 1948 Birthday of Ted Nugent, in Detroit.

RCA shipped its one millionth UK copy of Elvis Presley's 'It's Now Or Never' at 3.30pm. Reaching the sevenfigure total six-and-a-half weeks after release, this was the fifth single to sell a million in Britain, and in by far the shortest period up to that

1963 The Beatles completed their third UK tour with a gig at Southampton Gaumont. At the time, they held numbers one and two in both the singles and album charts.

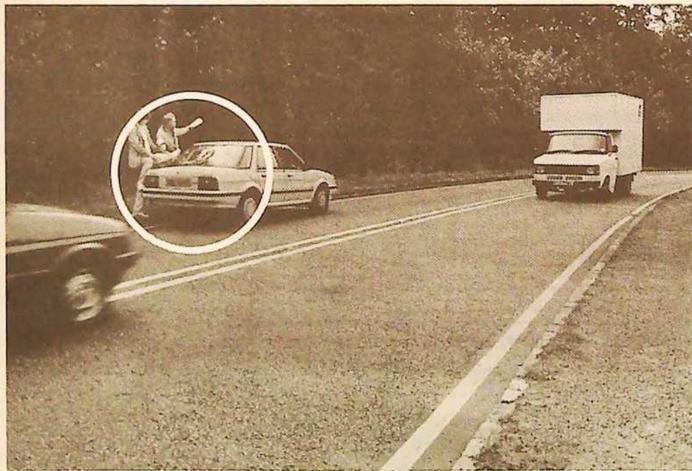
time.

George Harrison had lunch with President Gerald Ford at the White House, at the invitation of Ford's son

# HOWMANY TIME BUMBS HAVE YOU PLANTED THIS WEEK?



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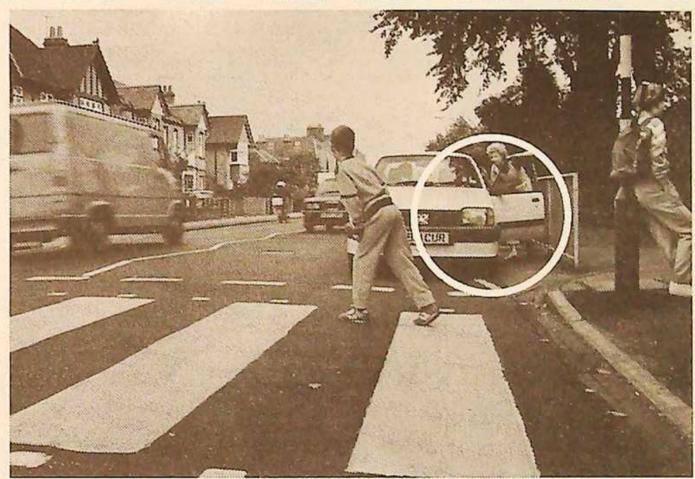
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And if you park on the pavement you'll force people to walk into the road.

Just as bad is parking on a section of road with central double white lines, because this drives others straight into oncoming traffic.

In short, if you park carelessly and so put other people's lives in danger, you're no better than someone who plants a bomb.

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# Genesis Jand of confusion

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All you have to do is submit an original black and white photograph on the subject of rock music or youth. It could, for example, be a live shot taken at a local gig. But if this proves difficult, it could be a group shot of a band you know.

Of course, not everybody has the misfortune to know a gang of rock 'n' rollers, so if this is the case, any photo involving young people will be acceptable.

The only conditions are that you are an



THREE RUNNERS UP: the Nikon L35AE2 worth £150 each

amateur photographer and your shot is in black and white only, with your name, address and age clearly marked on the back. Unless you enclose an SAE, we will not be able to return your entry. Colour photos or transparencies will *not* be considered.

Our first prize, the F-501, is the latest development in the Nikon range. Offering not one but two autofocus modes in one body, the F-501 does everything for you, including focusing and exposure. Nikon rightly claim it is "an extension for your creative vision", producing one sharp and exciting shot after another, giving you a professional quality to your photography.

And while the Nikon One Touch L35AE2 compact may not be as grand as the F-501, it is still an easy-to-use automatic camera that will provide the amateur with hours of fun and satisfaction.

On top of this, the winner and three runners up will have their entries published in *Sounds*, and the winner will be commissioned to shoot an assignment especially for us.

Now all you have to do is get snapping and have your entries in to us by first post Monday, January 12, 1987. They should be marked The Sounds-Nikon Photography Competition, Sounds, Spotlight Publications Ltd, Greater London House, Hampstead Road, London NWI 7QZ. Please take care in packaging your photographs to ensure they are not damaged in the post.

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# WOULD YOU LET YOUR SISTER DATE ONE OF THESE GUYS?



POP WILL EAT ITSELF: Richard, Adam, Clinton and Graham

Brash, wild and loudmouthed, POP WILL EAT ITSELF may be the rock noise of 1986 but are they ideologically sound? JACK BARRON looks behind their greasy greatcoats. Photo by STEVE DOUBLE

ESISTANCE IS useless.

If the 100 metre sprint guitars and smiling sickly harmonies of Pop Will Eat Itself don't get you first, their clothes will climb off their backs and drown you in grease. Run for the Harpic, the greatcoats have landed!

"Anyone who doesn't like us is obviously a mental retard," explains stand-up drummer and all round contrary geek Graham.

He's left Pop Will Eat Itself's manifesto at home, inside his self-painted pink and black polka-dot Chelsea boots which he's too embarrassed to wear and which have caused him a personality crisis. So we talk about girls instead.

"Cor! There are a couple of really smart women in here," leers guitarist Adam, looking around the hi-tech café with decidedly lowly intentions. We're in Birmingham's Virgin Megastore, ostensibly to discuss the quartet's sarky, solar plexus punching EP appropriately known as 'Poppiecock', a three-cornered scrap with The Undertones and Buzzcocks, with Pop Will Eat Itself coming out as clear victors through sheer power.

"It's brilliant!" they say of this viciously sharp vinyl vibrator currently sending shivers up the charts.
"Cor! Hello ladies!"

F THE Stourbridge stubble, snot and scum snog-rockers had their wanton way there wouldn't be a maidenhead left in Britain. There's only one tiny problem castrating their plans to become the Casanovas of indieland though: girls can smell them coming for miles.

"Yeah, there might be some really smart women in here today," continues Clinton. "But if you notice they're all sitting over the other side of the room. They can obviously see the thousands of flies buzzing around your head, Adam."

The singer, all hair and grins, lolls in his aluminium chair over which is slung a grey festering mass which once belonged to the RAF circa 1940.

It's a dreaded greatcoat!

A vocal collision between Pete Shelley and Benny Hill, Clinton pauses to squint at a nearby video screen which is showing The Primitives' 'Really Stupid'.

"Cor! I'd give her one any day," he ejaculates about the wonderful Tracy.

I'll send your regards in print, I tell Clinton, much to the amusement of the band's manager and owner of the Chapter 22 label, Craig Jennings, aka The Charlie Drake of pop.

"Going by the music around at the moment everyone seems to have hard lives," says the singer. "It's all woe is me stuff. I mean, I'm an uptight, sensitive kinda guy but I like our music to be designed to throw yourself about on the floor and bang your head against the wall. But if we say something like that people will think we're like King Kurt or something."

Yep, or else they'll think you're thick. Are you?

"Yeah", nods Graham, perhaps the only person in Britain to have been reprimanded for doing the dead fly dance in the VIP lounge of London's cultural pig trough, the Limelight.

"Nah, we ain't thick," disagrees Adam, scratching his mutton chop sideburns.

"I haven't got the brains to work that question out so I can't make up my mind," gibbers Clinton somewhat testily.

FTER A year of the good (Fuzzbox), the bad (The Mission) and the ugly (Sigue Sigue Sputnik), stroppy rockpop is suddenly bristling with a bunch of brash, noisy, loudmouthed overloaded guitar goon squads with irreverence in their hearts and life in their limbs.

The Primitives, Spacemen 3, Age Of Chance and McCarthy jump immediately to mind, while further afield in New Zealand The Jean Paul Sartre Experience are waiting to enlighten these dark days. And right slap, bang, wallop in the middle of all this joyful activity throb Pop Will Eat Itself.

Because they don't want to be tied down easily, PWEI tend to deliberately sell themselves short through sick humour in interviews. In fact, they aren't stupid, they don't smell (much) and their dodgy greatcoats and leathers hide an even great sound.

'Poppiecock', which incorporates the three song spurts of their first single 'Poppies Say GRRrrr!' and grafts them onto some even more volcanic compositions, is absolutely fine. In 'Mesmerized', 'Monogamy' and 'The Black Country Chainstore Massacre' they've fashioned some of the most incisively honed unrequited relationship songs since, oooh, Buzzcocks' 'Love Bites'.

What some people find hard to handle, though, is the band's laddishness. This quality goes against the grain when every group in Britain is subject to the strictures of having to be politically outspoken, (pretentiously) philosophical and (spuriously) asexual in order to be seen as ideologically kosher.

PWEI are not bleating lambs.

They cock their snotty noses at this cultural tyranny, while playing

socially right-on (maaan) benefits. They're proud to be, ulp, Hawkwind fanatics and perform 'Orgone Accumulator' live, a hangover from their space cadet days as The Wild And Wondering. And any band who terrify one of their severest critics, a minor fanzine writer, by smothering him in kisses obviously have their longhaired heads screwed on tightly.

OOK, WE'RE loud and obnoxious basically,"
explains Richard while the rest of the band continue to ogle at anything female. "We're hard, macho cock rockers, the Kiss of the '80s. But we don't have fights. When it comes to fights we quieten down or run like hell, hahahahaa!"

"In order to attract girls, our album is going to be called 'Muff Diving'. It'll have lots of sensitive songs on it," lies Clinton.

So is your music mindless? Richard, Adam and Clinton: "Naaaah!"

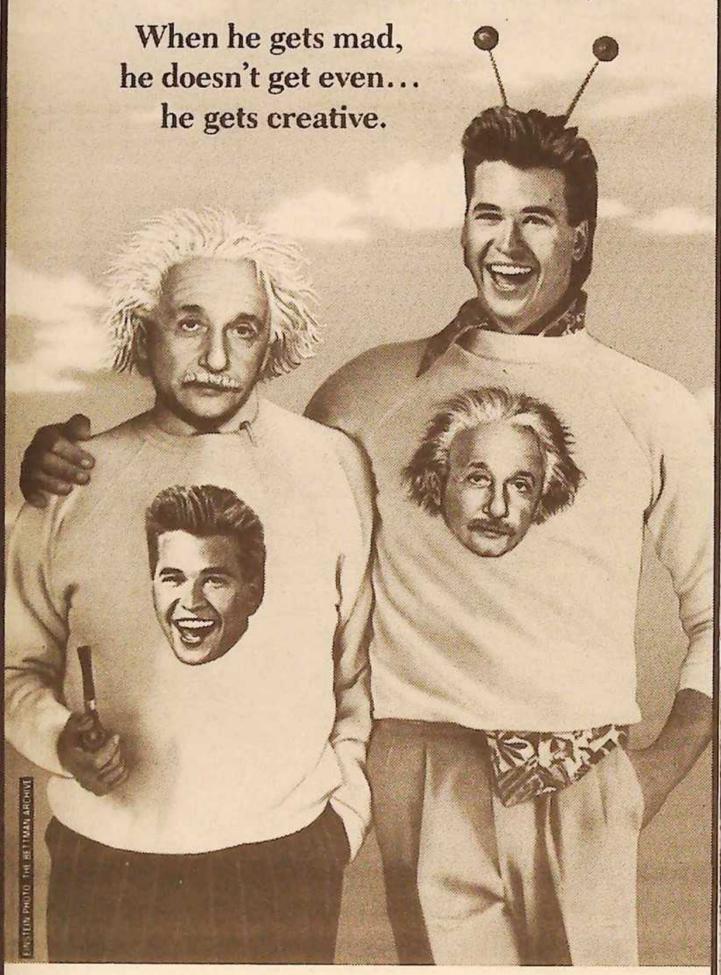
Graham: "Yep!" Contrary sod.

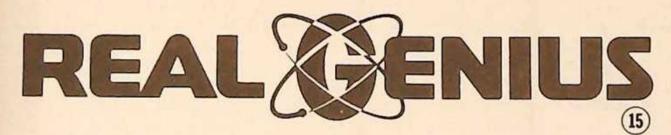
Pop Will Eat Itself are determined to take the if out of your life and put it in the pockets of their grubby greatcoats.

Sounds to me like the warmest place to be this winter.

# MEET CHRIS KNIGHT, THE EINSTEIN OF THE 80's.

When his professor steals his prize invention, he turns revenge into high comedy.





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EDITED BY TONY MITCHELL

# LONDON CALLING



COMIC MAGAZINE: the Japanese practise the art of interviewing with a spring onion

### LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

THIS YEAR's Festival wound up last weekend, after running through a mountain of celluloid that may or may not turn up in cinemas over the next year or so. While there were disappointments among some of the entries, plenty of strong, enthusiastic pictures turned up from unlikely quarters.

The Swedish comedy My Life As A Dog is one to track down next year, as is a charming growing-up film by the Australian director Jane Camplon, Two Friends. I missed Ken Loach's Fatherland but the Interest suggested that it could generate enough acclaim to be next year's Killing Fields (which was also photographed by Chris Menges). Several films in the season – like Critters and Round Midnight – have already opened, and Gothic and Nic Roeg's Castaway will be here soon. Out of C4's Film Four Productions, Horace Ove's Playing Away, a tough cricket comedy, is one to catch.

Some offbeat entries turned out to be remarkable. Spike Lee's She's Gotta Have It,

made for \$100,000, might turn out to be the cult hit of the new year. More peculiar was Jos Stellings' *The Pointsman*, a slab of Gothic from the Netherlands, beautifully filmed at and around an old signalbox: somebody must surely pick this up for distribution. Likewise one or both features – *And Then* and *Tokimeki* – from brilliant young Japanese director Yoshimitsu Morita, and the whimsical Hong Kong comedy of manners *Infatuation*.

Besides these, here is a Festival Choice of four to make note of. There's Takita's thunderous junk-culture comedy, Comic Magazine; the Taiwanese Super Citizen, a striking study of a city (Taipei) in thrilling motion; and Elem Klimov's magnificent Russian elegy, Farewell, from the director of the devastating Go And See (which opens here in February). But above all, look out for Fred Wiseman's Deaf And Blind four-film series about the Alabama Institute For The Deaf And Blind – a wholly unsentimental and inspiring achievement by the world's finest documentary-maker.

RICHARD COOK

### THE GREATEST HITS OF 1986

(Telstar)

THE COMPANION book to the ubiquitous Telstar Greatest Hits Album of the year that was. And consequently every bit as empty and unchallenging as every such record could ever be.

In short sharp bursts of servile star grovelling and press release regurgitation, a number of 'leading journalists' give you all the facts you knew already and a couple of pictures you've seen several times before. There are 64 artists featured here, so presumably there are 64 tracks on the Telstar album. I wonder how they've managed to

hold Madonna or Prince or even Five Star down to just one track when garbage like Culture Club, Samanfa Fox and even The Pretenders, who have had to wait till the very end of the year to release an awful single and an even worse album, are ranked as equally important.

According to The Greatest Hits Of 1986, all we can look forward to next year is the arrival on the scene in a big way of Curiosity Killed The Cat and Nick Kamen (apparently he's just signed an eight album deal with WEA!). Mind you, to be fair, they also tip Anita Baker and The The.

ROGER HOLLAND

### MOORE THE MERRIER

THE BALLAD OF HALO
JONES BOOK THREE
Alan Moore and Ian
Gibson
D.R. & QUINCH'S
TOTALLY AWESOME
GUIDE TO LIFE
Alan Moore and Alan
Davis

(Both Titan Books)

THESE TWO book-length compilations of the 2000AD series are the work of Alan Moore, a revolutionary, a comic genius. That's not to say he's a would-be Che Guevara or Lenny Bruce. Moore's inspiration is restricted to the

exhilarating new breed of comic book which is shaking up this time old genre and is about to win it acceptance as a serious art form.

Halo Jones, with a leading character who is both female and resolutely ordinary, takes the futuristic comic format and lifts it far above its usual staple of what Moore calls the three G's, guns, guys and gore.

The backdrop for this third book is the war in the Tarantula Nebula, a constant background theme in the first two books. Although this is the most action packed, most violent Halo Jones series to date, it never lapses into the one dimensional blasting and escalating deaths per frame mentality of its more traditional peers. Halo is a heroine with a familiar clutch of neuroses and this strip, as ever beautifully drawn by Ian Gibson, is underpinned with all the confusion of the real world.

D.R. & Quinch are two anarchic, psychotic alien college students. In the four adventures collected here, they shape the earth's continents to spell out an insult to their college dean, fall in love, join the army and make the most controversial movie in history. Guide To Life is a wildly imaginative outing that recalls the spirit of the Axel Pressbutton strips which appeared in our very own Sounds and represent Moore's first published work, although then he was primarily an illustrator rather than a script

The Guide reaches its peak when D.R. & Quinch go to Hollywood, a revised rendering of the would-be film makers in tinseltown standard, that features a host of familiar characters such as Barry Normal the film critic. The film they eventually produce is the cult classic to end them all, Mind The Oranges Marlon.

Two memorable, even seminal, vehicles that are well worth their cover price.

ROY WILKINSON

# IF IT AIN'T STIFF.

### VIZ COMIC 'The Big Hard One'

(Virgin Books)

JUST RECENTLY, Viz Comic has become near enough Immaculate - a smoothly written, viciously funny subversion of the children's cartoon format, polgnant and polsonous, just that little bit crazler than the real thing, just that tiny bit more violent.

Like when Biffa Bacon duffs up Percy Posh in Viz, the dazed victim actually bleeds and suffers, while the gleeful assailant contentedly wanders off to receive encouragement from an equally pig-ignorant father, just like real life in fact.

The complete absence of niceties is driven home by drawings Identical in mood to those of the bona fide kids' comics - a pinpoint accuracy which has already led to Viz being banished from the shelves of certain top stores, and also to a number of Shock! Horror! articles in the Sunday papers.

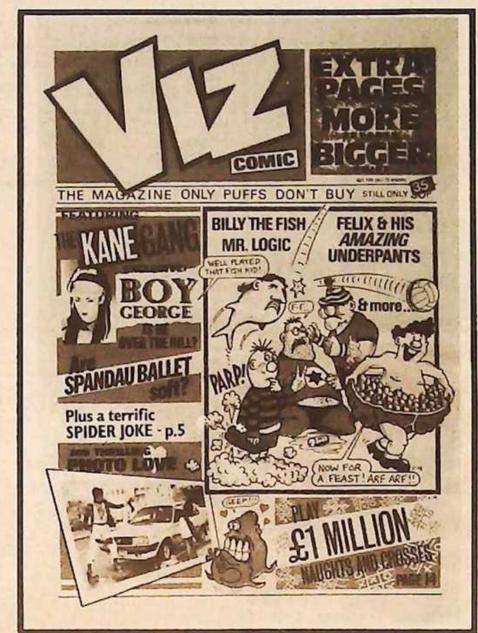
It's taken seven years for the Geordie-based magazine to reach this perfect state, where worldliness and childhood whims battle it out, youthful belly laughs tussling with adult cynicism, fangs going in deep, brewing up a bundle of bitter pranks and laded jocularity.

It's a potent mix of interests, as this compilation ably demonstrates, taking us through the best of issues one to twelve (December 1979 - May 1985), revealing the glant strides made between the relatively shallow knockabouts of earlier Viz and the smouldering comedy fire-bombs found in later issues.

You have to laugh! Page 43: Paul Whicker The Tall Vicar steals the takings of a blind busker and picks the pockets of his parishloners; Page 66: The sickest photo-love story ever, 'Love Is Blind', featuring a sightless policeman and a surrealist job Interview; Page 72: Soccer supremo Billy The Fish flaps around the field in Fulchester United's famous colours and pulls off a prizewinning header!

It's not even funny as such, most of the time, just slightly off-centre and utterly without shame. Buy this and then subscribe to their bi-monthly wads of weirdness - your guffaws will cause you great discomfort in the stomach region.

MR SPENCER



VIZ ISSUE 12: subvert your kids this Christmas

### THE STRANGLERS Screentime

(CBS/Fox Video) WHETHER YOU consider that The Stranglers have musically progressed or regressed, there is no doubting that their current style is more suited to the fashion of videos than it ever has been. With tracks such as 'Always The Sun' and 'Midnight

Summer Dream', there is little

wonder that this collection works, and is a fair representation of the band's mellowing years.

Despite the familiar sober looks, the men in black are obviously taking themselves less seriously these days, and in 'Nice In Nice' they bear closer resemblance to The Monkees than the four angry men who were locked up in jail

for inciting a riot. The videos have become more lavish in line with their chart success. While miming in front of the camera, they still manage to impose an air of conviction few other bands achieve.

This collection takes you chronologically from 'European Female' through to 'Always The Sun'. Their earlier music is more atmospheric and as such

Distributed by WES Records Ltd. @ A Warner Communications Co.

the visual simplicity makes for more interesting videos. Although the band never reach flippancy, the frivolity in these videos direction plays against the band's serious image.

This is not a must for all, but for those who have only relatively recently caught onto them, it is a worthwhile investment.

BERNARD ROSE

### THE CLIFF RICHARD FILE

Mike Read

(Roger Houghton) WHEN MIKE Read found getting up early in the mornings harder and harder to manage (he was only being paid 27 million pounds a week to do it after all), and shuffled on to a lifetime of lazy lie-ins with The Icicle Works album of his choice, he did so muttering something about 'writing'. This is one of the fruits of his newest career, and presumably it's had something to do with him

waking up with Smiffy. As you'd expect from a factlover who could bore for NATO. The Cliff Richard File is one long list. One very long list of facts and figures and quotes strung together in chronological order. And as such it barely addresses any of the major issues relating to Cliff Richard's long and incident packed career, and instead bases its claim for your £8.95 on the fact that it can probably tell you what colour underwear, if any, Cliff was wearing on any day in

the 1960s.

ROGER HOLLAND

### GOING UNDERGROU

LABYRINTH

(Tri-Star Pictures) "Somewhere over the rainbow, way up high. . ."

I swear to God that as I muddled my way across Leicester Square en route to the preview of Labyrinth, an almost tangibly sensual version of that song caressed my senses. It must have been a sign.

To give Labyrinth its due, it makes no attempt to disguise its terms of reference. Indeed it pretty much rubs your face in them. The Wizard Of Oz. the two Alice stories, Sendak and a whole host of traditional fairy tales including Cinderella and Snow White, all of these have their part to play within the Labyrinth, the huge maze of tunnels and passages which struggle to frustrate a young girl's quest to rescue her brother from the Goblin King (just like a Teasmade but with a silly wig).

The fruit of a partnership between Jim Henson and George Lucas, Labyrinth sets boundless fantasy against psychological pseudery, wonderful puppetry against flawed humanity. Somebody should have told this film's

Big Name, the one, the only David Bowle, never to act with children, animals or puppets. At almost every turn the creations of Jim 'Muppet' Henson upstage Bowle. His performance also in many ways matches the fortunes of the film Itself. Just as he appears first beautiful and then a bit of a plonker in roughly equal proportions, so Labyrinth is alternately wildly enjoyable and tediously, self consciously self important.

This is a film which works best as pure cinematic fantasy. Full of wild humour and extravagant creation as best typified by the brilliantly gung ho and courageous Sir Didymus - a tiny terrier cum squirrel - and the staggeringly foul Bog Of Eternal Stench, the modest **Beyond Disney adventure** plot makes for fine viewing. However, every time Labyrinth leaves this straight and narrow path for Company Of Wolves territory and struggles to become a metaphor for a child's journey into womanhood then it begins to smell just as bad as the Bog Of Eternal Stench itself.

ROGER HOLLAND



# RALAIDINIESS

OUR HOUSE/DRIVING IN MY CAR/MICHAEL CAINE/WINGS OF A DOVE/YESTERDAYS MEN/TOMORROWS JUST ANOTHER DAY/I'LL COMPETE (WAITING FOR) THE GHOST TRAIN/UNCLE SAM/THE SUN AND THE RAIN/SWEETEST GIRL/ONE BETTER DAY/VICTORIA GARDENS

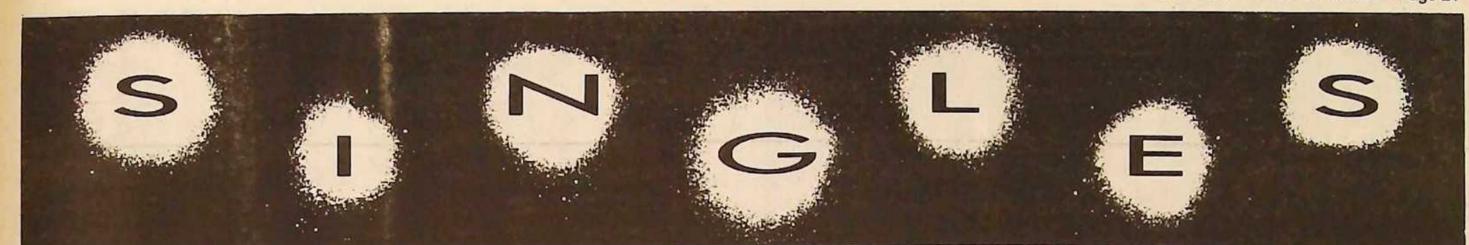


### UTTER MADNESS . . . completes the set

The perfect reminder of their very best. All the hits from 1982 – 86...& more. Featuring the new hit single (Waiting For) The Ghost Train \*On LP(JZLP 1) Cassette(JZMC 1) & Compact Disc(JZCD 1) Also available... UTTER MADNESS the Video(VVD 180), featuring 11 exceptional videos...& more.

\*CD features extra track - Seven Year Scratch (Hits Megamix).





### Reviewed by **Mr Spencer**

THE RESIDENTS 'Kaw-liga' (Torso) A Hank Williams composition, 'Kaw-liga' is the best thing these mysterious

Californians have released in ages. A deeply sinister dancefloor bomper, it subverts normality and turns it both inside out and upside down. Even at zero volume, it infuriates the mad bastard in the flat upstairs and drives him into deranged floorthumping spasms, but that says more about the high chlorine content in our water than it does about The

Residents. Oh, I nearly forgot, it's about time they stopped toying around with other people's songs and started working at being visionaries again, even if cover versions are a lot of fun.

WIRE 'Snakedrill EP'

(Mute) Starting anew with a sturdy 12-incher, an unexpectedly accessible matching of gentle vocals with tatty barbed keyboards and moody basslines.

You have to admire their cheek, reappearing just as their name was being hoisted up next to The Doors and Hendrix in the Hall Of Rock Legends. Such irreverence, such class.

### THE MOB 'Crying Again' 'Youth' (All The Madmen)

Reissued from 1980, this gritty couplet shows off possibly the most significant underground punk act of recent years in its naked and unpolished, early state. The two numbers from the band's rare debut single are maybe at first glance disconcertingly grim, but heaps of promise and even a few stabs at that heady Mob individualism are here. Turn the record over and hear how their music blossomed.

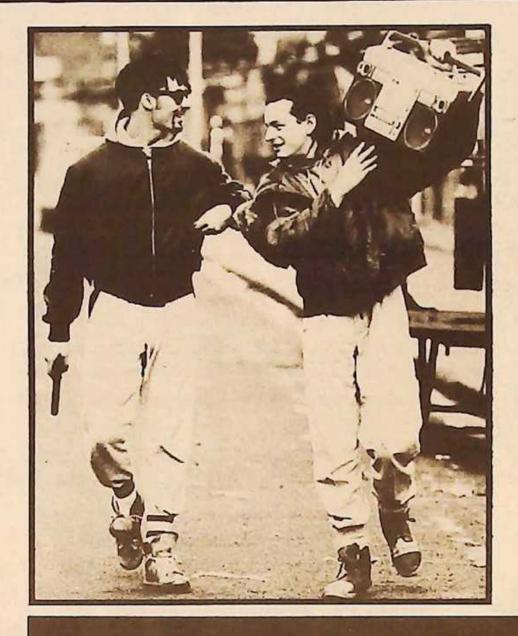
In the steamy summer of '83 at their open air London gigs, The Mob peaked before a sun-drenched audience of punks, police officers and innocent passers by; the smell of the warmth and alcohol is all here, trapped and transferred onto the Bside of this wonderful 12-inch

Not long after those revelationary June gigs, having accomplished their task, The Mob went their separate ways. 'Crying Again' will remind you of their strange magic.

### CLOSE LOBSTERS 'Going To Heaven To See If It

Rains' (Fire) Swoon, gasp, shudder ... A terrific single with a clever title from a Scottish five-piece, and they're all boys! (How's that for a dig at your sexual insecurities, chauvinist pigs!) They strum guitars in a traditional way, but robustly, with lust and plenty of gusto.

Look, you know how nowadays everybody goes on about "perfect pop songs" all the bleedin' time, and you know how they're mostly talking a load of old tripe? Well, these Close Lobsters fellows really have composed a perfect pop song. Almost



### SINGLE OF THE WEEK

FISSION 'King Of Swing' (Streetwave) Perhaps in response to the current distasteful hip hop glut, it seems that a few people are at last coming to their senses and learning how to put this brash new sound to good use.

In steadily increasing numbers, exponents of the artform are making sounds hot enough to convert even the most vehement objectors. Who'd have thought, for instance, that from all those tiresome droning posses there would emerge an insight and inventiveness on a par with the work of, say, early Throbbing Gristle or Cabaret Voltaire? London duo Fission - Paul Howard and Andre Shapps - come amazingly close.

'King Of Swing' is a tribute in many ways, and an insult on others, to the late Glenn Miller, whose music here suffers the cruellest overhaul since The Residents tore 'Satisfaction' limb from limb back in 76.

But it doesn't finish there, because these anorak-clad, tracksuit-bottomed boys aren't satisfied with merely wrecking Glenn's entire back catalogue. They then go on to suggest that the unfortunate, long-deceased Miller was a bit free and easy with the old sexual favours, even going so far as to hint at intimate liasons with The Andrews Sisters.

It's savage, but equally it's stupid and noisy; it could even be a hit

Paul to Andre (in a carefully nurtured false New York accent, all the rage): "Hey man, so who the f\*\*\* are these Resident

Andre (tugging an appalling new Adidas top over his head): "Man, ah ain't gotta f\*\*\*\* clue!"

They then bus it dahn the Arndale Centre.

MADONNA 'Open Your Heart' (Sire) Talking of perfection, Madonna has to be the most consistent writer of classic hits this decade. 'Open Your Heart' may not be 'Into The Groove', but with it the singer persists in wiping the floor with most of her contemporaries. For having survived not only last year's overkill but also the Shanghai Surprise debacle, she deserves at the very least a congratulatory peck on the cheek . . .

### **CICCONE YOUTH 'Into** The Groovy' (Blast First)

As opposed to this lot, who probably need a good belt around the earholes, unless, as is claimed, they really are paying the Queen Of Sleaze a compliment.

You can't help having doubts though, what with it being Sonic Youth in disguise and the tunes being shredded and contorted into something entirely new - a snarling, slavering sex monster no less, with that gorgeous bassline reduced to a muffled growl. So long as they're not being nasty, the verdict has to be: a wondrous shambles.

But Jack Barron told you that when he reviewed it on import a couple of months

### THE POLICE 'Roxanne' 'Synchronicity II' (A&M) JENNIFER RUSH 'The Power Of Love (Remix)'

(CBS) Here they come again, the horrid squawking 'Roxanne', which has already been a hit at least a dozen times, coupled with the exquisite 'Synchronicity II', a phenomenal kiss goodbye and perhaps the finest track on that last LP. Every time I hear it, I'm in tears. Same with Jennifer Rush, but for different reasons.

### THE FALL 'Hey! Luciani'

(Beggars Banquet) Do these people never sleep? Talk about prolific! (At this point, we once again drop the accidental, crowd-pulling EastEnders type dialect.) Actually, this is like a breath

of fresh air, being a quite radical departure into breezy singalongland for popular Mancunian irritant Mark E Smith and chums, with the best bit coming at the end when Brix starts giving it the girlie backing vocals treatment (whoops!).

So go on - hype, bribe, kidnap Mike Smith and snip off all his hair, threaten to daub him with devilish symbols, plunge his face into a bowl of Sugar Puffs, do what you will. Just get this into the charts.

### **ETON CROP 'Yes Please** Bob' (Ediesta) Yeah! Young

bands, fresh blood, get rid of the old order, ten years since punk, 41 years since VE Day, 22 shopping days till Christmas . . . buy yourselves a cheap drum machine and get to sound exactly like The Three Johns. The revolution starts here!

### PRIVATE POSSESSION **FEATURING HUNTER HAYES 'This Time'** (Fourth & Broadway)

Unusually instant, hyperactive disco record boasting lush backing vocals and a scintillating trumpet break. Almost makes you want to visit one of those glitzy nightclubs uptown, but then it all comes back to you in a flash: you can't go because you're not an incredible hulk in baggy trousers with the IQ of a Noel Edmonds admirer (ie a hollow Smartie), and furthermore, you'd never get out alive.

PS: this is the first good disco track of '86 to have been recorded post New Year's Day 1977, so here at last is a chance to find out what mid '80s dance music actually sounds like.

FLESH FOR LULU 'Idol' (Beggars Banquet) Swoony guitars nag their way into one's subconscious, and before you know it, against all your better judgements and in complete disregard of all your best friends' advice, you find you really do like the new Flesh For Lulu single.

### **CROWMEN 'Don't Believe** (In Anything)' (Ultimate)

More hot new talent and, most importantly, people who aren't old! The Crowmen are from York, sound mean and spooky, actually boast of their "goth pop" image and rouse fond memories of a certain Leeds outfit of similar inclinations.

But not The Sisters Of Mercy, which is why 'Don't Believe (In Anything)' has failed to make Single Of The Week. Honestly, what a lame selection, not an Eldritch soundalike in sight and, more pertinently, still no sign of the real thing. We must remain patient, for now.

**LEITMOTIV** 'Big Money' (Ediesta) This big sound from Yorkshire lads with long crimped blond/black hair, combines basic funk elements with jagged keyboards and appealingly raw singing, delivering a certain pleasurable oomph.

THE DRAGSTERS 'Albino' (Union City) "I wanna be an albino/So I can stand out in a crowd!" shriek these tenacious tosspots from Greenock (near Glasgow) in their gravelly American accents, presumably for a joke. This is not jazz-funk, more a storm of dust akin to that which momentarily blinds you when a big lorry speeds past. It will offend albinos, but the rest of us ought at least to be able to twitch an ankle.

### **GAYE BYKERS ON ACID** 'Everythang's Groovy' (In

Tape) This one growls and

festers, a rampant drugriddled space beast on the lookout for unattended skateboards. (Author's note: skateboards are nowadays rather popular with snottynosed, half insane acid punks.) With a splash of wah wah pedal and these unbelievably orbiting drums, it's tempting to describe 'Everythang's Groovy' as a classic, but past experience says: resist! Let's just say it's a bit different and a bit bloody bonkers.

THE PRETENDERS 'Hymn To Her' (Real) Once upon a time, there was a long series of dreamy pop discs. They were all unique and fine and evocative, providing a sleazy yet sweet soundtrack to exist by and bringing into clear focus life in the early 1980s.

What do we get from The Pretenders these days? The odd opportunist Christmas single and limp ballads such as this. Seethe, seethe. Get out of the way old timers, the kids are coming through!

### **FLOWERS IN THE DUSTBIN 'Lick My Crazy** Colours' (Cold Harbour)

Interesting but unlistenable screech from aging sex punks who've always bristled with potential, obsessively rooting around in Adam's long forgotten bag of taboos and suchlike, but who never actually manage to write a decent tune. There's hope for them yet, but if their support slot on the Fuzzbox tour doesn't get things moving, nothing will.

### MIKE BATT 'Children Of The Sky' (Adventure) JOHN OTWAY 'The New Jerusalem' (WEA) WHAM! 'Last Christmas' (Epic) SHAKIN' STEVENS 'Merry Christmas Everyone'

(Epic) With his latest dazzling festive extravaganza, in a last ditch attempt to win some rock credibility, Mike 'Voice Of The Wombles' Batt enlists the most with-it and fashionable musicians in the land - Maggie Reilly and George Harrison – and sticks out a jingly-jangly heartwarmer about children being up in the sky.

Unfortunately though, even now, more than a decade after the event, whenever you hear a Mike Batt record you can't help thinking: oh yes, that's the voice of The Wombles.

John Otway's bid for an end of year rebirth is even less successful; a perfectly straight run-through of 'Jerusalem' with only his faintly oddball Bob Geldofmeets-Cat Stevens vocals to make it anything more than ordinary. Not a patch on The Goodies' 'Father Christmas Do Not Touch Me' for out and out belly laughs.

George Michael and Andrew Ridgeley: what a pair of tossers!

Shakin' Stevens: what a moron!

Best festive single of all time is 'I Wish It Could be Christmas Everyday' (in the original gatefold sleevel and it is not in this pile. If you're out there Roy, have a fab time.

### THE STRANGLERS 'Big In America' (Epic) For years and years, despite secretly owning and admiring most of their LPs, I'd considered The Stranglers to be on a par with baboons when it came to sensitivity and compassion and wit. But I recently saw them at Wembley and observed with amusement as they took the piss out of their he-man audience something rotten, even to the extent of hiring 'Northern Industrial Gay' Jerry Arkright (aka Keith Allen) to wind up the brutes.

Incensed by this affront to their rigid heterosexuality, the crowd responded as expected, by baying for Allen's blood. I now regard The Stranglers as deliciously witty, damn fine blokes. This is also a top rate single.

INTO A CIRCLE 'Inside Out EP' (Abstract) Barry and Bee, ex-pioneers of a new age with, in hindsight, the remarkable Southern Death Cult, get their heads together and knuckle down to belting out sweaty post-punk rock numbers, just like in the good old days. Only this is different, precise and with an undercurrent of menace, a sign that they could at last be

### **GEORGE BENSON 'Shiver'** (Warner Bros) CHRIS DE **BURGH 'A Spaceman** Came Travelling' (A&M)

back on the right tracks.

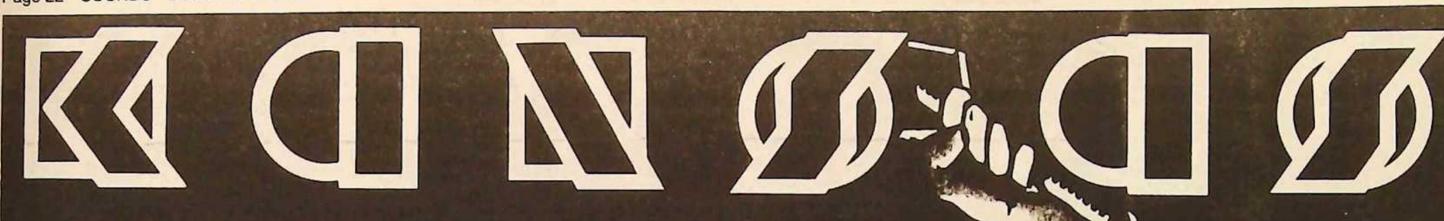
These songs mean an awful lot to myself and a certain somebody, and this review is dedicated to her. If you're reading this my darling, remember: snuggy buggy cuddles poochy pie.

### SIGUE SIGUE SPUTNIK 'Sex Bomb Boogie'/'Love Missile FI-II' (EMI video single) Never before has a

stick of fresh minty-tasting chewing gum lost its zappy flavour quite so quickly. And still we chew, swilling the now flavourless plastic lump/ video single around in our mouths, in a hopeless quest for . . . something with a bit of a kick.

The shocking truth of the matter is, both reviewer and companion failed to register The New Song, and indeed wondered for a moment whether perhaps there'd been some mistake. But no, the newie 'Sex Bomb Boogie' is here, and it's basically all the usual stuff, plus on the visual side there's lots of Royal Albert Hall footage and fans talking and so on.

And this is the gimmick: 'Sex Bomb Boogie' is only coming out on video and not on vinyl. Phew! That's it.



THE NEWALBUM



Featuring the single

WANTE MCA(c) 5838

MCA RECORDS



UZANNE VEGA. Greenwich Village. 'Marlene On The Wall'. Joni Mitchell. Blah, blah, blah, blah...

Forget all that and start again. She is not who you thought she was.

If you were a singer-songwriter in New York around 1976 you played the folk clubs. Well, what else were you going to do with an acoustic guitar? Get a gig at The Ritz? But the last two years have seen an enormous change in fortunes for Suzanne Vega.

Her self-titled LP last year and two well-received singles, 'Marlene On The Wall' and 'Left Of Centre', have made her reputation. Her concerts in this country have all been sell-outs, and tickets for her just completed British tour were cleared out months ago.

And all she ever wanted to do was write good songs. Not that she has a high public profile, though.

When we meet, she has just bought some tapes of Clannad and Kate Bush to listen to in the bus when they drive from Norwich to Leeds. The people in Backs record shop didn't recognise her.

"Nobody ever recognises me. Someone yelled out once, Oh look, there's the band. But they didn't recognise me. They probably thought I was the girlfriend."

When Suzanne was about eight or nine, she found out that the Puerto Rican writer she thought was her father wasn't her father at all. She had been brought up thinking herself to be half Puerto Rican and suddenly she wasn't. An incredibly interesting situation to find yourself in, but how did it feel at the time?

"I don't remember my reaction because I wasn't very demonstrative as a kid, but it was probably some sort of embarrassment, and wondering what the hell this was about. Like, Oh, that's interesting. Let me go away and think about this for ten years.

"Suddenly I felt that everything I had known was kind of stripped away, which is a feeling I've had often and I think that's probably had a lot of effect on my songwriting. Because every time I look at someone I think, You could strip everything away. You could strip away their name, you could strip away their beliefs, strip away who they think they are and you'd still have a person there you have to address.

"So when I write, that's the part of the person I'm aiming for - the part that's been stripped away."

Have you ever written a song about that particular situation?

"I did, but not in the way you might think. There's a song I wrote on the Philip Glass album 'Songs From Liquid Days' and the lyrics go ...

'If you had no name, if you had no history/ If you had no books, if you had no family/ If it were only you, naked on the grass/ Who would you be then/ This is what he asked/ And I said; I really wasn't sure/ But I'd probably be cold/ And now I'm freezing'

"I don't think even Philip Glass knows what that song was referring to. Because I Page 24 SOUNDS December 6 1986
FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

remember my father once asking me those questions exactly and, of course, later on I found out why."

Did it change the way you thought about yourself?

"I guess it clarified a few things. I had suspected I was different in some way, although I didn't know what it was and maybe that put the finger on it."

Did it help to know that it wasn't your imagination, and to know why?

"No, because then I thought, Oh wow, now I'm really different! Now I'll never be normal!"

OW DID you like playing the Royal Albert Hall?
"It was probably the biggest gig I'd ever done in my life, so I was very relieved when it was over. The thing I came up against in the States was everybody said, Isn't that where Dylan played? Also because they were filming the second night I felt all this pressure to be perfect, and I'm not..."

You didn't look like you were nervous.

"That's because I was upset!" she says,
collapsing with laughter and surprise. "See,
I've been doing it long enough to learn to
control my emotions onstage, but there
were a million things going on in my head."
Like what?

"Like, oh maybe I should just leave how would that be? Maybe I won't tell any more stories. That's a very common reaction for me. I always feel uncomfortable before I go on and after I come off."

Would you prefer not to have an audience, then; just to write your songs and play them for yourself?

"I don't think so. I started writing songs when I was about 14 and shortly after that I decided I should go out and start singing, even though I hated it, and that's something I've never been able to explain. I guess I have to keep it from being too personal.

"Like if one person gets up at the Albert Hall and leaves, I can't stand there and wonder about that because there are 4,999 other people still there. But ten years ago, if I was angry at an audience, or thought they were stupid, they'd know about it."

What did they do that made you angry? "Well, people would make comments like, Hey baby, how come you never smile? Or they'd put their feet up on stage while I was singing. At that time I was about 16 or 17, not exactly worldly wise, and I didn't know how to play to an audience."

Was that something you learned at the School Of Performing Arts?

"Not exactly, because I was studying dance, but the thing I learned from dancing was how you could make people look at you without saying a word. Like you could come onstage and stand still and you'd command a certain attention just by your presence. Everyone can tell just by looking at you that you know what you're doing, even though you haven't done anything."

HAT'S THE first thing you think about when you wake up in the morning? Do you feel very positive about things?

"Yeah, lately I feel pretty terrific about almost everything. I feel that I've adjusted to all the stuff that has happened in the last couple of years and I'm looking forward to working on the next album.

"For a while, I think I had a dip in my confidence because the first album had come out and I was starting to feel maybe I really had nothing else to say. Because my whole life, my dream was to make an album and I had made my album, and I thought, Well, what do I need to make another one for? The first one is still perfectly good; they can listen to that for a while."

What I like most about your writing is the way you look kind of sideways at things, or rather, your ability to get inside a situation and look out. What are you writing about at the moment? "For a while I had a dip in my confidence because the first album had come out and I was starting to feel maybe I really had nothing else to say. I had made my album and I thought, Well, what do I need to make another one for?"



"There's a couple of things.

"I was reading the biography of Kaspar Hauser. He lived in Germany in the early 1800s and because he was heir to the throne, he had been locked in a basement from the time he was born until he was 17 and then suddenly set free. So his problem was, how do you learn to be a human being? The book explains his coming to power and it's a really tragic story because he's murdered in the end, but I thought his perspective would have been so interesting.

"It's that stripped away thing again. In some ways he was so stripped away, he was almost like an animal. He'd never seen the sun and he could only say one sentence, which was I want to be a rider, like my father. And they had given him one toy to play with in the whole 17 years, which was a small wooden horse. So I was trying to see how you could take a story like that and turn it into song form."

Do you get interested in other people's situations because they remind you of something you've experienced yourself?

"I think it would be nice to think that would be true, but I'll sometimes study people for their differences. I have what I call my scanner, and I take it out and try to figure out people's histories and their eccentricities and why they do what they do. Especially with my band, who are very funny.

"They're all really smart, and also slightly peculiar... because they're not a normal rock 'n' roll band. I think if their lives depended on it and they had to do the rock 'n' roll lifestyle, they still wouldn't know how to do it. But they read a lot, and so I'm always trying to figure out like why did Sue (the drummer) ask for a typewriter at the soundcheck, which she did about a week ago. They're the kind of things I spend time thinking about."

And what answers do you come up with?

"I don't know if I come up with any answers necessarily. Everybody has different symbols, different things that are meaningful to them. I remember a Joni Mitchell song about a business man where she says, 'You could have been more than a name on a door', which I thought was a very superficial view, because everybody, whether they're yuppies or whatever they are, has some story behind them.

"And I'm struck by the fact that everyone seems to need the same things, attention, food, shelter, sleep, understanding. And that even the most hardened people will come round if you listen to them.

"In some ways, I think that's what I do with the audience, which may seem weird, because I'm the singer and they're supposed to listen to me, but at the same time, I feel that I'm there to listen to them; to receive their impressions and find out what they want and in some way give it to them. Depending...

"I mean, sometimes you have really bizarre fans and you don't care what they want, but that's something else."

"Yeah, but you would not believe that something so simple could be so difficult. The simple part is that you repeat the same phrase over and over again. The difficult part is that you do it twice a day, every day for your whole life. And that's really tough, because there are definitely days you don't want to. But it's for creating value in your life, and I think that I've seen myself change almost completely from ten years ago. If I had known ten years ago what my life would be like today, I would have been really happy."

In what ways have you changed?

"Well, for instance, I used to be fixated on eating. I used to be able to eat embarrassing amounts of food and then half an hour later, eat again. That was a horrible feeling, to feel that you were in the grip of something irrational that you couldn't control. And with Buddhism, the different things in your life that you treat as objects of worship, like food say, it will teach you to replace that with something of value. You could chant for all the food in the world, but it wouldn't do you any

good, because then you'll get it and still not be happy. So you learn to chant for other things and you find out what makes you happy ultimately.

"See, you receive a scroll, which is what you chant to and that represents your life in its highest form, so then what you end up worshipping is your life, which to me is a great thing.

"It's not like, oh, if I'm really good, God will grant me this and that, or after you die you'll go to heaven. Your faith is grounded in something real, and there's nothing abstract about it at all. It's right here."

Does it help to be skinny if you're a folk singer?

"Not really. I think I look less like a folk singer because I've been borderline, really too skinny, and then I look like Patti Smith. I went from one extreme to the other. I went sailing right past the normal weight into this other land of complete fragility. I've seen pictures where I look like I've just come off heroin. Like, oh yes, this is Suzanne in her On The Edge days.

"I think what I was trying to do was to be streamlined, and kind of like the girl in 'Straight Line'. I was trying to cut away all the extra stuff in my life I didn't need, including weight, but I found out that instead of being strong and simple, that I was cutting into myself and I was really weak and not strong at all. So I have to look after that now, because I'm not really a frail person and I hate feeling frail."

What things do you value these days?

"It means a lot to me to continue working. To set out to do something and achieve it. It's been interesting to have some money because I never had any before and you can buy things like a video camera, but I don't think of it as an end in itself. I guess it means a lot to me to find out why other people make each other suffer, I guess because my family grew up with quite a bit of suffering, self-inflicted and otherwise, so whatever happens, I always feel that's the thing I come back to.

"Mostly I'm trying to understand, trying to understand people and why they do what they do. Myself included."



FEATURING THE SINGLE ANYTHING

SPECIAL LIMITED EDITION GATEFOLD POP-UP ALBUM PACK

MCA RECORDS



QUEEN: what a pity somebody moved the stage!

# THE MAGIC OF MAY

QUEEN 'Live Magic' (EMI EMC 3519)\*\*\*\*1/2

QUEEN USED to pass me by, you know? The sight of Mr Mercury's thrusting jaw and the sound of their sanitised disco wash generally preceded a dash for the 'off' button in my house.

Until, that is, the recent TV and radio simulcast, 'Real Magic', when Queen took on a different meaning. I mean, I couldn't argue with a musical event on such a huge scale. But even so, Queen won me over for one reason, that being the guitar of Brian May. Live, the man's playing is rivetting, as he gets to do all the things that for whatever reason he never gets to do on the records.

Recorded at the shows at Wembley, Knebworth and Budapest, what you get here are 14 songs, every one a fave (except the Mercury/Bowie collaboration, 'Under Pressure', which I detest),

and they make you realise what Queen can manage when they have half a mind. Opener 'One Vision', for instance, is transformed from the squeaky clean chart hit that I loved to loathe into a power-packed juggernaut of mammoth proportions.

And there's no mistaking it's a live album — at times, the crowd almost drown out the sound, doing as much of the vocal work as Freddie himself. A listen to this shows just why Queen are

the undisputed kings of stadium rock, their thick, luscious sound tailormade for such events.

Queen have a pumping rock 'n' roll heart underneath all the pomp and glitter, which thankfully still rears its lovely ugly head when necessary. Even 'A Kind Of Magic', which left me stone cold as a piece of vinyl, provides ample opportunity for May to weave all sorts of six-stringed magic around a song that always

Which is all very well except that, if you are a Queen fan, you would have re-

begged for something more.

fan, you would have recorded the show thoughtfully provided on crystal clear
VHF four weeks ago. If you
fancy shelling out for the
few naff photos on the
sleeve that's your look out.
This album should be for all
those who thought they
didn't like Queen, like myself. Roll on the next live
album.

NEIL PERRY

### TIMBUK 3 'Greetings From Timbuk 3' (IRS MIRF 1015)\*\*\*\*

DESPITE THE image we are constantly presented with of America as an oppressive, war-mongering country where culture comes shrinkwrapped and the people would sell their birthrights for a cameo appearance on Dynasty, there are still pockets of resistance. And these comprise groups who can take the traditions of America and weld them to a feeling for the current times, making something unique and original out of hackneyed old forms.

Timbuk 3 are such a group.
They comprise a husband
and wife, Pat Macdonald and
Barbara K, and their faithful
cassette machine, T3.
Together they mould the old
spirit of country/blues to a
heartfelt feeling for rock 'n'
roll.

'Greetings From Timbuk 3' shows them producing a sound rich in depth, with an understanding of the musicians that have preceded them, but which resolutely looks to the future.

And mixed in with this hard-hitting sound of urban country is a healthy dose of intelligent reasoning on the subject of society's stupidity. At times, their voices may sound plaintive and yearning, but the lyrics make a sound stab at the rotten core of a country that has lost it sense of humanity. "Big Mac had a heart attack in the back of a

yellow cab", they sing on 'Life Is Hard', before following it up with "His heart had stopped beating but the meter was still running".

Timbuk 3 are a humorous and powerful mixture of talent and perception.
Wherever it is, they can take me to Timbuk too.

RICKY KILDARE

CAMPER VAN
BEETHOVEN 'Camper
Van Beethoven' (Pitch-ATent/Rough Trade ROUGH
109)\*\*\*

OF COURSE, Jonathon Richman's to blame for all this Yank campus humour and gooey quasi-eccentricity. I must be a pathetic shell of a cretin actually to like this sort of stuff. This time, though, I'd like to round up this mob, slap 'em round their tanned faces and bang their heads together!

Like an obnoxious, out-ofhand class of fourth-formers, these clever sods don't know where to stop. Abundantly talented, Camper Van

SHOCKING PINK

TO QUOTE cover stars Age Of Chance, "You don't have to be Prince if you want to dance, you just have to get down to the..." floor-shaking lexicon of this latterday Dr Johnson.

Jesse 'Not Jackson' Johnson was guitarist in The Time, a band that also featured all pervasive production supremos Jam and Lewis, and a band that Prince created then systema-

JESSE JOHNSON 'Shockadelica' (A&M AMA 5122)\*\*\*\*

Jam and Lewis, and a band that Prince created then systematically ripped off. The scars of this association still rest with Jesse, and to this day he's decked out in the pink costume that he inherited when the small but personality-deformed arch egoist decided to go purple. But these scars may soon disappear in the light of this, an album that you can easily imagine Prince wishing he'd written.

Following his big selling, hit-generating debut 'Jesse John-

son's Revue', the declared aim of 'Shockadelica' is to make an album like an early Motown record as opposed to today's typical product with two or three good songs couched in a mass of filler material. In this he succeeds with consummate ease.

Hurtling out with a trio of dance explosions, driven by a fearsome density of drums and brassy keyboard interjections, there's not an idle moment on this record.

'Change Your Mind' leads into the (recent Sounds Single Of The Week) duet with Sly Stone, 'Crazay', a relentlessly powerful song that you can call the album's finest and still not question the quality of its nine companions. 'A Better Way' lets Jesse indulge in the blues virtuosity he learnt playing with whitey AC/DC cover merchants, and the other five pockets of brilliance leading up to the closing ballad, 'Black In America', remain true to Jesse's Motown mission.

Pink could well be the colour this winter.

ROY WILKINSON

Beethoven seem incapable of telling when one of their little gags has gone irredeemably beyond a joke. The opening couple of tracks augur well, 'Good Guys And Bad Guys' (extremely reminiscent of John Prine's 'Hello In There') and 'Joe Stalin's Cadillac' capturing the beach bums in fine fettle; acute deadpan deftness/daftness.

But they're already at it by the third track, one of three to play backwards, a jokey gesture I find hard to understand, unless these dudes particularly relish the idea of aggravated punters half a globe away propelling their decks in reverse with unsteady digits. In fact, 'Five Sticks' turns out to be a probably very enjoyable song called 'Everything Is Up In The Air In These Times'.

Irksome, and yet this mug continues to listen – and enjoy – this frustrating article. The in-jokes are packed around the album's fragile delights like polystyrene chips. 'We Saw Jerry's Daughter' and 'Shut Us Down' are my idea of what C Van B should be about, but even the filler chips contain one or two nutty nuggets, notably 'Surprise Truck' and an impudent shift into fat Syd's 'Interstellar Overdrive'.

Very flawed (by definition), maddening and masterful in equal parts, but too endearing to lose your cool over. Camper Van Beethoven are amiable rogues.

ANDY HURT

THE TRIFFIDS 'In The Pines' (Hot Records HOT 1082)\*\*\*\*

WHEN THESE six creative
Aussies bundled themselves
off to a shearing shed in the
outback, 600 kilometres south
east of Perth, and returned
with 'In The Pines', the record
company executives must
have choked on their cigars.
Whatever hat these Triffids
wear, be it psychedelic,
country, psych-rock or just
rock (and they don all of
these), it seems to fit oh so
snugly.

Although they stick to certain rock conventions, on this new LP they pick at the scars of their previous albums, opening up old wounds and delighting us with new improved versions of songs such as 'Born Sandy Devotional', the transformation aided by their semi-acoustic approach. In fact, this prize album is not even the official follow-up to the 'Devotional' LP, but merely the result of one solitary week's work with an eight-track tape recorder.

Sounding more melodic than ever, the band manage to convey the obvious freedom and fun they enjoyed while recording 'In The Pines' and the setting of the studio is as barren as their ideas are fertile. Tracks like the menacing 'Kathy Knows' and the excellent 'In The Pines' (which would make a great cover for The Men They Couldn't Hang) prove their quality, and who cares if you can hear dogs barking or tractors passing in the background?

There are 13 songs here of varying length but of a consistently high standard, so get to grips with these Triffids as soon as you dare.

BERNARD ROSE

### LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III 'More Love Songs' (Demon

FIEND 79)\*\*\*
LOUDON'S LAST album, 'I'm
Alright', was quite a cheerful
affair, but he's been in the
emotional wars again and
'More Love Songs' has a
gloomy gloss to it. 'Your
Mother And I' and 'Unhappy
Anniversary' show that
practice doesn't ease the pain
when you're splitting up, and
'The Home Stretch' and 'The
Back Nine' could be related to
the number 40 that Loudon
wears on his cap.

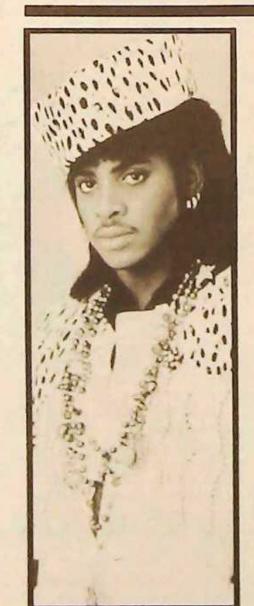
Even the cryptic 'Hard Day On The Planet' winds up suggesting that the best solution is to drop the bomb and let something else start all over again. But Loudon remains a good wallow, and 'Synchronicity' will have hardened fans spluttering with laughter at its sexual machinations.

HUGH FIELDER

### T-BONE BURNETT 'T-Bone Burnett' (MCA MCF 3347)\*\*\*\*

BURNETT MIGHT be the lynchpin of American music's return to authenticity. In his work with figures as diverse as Leo Kottke, Emmylou Harris and Peter Case, and through his own series of LPs – especially the masterful 'Proof Through The Night' – Burnett's way has been to spike the tradition with an eccentric modern tack. Yet here he comes now with a haunted, bizarre album.

Cut live in the studio with an acoustic band, the set resembles Costello's 'King Of America', which Burnett also worked on. But these songs are simple and clear to the point of transparency. Even T-Bone's originals sound like old country rags, given titles like 'River Of Love' and 'Little Daughter' and 'Oh No Darling'. A cover of Tom Waits' 'Time' is weirdly out of



JESSE JOHNSON: pretty in pink

# THE DAMNED GO WEST

THE DAMNED 'Anything' (MCA MCG 6015)\*\*\*

THE DAMNED have survived. Of this there can be no doubt, and no one would be grudge them their success now. However, in managing to stick around so long (this is their tenth anniversary), The Damned have tempted fate tangibly and arrived at the frontier beyond which years of formulaic 'pro' rock beckons archly. The place where longevity is mistaken for accomplishment and quantity is quality. Where, in other words, America's heartland devours its AOR fodder, which this LP rejoices in being.

'Anything' is quite an accurate title. Fundamentally, there is little focus here, except perhaps a familiar penchant for twee mock-Hammer sycophancy in the sound effects and lyrics. The music is damnably likeable and utterly reserved. The title track manages the diffused energy of Iggy circa 'New Values', but soon the ham atmospherics and obvious angling for acceptance as a National Rock Institution bears down, via portentous interludes and vast swirls of indescribable nothingness.

'The Portrait', a twilight piano coda, scores points, but the others merely 'rock out' or amuse you until your face hurts from smiling. Nothing sticks fast. The bombast is fine but lacks any out-and-out vulgarity to launch it. Yearning and overdoing things musically until all is brittle with spit and polish, The Damned appear as gargoyles with expense accounts that know too much and care too little.

What is troubling is the deliberate manner in which The Damned have delivered this soggy triumph, employing all the stock strategies of mediocrity that the task of conquering the Yanks typically demands. America will eat up this cute melange and likely foot the bill for a further ten years. Finally, in 1996, Princess Di will praise The Damned and that will be that. It's safe and proud; truly rock music for the '80s.

Can I go now? I want to play 'New Rose' and light a votive candle.

RALPH TRAITOR



THE DAMNED swop The Hammer House Of Horror for The Love Boat

joint and makes Waits sound un-American: the sophistication of his writing has little to do with the seam Burnett mines.

T-Bone has gone way back, to the old grey tears of bluegrass, the Saturday night sorrows of Kentucky mountain music. All the songs present a bare, troubled heart: each one is slow, sad and sweet. In commercial terms, it's probably complete madness. But the perfect playing of the tunes, the exactly right note they seem to strike, makes it impressive.

Try and hear the last song on each side, 'Annabelle Lee' and 'The Bird That I Held In My Hand' – quiet speaking that carries the sombre power of an old spirit.

RICHARD COOK

MANTRONIX 'Music Madness' (10 Records DIX 50)\*\*\*

ALTHOUGH IT has a much higher public profile due to its techniques, both vocal and electronic, being used by every Dick, Tracy and Jane in advertising, the state of rapping at the moment is reminiscent of the piracy of ideas and general disarray that led to a backlash against reggae MC-ing four years ago. There is a glut of records

which, to a certain extent, are indistinguishable from each other, and all are layered with braggadocio. It'll be interesting to see whether it'll be the biggest or smartest mouths that survive.

Mantronix are setting their sights high. They've been terminally slating Run DMC in the press for being soft, and now, with 'Music Madness', it's time to put up or shut up. As a listening experience this album is percolated with convulsions which will let you pass away a pleasant 40 minutes of back-flipping. Yet the more one spins the vinyl, the more its forced and contrived schemes begin to poke through the beatbox blap-blap.

At their most successful – as with 'Big Band B-Boy', which surges via a Gene Krupa-style drum tattoo and cruises on the steamy air of sampled horns – Mantronix pulse with inspiration. This, I guarantee, will make your coconuts crack.

On the other hand,
Mantronix can be crushing
bores. The appropriation of
The Old Grey Whistle Test's
theme tune for 'Listen To The
Bass Of Get Stupid Fresh Part
II', far from being great, just
grates, and their reworking of
the foundation of 'Bassline'
from the first album for 'We

Control The Dice' shows the duo to be floundering somewhat.

Yet despite all this, I have no doubts that 'Music Madness' will sell like ice-lollies in hell. Because its overall feel – with the wide boy words of MC Tee being buffeted in an electrical gale of echoes, scratching, stuttering and shuttering courtesy of mixologist Mantronik – is tetchy with dance fever. Tape it.

JACK BARRON

THE CRIMINAL
DAMAGE POSSE 'Blast'
(Criminal Damage CRI-LP140)\*\*\*\*

THIS ABOVE average sampler from Reading independent Criminal Damage illustrates, with barely disguised self-assurance, the rise of a label from a dead-duck punk dumping ground to base camp for an impressive array of vibrant new acts. Only the logo remains the same; elsewhere, alterations are complete and impressively drastic.

From MB Hi Power's
divinely brutal melodicadrenched 'Version Train' and
The Jackal's 'Thunder Blast' –
a roof-rattling gust of electro
– through to Problem's semitrippy 'Inside Of Here', this
teasingly compiled LP is

almost entirely successful.

Only the untidy guitar stomp of The Heartthrobs, together with Gary Jones' tiresome multi-tracked acappella, stand out as duff moments.

On the other hand, Angel Corpus Christi's deeply bothersome 'Taxi Driver/NY NY' monologue is worth the price of the album alone, while the uplifting melodies of Hidden Charms are at least worth the price of a good carrier bag.

It's always nice when a small label does OK for itself, but this case is exceptional. Criminal Damage, who not long ago were laid flat out underneath six feet of earth and clay, have literally risen from the dead.

MR SPENCER

ATOMKRAFT 'Queen
Of Death' (Neat Records
NEAT 55-12)\*\*\*
POSSESSED 'Beyond
The Gates' (Under One

Flag FLAG 3)\*\* NUCLEAR
ASSAULT 'Game Over'
(Under One Flag FLAG
5)\*\*'/2 ENGLISH DOGS
'Where Legend Began'
(Under One Flag FLAG 2)\*
AND ON the conveyer belt tonight ... some thrash,

some hardcore, some total

death, some slow death

(immense decay), some avant-garde death-heavy speedcore techno-mosh, and a couple of surprises, which we'll come to later.

Firstly, though, a word of explanation about the rather poor performances all round on the ol' scoreboard. The thing is, whilst all of the acts here bar the English Dogs are good for blunt, bloodyminded aggression, they still all lack the classic razor edge of an Anthrax or a Slayer. Inexperience, clumsiness, complacency or just plain inability? Whatever the reasons, the gulf in quality between these five records and Slayer's bestial new 'Reign In Blood' moshterpiece remains huge.

Possessed and Nuclear
Assault – such heart-stopping
heaviness is a hardcore
hardhead's heaven.
Repetitive and kinda onedimensional maybe, but
when even one foot out of the
total death playpen could lose
a band its vital underground
support, experimentation for
relatively unestablished acts
might prove very costly.

Expect to hear a lot more from all in the future, though, especially Nuclear Assault, whose 'Hang The Pope' – 38 seconds of pure madness – is not only the best track here, but is also (they claim) the

fastest song ever put on record.

So to the surprises.

Amazingly, the English Dogs, those 'mature' punks, have produced thrash's first ever concept album. Not so surprisingly, it's rubbish. I like their ambition but not the tedious doodling riffery.

Surprise number two is that
Britain can at last boast
another new thrash
contender besides the fairly
'orrible Onslaught. From
Venom country come
Atomkraft, who've very
sensibly opted to "prove that
all the other thrash bands –
particularly the Americans –
are a hunch of girlies"

are a bunch of girlies".

They don't quite make it but what the hell? It's good enough that they're alive and

kicking hard.

PAUL ELLIOTT

### RUBELLA BALLET 'IP'

(Ubiquitous Records DAY GLO 4)\*\*\*\*3/4 RUBELLA BALLET still spell their name with the 'E's written backwards, scrawling in a childish hand across their records. They continue to sport a somewhat youthful optimism and a teenanarchist type danceability factor, complete with the obligatory fashionable rough edge. But after seven long years, there's now both a new vocal maturity and a chaotic harmony too strong to be ignored.

There was a period when the infinite colours of Rubella Ballet faded and merged into a horribly stale, monotonous sludge. However, as we girlies know, a mud pack does wonders for sagging, lifeless complexions – it replenishes, nourishes, and suddenly everyone can see your true beauty. And so Rubella Ballet have had their beauty treatment and doubting nerds like me are dazzled by the result.

'If' is a pot of steaming multiplicity. Dip in and there's traces of Fuzzbox amateurishness, Mission moods, X-Ray Spex agility and Siouxsie mysticism. Of course, included are the usual tales of lies, corruption and violence, but they're formed by lyrics full of psychedelic confusion, a jumble of 'look on the bright side' politics of the sort that only Rubella Ballet could advocate.

KEZ OWEN

MORE ALBUMS ON PAGE 31

# WOMACK OVER EASY

BOBBY WOMACK 'Womagic' (MCA MCG 6020)\*\*\*\*

WITH NO rip-off record deals or personal crises for him to contend with, this is probably the moment to start worrying about Bobby Womack.

I mean, the odds are almost stacked in his favour now, with a cosy MCA contract which has already yielded one peerless album to follow his highly acclaimed 'Poet' albums, which unfortunately saw him taken to the cleaners by Beverly Glen. His back catalogue is crawling out of the woodwork; only his record sleeves remain consistently tacky.

So I guess he has to be allowed a certain amount of freewheeling on 'Womagic' which initially sounds a bit lightweight. But that's unlikely to deter his fans who will simply take their time and grow into it.

Sometimes you can be the victim of your own expectations. On 'I Can't Stay Mad', for example, you keep waiting for the classic 'If You Think You're Lonely Now' refrain and it never comes. It just takes time to adapt to the less obvious chorus he's opted for instead. Even on the strictly average ballads like 'Outside Myself' and 'More Than Love', he can still impose his own character. They pale only in comparison to the gloriously

old-fashioned tear-jerker, 'I Ain't Got To Love Nobody'.

Most of the album was recorded in Memphis — not a place he's used for many years — without any superstars in attendance (not that there were very many on his last album, 'So Many Rivers'). But that keeps pomposity at bay and allows Womack to be more workmanlike. So the opening '(I Wanna) Make Love To You' has a carefully understated heavy riff while Bobby stalks between a searing guitar and a popping brass section.

And 'When The Weekend Comes' benefits from the controlled tension which leaves Bobby free to hustle his way through the week and burst into chorus all weekend long, speeding along on his own nervous energy.

The two Los Angeles tracks not surprisingly have a slicker feel to them. But even the gloss on 'Can'tcha Hear The Children Calling' is only skin deep, despite the rather nauseating title, and 'It Ain't Me' gets down to some uncluttered funk as performed by men rather than machines.

You see? I've already talked myself into another star since I started this. Somebody take the record off before I roll over and wave my legs in the air.

HUGH FIELDER



BOBBY WOMACK lounges around

## DOL WORSHIP?



THE CHRISTIANS, a Liverpool "vocal" group, have signed to Island and have a brief flurry of gigs before Christmas followed by a single in the New Year.

The band is made up of the three Christian brothers, an acapella trio who first got noticed at the 1983 Lark In The Park, plus Henry Priestman (close, very close), previously keyboard player with It's Immaterial and with a dark past stretching right back to The Yachts.

They played as an eight-piece in September 1985 at Liver Aid, and the Christian brothers then toured as backing vocalists with It's Immaterial during the autumn, playing a support set of their own.

Last winter, Henry quit It's Immaterial to work with The Christians and a year later their first single, 'Forgotten Town', is

The gigs are at Sheffield Polytechnic December 3, Loughborough University 4, Liverpool University 5, London Wag Club 10, Uxbridge Brunel University 12. More dates will be added.

1. One driver of a reggae taxi (3.6) 6. Vince sounds as

if he works in an office (6) 11. Band/Everton (5) 12. A

for political refugees? (6) 24. and 5. A be-jewelled and

summer breeze (5) 30. Love me like this, begged Elvis

Paul, the famous leader of the gang (4.7) 35. Bon Jovi

2. Paul/Parisians/Americans (5) 3. Where 6 and one

other cut a famous LP (8.2.5) 4. Why Bruce S had to

lend his shades to Manfred M? (7.2.3.5) 5. see 24 7. French plural for jazzer McCann (3) 8. 18 spotted one

dans la cuisine (3) 9. It's oft paired with ivory (5) 10.

from paradise; it was free (4) 16. The day before Barry

'ole dirge from Ultravox (6) 23. 'Get' on up said Curtis

... but 'do' me right, begged Pat Benatar (5)

'cos time is this, said Booker T (5) 31. Blackfoot's prohibitive county (3) 32. Esoteric Henry

Meteors 12. Orgasmatron 14. Sadie 15. Psychedelic

Private 28. Gaye 31. No Glory 33. Sir Duke 34. Mat

1. The Soup Dragons 2. Elvis 3. Tamla 4. Elder 5. Nut

6. Blondes 9. Baggy 11. Manic Pop Thrill 13. Tie 14.

Skull 16. Hard 17. Dub 18. Blue Monday 20. Don 22.

Furs 19. Red 21. Rebel Souls 23. Al 25. Geno 26.

McGuire's destruction (3) 18. He liked good red wine (3.8) 19. George woke up to find this Boomtown Rats epic! (5.2.4) 20. 24 was a woman's one! (3) 21. A right

Tina was a private one (6) 11. It could sing; it was

Mayfield (4) 25. The Monochrome collection

1. The Leather Nun 6. Bob 8. Ebb 10. Mod 11.

35. Gentle Sound 38. Pharmicist 39. Joe Ely

(3) 34. Tommy, dizzy star of the '60s (3)

colourful effort from Marc A (4.3) 25. David's got a white one! (5) 26. They were lettin' loose (5.6) 28. Levi

P (6) 32. Chicago's most famous blues label (5) 33.

S is one of Four (3) 29. Soul brothers after that

behave like Chelsea fans! (4.2.3.7)

flux of a pink tribe! (7) 13. Womack & Womack suffered a love one (1.1.1) 14. Band's mama did it twice (3) 15. A genetic engineer (4.9) 17. Where Dio might stay with the Stars Of Heaven? (6.5.5) 22. Label

By Sue Buckley

TURQUOISE BLUE, "a new and individual sound from two young men who create true emotions in the music", get sensual with their first single, 'In The End', which comes out on the newly formed Aria Records this week.

BIM SHERMAN, the reggae singer who came into focus with his 'Crossing The Red Sea' album, releases the follow-up on Revolver Distribution this week called 'Haunting Ground'.

CRASH, a New York fivepiece who've just finished a series of London dates, have a single out on Remorse this week called 'Almost'. They'll have an album out early next year when they'll also be back for a bigger tour.

**HEAVY D AND THE BOYZ, the** New York rappers, make their UK debut with the single 'Mister Big Stuff' on MCA this week-end.

CRY NO MORE, who recently supported Suzanne Vega, release their new single called 'Real Love' on Parlophone this week.

TACTICS escape from the grips of their native Australia to release their first album entitled 'My Houdini' on Red Flame (through Nine Mile) this week.

# **NEWS**

THE LYRES, the American psychedelic R&B band, have a new album of Jeff Conolly originals and "carefully chosen" covers called 'Lyres, Lyres' released this week by New Rose. The same label are also putting out an album by cult singer songwriter Elliott Murphy called 'Milwaukee' (which features Talking Head Jerry Harrison on keyboards) and a minialbum by "mean 'n' nasty" American combo Nervous Eaters called 'Hot Steel And Acid'. There's also a compilation double album titled 'Play New Rose For Me' which features 26 New Rose bands playing covers of songs by other New Rose bands. There are contributions from The Dead Kennedys, Panther Burns, Alex Chilton, Giant Sand, Willie Alexander, Chris Bailey and The Primevils among others.

KOOL MOE DEE get topical with their single called 'Go See The Doctor' on Jive this week.

### MORE CLASSIFIEDS ON PAGE 40

### **RECORDS WANTED**

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shaped and fleshed such

vaguely psychedelic pop

lose the sheer genius that has

seductions as 'I Was Counting

On You To Be My Jesus', or

the ennui-tinged 'Alexander

(Almost Dead And Nigh On

Put quite simply, One

POSSESSED/VOIVOD/

"HAS ANYBODY here heard

Possessed's Jeff Becerra. As

if they weren't funny enough

**ENGLISH DOGS** 

Ballroom

already.

Camden Electric

of Satan?" enquired

pop band in the world.

Thousand Violins are the best

ROGER HOLLAND

Forty Years To Go)'.

So when they plug in those

occasionally they try too

brave new champions.

Heart'. They know all about

the agony of the mundane.

The divine twisting of 'Please Don't Sandblast My

House' is only the second blast. Soon the world will lie

And the music they so

me about my life.

the brief and transient

or the beautifully eternal

words, then One Thousand

VIOLINS

Yes, moshing is here, and if it hurts at the moment it's because we British haven't quite got the hang of it vet.

Of the bands, English Dogs worked up a sweat if not a frenzy, headliners and headhunters Possessed were bloodily impressive, and French Canadians Voivod performed miracles of timing at ton-up speeds.

With 'F\*\*\* Off And Die', Voivod bordered on genuis. And that's not a joke.

PAUL ELLIOTT

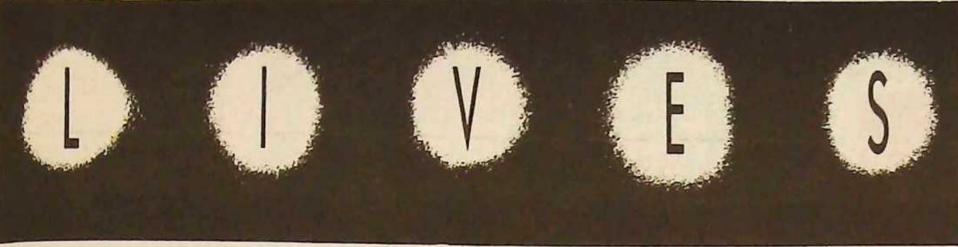
### THAT PETROL

THINGS DON'T seem to be any sweeter for That Petrol Emotion second time around. With this, their second Glasgow show in six months, it looks as though they've still got a bit of reshuffling to do if they're to realise their full potential. Logically, there should be no problem; they've got the songs, the ability and, most importantly, the ideas. But somehow things never seem to work

Almost two-thirds of the absence. While the band were 'Manic Pop Thrill' - but too

Come encore time, the whole tone of the evening changed drastically. The air suddenly became thick with beer glasses and spittle, insults were traded, and a 'Fleshprint' as though intent

Still, it's a fair bet that Petrol experience.



# STORM IN A B-CUP



ANNIE LENNOX prepares for shameless exhibitionism

### **EURYTHMICS**

POSSIBLY BETTER than anyone you'd care to mention, Eurythmics are living proof of the acceptable face of consistent chart success in the mid '80s. They sell mountains of records, fill concert halls around the world, but never sound as though they're compromising to any great degree. Take tonight's set list, it almost reads like the track-listing from a greatest hits album. And yet, they don't all sound like hits, just wellcrafted songs which hit the jackpot without

Eurythmics' rich confection is a melting pot filled with the greatest pop of the last 20 years. A musical nowhereland where The Beatles come face to face with Tamla Motown, Stax and much more. Dave Stewart effortlessly drifts into riffs from 'Norwegian Wood' and 'Day Tripper', while the harp player can only be a committed disciple of Stevie 'Fingertips' Wonder. If you're going to use

'Sisters', 'Sweet Dreams' and 'Thorn In My Side' seemed to be the pick of the night as far as the audience were concerned. Though it must be said that any judgment was one of relative superlatives, for Dave and Annie had this audience just where they wanted them right in the palms of their hands. But my attention kept drifting towards the amazing Clem Burke, once the beat behind Blondie and clearly still one of the hardest hitters in the business.

Throwing caution to the wind, Annie appeared on stage shirtless for 'Would I Lie You', clad in black leather trousers and an

While you couldn't call Eurythmics stadium rockers, as with anyone else, when tunes get inflated and amplified beyond reasonable dimensions, things are liable to get a little anthemic. But then, by the time 'Miracle Of Love' had faded into silence, Dave, Annie and co had given their audience all that they'd hoped for. Not to mention the underwear trade.

Glasgow SEC

really trying.

quotes, always go for the best.

eye-catching red bra. Exhibitionism, fetishism or just plain old Sex Crime '86?

**GRAHAME BENT** 

### Probably the only people who did manage to keep a

straight face all night were the security goons, who admittedly had their hands full policing the multitude of stage divers/moshers/ nutters. The rest of us, though, were free to really

enjoy the crowd's antics.

Gasp as the first ten rows make like Scott lan's mum's popcorn machine. Thrill as mosher upon mosher dives headfirst, feetfirst, bumfirst from the overrun stage back into the melting pot. Wince as

### **EMOTION** Strathclyde University

out that way.

songs aired tonight were unfamiliar, most of them presumably destined for the next album, with the once famous cover versions conspicuous by their keen to introduce the new material, maybe they could have gone about things a little more gradually because this crowd clearly wanted the oldies. And sure enough they came - a fistful of faves from few and far between.

raging Steve Mack introduced on exacting revenge. But by this time, the gig was well and truly over.

time's on the band's side. They're on the verge of producing perfect renegade pop manifestos and I'm holding out for the ultimate

**GRAHAME BENT** 

### THE WEDDING PRESENT/TALULAH GOSH/THE SHAMEN North Kensington Bay

SO IS there life out there, even now, in this late hour for indie pop?

The Shamen, four mean, moody, magical musicians from Aberdeen, prove that there is. Their clandestine melodies sparkle over dreamlike vocals, and their echoing guitars waft over the stark power of the drums like a strong perfume.

In the articulate 'I Don't Like The Way The World Is Turning', the keyboards allow themselves an eastern bellydance and then continue to decorate The Shamen's harem of veiled pleasures with spacial delights.

I read The Shamen in the way that I used to read Magazine; their accomplished new wave is an intriguing story that will, in time, develop into a book of sorcery too mystical to put down.

Talulah Gosh follow and look infantile in comparison. They are the sticky boiled sweet in the pocket of indie pop, their sound is untouched by the complexities of puberty and belongs to the playground of one's youth Innocence shines through

their toffee-apple dreams, dreams that are filled with sleeping beauties - like Marigold, a gentle flower who makes Virginia Astley look like some Soho stripper - and 'Beatnik Boy' heroes.

You can't help but smile at Talulah Gosh's stumbling incompetence and you feel terribly ancient as their insecure frailty hovers all around you. Talulah Gosh are one of those bands you'll either love to death or passionately hate. They're not very good yet, true, but when they are, they're going to be bigger than The St Winifred's School Choir ... oops, of course, I meant The Shangri-Las.

The Wedding Present haven't changed much, thankfully; their blistering pop still sears with escalating excitement and ferocity. They still rely on a psychotic barrage of brittle guitars to enforce everything that Dave Gedge can't quite find the courage to say - like the emotional conflict of love, the pain of inadequacy and the complete frustration when the communication between

two people breaks down. Here, on the edge of a nervous breakdown, The Wedding Present twitch gloriously. How could I have ever doubted them?

RON ROM

# THE KING OF THE CORTINAS

Scott Bonar

Wembley Arena

WELL, BLESS my white terry towelling 'leisure' socks, nature's imitating art again. One minute you have David Byrne telling you about the pivotal place that the shopping mall has in late 20th Century society, the next you find one surrounded by a car park overflowing with a positively dadaist concentration of Ford Cortinas, but with the shops taken out and a band put in.

The band, in what could well be the aural equivalent of shopping, are playing several soundtracks simultaneously: one for holidays in the Med, one for a road movie filmed between Southend and Guildford, one for an afternoon spent in Top Man, and at least two for night-time location filming in Buzbys. And can't Mark King play the bass really quickly!

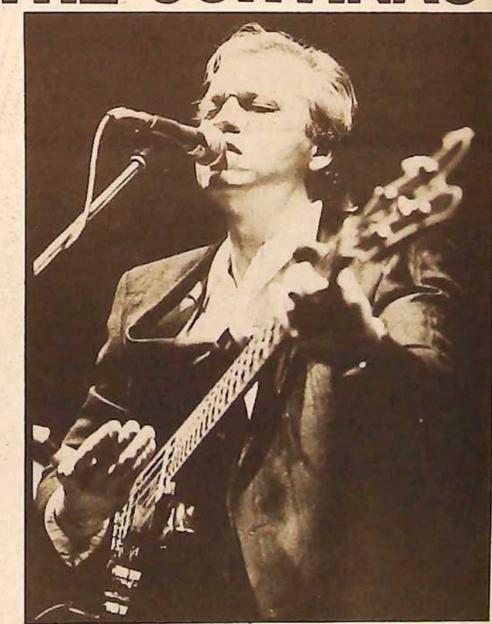
Returning like conquering heroes to three nights at Wembley packed to overflowing with the studiously average youth of the Home Counties, Level 42 are, as ever, best symbolised by the same make of motor car that ferried much of their audience here tonight. Such is the surging, high octane burst of power that they maintain for much of this performance, it looks as if they've had turbo chargers fitted.

Mark King must be the best bass player ever - look, his fingers are just a blur.

The audience and band seem to recognise quite a lot of themselves in each other and perhaps it's this that allows Level 42 to generate a leaping, formation dancing enthusiasm in this stark venue - the most unreserved crowd I've ever seen here. Level 42 are pretty much cultural ambassadors for this slightly amorphous slice of British young adulthood, and they have a sound which, despite its obvious derivations, is their own.

This is seen most clearly on the closing manifestos of 'Lessons In Love', 'The Sun Goes Down (Living It Up)' and 'Something About You', and then it's time for the big solo. What a musician, how can his hands move so fast?!

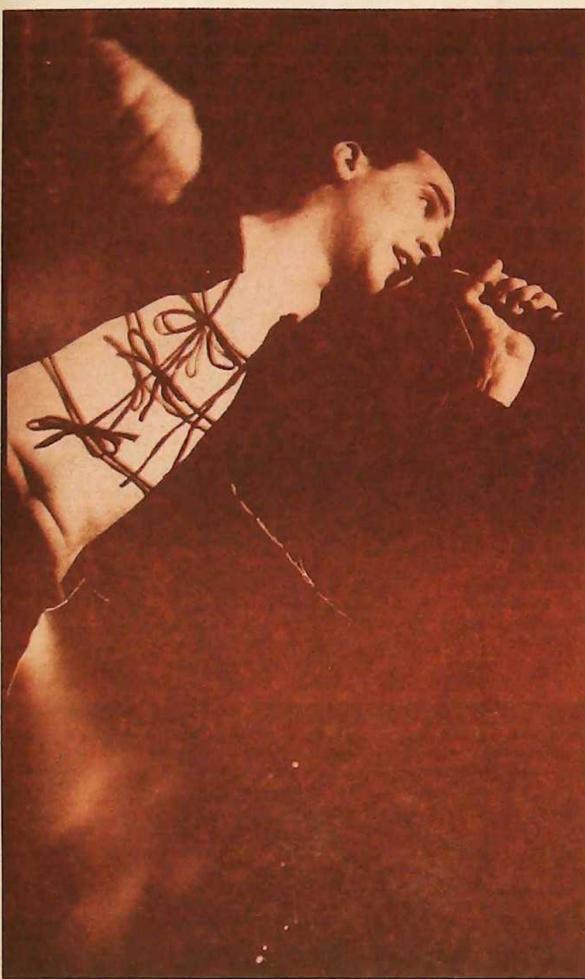
ROY WILKINSON



MARK KING lets his fingers do the talking

Greg Freeman

# HUMAN ERRORS



PHIL OAKEY: it all started when Joanne took up cordon bleu cookery ...

Steve Double

THE HUMAN LEAGUE **Crawley Leisure Centre** 

A VAGUELY remembered pop song once listed the things that dreams are made of: "London, New York, Paris, Munich, good times." Somehow downtown Crawley didn't get a namecheck but, as if to atone, the authors are playing here tonight and I can't believe how low key it is.

A back catalogue of pristine pop that none of their compatriots can live with, a state of the art Jam/Lewis production job and a place in the heart of anyone who ever danced around a handbag seem to guarantee more -Wembley Arena at least. But here they are and how they've changed.

Phil Oakey once noted that a live show is what you do when you can't get on TV. I'm not sure he'd say that today because this frustrated matinee idol has taken a crash course in showmanship. Gone are the days when he wouldn't move more than an eyebrow. He now grimaces agonisingly when he fails to reach a note and dashes dramatically to the top of the catwalk between songs.

It's not just Mr Oakey who's altered his ways. The girls, whilst still wearing silver stilettos, dancing abysmally and singing tunelessly, have updated their Top Shop finery with some more sophisticated, overtly sexy numbers. More crucially, though, The Human League seem to have lost the irony content which, when mixed in uncertain proportions with their ordinariness, was the crux of their appeal. That we imagined that their tongues were in their cheeks was very important. With the 'quality pop' of 'Crash', they seem to have forgotten where their cheeks are.

Still, they do have that filing system bursting with former glories and it's these that make this a winning performance. 'Sound Of The Crowd', 'Love Action', the lasting 'Seconds', the inevitable 'Don't You Want Me' and even the MORoder of 'Together In Electric Dreams' are all here, along with the Motown pastiches 'Mirror Man' and 'Fascination'. They're songs that remind us of what it is to be human and songs that should tell Philip to forget sophistication and get back down the disco.

**ROY WILKINSON** 

### QUEENSRŸCHE **Hammersmith Odeon**

ONLY WHEN Queensryche were taking their final bows did Jon Bon Jovi's squealing teenybop harem creep back in amongst us with those 'have they gone yet?' expressions on their little faces. No knicker treats for Geoff Tate tonight, and for that, I suppose, he's extremely grateful...

When you're 14 and at your first hard rock gig, Queensryche must be a godawful racket. For those older and (supposedly) wiser, though, the finer points of this elaborate and highly individual metal classicism should make an impact, yet for many around me this wasn't the case.

Queensryche didn't stiff. It's just that a big proportion of the apathetic crowd seemed to be sniffing around the band's coat-tails and virtually expecting them to stink when, if it was shit they were looking for, they could've had a whiff of what was blocking up their own ears.

Maybe it's true that, with music such as this, the crowd needs to be as well-versed as the band to really get much out of it. Maybe it was foolish to expect a Bon Jovi audience to get lathered up over something altogether more demanding.

And maybe it's asking too much of the great British rocker to expect him/her to take a pinch of perception with their metal. I hope you think I'm wrong on that count.

PAUL ELLIOTT

### CHUMBAWAMBA Manchester Boardwalk

AGIT POP on a blind date with cabaret thrash.

Chumbawamba's strength lies in their understanding of their limitations, and their ability to think. Their music varies from acappella Nicaraguan folk to hardcore thrash. The theatrics have developed over the last 24 months from an embarrassing and sloppy mess to pointed and sophisticated satire and savagery. The politics emanate from all sources but notably the FAI/CNT anarchist trade unions of the Spanish Civil War, the Miners' Wives Support

Groups of last year's strike, and turn of the century anarchist Emma Goldman.

Aspiring primarily to selfdetermination, self-control and communication, they are now the prime musical focus for the truly underground ALF/anarcho-veggie/hippypunk circuit that still survives on its purely DIY lifeline of benefits, fanzines, hunt sabs and pickets.

You've only to listen to the leather jacket and mohican punks who accidentally drop in the fact that they read The Sun when enthusing to the band about just how good they were to know that Chumbawamba definitely aren't preaching to the converted. Tonight the "angry punk trockers from Leeds" (Mail On Sunday) showed just what a delightful little rash they are.

You may scratch for as long as you like but intelligent and aggravating agit thrash will not disappear. Chumbawamba chumbathunder chumbawonders.

JAMES BROWN

### KILGORE TROUT Nottingham Garage IT ISN'T easy to focus

precisely on those features of Kilgore Trout which set them apart from a thousand onedimensional thrash bands. Both humour and intelligence, though not allpervasive, emanate from the Garage club's stage as they metaphorically fist the air.

The sounds they make are not particularly unusual; the occasionally off-beat drumming is interesting rather than irritating, while the rest of the noise veers more towards the disciplined than the skittish.

But people clapping their hands together to acknowledge music like this seems somehow daft and inappropriate. The same response of appreciation that occurs at a school play or Barry Manilow concert is hardly appropriate for Kilgore Trout's strangely compelling performance.

Knock off team points if you like for their student-like appearance. But this is stimulating brain music almost at its best, pop music at its worst.

**GARY BELINSKY** 

### YEAH JAZZ/BLUE TRAIN Hammersmith Buzz Club

JO BLUETRAIN works all week for Our Price so that she can be a smalltime pop star in her own time. So that she can bring her Camberley-based Buzz Club to Hammersmith for the odd night out. So that big time, small-brained music business no marks can forget to turn up. Jo is a very special person and she has it within herself to be a big time rock 'n' roll star.

Bluetrain are a little like no other band my fanzine ed guide for the evening can recall. They have big yet relevant guitar structures They have a rhythm section with beef, brawn and an underpinning intelligence. And they are the living proof that there is a line which joins country music to soul without passing through Memphis, Tennessee. Jo's richly delicate vocals and bright stage presence light up her own club. If Bluetrain really don't fit into today's independent scene, then the fault is with the blinkered minds that constitute that scene.

Yeah Jazz have now released two great northern pop singles. Yeah Jazz are all about black and white movies and iron bridges. Yeah Jazz have nothing to do with The Smiths, but they could have been The Dream Academy, if they had been real.

"She says if he gets knocked down once more, she won't have the strength to pick him up . .

'She Said' is one of the best singles of the year. Yeah Jazz use traditional patterns with traditional northern soul and

rare universal sympathy. Regrettably, though, tonight their immaculate northern pop precision tends to blur into a haze of good intentions and undistinguished performance. But one day, both Yeah Jazz and Bluetrain will reach for the stars.

ROGER HOLLAND

### MARC ALMOND AND THE WILLING SINNERS London Palladium

MARC ALMOND set the tone for this unusual event when he came dancing on stage and broke into a verse of 'Somewhere Over The Rainbow' with all the grace of Judy Garland, thus giving us an indication as to what the evening held in store. Both camp and clever, his performance broke away from the parameters of a conventional gig, delighting most of the cliquey crowd.

Almond has been virtually living in Barcelona in recent months and so it's scarcely surprising that his new material has a heavy Spanish influence. This dominated the show, Marc serving up great chunks of 'Mother Fist And Her Five Daughters', his forthcoming LP, to a warm response.

A prolific songwriter, he is one of the few artists who can get away with playing a virtually brand new set and numerous highlights included the single, 'Ruby Red', a hypnotic 'Jackal', and a spirited version of Tim Rose's '60s cult classic 'Morning Dew'. But although this evolving Mediterranean atmosphere blended well with the simple but effective stage set, Marc's glam rock approach to some songs didn't always gell with the

overall ambience created. And whether it was the acoustics of the Palladium or problem at the mixing desk, The Willing Sinners often sounded like a badly tuned radio, the drums crackling in and out of focus.

For all their efforts, they were sadly unable to make effective use of this inspired choice of venue, and even with all the posing in the world, Marc couldn't quite pull it off.

BERNARD ROSE

# THESE CHARMING ME

BIG BLACK

**Hammersmith Clarendon** 

WHAT HAPPENED tonight wasn't normal. At this unadvertised Mute Records party, Big Black induced some form of sonic psychosis and pulled off a devastating performance.

For much of their set, all the qualities anticipated from their records emerged through numbers such as 'Cables' and 'Kerosene'. The scourging wit of Steve Albini protruded with a snap from beneath the singer-guitarist's fedora. "Your food sucks you British cretins ... We are The Jesus And Mary Chain and this is called 'Toe Rag'." Big Black have never read How To Make Friends And Influence People.

Meanwhile, the other bespectacled guitarist, Santiago Durango, indecently assaulted his razor sharp strings until it seemed like it was no longer controlled feedback but boiling blood surging from the PA. In their attack Big Black are utterly tyrannical, whipping one into submission with glee. Theirs is not generic hardcore thrash but a knife slashing of the familiar face of rock. This is the state that Killing Joke would like to think they achieved in the past but never did. And then...

"This will stay with you until you die," barked Albini over and over during 'Jordan, Minnesota', a true story song concerning a child-swapping sex party ring in the US town of the same name. There were points during the band's ten or 15 minute time was forgotten - performance of this tune when I felt if I listened much longer, I would keel over and have a mental seizure such was Big Black's intensity. During each climax of 'Jordan', a dramatic exorcism of disgust for the song's subject matter ensued. In the silences between the tune's cyclical riff, each member of the band inserted their own artistic interpretation of horror and in the process Big Black went from being hard to absolutely bloody terrifying.

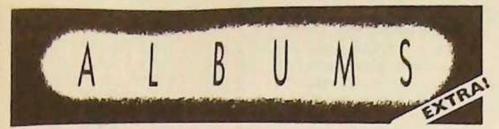
Like I said, I nearly walked out because Big Black took one beyond being uncomfortable into a state of fear. I didn't, and I'm glad, because their pristine noise will stay with me until I die. Totally wired and utterly amazing.

JACK BARRON



BIG BLACK deny partygoer's request for 'Brown Sugar'

Steve Double



KURTIS BLOW 'Kingdom Blow' (Club JABH 22)\*\*\*1/2 IN THE rap jungle - and that of its younger cousin, electro you're only as good as your last gimmick, your last catchphrase. Kurtis Blow has, from time to time, been knocked off the slippery log with the big pillow, but he's somehow contrived to stay on top for most of the '80s.

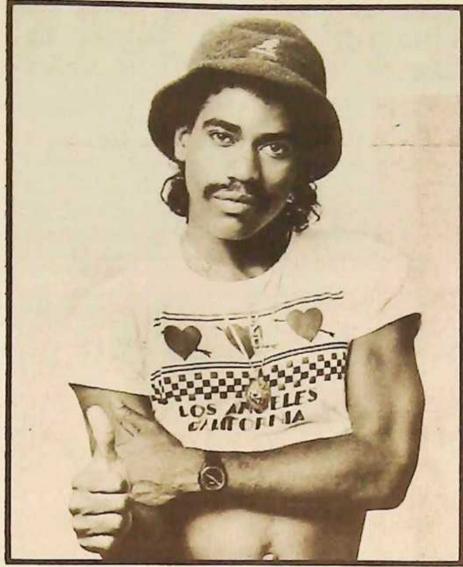
The skill Blow exhibits in 'Kingdom Blow' is in selecting his stunts with restraint. When he employs names, he gets names: George Clinton, Trouble Funk's Robert Reed and Bob 'Jammy Zee' Dylan.

Dylan declares the record open with a compact little rap which is doubtless thoroughly meaningful and also typically unintelligible. But the last line is definitely "the rich is getting richer and the needy's getting needier" - he probably stayed awake all afternoon to come up with that.

Clinton and Reed make their cameos on by far the best couple of tracks. Reed's writing/production liaison with Blow on 'I'm Chillin" has already been exposed in single form, a suspect exercise in bandwagon-jumping which actually works, while Clinton chips in on the pick of the disc, an amusing tale of a US cartoon character called 'Magilla Gorilla'.

A few very so-so efforts and the quite awful 'Unity Party Jam' serve as reminders that if Kurtis intends to continue his possession of the crown, he'll have to box clever. More a Berbick than a Tyson - no killer, merely very useful.

**ANDY HURT** 



KURTIS BLOW: blowing hot and cold

PORTION CONTROL 'Psycho-Bod Saves The World' (Dead Man's Curve DMC 008)\*\*\*\*

WHEN THE 21st century rock 'n' roll of Sigue Sigue Sputnik was capturing all the headlines and the cosmopolitan sound of BAD's commercial hip hop was being hailed as pop's saving grace, there was a band in the heart of Sheffield - the city that produced Cabaret Voltaire, The Human League and BEF - who were taking notes, watching and learning as these groups stumbled from one half-baked idea to

another. That band was Portion Control and the sound of 'Psycho-Bod Saves The World' is the ultimate spectacle in psycho-electro rock.

The "high score scorched ultimate aural arcade action" of Portion Control, who are the mutant offspring from Cabaret Voltaire's contaminated loins, is a tornado of synthetic violence straight out of the bible of the future, the comic 2000 AD. What makes 'Psycho-Bod' such an outstanding record is not only the quality of the action-packed songs but the way Portion Control have

succeeded in delivering the fire of rock alongside the dance commercialism of funk, creating in the process the definitive British funk rock album of the year.

This could not have happened without a few passing references to Cabaret Voltaire's pioneering. Unlike Cabaret Voltaire however, Portion Control do not fall into pretentiousness.

Portion Control's pulverising sequencers create a beat straight out of Death Race 2000 and their snarling vocals sneer with comic book subversion. Wham! Whack!

Thump! The songs hit hard and leave you rubbing your chin on the floor, high scores going to tracks like 'Brain Scraper Death Dive', 'Siren City' and 'Fistful Of Creds'.

Portion Control are psychoelectro hillbillies who are zooming up the autobahn towards the 21st century of rock 'n' roll, delivering the goods where others have failed.

'Psycho-Bod' is the album that other funk rock explosions should be measured by. OK boys, let them have it!

RON ROM

LAUGHING CLOWNS 'History Of Rock 'N' Roll Volume One' (Hot Records HOT 1010)\*\*\*\*

ED KUEPPER grew out of the

Saints at the end of the '70s

to make Laughing Clowns Australia's most unruly noise. jolted out of shape by his own fitful word dances and Louise Elliot's sax orgies. 'History Of Rock 'N' Roll' is a crucial testament to their power and influence, up to the final implosion with the epic 'Ghosts Of An Ideal Wife' early last year. Culled from the dusty cupboards, these ten pieces boast an extraordinary temper.

Laughing Clowns never made the size of impression that their compatriots The Birthday Party achieved, the former's turbulence hardly more subtle but content with some low-key public place. Nothing low-key about the noise though, grating like almost nothing else in pop's quirky history. The best moments - 'Sometimes', 'Ghost Beat', 'I Want To Scream' and 'Everything That Flies' - resonate with frightening tremors.

There was a violence to their music that most rock could never sustain, could never, ever equal. The Clowns' thunder came from the most basic of backbeats. the steadiest of launchingpads. Around it, the guitars took delicious delight in their wailing and crashing, while Elliot's sax came from another universe entirely, forever set on the razor's edge. With Laughing Clowns, every shape had an implication and it was savage spasms all the way.

With Kuepper now on the solo war-path, a new LP 'Rooms Of The Magnificent' due shortly, Laughing Clowns are already history. This new edition, perhaps more than any of their previous releases,

news and gigs are included, here's a list of copy

deadlines for the festive issues, with a reminder

bumper double issue dated December 20/27.

that once again Sounds will be producing a special

intimates the heart of Laughing Clowns country. where raging sax meets rabid sex meets rock's real true spleen. This is noise that comes with daggers drawn and the heart wide open.

CHORCHAZADE 'Made To Be Divorced' (Get

JONH WILDE

Records GET 1)\*\*\* CHORCHAZADE FIRST came to my attention about five months ago via a compilation tape of new Birmingham bands. Their track, 'Too Much Timex', was the most powerful piece of industrial pop that I had heard in a long time, swarming with deep, brooding vocals, sharp, brushing guitars and suspended by a heavy sense of foreboding. So I awaited Chorchazade's debut LP with high expectations, in the hope that they would examine their secret virtues with a kindly producer.

But 'Made To Be Divorced' is a massive let-down. Chorchazade have replaced their sophisticated composure with a throwaway quirkiness that belittles some genuinely stark quitar work. Some of the glories that made 'Too Much Timex' such a treat try to shine through the tin can production, and the result is that Chorchazade end up sounding like a fumbling Blue Aeroplanes, but without the charisma or the calculated ideas.

In this grey din, Chorchazade sink unceremoniously and their gregarious approach to awkward, if not poor, ideas is tame and pedestrian. 'Made To Be Divorced' is the sound of a band trying too hard to be different for no other reason that that of being different. In these stale times, that simply will not do.

**RON ROM** 

### SOUNDS CHRISTMAS COP

Due to the holidays and drunken mayhem that get in the way of work around this time of year, our Christmas and New Year issues have advanced printing schedules. To ensure your advertisements,

December 20/27 issue

### **ADVERTISEMENTS** In-Tech classified lineage ......Wednesday Dec 10 In-Tech dealers ......Friday Dec 12 Record Mart & Nightshift semi-display......Friday Dec 12 Classified Lineage ......Thursday Dec 11 Display ads ......Thursday Dec 11 **EDITORIAL** Nightshift (For dates Dec 17-30) ......Wednesday Dec 10 News ......Thursday Dec 11

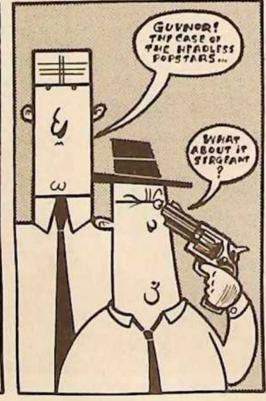
January 3, 1987 issue

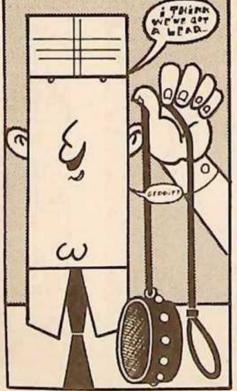
ADVERTISEMENTS	
In-Tech classified lineageV	Wednesday Dec 17
In-Tech dealers	Friday Dec 19
Record Mart & Nightshift semi-display	Friday Dec 19
Classified lineage	Thursday Dec 18
Display ads	Thursday Dec 18
EDITORIAL	
Nightshift (For dates Dec 31-Jan 6) V	Wednesday Dec 17
News	Thursday Dec 18

January 10, 1987 issue

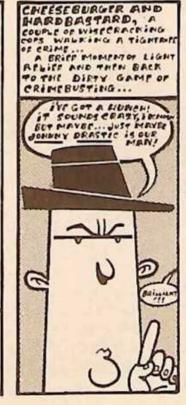
**ADVERTISEMENTS** In-Tech classified lineage .....Friday Dec 19 In-Tech dealers ...... Monday Dec 22 Record Mart & Nightshift semi-display ..... Tuesday Dec 23 Classified lineage ...... Monday Dec 22 Display ads ...... Monday Dec 22 **EDITORIAL** Nightshift (For dates Jan 7-Jan 13) ...... Tuesday Dec 23 News......Monday Dec 29

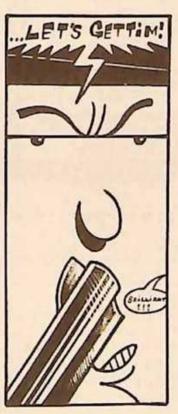


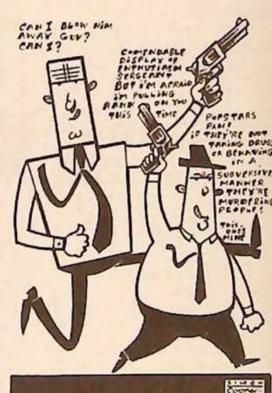














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Saturday 6th December (Adm £4.00) FEATURING BERNIE MARSDEN, NEIL MURRAY, MEL GALLEY, JOHN MARTYR + Support & Martin Ball

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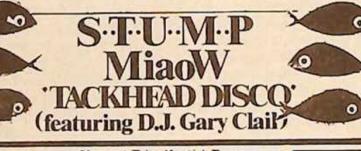
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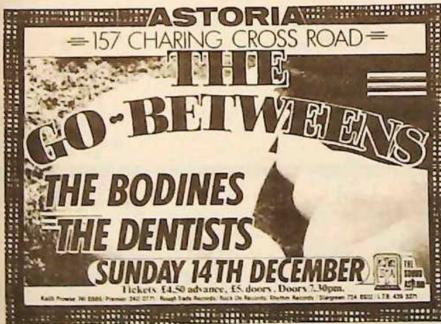
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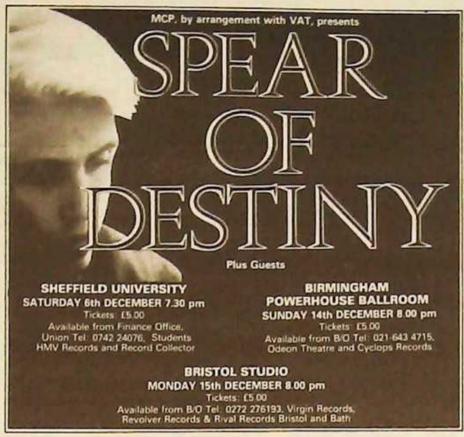
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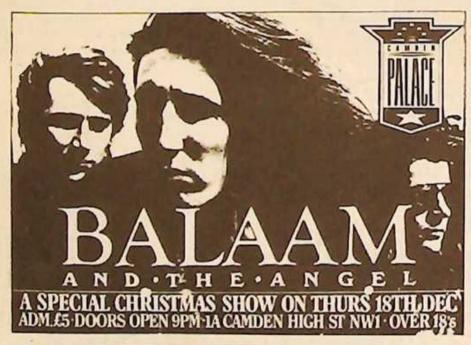
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Tickets available for NEC by post from P.O. Box 77, London SW4 9LH enclosing a cheque or postal order made payable to DEEP PURPLE Box Office for £9.00/£8 00 (includes 50p booking fee) and a stamped addressed envelope. Please allow four weeks for delivery. Also available from NEC Box Office (021 780 4133). Odeon Theatre Box Office, Cyclops Sounds. Lotus Records. Stafford, Mike Lloyd Music, Hanley and Newcastle Under Lyme, Piccadilly Records, Manchester, Way Ahead, Derby and Nottingham, Leeds Cavendish Travel, Lincoln Box Office, Goulds, Wolverhampton.

Write to Nell Perry, Sounds, Greater London House, London NW1 7QZ or telephone 01-387 6611. To guarantee inclusion please have applications in at least two weeks prior to publication.

Spear Of Destiny are back again, starting at Leicester (Friday), Sheffield (Saturday), and Glasgow (Sunday), while barmy rhythm and blues maniacs Barrence Whitfield And The Savages attack London (Wednesday) and Leeds (Thursday) before heading off around the country next week.

The Woodentops eat sawdust and hay at Sheffield (Wednesday), Edinburgh (Thursday), Manchester (Friday) and London (Saturday), and if you still can't get no satisfaction then choose from Big Country, Hawkwind, **UB40**, The Membranes, Sly And Robbie, That Petrol Emotion, The Redskins, Status Quo, Eurythmics or even Kim Wilde!



THE WOODENTOPS stepping out this week

### WEDNESDAY

BRADFORD Manningham Lane Royal Standard (727898) Condemned 84/Vicious Rumours/Skin Deep

BRIGHTON King's Road Arches Zap Club (775987) Room At The Top/Long Tall Texans/Screaming Sirens (In Search Of Utopia) (CND Benefit) BRIGHTON Richmond (603974) The Crack/The Bridge/Catharsis BRISTOL Temple Meads George And Railway Enormous Room/The Raw Herbs

CAMBERLEY Cambridge Hotel Mega City Four CANTERBURY Kent University (464724) Hondo CHATHAM Churchills Sharing The House With Mother COLCHESTER Osborne Street The Works (570934) Budgie/Cover Up

**DERBY** Duke Of York Just Blue DUNSTABLE High Street Wheatsheaf (62571) Andromeda

EDINBURGH Playhouse (031-557 2590) UB40 HARLOW The Square (25594) Us/Crystal Clear **HORWICH Nibblers The Noble Kind** 

KINGSTON Polytechnic (01-546 8340) The Guana Batz LEEDS Adam And Eve's (456724) Dig Vis Drill/Henry Normal/Screaming Trees

LEEDS Irish Centre (480887) Battlefield Band

LEEDS Merrion Street Coconut Grove (455718) Louis Stewart

LEICESTER Princess Charlotte (553956) The Dooj

LONDON Camberwell New Road Union Tavern (01-735 3605) The Little Demons LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01-267 4967) Barrence Whitfield And The

LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) The Young Gods/Kilgore Trout/AC Temple

LONDON Fulham High Street King's Head (01-736 1413) Mercenary LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01-385 0526) This Big Trash/Egyptian Avenue/Serene Quarter

LONDON Greenwich Tunnel Club (01-858 0895) Allez Poulet/The Cats LONDON Hammersmith Clarendon (01-748 2471) The Crack

LONDON Hammersmith Odeon (01-748 4081) Status Quo

LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Beki Bondage And

The Bombshells/Children On Stun LONDON Herne Hill Half Moon (01-274 2733) Sal Bernardi

LONDON Holborn Gloucester Street October Gallery Shelleyan Orphan LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) District Six/Mark Fitzgibbon Trio LONDON Kentish Town Bull And Gate (01-485 5358) The Parachute Men LONDON Kentish Town And Country Club (01-267 3334) The Saints/The

Godfathers/Snakes Of Shake LONDON Mile End Bancroft Road Queen Mary College (01-980 4811) The

Locomotives/The Toucans LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) The Doctor's Children

LONDON Palmers Green The Fox (01-886 9674) Omni/Jim Lampi LONDON Portobello Acklam Road Bay 63 (01-960 4590) Howlin' Wilf And The

LONDON Putney Zeeta's (01-785 2101) The Dubious Brothers/John Jolliff LONDON Shepherd's Bush Wellington Straight Edge

LONDON Wardour Street Marquee (01-437 6603) Three Colors/Rouen
MANCHESTER Anson Road International (061-224 5050) We've Got A Fuzzbox

And We're Gonna Use It/Flowers In The Dustbin MANCHESTER International Two Sly And Robbie/Ini Kamoze/Half Pint/

MANCHESTER Cross Street Cloud Nine (061-832 3350) Spies

NEWCASTLE Polytechnic (328761) Ben Elton NORWICH Arts Centre (60352) The Membranes/The Ex/The Turncoats

NORWICH University Of East Anglia (52068) The Human League NOTTINGHAM Trent Polytechnic (476725) The Rubettes/The Glitter Band/Mud

NOTTINGHAM Venue 53 Every New Dead Ghost

OXFORD Commarket Street Corn Dolly (244761) MGM

PORTSMOUTH Basins Dance Hall Mystic Revelation PORTSMOUTH Polytechnic (819141) Dr Brown PRESTON Guildhall (21721) Hawkwind

PRESTON Raiders Rumble Club (716159) Age Of Chance/Dancehall Giants ROMFORD North Street Precinct Rezz Club Thee Katatonix

RHYL Nag's Head Heaven At Midnight Nappy Rash SHEFFIELD University (24076) The Woodentops

SOUTHEND Cliffs Pavilion (351135) Dr Feelgood/Eddie And The Hot Rods WAKEFIELD Rooftop Gardens Tanh Chi

WEST BROMWICH Coach And Horses (021-588 2136) Leopold Bloom/Mondo

WOLVERHAMPTON Grand Theatre (29212) Smith And Jones

WOLVERHAMPTON Polytechnic (28521) Torme/The Queerboys

### THURSDAY

BANGOR Theatre Gwynedd (351708) Battlefield Band BARROW IN FURNESS Bluebird (28481) Laugh/Ssoraya/The Danny Boys BIRKENHEAD Hamilton Square Sir James Caverns Cunard Yanks BIRKENHEAD Stairways (051-647 6544) Vicious Circle

BOUNDS GREEN Middlesex Polytechnic Children On Stun BRACKNELL South Hill Park Arts Centre (427272) Harvey And The Wallbangers BRADFORD Frog And Toad (586025) Circus

BRIGHTON Art College Basement (683585) Robyn Hitchcock And The Egyptians BRIGHTON King's Road Arches Zap Club (775987) Thirst/Raw-Ho! BRIGHTON Richmond (603974) The Piranhas/Stage Fright

BRISTOL Bridge Inn Sharing The House With Mother BURTON-ON-TRENT Blue Posts Just Blue COLCHESTER Osborne Street The Works (570934) MGM

CROYDON Fairfield Halls (01-688 9291) Smith And Jones DONCASTER Rotters Hot Tub Club (327448) The Way EDINBURGH Coasters (031-228 3252) The Woodentops

**EDINBURGH High Street Clowns Bar Avail** EXETER University The Ram (263263) The Chillun GODALMING Three Lions Scratchers Outside View

GUILDFORD Civic Hall (505050) Hawkwind HANLEY Victoria Hall Gary Glitter

HARLOW The Square (25594) Clampdown/Ezra Pound HIGH WYCOMBE Nag's Head (21758) World Leaders Must Die HULL Degrey Street Adelphi 1,000 Mexicans

KINGSTON Polytechnic (01-546 8340) The Highliners LEEDS Astoria Barrence Whitfield And The Savages

LEEDS Phoenix Club Audrey Hall LEEDS University (439071) Sly And Robbie/Ini Kamoze/Half Pint/Yellowman LEICESTER Princess Charlotte (553956) Inside Moves

LONDON Brixton Canterbury Arms (01-274 1711) Help Engine/The Souls LONDON Brixton Fridge (01-326 5100) Eve's Revenge/Precious Wilson/Shara (Women only)

LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01-267 4967) Dirty Money/Sunset Band/Jack Radiacs/Black Stones

LONDON City Of London Polytechnic TPau

LONDON Deptford Winston's Lemon Tree Beach LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) Beki Bondage And The Bombshells/The Rhubarb Tarts

LONDON Fulham High Street King's Head (01-736 1413) Inflatables/M25/ Glasshouse

LONDON Fulham Palace Road Golden Gloves Soul Boys
LONDON Fulham Palace Greyhound (01-385 0526) The Pillow Fights Back/D'Bat
LONDON Green Lanes Queen's Head Swinging The Blues

LONDON Hackney Amhurst Road Club Mankind (01-985 9186) The Surfadelics
LONDON Hampton Court Jolly Boatman Juice On The Loose
LONDON Hammersmith Clarendon (01-748 2471) Gatecrash Heaven
LONDON Hammersmith Odeon (01-748 4081) Status Quo
LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Blood Brothers Go
Furious/Radio Satellites/Yellow Lifetime/Sienna

LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) Terry Smith Trio/Simon Purcell LONDON Kentish Town Bull And Gate (01-485 5358) Real Macabre

LONDON Kentish Town Town And Country Club (01-267 3334) Ted Hawkins/ Brendan Croker And The Five O'Clock Shadows LONDON Kentish Town Wolsey Tavern (01-485 3237) Line Of Fire LONDON Lee Green Old Tiger's Head (01-851 6373) Violet Circuit

LONDON Malden Road Gypsy Queen (01-485 2052) Roger Beaujolais And Danny Adler Band

LONDON Malet Street University Of London Union (01-580 9551) Rouen LONDON Manresa Road Chelsea College The Guana Batz LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave (01 837 2097) Danger Zone LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) The Rivals/Timothy London LONDON Oxford Street 100 Club (01-636 0933) Colenso Parade/Pulp

LONDON Portobello Acklam Road Bay 63 (01-960 4590) The Membranes/The Ex/The Turncoats LONDON Putney Zeeta's (01-785 2101) No Pearls. . . No Passion/Tribal Gospel

LONDON Shepherd's Bush Green Bush Hotel Skint Video LONDON Shepherd's Bush Wellington Bordello/Salem LONDON Tulnell Park Boston Arms That Petrol Emotion/The Sex Gods/My

**Bloody Valentine** LONDON Wood Green Brabant Road Centre Show Me/Deadhead LOUGHBOROUGH University (217766) Katrina And The Waves/John Otway MANCHESTER Cross Street Cloud Nine (061-832 3350) Music For Aborigines

MANCHESTER Little Peter Street Boardwalk (061-228 3555) The Naughty Boys MARGATE Winter Gardens (21348) The Human League

NOTTINGHAM Mardi Gras (862368) Every New Dead Ghost **NUTLEY Shelley Arms The Chase** OXFORD Apollo (44544) The Communards

OXFORD Polytechnic (68789) The Hunters Club PONTYPOOL Forge Club Scared Of The Dark PORTSMOUTH Basins Dance Hall The Godfathers/Red Letters Day RAWTENSTALL Queen's Arms Engine

ROCHDALE Tiffany's (31069) Torme/The Queerboys ROTHERHAM East Dene Social Charmed Life SALFORD University (061-736 7811) Ben Elton

SEVENOAKS The Cavern (460576) Fling Thing SOUTHEND Reids The Shakers ST ALBANS Alma Road Horn Of Plenty (36820) Ohmadon SWINDON Level 3 Dig Vis Drill/Henry Normal/Screaming Trees

TELFORD Barons Club Dumpy's Rusty Nuts WARWICK Arts Centre Lenny Henry/The Mint Juleps WEST BROMWICH Coach And Horses (021-588 2136) Crazy Legs/The Natives WOLVERHAMPTON Scruples (53754) The Rose Of Avalanche/Primal Thrash

FRIDAY

BEDFORD The Angel Pink On Pink BELFAST Whitla Hall (245133) Sly And Robbie/Ini Kamoze/Half Pint/Yellowman BIRKENHEAD Hard Rock Cavern (051-647 4505) Raised On Radio BIRMINGHAM Allah Ditta Centre Audrey Hall

BRADFORD Queen's Hall (392712) Little Brother/Best Way To Walk/Somebody's Brother/The Word/Chumbawumba

BRADFORD The Wheatsheaf (724163) Circus

BRIGHTON King's Road Arches Zap Club (775987) The Cardiacs/Electric Circus BRISTOL Tropic Club (49875) Sharing The House With Mother/The Hunters Club BRISTOL University (735035) Flash Harry/Jonah And The Wail BURTON-ON-TRENT Central Park We've Got A Fuzzbox And We're Gonna Use

It/Flowers In The Dustbin CAMBRIDGE University (58933) The Membranes/The Ex/The Turncoats CARDIFF New Bogeys (26168) Idol Rich

CHESTERFIELD Lagoon Bar Spacemen 3 COLCHESTER Osborne Street The Works (570934) Chatshow/Children On Stun COVENTRY Hand And Heart (618037) Chaos UK

**CREWE** Cheshire Cheese Badger CROYDON Fairfield Halls (01-688 9291) Smith And Jones **DERBY The Mitre Just Blue** 

DURHAM Sixth Form College (44445) Battlefield Band EDINBURGH Ingliston Showground Big Country/The Big Dish EDINBURGH Moray House Students Union (031-556 5184) The Shamen

EXETER Heavitree Horse And Groom The Chillun FELTHAM Assembly Hall Two Week Warning/Casual Affair GLASGOW Barrowlands (041-552 4601) UB40 GLASGOW Queen Margaret Union (041-339 9784) Captain Sensible

**GREENOCK Subterraneans Sherbet Tambourines** HARROGATE Centre (68051) Lenny Henry/The Mint Juleps **IRVINE** Arts Centre Chasar

KINGSTON Dolphin (01-546 1630) Wastelands/Scared To Move KINGSTON Polytechnic (01-546 8340) Skint Video LEEDS Duchess Of York The Farm LEEDS Polytechnic (430171) The Mekons

LEICESTER Polytechnic (555576) Spear Of Destiny/Twenty Flight Rockers LEICESTER Princess Charlotte (553956) 1,000 Mexicans

LIVERPOOL Scotland Road Crown Vaults Alternative Radio LIVERPOOL University Main Hall (051-709 4744) Gary Glitter

LIVERPOOL University Main Hall (051-709 4744) Gary Glitter
LIVERPOOL World Downstairs Eye Dance
LONDON Brixton Canterbury Arms (01-274 1711) Inspite Of All That
LONDON Brixton Fridge (01-326 5100) Boys-A-Go-Go/Bolo Bolo
LONDON Brixton Loughborough Hotel Ring/Foggy Cry
LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01-267 4967) Joe Ely
LONDON Catford Bromley Road Green Man (01-698 3746) The Boogie Brothers

Blues Band LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01-240 3961) Farenji

LONDON Deptford High Street The Crypt Thee Katatonix LONDON East Ham High Street Town Hall Graeme Culham Big Band LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) The Moodists/Robert Di Fario/The Jack Rubies LONDON Fulham High Street Kings Head (01-736 1413) Howlin' Wilf And The Vee

LONDON Gray's Inn Road Blue Lion (01-405 4422) Peace On The Panhandle LONDON Hammersmith Clarendon (01-748 2471) Bad Karma Beckons/The

Surfin' Lungs LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Light A Big

Fire/Casper Hauser LONDON Holloway Road Lord Nelson (01-609 0670) The Reactors

LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) El Sonido De Londres LONDON Kentish Town Bull And Gate (01-485 5358) Timothy London

LONDON Kentish Town Town And Country Club (01-267 3334) The Feelgoods
LONDON Kentish Town Wolsey Tavern (01-485 3237) Lemon Tree Beach
LONDON Lewisham Labour Club Juice On The Loose
LONDON Mile End Bancroft Road Queen Mary College (01-980 4811) Robyn

Hitchcock And The Egyptians/Brendan Croker And The Five O'Clock Shadows LONDON Norwood High Street Thurlow Arms Before The War LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735-3059) Eddie And The Hot Rods

LONDON Oxford Street 100 Club (01-636 0933) Julian Bahula And The Electric

Dream/The Happy End LONDON Palmers Green The Fox (01-886 9674) Steve Marriott/Marked Deck LONDON Putney Zeeta's (01-785 2101) South Of The Border LONDON Stockwell & Swan (01-274 1526) Crannog

LONDON Tottenham Middlesex Polytechnic Rouen LONDON Walthamstow Royal Standard (01-527 1966) Elixir LONDON Wardour Street Marquee (01-437 6603) Del Amitri/The Dentists

LONDON Wood Green Brabant Road Club Dog Blyth Power/Stitched Back Foot Airman/Myasthenia Gravis/Astragone Arglegargle/Peter Bakowski MANCHESTER Anson Road International (061-224 5050) The Woodentops MANCHESTER Hulme Red Admiral 3 Heads Eat As 1

MANCHESTER Little Peter Street Boardwalk (061-228 3555) Red Music MELBOURN Rock Club (61010) Dumpy's Rusty Nuts/Filthy Rich

NORWICH East Anglia University (52068) Hawkwind NOTTINGHAM Boat Club R Cajun And The Zydeco Brothers/Rikki And The

NOTTINGHAM Macus Garvey Centre (860090) Culture NOTTINGHAM Mardi Gras (862368) UK Subs/Condemned 84 PAISLEY Windy's The Thieves PENZANCE Demelzas Jamie Wednesday PONTYPRIDD The Pitz Thin Ice PORTSMOUTH Basins Dance Hall Mighty Ballistics Hi-Power PORTSMOUTH Guildhall (824355) The Communards READING Hexagon (591591) Ben Elton SEVENOAKS Cavern (460576) Twist Of Fate/Regime STAFFORD North Staffs Polytechnic Fatal Charm/A Certain Ratio TAUNTON The Park Big Mamou THWAITE Buck's Head Choy Choi UXBRIDGE Brunel University (39125) The Guana Batz/Killer Goat WEST BROMWICH Coach And Horses (021-588 2136) Dickens/The Particular

### SATURDAY

BEDFORD Greyfriars International Centre The Membranes/The Ex/The Turncoats/The Hobgoblins

BIRKENHEAD Cleveland Alternative Radio (Lunch) BIRKENHEAD Hamilton Square Sir James Caverns Alternative Radio

**BIRKENHEAD Hamlet Cunard Yanks** 

BIRKENHEAD Hard Rock Cavern (051-647 4505) Eye Dance
BIRKENHEAD Stairways (051-647 6544) Torme
BIRMINGHAM (021-772 0217) Groundhogs/Hydra/Undertakers
BIRMINGHAM Odeon (021-643 6101) Lenny Henry/The Mint Juleps BISHOPS STORTFORD Rose And Crown Rhythm Badgers

BOLTON College Of Technology (28851) We've Got A Fuzzbox And We're Gonna Use It/Flowers In The Dustbin

BRADFORD Manningham Lane Royal Standard (727898) The Kickstarts/Moving Room/Acid Beach

BRADFORD St Georges Hall (752000) Status Quo BRIGHTON Art College Basement Jasmine Minks/The Hairy Feek

BRIGHTON King's Road Arches Zap Club (775987) Five Star Rock 'N' Roll Petrol/Red Herring BRISTOL Moon Club The Shamen BURTON-ON-TRENT Central Park Engine

CARDIFF New Bogeys (26168) Thin Ice COVENTRY Cheylesmoor WM Club Just Blue

COVENTRY Warwick University (417220) A Certain Ratio DARLINGTON Arts Centre (483168) Battlefield Road DERBY Sherwood Forester (766315) Uneven Planet

DUBLIN Stadium Sly And Robbie/Ini Kamoze/Half Pint/Yellowman

EXETER George's The Chillun



KIM WILDE struts her stuff at Kentish Town this week ... wow!

FARNHAM Maltings Great Hall Tiger Moth GLASGOW Barrowlands (041-552 4601) UB40 **GLASGOW Doune The Guns** 

GREENOCK Subterraneans The Roundabouts/Cataran HARLOW The Square (25594) Arnold/Paul Howard HASTINGS The Carlisle (420193) Children On Stun HUDDERSFIELD Silver Sands Club Culture

ILKLEY Ilkley College The Noble Kind

KINGSTON Church Street Bacchus Wine Bar (01-546 7798) Soul Boys

LANCASTER Fenton Street Trades Hall Masque LEEDS Merrion Street Coconut Grove (455718) Hang The Dance

LONDON Acton High Street Bumbles (01-992 3308) TV Slaves LONDON Bolsover Street Polytechnic Of Central London The Blubbery Hellbellies/Delicious Poison

LONDON Brixton Fridge (01-326 5100) Dance Exchange

LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01-267 4967) Nappy Brown And The Red Hot

LONDON Catford Bromley Road Green Man (01-698 3746) Howlin' Wilf And The Vee Jays

LONDON Charing Cross Road Wispers The Aces Of Rhythm LONDON Chelsea King's College The Boogie Brothers Blues Band LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01-240 3961) Geno Washington And The Ram Jam Band

LONDON Dalston Junction Ashwin Street Pyramid Timothy London LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) Amethyst Kiss LONDON Fulham High Street King's Head (01-736 1413) Steve Gibbons Band

LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01-385 0526) Hoorah! Boys Hoorah!/ Hohokam

LONDON Greenwich Tunnel Club (01-858 0895) Double Zero/Storm Of Glass/Jo-Jo Republic

LONDON Hackney Amhurst Road Club Mankind (01-985 9186) Courtney Pine Quartet/World's First Saxphone Posse/Orchestre Jazira/The Deltones
LONDON Hammersmith Clarendon (01-748 2471) The London Losers/Restless
LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Brendan Croker And

The Five O'Clock Shadows/Johnny Jumps The Bandwagon LONDON Herne Hill Half Moon (01-274 2733) Cut The Wire

LONDON Holloway Road Victoria Crannog LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) Somo Somo

LONDON Kentish Town Town And Country Club (01-267 3334) The Woodentops/ Stump/Miaow

LONDON King's College Hondo LONDON Liverpool Road Pied Bull (01-837 3218) Kokomo

LONDON London School Of Economics T'Pau

LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave (01-837 2097) Run Riot LONDON North Wembley East Lane The Flag K-State/The Great Divide LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) Steve Marriot And The Official

Receivers

LONDON Palmers Green The Fox (01-886 9674) ESP LONDON Peckham Road Walmer Castle Harlequin Smirking Hyaenas LONDON Putney Zeeta's (01-785 2101) Juvessance

LONDON Tufnell Park Road Tufnell Park Tavern JCM Jazzband LONDON Walthamstow Royal Standard (01-527 1966) Juice On The Loose/

Swinging The Blues LONDON Wardour Street Marquee (01-437 6603) MGM

LONDON Wembley Arena (01-902 1234) Eurythmics LONDON West London Institute The Larks

LONDON Wharfdale Road General Picton The Enormous Room/The Raw Herbs LONDON Woolwich Thames Polytechnic The Mekons LOUGHBOROUGH University (217766) Gary Glitter

LUTON Switch Club (699217) Sharing The House With Mother

MANCHESTER Little Peter Street Boardwalk (061-228 3555) The Flatmates/

Laugh NEWMARKET Studiands Social Club KGB

NORTHAMPTON Arts Centre Skint Video NORTHAMPTON Roadmender (21408) Sound System

NORWICH King's Head Colin Cross' Lonely Tarts Club Band NOTTINGHAM Castle Gate Congregational Centre The Shekinah Music Project

NOTTINGHAM Trent Polytechnic (476725) The Redskins/Blyth Power/Egyptian

PETERBOROUGH Wirring Stadium (64861) Hawkwind

PORTSMOUTH Basins Dance Hall Eddie And The Hot Rods PRESTWICK Red Lion Chasar

READING Hexagon (591591) Smith And Jones
SHEFFIELD Leadmill (754500) Junk/Andy White/No Man's Land
SHEFFIELD University (24076) Spear Of Destiny/Twenty Flight Rockers

SHOREHAM Duke Of Wellington Traitors ST HELENS Peter Street Community Centre Poisoned Electric Head

STOKE Borough Exchange Headgames SUNDERLAND Old 29 Mississippi Sheiks (Lunch)

SWANSEA St Philip's Community Centre Chumbawumba/The Dodgey Jammers/

The Bugs WARRINGTON Lion Hotel (30047) Badger
WEST BROMWICH Coach And Horses (021-588 2136) Screen Heroes
WHITLEY BAY Ice Rink Big Country/The Big Dish

WOLVERHAMPTON Grande (29212) Ben Elton WOLVERHAMPTON Scruples (53754) The Red Beards From Texas

### BEDFORD Midland Hotel KGB

BIRKENHEAD Rock Ferry Abbotsford Alternative Radio **BIRMINGHAM Five Ways Faces Screen Heroes** BIRMINGHAM Mermaid (021-722 0217) Living In Texas/Bed Bugs BIRMINGHAM NEC (021-780 4141) Big Country/The Big Dish BRADFORD Keighley Road Spotted House (45158) Surfin' Dave/Al Beach/Riba Raca Rakasta BRADFORD St Georges Hall (752000) Status Quo BRIGHTON Richmond (603974) The Ex/Crucifixion Of Sean Penn

BRISTOL Fleece And Firkin (277150) Thin Ice CHELTENHAM Town Hall And Pitville Pump Room The Jazz Defektors/Robyn Hitchcock And The Egyptians/The Vibrators

**CHIDDINGLY Six Bells Traitors** COLCHESTER Osborne Street The Works (570934) Dr Feelgood

**DERBY The Malin Just Blue** 

DUNSTABLE Queensway Hall (603326) Hawkwind ELLESMERE PORT Ellesmere Arms (051-339 3044) The Suicide Stars

FARNHAM Maltings Dick Gaughan/Hassan Erraji

GLASGOW Barrowlands (041-552 4601) Spear Of Destiny/Twenty Flight Rockers HARROGATE Hop 'N' Scotch Mississippi Sheiks (Lunch)

KILMARNOCK Cheers Club Chasar LEICESTER University (556282) Ben Elton

LIVERPOOL Everyman Bistro (051-709 4776) The Mighty Lawnmower LONDON Archway Tavern Crannog (Lunch)

LONDON Brixton Old White Horse (01-274 5537) Elvis ... What Happened?

LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01-267 4967) The Screaming Ad Dabs/One Last Fight/Hot Murder/The Subtomics LONDON Charing Cross Road Wispers Brazil

LONDON Douglas Way Albany Empire (01-691 3333) Harvey And The

LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) Iggy Quail And Friends (Lunch) Manic Depressive's Disco (Eve) LONDON Fulham Broadway Swan (01-385 1840) The Reactors

LONDON Fulham High Street King's Head (01-736 1413) 1,000 Mexicans LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01-385 0526) Raider/Guitars For

LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Salvation Sunday/ The Corn Dollies LONDON Holloway Road Cock Tavern Crannog

LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) Royal Academy Big Band (Lunch) Elaine Delmar/Brian Dee Trio (Eve) LONDON Kentish Town Town And Country Club (01-267 3334) The Redskins/The Three Johns/Skint Video

LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave (01-837 2097) The Hunters Club/ Children In Stun LONDON New Cross Clifton Rise The Harp (01-851 6373) The Cardiacs/The

Chicken Ranch LONDON North Finchley High Road Torrington (01-445 4710) Howlin' Wilf And The

LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) The Zodiacs (Lunch) Jesse Winchester (Eve)
LONDON Theobalds Road Yorkshire Grey (01-405-2519) The Georgia Jazzband
101-003-1234) Furthmics

LONDON Wembley Arena (01-902 1234) Eurythmics MANCHESTER Little Peter Street Boardwalk (061-228 3555) The Rose Of

Avalanche NORTHAMPTON Old Five Bells Vardis

NORWICH Theatre Royal (28205) Smith And Jones NOTTINGHAM Old Vic Single Bass NOTTINGHAM Royal Centre (472328) The Communards POOLE Kingland Road Mr C's Xcess

READING George Hotel The Stewarts Of Blairgowrie SHEFFIELD City Hall (735295) Lenny Henry/The Mint Juleps SHEFFIELD Leadmill (754500) Battlefield Band

ST HELENS Shaw Street Royal Alfred The Adams Family STALYBRIDGE The Talbot Spies

UXBRIDGE Brunel University (39125) The Guana Batz/Killer Goat WEST BROMWICH Coach And Horses (021-588 2136) Silent Witness/Safari WOLVERHAMPTON Scruples (53754) The Shamen

ASTON University Ben Elton BIRKENHEAD Hard Rock Cavern (051-647 4505) Alternative Radio/Last Night At The Fair/Transylvania

BIRKENHEAD Pacific Hotel Cunard Yanks **BIRKENHEAD Richmond Alternative Radio** 

BIRMINGHAM Oldbury Hen And Chickens Goats Don't Shave BRIGHTON Dome (682127) The Communards BRIGHTON Old Vic (24744) Big Jim And The Figaro Club

BRIGHTON Richmond (693974) Bass Culture BRIGHTON Top Rank Centre Gary Glitter

CHESTERFIELD Bolsover Sports Drome Public Address
COLCHESTER Osborne Street The Works (570934) Dr Feelgood/Rough Justice

DEWSBURY Eightlands Well Hang The Dance DUNSTABLE Civic Hail (603326) We've Got A Fuzzbox And We're Gonna Use

It/Flowers In The Dustbin
EDINBURGH Coasters (031-228 3252) Culture
FOLKESTONE Leas Cliff Hall (53193) Smith And Jones
HUDDERSFIELD Polytechnic (38156) Baby Tuckoo/Chrome Molly

LONDON Brixton Academy (01-326 1022) UB40/Bloodfire Posse LONDON Camberwell New Road Union Tavern The Looking Glass/Playground/

Shadowland/Smirking Hyaenas

LONDON Camden High Street Electric Ballroom (01-485 9006) Flesh For Lulu/Died Pretty/Doctor's Children LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01-267 4967) Armada/Snake Corps/Public

LONDON Dover Street Wine Bar Swinging The Blues

LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) The Noseflutes/Ritzun Ratzun Rotzer/Gatecrash Heaven

LONDON Fulham High Street King's Head (01-736 1413) From Here On LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01-385 0526) The Ice Babies/Korea

LONDON Greek Street Le Beat Route (01-734 6308) Ohmadon LONDON Hammersmith Clarendon (01-748 2471) Line Of Fire

LONDON Hampstead Westfield College The Larks

LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Splendid Boats/Life After/Rex 115

LONDON Kentish Town Bull And Gate (01-485 5358) The Word Association LONDON Kentish Town Town And Country Club (01-267 3334) Kim Wilde LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) President Reagan Is Clever/Rouen

LONDON Putney Zeeta's (01-785 2101) One Nation LOUGHBOROUGH Sammy's Children On Stun MIDDLESBROUGH The Albert The Atlanteans

PRESTON Pipers The Hunters Club STOCKTON Arches Skidmarks STOKE Shelley's (322209) Torme/The Queerboys

WEST BROMWICH Coach And Horses (021-588 2136) The Catch WORTHING Pavilion (39999) Harvey And The Wallbangers

### TUESDAY

BEDFORD Angel Inn (40251) Thunderbird Five BIRMINGHAM Burberries (021-6431500) The Three Johns/3 Action BRENTWOOD The Castle Rhythm Collision/80 Degrees In The Shade (Crisis At Christmas Benefit) BRIGHTON Dome (682127) Smith And Jones CARDIFF Mars Bars The Batfish Boys

COLCHESTER Osborne Street The Works (570934) Ghostdance GLASGOW Customhouse Quay Panama Jax (041-221 0865) Dynamite Club GLASGOW Plaza (041-423 3077) Culture GLASGOW Scottish Exhibition And Conference Centre Status Quo

LEEDS Polytechnic (430171) We've Got A Fuzzbox And We're Gonna Use It/Flowers In The Dustbin LEEDS University (439071) Ben Elton

LEICESTER Princess Charlotte (553956) Rockin' Ronnie And The Bendy Ruperts LIVERPOOL Adelphi Hotel The Larks LONDON Camden High Street Electric Ballroom (01-485 9006) The Rapiers/

Colbert Hamilton (Black Elvis 2000)/Love Attack LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01-267 4967) The Rainmakers/Andy White/ The Lonely/Real Macabre LONDON Dover Street Wine Bar Swinging The Blues

LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) Snakes Of Snake/Fat LONDON Fulham High Street King's Head (01-736 1413) Veto LONODN Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01-385 0526) Neil Nicholas/Guilty

LONDON Hackney Mare Street Empire (01-985 2424) Happy End/Skint Video/ John Hegley/Benjamin Zephaniah/Ra Ra Zo/Jenny Le Coat/Andrew Bailey/ Chris And Robert/Otiz Cannelloni/Morris Minor And The Majors

LONDON Hammersmith Clarendon (01-748 2471) The Culture Shock/The Smart LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Mary Coughlan And

Her Band LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) Alfredo 'Chocolate' Armenteros LONDON Islington Hare And Hounds (01-226 2992) The Word Association LONDON Mornington Crescent Camden Palace (01-387 0428) Sun House Opera LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) Howlin' Wilf And The Vee Jays/Ritzun

Ratzun Rotzer LONDON Oxford Street 100 Club (01-636 0933) The Scientists/Bad Karma Beckons/Purple Things

LONDON Prince Of Wales Road North London Polytechnic The Shamen LONDON Redcliffe Gardens Cafe Des Artistes (01-352 6200) Fungus Box LONDON South Norwood The Ship The Chillun LONDON Wembley Arena (01-902 1234) Eurythmics

LONDON Woolwich Tramshed (01-855 3371) Before The War MANSFIELD Brig O Doone Children On Stun NOTTINGHAM Royal Centre (472328) Lenny Henry/The Mint Juleps NUNEATON Nag's Head (386644) Dream Factory SALFORD University (061-736 7811) 1/5th Of Heaven

SHEFFIELD West Street Hallamshire Hotel The Masons/The Wealthy Texans

SHEPTON MALLET Showering Pavilion (4298) Big Country/The Big Dish STOCKTON Dovecot Arts Centre (611625) The Timber Men

SURBITON The Southampton (01-399 6107) The Georgia Jazzband WHITFIELD Mencap House Spies

- 1 TAKE MY BREATH AWAY Berlin CBS
- 2 THE FINAL COUNTDOWN Europe Epic
- 3 12 SOMETIMES Erasure Mute
- 6 FRENCH KISSIN' IN THE USA Debbie Harry Chrysalis
- 3 SHOWING OUT Mel & Kim Supreme
- 9 EACH TIME YOU BREAK MY HEART Nick Kamen WEA
- 4 BREAKOUT Swing Out Sister Mercury
- 5 YOU KEEP ME HANGIN' ON Kim Wilde MCA
- 10 14 IF I SAY YES Five Star Tent
- 11 15 SWEET LOVE Anita Baker Elektra
- Tembo
- 13 39 THE RAIN Oran "Juice" Jones Def Jam
- 15 50 SO COLD THE NIGHT The Communards London
- 16 21 WARRIORS (OF THE WASTELAND) Frankie Goes To Hollywood
- 17 20 STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND Iron Maiden EMI
- 18 23 WAR (WHAT IS IT GOOD FOR) Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band CBS
- 8 THROUGH THE BARRICADES Spandau Ballet Reformation
- 20 22 LAND OF CONFUSION Genesis Charisma
- 21 SHAKE YOU DOWN Gregory Abbott CBS
- 22 31 MIRACLE OF LOVE Eurythmics RCA
- 23 10 DON'T GIVE UP Peter Gabriel & Kate Bush Virgin
- 24 30 CANDY Cameo Club
- 26 44 SHIVER George Benson Warner Brothers
- 28 36 I'VE BEEN IN LOVE BEFORE Cutting Crew Siren
- 29 16 WALK LIKE AN EGYPTIAN The Bangles CBS
- 31 32 DON'T FORGET ME (WHEN I'M GONE) Glass Tiger Manhattan
- 32 18 (WAITING FOR) THE GHOST TRAIN Madness Zarjazz
- CRY WOLF A-ha Warner Brothers
- 34 43 YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU DON'T YOU Howard Jones WEA
- 35 37 STEP RIGHT UP Jaki Graham EMI
- 36 19 BECAUSE I LOVE YOU Shakin' Stevens Epic
- 37 46 IS THIS LOVE Alison Moyet CBS
- 38 41 BECAUSE OF YOU Dexys Midnight Runners Mercury
- 41 26 ANYTHING The Damned MCA
- 42 48 HOLD THE HEART Big Country Mercury
- O MY FATHER HAD A RABBIT Ray Moore Play
- 44 24 EVERY LOSER WINS Nick Berry BBC
  - CARAVAN OF LOVE The Housemartins Go! Discs
- 46 35 ALL I ASK OF YOU Cliff Richard & Sarah Brightman Polydor
- 47 33 IN THE ARMY NOW Status Quo Vertigo
- 48 29 NOTORIOUS Duran Duran EMI
- 49 REET PETITE (THE SWEETEST GIRL IN TOWN) Jackie Wilson
- 50 25 LOVE IS THE SLUG We've Got A Fuzzbox Vindaloo

# UK 50 ALBUM

- NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC 8 Various EMI/Virgin
- 2 1 HITS 5 Various CBS/WEA
- NOTORIOUS Duran Duran EMI
- 4 THE WHOLE STORY Kate Bush EMI
- 5 2 EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE THE SINGLES The Police A&M
- ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK TOP GUN Various (CBS)
- 7 9 TRUE BLUE Madonna Sire
- 8 5 THROUGH THE BARRICADES Spandau Ballet Reformation
- 9 10 SLIPPERY WHEN WET Bon Jovi Vertigo
- 3 LIVE 1975 1985 Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band CBS
- 11 17 REVENGE Eurythmics RCA
- 6 GRACELAND Paul Simon Warner Brothers
- 13 38 DISCO Pet Shop Boys Parlophone
- 14 11 SILK AND STEEL Five Star Tent
- 15 21 INFECTED The The Some Bizzare
- 16 19 LOVERS Various Telstar
- 17 7 NOW DANCE VOLUME 2 Various EMI/Virgin
- 18 26 BROTHERS IN ARMS Dire Straits Vertigo
- 19 12 GREATEST HITS OF 1986 Various Telstar
- 20 16 HIT MIX '86 Various Stylus
- 21 14 SO Peter Gabriel Charisma
- 22 22 THE VERY BEST BACK TO BACK Diana Ross/Michael Jackson/Gladys Knight/Stevie Wonder Priority
- 23 24 A KIND OF MAGIC Queen EMI
- 24 AUGUST Eric Clapton Duck
- 25 13 THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF SUPERTRAMP Supertramp A&M
- 26 23 REMINISCING Foster & Allen Stylus
- 27 UTTER MADNESS Madness Zarjazz
- 28 25 SCOUNDREL DAYS A-ha Warner Brothers
- 29 39 THE FINAL COUNTDOWN Europe Epic
- 30 41 ROCKBIRD Debbie Harry Chrysalis
- 31 31 WHITNEY HOUSTON Whitney Houston Arista
- 32 36 THE VERY BEST OF THE DRIFTERS The Drifters Telstar
- 33 18 TOGETHER Various K-Tel
- 34 20 SWEET FREEDOM THE BEST OF MICHAEL McDONALD Michael McDonald Warner Brothers
- 35 46 IN THE ARMY NOW Status Quo Vertigo
- 36 48 RAPTURE Anita Baker Elektra
- 37 INVISIBLE TOUCH Genesis Charisma
- 38 32 GET CLOSE The Pretenders Real
- 39 30 FORE! Huey Lewis & The News Chrysalis
- 40 SIXTIES MANIA Various Telstar
- 41 STREETSOUNDS 19 Various Streetsounds
- 42 BROADCAST Cutting Crew Siren
- 43 44 INSIDE STORY Grace Jones Manhattan 44 35 SOUTH PACIFIC Various CBS
- 45 29 DANCING ON THE CEILING Lionel Richie Motown
- 46 49 CHRISTMAS Elaine Page WEA
- 47 QUEEN'S GREATEST HITS Queen EMI
- 48 27 LIVERPOOL Frankie Goes To Hollywood ZTT
- 49 15 GODS OWN MEDICINE The Mission Mercury 50 — DEEP IN THE HEART OF NOWHERE Bob Geldof Mercury

Compiled by MRIB





THE THE reflecting on new found success

### TRACKS Ricky Kildare

BATTERY Metallica Acetylene cutting torch track from Master Of Puppets,

KISS Age Of Chance Dance-floor shrapnel collision on FON BIG BLACK Oh-so alive and kicking at the Hammersmith Clarendon

### **Neil Perry**

CRAZYHEAD Kentish Town Bull & Gate Tasty Gigs Inc. HOUSE OF PAIN Van Halen 1984 Warners mega-cut ANESTHESIA (PULLING TEETH) Metallica MFN Kill 'Em All cut

### **Paul Elliott REIGN IN BLOOD Slayer Geffen**

James Brown

RRRROOOOAAAARRRR Voivoid Total Noise import BE YOURSELF The Grip Demo

Clinton: Mick Ronson on 'Moonage Daydream' RCA

GLORY GLORY Dead Can Dance Live ULU revelations

**HEY! LUCIANI The Fall Beggars Banquet** 

Pop Will Eat Itself's Fave Guitar Solos

WHAT A WAY TO DIE The Shop Assistants Rough Trade LP track CANDYDIOSIS Pop Will Eat Itself Revolting live spectacle at 'lust den'

### Richard: Dave Davies on 'You Really Got Me' Pye

Graham: Charlie George in the 1971 Cup Final hammering it home Wembley (Huh!)

YA SOUTHERN BASTARDS Jerry Arkright To Stranglers crowd 3/11/86

### THIS IS MOTORTOWN The Very Things DCL Electric 12-inch

**Jack Barron** BIG BLACK A bloodbursting live encounter at The Clarendon HEY! LUCIANI The Fall become fabulous (again) Beggars Banquet RELAXATION Durutti Column live in Japan Factory CD

# PINK FLOYD

- 1 FRIENDS WILL BE FRIENDS Queen
- 2 MONEY Pink Floyd
- 3 AND THEN THERE WEREN'T THREE Genesis
- 4 PRETTY OUT OF PINK Psychedelic Furs 5 KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE MONEY Motley Sue
- 6 CAN'T STAND LOSING YOU The Police
- 7 SUE Spandau Ballet
- 8 THE PRICE Twisted Sister 9 SEPARATE WAYS Elvis Presley
- 10 PARANOID Black Sabbath

# K505INGLES

- 7 LIVIN' ON A PRAYER Bon Jovi Vertigo

- 12 17 THE SKYE BOAT SONG Roger Whittaker & Des O'Connor
- 14 11 FOR AMERICA Red Box Sire

- 25 27 TRUE COLOURS Go West Chrysalis
- 27 13 GHOST DANCING Simple Minds Virgin
- 30 34 ALL FALL DOWN Ultravox Chrysalis

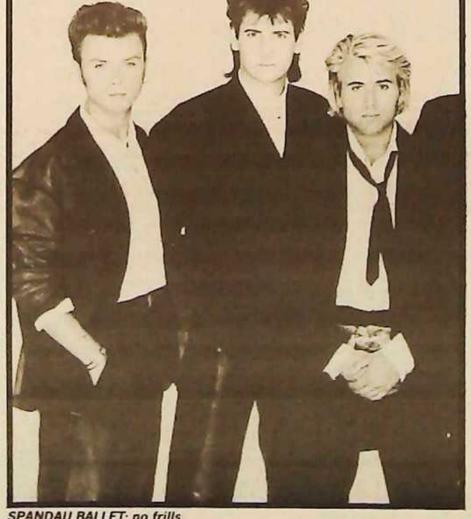
- 39 DREAMIN' Status Quo Vertigo
- 40 49 SOME PEOPLE Paul Young CBS

- COMPACT DISC
- 1 1 EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE THE SINGLES The Police A&M NOW, THATS WHAT I CALL MUSIC '86 Various EMI/Virgin/Polygram
- 3 LIVE 1975 1985 Bruce Springsteen CBS **GRACELAND** Paul Simon Warner Brothers
- 4 BROTHERS IN ARMS Dire Straits Vertigo — HITS 5 Various CBS/RCA Ariola/WEA
- 5 THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF SUPERTRAMP Supertramp A&M THROUGH THE BARRICADES Spandau Ballet Reformation/CBS
- 10 REVENGE Eurythmics RCA
- 8 FORE! Huey Lewis & The News Chrysalis 12 11 SILK AND STEEL Five Star Tent

6 SO Peter Gabriel Charisma

- 14 LEATHER JACKETS Elton John Rocket **INVISIBLE TOUCH Genesis Virgin**
- DANCING ON THE CEILING Lionel Richie Motown 16 16 TRUE BLUE Madonna Sire
- 17 15 QUEEN GREATEST HITS Queen EMI 7 GET CLOSE The Pretenders Real
- 20 20 WHITNEY HOUSTON Whitney Houston Arista

INSIDE STORY Grace Jones Manhattan



SPANDAU BALLET: no frills

# HOT METAL 60

#### SINGLES

- 1 1 THE FINAL COUNTDOWN Europe Epic
- 2 LIVIN' ON A PRAYER Bon Jovi Vertigo
- 3 3 STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND Iron Maiden EMI
- 4 4 IN THE ARMY NOW Status Quo Vertigo
- 5 7 YOU GIVE LOVE A BAD NAME Bon Jovi Vertigo
- 6 13 SIX TRACK EP Warlock Vertigo
- 5 HE'S BACK (THE MAN BEHIND THE MASK) Alice Cooper MCA
- 8 GETTING AWAY WITH MURDER Meat Loaf Arista
- 6 AMANDA Boston MCA
- THIS LOVE Bad Company Atlantic
- 11 14 WASTED YEARS Iron Maiden EMI
- 12 10 BLACK AND BLUE Waysted Parlophone
- 8 95-NASTY WASP Capitol
- 14 12 ROCK THE NATIONS Saxon EMI
- 15 11 MIDNIGHT (YOU WON'T BE SLEEPING) Magnum Polydor
- 16 16 VELCRO FLY ZZ Top Warner Brothers
- 17 15 JUMP IN THE FIRE Metallica Music For Nations
- 18 9 MAD HOUSE Anthrax Island
- 19 20 CREEPING DEATH Metallica Music For Nations
- 20 19 LONELY NIGHT Magnum Polydor



WAYSTED: "I'm gettin' a jacket with shoulder pads this high"

#### ALBUMS

- 1 SLIPPERY WHEN WET Bon Jovi Vertigo
- 2 3 THE FINAL COUNTDOWN Europe Epic
- 3 6 IN THE ARMY NOW Status Quo Vertigo
- 4 2 INSIDE THE ELECTRIC CIRCUS WASP Capitol
- 8 THIRD STAGE Boston MCA
- 6 5 SOMEWHERE IN TIME Iron Maiden EMI
- 7 13 7800° FAHRENHEIT Bon Jovi Vertigo
- 8 4 TO HELL WITH THE DEVIL Stryper Music For Nations
- 9 9 TRILOGY Yngwie Malmsteen Polydor
- 10 SAVE YOUR PRAYERS Waysted Parlophone
- 11 19 PEACE SELLS ... BUT WHO'S BUYING? Megadeth Capitol
- 12 14 INDISCREET FM Portrait
- 13 10 CONSTRICTOR Alice Cooper MCA
- 14 15 DANCING UNDERCOVER Ratt Atlantic
- 15 BON JOVI Bon Jovi Vertigo
- 16 7 NIGHT SONGS Cinderella Mercury
- 17 17 DOOMSDAY FOR THE DECEIVER Flotsam & Jetsam Roadrunner
- 18 11 LOOK WHAT THE CAT DRAGGED IN Poison Music For Nations
- 19 12 TRUE AS STEEL Warlock Vertigo
- 20 16 VIGILANTE Magnum Polydor
- 21 18 MASTER OF PUPPETS Metallica Music For Nations
- 22 25 NASTY NASTY Black 'N Blue Geffen
- 23 27 EAT 'EM AND SMILE David Lee Roth Warner Brothers
- 24 20 BEYOND THE GATES Possessed Under One Flag
- 25 24 GAME OVER Nuclear Assault Under One Flag
- 26 28 FAME AND FORTUNE Bad Company Atlantic
- 27 29 AFTERBURNER ZZ Top Warner Brothers
- 28 21 SPREADING THE DISEASE Anthrax Music For Nations
- 29 22 ROCK THE NATIONS Saxon Parlophone
- 30 CRIMSON GLORY Crimson Glory Roadrunner

#### IMPORTS

- 1 LAND OF THE DAMNED Diamond Rex Island
- 2 5 REIGN IN BLOOD Slayer Geffen
- 3 2 ANOTHER DARK CARNIVAL Castle Blak Stiff Kitten
- 4 A TO Z Zappa Costa Capitol
- 5 4 POWER Kansas MCA
- 6 8 BEST OF Accept Polygram
- 6 STRANGER THAN EVER Digger Noise
- **ALIVE AND SCREAMING Krokus Arista** 9 LIVE Stevie Ray Vaughan CBS
- 1 3.V Zebra Atlantic
  - Compiled by Spotlight Research

THE GODFATHERS: which one's Marlon?

# INDIE ALBUMS

- 1 1 THE MOON AND THE MELODIES Harold Budd/Elizabeth Fraser/Robin Guthrie/Simon Raymonde 4AD
- 2 2 YOUR FUNERAL . . MY TRIAL Nick Cave And The Bad Seeds Mute
- 3 HIT BY HIT The Godfathers Corporate Image
- 4 4 BROTHERHOOD New Order Factory
- 6 SEWERTIME BLUES The Meteors Anagram
- 7 SUN FAMILY Balaam And The Angel Chapter 22
- 8 THE QUEEN IS DEAD The Smiths Rough Trade
- 8 9 LONDON O HULL 4 The Housemartins Go! Discs
- 9 5 LOAN SHARKS Guana Batz ID
- 10 10 FILIGREE AND SHADOW This Mortal Coil 4AD
- 3 STOMPING AT THE KLUB FOOT VOLUME 3 Various ABC
- 12 14 BLOOD AND CHOCOLATE Elvis Costello & The Attractions Imp/Demon
- 13 13 FORCE A Certain Ratio Factory
- 14 29 WONDERLAND Erasure Mute
- 15 11 QUIRK OUT Stump Stuff
- 16 16 VICTORIALAND Cocteau Twins 4AD
- 17 12 TALKING WITH THE TAXMAN ABOUT POETRY Billy Bragg Go! Discs
- 18 19 ON THE BOARDWALK Ted Hawkins UnAmerican Activities
- 19 18 WATCH YOUR STEP Ted Hawkins Gull
- 20 22 WHO'S BEEN TALKING Robert Cray Charly
- 21 20 RETARD PICNIC The Stupids Children Of The Revolution
- 22 15 BACK IN THE DHSS Half Man Half Biscuit Probe Plus
- 23 21 IT Alien Sex Fiend Anagram
- 24 25 THE UNGOVERNABLE FORCE Conflict Mortarhate
- 25 23 GIANT The Woodentops Rough Trade
- SMOKE SIGNALS MDC Radical
- 27 28 BEND SINISTER The Fall Beggars Banquet
- 28 24 ROOM OF LIGHTS Crime & The City Solution Mute
- 29 26 FOREVER BREATHES THE LONELY WORD Felt Creation
- 30 17 SUICIDE Suicide Demon

- 1 MONEY'S TOO TIGHT TO MENTION Simply Red
- 2 LIES Status Quo
- 3 PRISON Tom Robinson
- 4 I LOVE THE SOUND OF BREAKING GLASS Nick Lowe
- 5 SORRY SEEMS TO BE THE HARDEST WORD Elton John
- 6 THIEVES LIKE US New Order

- 1 WHOLE SNOTTA LOVE Led Zeppelin SNEEZE FRAME The J Geils Band
- 3 TISSUE BEEN GONE Rainbow
- 4 SNOTTIN' AT ALL Heart
- 5 NO SNEEZY WAY Gillan
- 6 TISSUE WERE HERE Pink Floyd
- **RUNNING WILD Girlschool**
- 8 SNOT ON THE WATER Deep Purple
- 9 THE THING THAT SHOULD SNOT BE Metallica
- 10 I SNOT THE SHERRIF Bob Marley Compiled by The Ghost of Cleveland Hall

# INDIE SINGLES

- SOMETIMES Erasure Mute
- 4 KISS Age Of Chance FON
- 6 LOVE'S EASY TEARS Cocteau Twins 4AD
- 2 BIZARRE LOVE TRIANGLE New Order Factory
- 5 9 I WANT YOU Elvis Costello Imp/Demon
- 6 25 POPPIECOCK (EP) Pop Will Eat Itself Chapter 22
- 7 3 ASK The Smiths Rough Trade
- 8 15 LIKE A HURRICANE/GARDEN OF DELIGHT The Mission Chapter 22
- 9 8 THINK FOR A MINUTE The Housemartins Go! Discs
- 10 13 REALLY STUPID The Primitives Lazy
- 11 12 SERPENT'S KISS The Mission Chapter 22
- 12 10 THE PEEL SESSION Gang Of Four Strange Fruit
- 13 18 10 NOTES ON A SUMMER'S DAY Crass Ugly Man
- 14 17 WONDERFUL LIFE Black Ugly Man
- 15 26 STATE OF THE NATION New Order Factory
- 16 20 SORRY TO EMBARRASS YOU Razor Cuts Subway STEAMING TRAIN Talulah Gosh 53rd & 3rd
- 18 7 THE PEEL SESSION The Wedding Present Strange Fruit
- 19 COMPLETELY AND UTTERLY The Chesterfields Subway
- 20 28 BLUE MONDAY New Order Factory
- 21 URBAN HELL Three Wise Men Rhythm King
- 5 THE PEEL SESSION Madness Strange Fruit 23 14 THE PEEL SESSION New Order Strange Fruit
- 24 32 THE GRIP OF LOVE Ghost Dance Karbon
- 25 47 LIKE AN ANGEL The Mighty Lemon Drops Dreamworld
- 26 22 INTO THE GROOVY Ciccone Youth Blast First MUTANT ROCK The Meteors ID
- 28 30 PANIC The Smiths Rough Trade
- 29 31 CUT DOWN Red Lorry Yellow Lorry Red Rhino — SNAKEDRILL Wire Mute
- 31 39 SHE SAID Yeah Jazz Upright
- 32 11 HANG-TEN! The Soup Dragons Raw TV Products
- 33 29 BELA LUGOSI'S DEAD Bauhaus Small Wonder 34 27 SMELLS LIKE SHIT Alien Sex Fiend Anagram/Cherry Red
- 35 19 THE RATTLER Goodbye Mr McKenzie Precious Organisation
- 36 46 VELVETEEN The Rose Of Avalanche Fire
- 37 37 MAHALIA The Bible! Backs
- 38 16 ROCKITT MISS USA Sci Fi Sex Stars WHO M I
- 39 38 I COULD BE IN HEAVEN The Flatmates Subway
- 40 21 LEE REMICK The Go-Betweens Situation Two 41 36 NAKED AS THE DAY YOU WERE BORN The Weather Prophets Creation
- 42 ENTERTAIN ME Sharp Unicorn
- 43 BEATNIK BOY Talulah Gosh 53rd & 3rd
- 44 YOUNG TILL YESTERDAY The Shamen Moksha
- 45 THE WORLD DOESN'T TURN Junk Native
- 46 44 SUNARISE The Godfathers Corporate Image 47 23 THE PEEL SESSION The Damned Strange Fruit 48 24 THIS IS MOTORTOWN The Very Things DCL Electric
- Recordings 49 34 DICKIE DAVIES EYES Half Man Half Biscuit Probe Plus
- 50 45 PINK HOUSE The Leather Nun Wire

Compiled by Spotlight Research

- 7 THE DECEIVER The Alarm 8 CHRISTMAS IS DREADLAND Judge Dread
- 9 EVERY LOSER WINS Wicksy
- 10 ARTHUR'S THEME Christopher Cross

Compiled by JSS, founder member of the Dot Cotton wears French knickers fan club

- 1 YOU GIVE GRUB A BAD NAME Bon Jovi
- 2 FAT BOY ZZ Top IN A BIG PANTRY Big Pantry
- TOO FAT FOR LOVE Motley Crue
- 5 EATING IS MY BUSINESS ... AND BUSINESS IS GOOD Megadeath OWNER OF A BAKEWELL TART Yes
- 7 ADDICTED TO GRUB Robert Palmer
- CRUSHED BY THE MEALS OF INDUSTRY Heaven 17 PLUMP Van Halen
- 10 OBESITIES AND BIG TITTIES Ted Nugent
  - Compiled by Chrissy Van Den Chubs, Tonteg, S Wales



CHANCERS: Jan P, Geoff T, Neil H and Steven E

Can AGE OF CHANCE snog their way into the charts with Prince's 'Kiss'?

JAMES BROWN gets his tongue round the problem. IAN T TILTON pipes up

ISS! DANCE! Snog! Get down! Get sexy... or get stuffed!

Age Of Chance steer layer after seething layer of vocal crunch around squibs of beat that penetrate guitar noise, that resound like shaken sheets of metal.

Age Of Chance have produced a vest of sonic hip hop that

they've pulled over the otherwise best single of the year – 'Kiss' by Prince.

They spend their nights dancing in the glut of good funk clubs that have appeared as a powerful reaction to the gothic glumness that's hovered over their home town of Leeds for years. At dinner-times they entertain journalists in smart cafes, and in the afternoons they practise.

They spent a lot of time

practising and producing 'Kiss' – and it shows.

Now confusion is rippling across the country; how can an indie band produce a record like this? Well, it's been done. And I've heard pop stars be shocked by it, listened to pop fans worry about it, and seen soul fans dance to it.

Listen to 'Kiss' by Prince and your hips will twitch into uncontrollable funk spasms. Listen to 'Kiss' by Age Of Chance and your distorted crotch jerking will be competing with a gibbering flow of

#### "Prince's version is just the sound of cocktail glasses tinkling and wine bar small talk. We wanted to make a dance sound that represented iron foundries . . . "

babble and squeak. It's a thundering oral release of adulation, praise and sheer lust

They say: "Prince's version is just the sound of cocktail glasses tinkling and wine bar small talk. We wanted to make a dance sound that represented iron foundries shuddering, civil unrest and motorway fatalities. A dance sound that linked the cities of Detroit, Leeds, Berlin and New York - not Prince's Minneapolis!

"None of us bought 'Kiss'. Our interpretation is derived completely from the times we've heard it in clubs. We didn't want to make a study of it or anything."

ND WHAT this single signifies is a discipline and direction to Age Of Chance that is otherwise lacking in the independent arena away from the offices of Factory, Def Jam and Creation

Steven E (mouth, severe crop, Adidas Gazelles): "We don't need any confirmation from outside. Our confidence comes from within the band."

This is an authoritative confidence; an attitude that was broken-in as ambition, then fuelled by contempt and naiveté and then doused by financial limitation. With 'Kiss' - their third single and a one-off for FON - their short-stay record label have pushed aside some of these restrictions and the band's patience has been rewarded by achieving their own vision.

And although contemptuous of other bands, their criticisms don't degenerate into heady slagging marathons. They'd rather enthuse over their own record than criticise someone else's.

Neil H (guitars, monkey boots, Beastie Boys): "The thing that really leaps out at me from our stuff is the disco and funk that's at the back of it all. The musical background with us is so varied it manages to encapsulate soul. That's not to say things like Sonic Youth or Glenn Branca or Diamanda Galas, which we also like, don't come through in what we do."

Jan P (snare drum, sarcasm, multi-coloured eyeshadow): "The most natural thing in the world for us is to go out to a club at night, hear a good record and dance to it. You don't have to think about it, you close your eyes and you're in it. It's not just music that influences us, it stretches to other forms of communication media, like advertising or whatever, and our own immediate environment. At the same time, it doesn't matter what music particularly interests us but what we do with it that counts."

It is the width and variety of their influences that has allowed Age Of Chance to tool up their vision so effectively. From the bludgeoning Motown drum beat, narky vocal bark and duelling guitars of their first two singles, 'Motorcity' and 'Bible Of The Beats', Age Of Chance have progressed to a level of noise that sees them stealing clips from operas and Trouble Funk and blending this with recordings from South Yorkshire steelworks.

These eclectic styles are also visible in their personal fashions. They boast the loudest cycle shirts, the best leather training shoes, the baggiest Selfridges' ski-pants and excessive amounts of cheap and ludicrous watches.

It is a perverted Yorkshire interpretation of the teenage American street beat gangs. More Glow Boys than Yo Boys.

Likewise, 'Kiss' is likely to be the first single to cross the differing cultures of black hip hop and white indie music and deliver one swift kick to the head of that vile clot of aural fascism, daytime Radio One.

The sound and image of Age Of Chance is lean, clean, efficient and hard. They are hip hop puritans.

Neil H: "It's natural to want to be good and do what you do well. The harder we work the closer we get as a team. If you don't, the group suffers."

Geoff T (bass, Liz Taylor posters, Tipp-Ex on 501s): "If you want to be mediocre, you rehearse when you feel like it. If you want to be, not good but great, then you have to work at it."

Steven E: "There is no room in this band for laziness. No one has ever not turned up for interviews or practice, because if they did they'd be out."

Neil H: "There is a quote I read recently from an 80-year-old Class War supporter who said, If a Rolls Royce drives past it's no good just swearing or shouting at it. You have to stop the car, smash its bodywork, kick the windows in and then drag out the occupants and stone them to death.

"Well, that's what we've done to 'Kiss'."

Geoff T: "Where we score against a lot of other 'noise' bands is that they try and present what they do in a very avant garde manner, whereas we present our music in a disciplined pop format."

Neil H. "The thing about hip hop is that it is one area of music where new work is being done. It really is a genuinely creative area."

Steven E: "With hip hop the whole thing is to move along very quickly."

Geoff T: "And hip hop has a much younger audience. Like, it starts with eight and nine-year-olds."

Steven E: "The best records released this year have all charted."

O FIND a comparable figure to Age Of Chance you look not in the 'nasty' world of pop, but into the sweat-drenched boxing ring. There, in Mike Tyson, the youngest ever Heavyweight Champion Of The World, you have an appropriate contemporary, the perfect parallel.

Both Age Of Chance and Tyson know that attitude comes before anything else. Before you release a brilliant single, before you smash someone's nose-bone into the roof of their skull, comes attitude.

Both are products of the grim late '80s. Both know the dangers of indulgence and excess. Both are in command of their destinies. Both are best at their business. Boxing isn't a world where failure gets you thrown off a record label but results in your face being demolished. Nor is it a world where gobshites are served with libel writs; instead they collect severe brain damage.

Age Of Chance are taking the approach needed for survival and success in this real world, and they are using it to cut through the music industry.

Neil H: "It's very important that people know we run this band. Lately, there have been people trying to take credit for what has happened and what is coming, and that just isn't on. If there is anyone qualified to benefit from our success it is us - and us alone."

So remember. Attitude! Kiss. Dance. Age Of Change.

Get sexy or get stuffed!

# APPLAUSE FOR THOUGHT

After years in the indie wasteland, HURRAH! hit back with a major deal and the single, 'Sweet Sanity'. RON ROM takes them on

**URRAH! ARE back!** Bigger, better and ten times

louder than before, they are about to prove themselves as one of the last great white rock hopes.

From a desolate wilderness of solitude, without money or record contract, Hurrah! have returned as the raunchy rock band they always wanted to be but were too shy to say.

Not only are they now wearing steamy leather trousers to match their turned-up guitars but they've also secured a lucrative contract with Arista who, like other majors, are slowly learning to pick the roses that have grown untended in their own British back garden.

Hurrah!'s debut for Arista (which still goes out under the Kitchenware name), the irresistible 'Sweet Sanity', is a three minute joyride of impetuous guitars which exhibits Hurrah!'s admiration for past guitar heroes like Eddie Cochran, The Rolling Stones and The Clash. Naturally enough the song burns with passionate guitars, soulful white boy vocals and a vital all round fire. It's an exhilarating, self-confident record that stands up to the demands of the mainstream, with twisting melodies, harmonic backing vocals and polished production.

And 'Sweet Sanity' has a precious dignity that stands proud in the tradition of inspired songwriting, revitalising the ethic of loud rawk and roll bands. However, Hurrah are a million miles away from the gross stadium rock mentality of Simple Minds or Big Country their music is too rich and delicate to cater for such clichéd notions.

QUATTED AROUND a smart coffee table in a London hotel are Paul Handyside (vocals, guitars, songs), David 'Taffy' Hughes (vocals, guitar and songs) and Dave Porthouse (bass). They've had a long frustrating day auditioning new drummers which has finally resulted in recruiting Ric Martinez. They're down to earth Geordies, and our conversation begins with sharing contempt for current pop music.

Paul begins: "I think the majority of records these days are extremely boring. Every instrument is recorded separately, every noise is digitally mastered and the effect is that everything is so dull and lifeless. Everything music shouldn't be."

So do you feed off spontaneity and improvisation?

Paul: "Oh yeah. That's what this band is about. It's not about precision, it's more human than that I mean, we have recorded like that but when we played it back and listened to it, it did nothing for us so we scrapped it. Music has got to get you there, inside."

Taff: "We never analyse this band - we let all the different human elements come through naturally."

'Sweet Sanity' was recorded with the very last pennies that the band had. It was an all or nothing attempt to secure a deal with a major record company, a calculated risk that luckily worked. It's also a natural progression from the shy subtlety of 'Gloria', an unsung masterpiece butchered by bad production.

Will 'Sweet Sanity' jolt a lot of people's preconceptions about Hurrah!?

Paul: "Yeah, I think it will. Because we haven't had a single out for two years now and this record is a lot harder than anything else we have done. We have, for a lack of words, progressed - we have changed unconsciously."

Taff: "It was never a determined effort to get a wider audience, but that's the way the record came out."

Previously, on the Newcastle record label Kitchenware, Hurrah! watched silently as stable mates like Prefab Sprout and The Daintees went on to bigger and better things.



**HURRAHI: Taffy, Dave and Paul** 

Why do they think you were left behind when all the other Kitchenware bands were getting signed?

Taff: "I think it's because we never really cared about it. People used to pick up on the Sprouts because they had a front man in Paddy and a girl, whilst The Daintees had Martin Stephenson."

Paul: "That was the only thing that used to annoy me. Record companies would come along to us and say you haven't got a front man when the biggest f\*\*\*\*\* band of all time, The Beatles, never had a front man."

A bold comparison indeed.

Were you ever despondent or disillusioned during those two years?

Paul: "Oh yeah. We were really fed up about not being able to get a record out and we were despondent, but deep down in our hearts we believed if we kept plugging away it would happen to us in the end."

What, becoming pop stars?

Paul: "No, not really. We just want to release quality records which we can be really proud of."

So what are these songs about? Paul: "I think within the songs there are various characters of ourselves coming out in different ways. Your different moods and your different feelings do come out in the songs and reflect the sort of person you are. Because

everyone's a little schizophrenic." And what are you like?

Taff: "Oh, we are quiet lads generally - when we haven't been drinking," they laugh.

URRAH!'S NEXT album, 'Tell God I'm Here', comes out in the New Year and will underline the band's willingness to break through the frontiers that previously confined them. Their impulsive, emotional songwriting has flourished along with the newly spirited, gutsy guitars. It should firmly close Hurrah!'s garage past and begin a new era of rock passion for them.

Hurrah! are quick to emphasise that they are "no crusade" and that they are merely there to please themselves.

As Paul states somewhat harshly: "People can take it or leave it, basically."

Be sure to take it, people!

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Seven pages of hi-tech product reviews plus Hands On Show report. Edited by Tony Mitchell

#### **AKAI X7000 SAMPLING** KEYBOARD £999.99 QQ3/4 VVV

AKAI IS rapidly becoming the name to look out for if you're in the market for a sampler. While other Japanese companies (relative newcomers all to the world of sound snaffling) are still on their first or second attempt, Akai are busy launching their third (coupled in fact to a fourth, the S7000 sampling module).

Although the X7000 is Akai's first complete sampler - complete with built-in disk drive and keyboard that is - it strikes an interesting balance between their two previous sampling instruments, the ground-breaking S612 and the much acclaimed larger model, the S900.

One obvious similarity with the S612 is the fact that it uses 2.8 inch disks, and, although the X7000 is capable of storing considerably more information on disk than its predecessor, sounds sampled and stored on the S612 can be happily fired up here. (Due to the X7000's ability to store program data on disk the reverse, sadly, is not possible.)

But in terms of using the instrument - sampling, manipulating, and playing sounds - the X7000 has capabilities and to an extent specifications that remind one more of the S900: 40kHz maximum sample frequency, program data storage on disk, multi-sampling and resampling capabilities, and a very up-market MIDI spec.

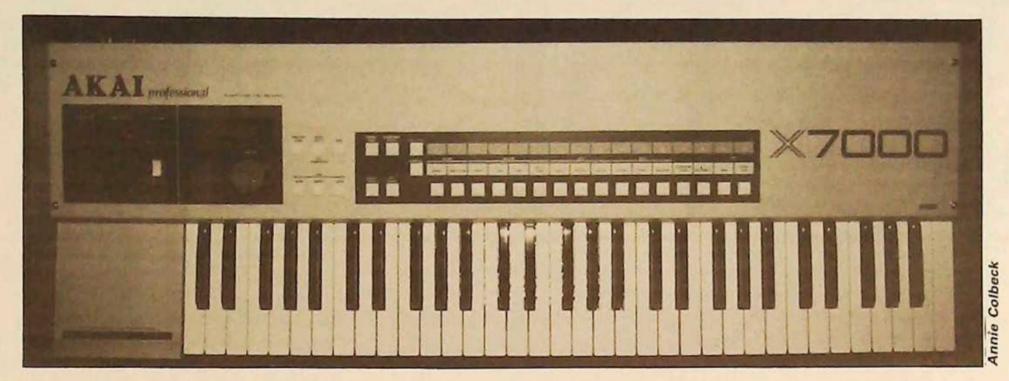
That said, there are still limitations, most of which revolve around the limited space that the 2.8 inch Quick Disk offers. Though cheap and reasonably cheerful, this format is still somewhat labour intensive since it entails a considerable amount of loading and reloading and general faffing about in order to gain access to a number of different samples at a time. And in this respect, the X7000 is no better nor worse than Roland's equivalent instrument, the S10.

Dressed in battleship grey, as are all Akai Professional items these days, the X7000 has clean lines and, with a healthy number of dedicated parameter buttons (Start, Loop, End, LFO Speed etc), would seem to be easy to figure out.

And so it is - eventually but at first I think many people, especially those unfamiliar with sampling altogether, will come unstuck since the opening chapter of the manual simply launches into the business of usersampling without explaining how to access and use the factory disks. Seeing as the X7000 is priced at an "introductory" level, this seems a little unwise.

Anyhow, the X7000 arrives with three factory disks all of which are in fact a grand piano sample (although to my ears an acoustic guitar crept in there somewhere), and to access this wodge of

# X MARKS THE SPOT



multi-sampled data, you must load all six sides, one after the other: insert - load, insert - load, insert - load etc. Sorry to be so specific, but the manual sees fit not to explain this point clearly.

Now, with these six samples safely loaded into the X7000, you have at your fingertips at once some 32 programs - which comprise combinations (splits or layers) of any of the said six samples, complete with sundry key transpositions, filtering, vibratos, output levels and what have you all stored on disk. These factory disks come with just eight such programs written, so you have a further 24 programs free in which you can store (at least temporarily) your own attempts at mixing, matching and editing. This is probably the best way to learn your way around the instrument.

Although not really complicated once you've memorised the procedures, the X7000 will take a bit of time. Most tasks are ultimately self-explanatory thanks to there being a number of dedicated parameter control buttons on the front panel. First, however, you must select a sample you want to work on, which does entail a fair bit of prodding and twirling of the large master control knob which protrudes from below the display screen.

Although the manual seems to suggest users launch straight into sampling their own sounds, I'd strongly recommend an hour or so on the factory disks before you attempt it. Moreover, if you do, I guarantee the X7000's system of sampling will seem like a doddle. The initial procedures are pretty much standard: setting of basic pitch, setting the bandwidth (variable from 1.6kHz to 16kHz), setting the record and trigger levels... and basically off you go.

The potential quality is excellent. At 16kHz bandwidth, you're most certainly in "pro" waters, although your sample time of course is now minimal. Less than a second. Further down the scale, at around 8kHz, you're still dealing with quality sounds, and, with a sample time now of a few seconds, this seems to be the optimum area for day-to-day work. Although the screen displays the bandwidth, it doesn't show sample time, which would have been

helpful.

For some reason, Akai have placed the record level knob at the back, just above the mike and line inputs. This seems odd and a little out of character for this otherwise essentially helpful instrument.

Having made your sample, you are still at liberty to change the pitch and bandwidth before getting on with the business (if desired) of looping.

Looping is the grungy area of sampling. And Akai have done very well here to make this task as simple and straightforward as possible. You can create a loop manually, carefully tweaking the five digit number displayed on screen until a satisfactory result is achieved. But personally, having tried the auto loop system on the X7000, I'd never look elsewhere. It's superb. Even what I imagined to be absolutely unloopable samples whizzed back to me smooth and uninterrrupted.

On the other hand, you may simply want to lop off a portion of sound from the beginning or end of your sample - again an easy matter of pressing, say, the Start button, and using the large master control knob to scroll through the five digit number on screen until whatever offending opening bid has been dispatched.

Having fashioned your sample into something listenable, you may want to fine tune some aspects: add some vibrato, make it brighter, extend the (or more likely create some) release time. Again this is a very simple matter of pressing the relevant button (Release, Filter, LFO Depth etc) and noodling around on the master control knob until you hear the effect you want. You don't even have to press store or anything - just move on to your next task. The range of editing parameters is certainly not vast here, but it is sensibly curtailed.

Here endeth the run down of the X7000's basic range of sampling and manipulating features. There's a lot more to come.

Having sampled a sound, there are several other options aside from basic looping or trimming: you can scan-loop for a start; with this facility, a sound can quickly be set to loop a portion of itself only. The manual illustrates it using the "Good Morning, ing, ing, ing" technique. Quite so. But you can also program "Good

Morning, gni, ing, gni" as well. The same Scan mode also selects Drum Trigger, whereby an entire sample will play back on receipt of a short pulse, say from a drum machine or snare beat.

Such features are not new, but Akai have made them quick to obtain and easy to understand. Full marks for that.

In MIDI terms the X7000 is stuffed to the gills. Just when you thought you'd got the hang of the four basic MIDI Modes, along come Akai with no less than nine modes to get bogged down in. Gulp! The soon-to-be-famous-five

newcomers are Akai specialities of course, and most relate to (again Akai's own) 13 pin Din connectors which are found on most of their recent Professional

If you don't own any of this recent equipment, then you don't really need to worry about the extra modes. The regular Omnis and Mono (2) are, I trust, familiar to y'all. Mode 4, the Mono mode allowing each voice in an instrument to be linked to its own MIDI channel number comes under the control of the 13 pin Din connector though, so Akai are obviously keen that you remain brandloyal if you're into multitimbralism.

The remaining five modes are only available on the X7000 and comprise Special Mono (Omni On/Off), and Multiprogram Polyphonic/

Monophonic/special mono. Basically the X7000 is a versatile and friendly sampler. Once you have the system down, you should be able to execute sophisticated work in less time than on other machines. I don't particularly like the keyboard, which though velocity sensitive is light-actioned, flimsy, and has been fitted in such a way as to leave a damn great gap between it and the rest of the casing (where dust and general rubbish is sure to accumulate).

To be fair, this is a more advanced sampler than the Roland S10, which is an almost exact competitor in price terms. You can do more, sample more and, of course, get lost more. But it doesn't seem quite so well made as the Roland and nor, perhaps, is it quite so easy to operate for the novice or sampling-scared.

But the X7000 deserves to, and surely will, do well. For those who have some knowledge of sampling, and who are, perhaps, keen sequencer users or general experimenters, this instrument offers enormous scope for relatively little money.

JULIAN COLBECK



etc. In addition, a rhythm track is separately provided to control MIDI rhythm instruments

programmed for each sound source.

The rhythm track stores the performance data

created by step writing and can control up to 32 sound sources. Eight levels of accent can be

Convenient recording functions are provided The Punch-In/Punch-Out function allows

replaced by other performance data at will. The Quantizing function automatically corrects the

rhythm. And the Overdubbing function allows the user to overdub other performance data.

unwanted parts of a recording track to be

while listening to a previously recorded

the MC-500 step-by-step

. The performance data can also be loaded by

For greater convenience, a variety of editing

functions are provided. The Merge function allows the performance data recorded on

several recording tracks to be mixed on a single

step writing - all notes and rests are written in

STEPWRITE SOFTWARE DISK

 This program allows the user to write the performance data using the MC 500 controls. Even people who cannot play an instrument can. easily create performance data

The performance data is created by inputting a

note name, gate time, step time, and other elements for every note of a composition. Any complicated composition – even a composition physically impossible to play – can be easily

 This software, like the Real-Time Recorder. software, offers a variety of editing functions. The total playing time of a composition can also

 The performance data filed by this software is compatible with the data filed by the Real-Time Recorder software The price - £799

(comes with the MC-500)

• The MC-500 comes with a 3½" disk containing

programs which let the MC-500 function as a

real-time sequencer and provide tremendous

The performance data is written in the MC-500

by real-time recording from a connected MIDI

instrument. Once the performance data is recorded, the MC-500 can completely control

any MIDI instrument from a synthesizer (such as the JUNO or SUPER JX), to a drum

machine (such as the TR 505, TR 707 or TR 727), or a MIDI sound module (such as the Super Quartet MKS-7). The MC-500 also allows

the perfect formation of any MIDI set-up from a

data for up to eight songs or about 25,000 notes. The song name can also be stored for each

song In addition, the performance data can

simple sequencer synthesizer set-up to a

complicated professional quality set-up.

The MC-500 itself can store the perfor

emory capacity and a wide variety of

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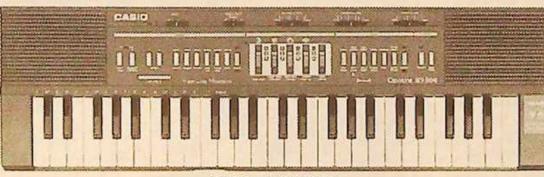
Of course, sometimes you'll want to add even more flexibility to your compositions. Which is why we've produced a range of keyboards and accessories with some very special extra features.

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Like the MT205, you can add Casio's DP1 extension drum pads or SS1 sound sticks for greater realism and an even livelier show. With 8 note polyphonic sound, Casio Chord and stereo speakers the MT500 is unbeatable for around £225.00.

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Of course, not everybody wants to stick to electronic drums. With the Casio SK1, you can sample your own



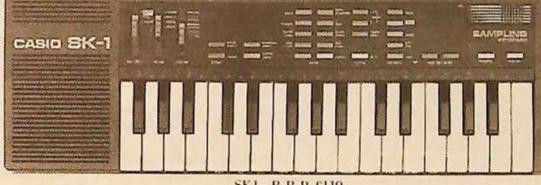
MT500--R.R.P. £225.

drumming through the built-in microphone and play it back through the keyboard, changing pitch and tempo up and down the scale.

You're not limited to just drums either. Record anything from a doorbell to handclaps, from laughter to your own voice and turn it into music.

You can use the sequencer memory to store melody lines and chords and 'synthesise' the sounds by using the 13 envelope variations.

With 32 keys, 8 preset sounds and 11 backing rhythms, it brings a whole new style to your music – drums or no drums. And at around £119.00, it really is a whole load of f-f-f-fun.



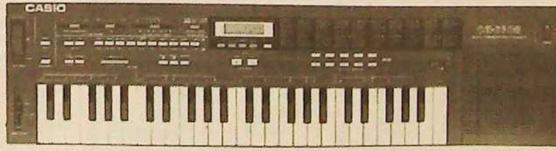
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# ITALIAN IOB



#### **ELKA EK-44** PROGRAMMABLE DIGITAL SYNTHESISER €1299.95 QQ3/4 VV3/4

HAD ELKA decided to launch a pair of up-market synthesisers a year ago, I can't help but think that most who work in the musical instrument business (shops and the press at any rate) wouldn't have given them a second glance.

But it looks like all us clever dicks are being made to eat our words. The Italian jobs, as they will surely come to be known, must be taken seriously, and of the two launches, the EK-44 more seriously still.

The EK-44 is a digital synth; externally a little drab and downbeat, internally fascinating and full of potential.

Basically, what you are offered is a barrow-full of hard-edged digital sounds whose origin, in theory at least, owes a considerable amount to FM synthesis as popularised (and patented still, we thought) by Yamaha. But Elka have been inventive and have used, let's call it "the system" merely as a launch pad from which to produce an instrument brimful of helpful and decidedly performanceorientated features, all of which adds up to A Jolly Good Thing as far as I can

The EK-44 used to its full potential is a complex instrument to program and potentially a wordy one to review. So let's keep things simple and start off by saying that you can switch on and, mindful that all Italian synths make you press Enter before a program becomes playable, whizz through the 96 factory sounds without ripping open the manual. There's a 32 character display screen to help you, cursor keys, and of course the dreaded Enter button. Making life easier still, Elka have actually printed the names of the presets on the control panel.

You'll be impressed. You'll be intrigued, then curious, quickly followed by lost followed by stumped. Then you'll open the manual. Sadly I received a manual only a day or so ago - a week after the instrument was hoiked back - but when you read it, many unfathomable aspects of this instrument begin to

make sense. The sounds are varied. Not only are you presented with a range of sotto voce Yamaha style percussive and clangorous tones, but a whole bunch of surprisingly warm and swirly ones. Ah, there's a chorus. Very smart idea.

Now the range of plug-inand-play sounds is wide and of high quality. But it would

be a waste of time to buy the EK-44 if you're not prepared to put in some time yourself and actually make the instrument work for you. If you just want a bunch of Yamaha-type sounds, buy a DX synth and a load of ROMs. Good though the EK-44's sounds are, it's how they can be applied that singles this instrument out from the pack.

I'll come on to the voice structure in a minute, but let's look at how the EK-44 can be controlled. For a start, the five octave keyboard is velocity and after-touch sensitive, and "weighted" (though "stiff" might be a more accurate description).

Not only can programs be played in pairs - split left and right or layered - while still retaining very impressive nine-note polyphony, but the keyboard can be multi-split into eight individual sounding areas, each blessed with their own MIDI channel number, in which case the polyphony count is sort of first come, first served. Although there may be few occasions when you'll need quite such a sectionalised arrangement for actual playing, the feature of individual MIDI channel number assignment makes the EK-44 a perfect candidate for use with MIDI sequencers.

However, as a "performance" instrument, the EK-44 has several laboursaving devices up its sleeve. Heading the cast must be the 16 performance memories which can store all split and multi-split data, relative volumes and sundry Function Parameter settings, which I'll come to shortly. The performance memories can be stored internally, or offloaded on to cartridge, so increasing the eventual capacity infinitely.

Seeing as this is a performance feature, Elka have sensibly allowed you to recall the performance memories via 16 centrally located push buttons. But if even this seems too arduous, you can store a sequence of performance memories in the program sequence recorder and access them in turn from an MP7 footswitch.

Coupled with the above, the presence of portamento, a Ione flipper-type mod/pitch lever and a reasonably informative and easy-to-read display screen, makes the EK-44 as ideal a player's instrument as you could hope for in this price range.

So how are the sounds produced? Well any fool can see that something akin to FM must be happening just by listening to the them, and by looking at the control panel, which lists parameters with names such as level and envelope scaling, pitch envelope type and feedback.

What seems to be happening is this: you have two basic sound generators called DCGs (digital control

generators) which in turn house two groups of four digital oscillators, all of which generate basic sine waves. The two groups of four oscillators are called Sound 1

and Sound 2. Though each

oscillator can be changed in

pitch and given individual envelope shapes and individual volumes etc, it is how they react with each other that holds the key to the type of sound that results.

The information concerning precisely what all these oscillators are doing to each other lies in the Oscillator Combination section, in which eight permutations, or should we call them algorithms, await your inspection. You can just flip through these algorithms and hear the different character that each lends to your sounds. Just like on a DX.

Obviously this whole concept is distinctly FM-ish, and I don't think it's stretching the point to think of the instrument as being an exploded form of fouroperator, eight-algorithm instrument like a DX9/21/ 100/27.

In the same way as you can simply work on one operator on a DX, you can simply work on one oscillator here; varying the pitch (out of sight at both ends of the spectrum), detuning them slightly, shaping it with a five/stage envelope generator, altering the volume, the keyboard scaling and the velocity sensitivity.

And then there is a whole bunch of global controls that govern all the oscillators in a "Sound". These comprise the Oscillator Combination (already mentioned). feedback, octave, transpose, detune, pitch envelope attack/decay/level/type. various vibrato parameters, repeat, chorus and overall volume.

Soon I began to get an idea of the vast potential that this instrument offers. Undoubtedly some experience of a DX instrument is not going to go amiss, although there are many differences.

And if this similarity to FM seems like a lot of hard work to you, the EK-44's control panel, smothered with diagrams of the envelope systems, preset names and edit parameters, along with the generally most

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informative display screen, does at least try to be a little more forthcoming (on all but the Oscillator Combination front, that is).

And finally to the Function parameters - again overall controls mainly relating to performance-orientated aspects of the instrument that can be stored along with program combinations in the 16 performance memories.

Most of these function parameters are standard fare: modulation controls pertaining to the keyboard (after touch) or mod wheel, pitch bend ranges, portamento, detuning, transposing and a very strange feature under the name of Arabian scale with no detectable effect.

The thing is, the EK-44 is nothing if not a welcome breath of fresh air. Assuming that retailers (already spoilt for choice by the major Japanese manufacturers) give the instrument a chance, it is certainly worth a long. hard serious look and listen.

JULIAN COLBECK

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Steinberg Research software is in constant development and they are a company that is writing serious, easy to understand software for the musician. At Syndromic Music we support the excellent Pro-16 and Pro-24 sequencing packages for Commodore 64 and Atari ST computers. We are committed to the visual editing and generic librarian approach towards MIDI instruments which allow musicians to do what they do best - make music!

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# A STAR IS BORN

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STAR SAMPLES is the latest - and bound to be controversial product to wing its way out of Syndromic Music, the Londonbased hi-tech marketing, distribution, and retail establishment recently founded by Vince Hill (not the 'Edelweiss' one), and run in conjunction with Bernie Jones, late of Rose-Morris.

Star Samples Volume 1 is a selection of drum samples that were recorded by Nik Kershaw drummer Gary Wallis at John Foxx's Garden Studio in London, under the direction of producer Alan D Barson. The idea is to offer you a sound library to sample for your own use.

This first release, as with all those to come, can be purchased on high quality metal audio cassette tape, or on digital F/1 beta videotape, and at first sight you may think the prices high.

So whatcha get then? On both formats, you get eight batches of drum/percussion sounds, each introduced verbally by the erstwhile Mr Barson in his best American deejay voice. They comprise seven drum kits: and ambiences, plus an effects group featuring all manner of cymbals, acoustic and electrified.

Each hit features six drums: bass drum, snare, and four toms, and they are all played three times, once for auditioning, once for level adjustments, and the third for sampling.

It's very difficult to be objective here, when all you have to judge is raw sounds. Do I like/them? Some yes, some a bit, some not very much. Would I use them? Certainly. Would I pay £25 or possibly £179? Yes - if I ran a small studio, I think I would. But do I really need to pay anything for them? Better leave that question til later. I think

The quality: pretty good mainly; the acoustic drums sound lively and are free of noise, overtones and rattles. Personally I would take issue with some, like parts of the large ambient room kit, which are too severely gated—surely an effect that most users who'd pay this kind of money for this kind of thing

are capable of adding for themselves, if they wanted.

Although the samples are coddled together in kits, of course there's no reason why you should leave them so when you sample sounds into your instrument. You can mix and match, and, for that matter, use a medium tom sound for a snare, or with a snare. All such suggestions are clearly made on the accompanying cassette cover, which also carries a brief biography of Gary Wallis and a few tips on how to use the tape.

Sampling is now unquestionably part of the day-to-day life of a huge proportion of all musicians - not just producers, keyboardists and drummers. As the cost of sampling on rackmount devices, keyboard samplers and sampling drum machines has plummeted, so the discussion about copyright

has skyrocketed.

Obviously Associated Music People Ltd own Star Samples Vol 1, and no doubt Gary Wallis is on a handsome royalty for all his hard work. But the bald fact is that any old wally with an Akai S612 can swipe everything on this tape and in turn resample it on his friend's sampler who in turn . . . all for nothing as far as the company or the player is concerned. Exactly as it is when people swipe sounds off records.

So what's to stop you? Well, nothing frankly, except that if you and your Roland S10 are intending to nick your mate's S612 copy of Star Samples Vol 1, the cost of the disks you'll need will probably be more than the cost of buying the tape for yourself. And then if you decide to sell your S10 one day, you'll need to copy them all over to, undoubtedly, your new 3.5 inch format instrument. So it's not quite as free an operation as you think.

Obviously there is a difference between a digital transfer and any audio cassette, but if you are not looking to such a collection for mastering purposes, I highly doubt whether the difference is worth £150. If, however, you buy a cassette to check Star Samples out, and then want to upgrade to F/1, Syndromic will reimburse the cassette price. The audio cassettes use Dolby C by the way, whereas the F/1 is unadulterated.

The Star Sample collection can be bought from Syndromic Music only, and since they are a new and exciting company, here is where you can contact them: 24-26 Avenue Mews, London N10 3NP (01-883 1335).

JULIAN COLBECK

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# PADDED SELL

#### CASIO CT-510 HOME KEYBOARD WITH DRUM PADS £349 **00 VV**

BASICALLY A larger version of the MT-500, the CT-510 not only has full size keys (though still a four-octave keyboard) but also seems to have sprouted an extra four drum pada.

Though gaining drum pads, the CT-510 has lost a few presets. Here there are only 12. They're okay in a smooth and transparent sort of way. Human voice and vibraphone are pure glycerine; soothing as a blackcurrant pastille. The violin (strings) is quite luxuriant, but the "synth sound" is quite revolting: nasal, unmusical and cheap.

All are playable eight-note polyphonically until you fire up the auto sections when four-note polyphony kicks in. The autos comprise Casio Chord and Fingered Chord features, which I trust don't need explaining, and their style of auto accompaniment is linked to the 12 basic types of drum patterns. I say 12 basic types, as you also have a choice (of three) parts that each drum plays. The basic patterns cover a wide but completely predictable range from rock, slow rock, 16 beat, and disco, to waltz, march, and bossa nova.

The drum sounds are PCM generated, that is to say samplebased, and strong and clear most of them are too. The bass drum is firm and meaty, the snare full and powerful, and even the hi-hat is quite bearable. Totally unbearable, though, is the handclap which, literally, sounds like a wet fart.

Tempo and overall volume is controllable and there is a fill-in/intro feature.

The pads, much as on the MT-500, are small, and are prone to bouts of multiple triggering when you try to get fancy. They are not velocity sensitive and you cannot alter relative volumes.

When you're in full flight with the auto accompaniment on, you may feel inclined to take a break from the keys and try your hand at drumming. All you do is move one (or all if you want) of the drum sliders to manual and it's over to you. I found that keeping personal control over the snare is the most fun and the least interruptive.

Quite a good idea in theory is the fact that if you hit a drum pad without changing to manual when you're in full auto flight, the drum pattern cuts out, letting you do your solo bit. In practice, I found that the whole ensemble shuffled back totally out of time with what I played. I can't believe my timing is that bad. Maybe it's just late.

With a pair of built-in speakers and AC/DC power option, the CT-510 is very usable and transportable for a full-size key natrument. The drum pads concept, though undoubtedly a mmick, is nonetheless not a gimmick you're likely to grow ed of, as its purpose is to promote free expression. Free apression being still a rare commodity on such instruments, the CT-510, in spite of its other sonic limitations, is then well worth thinking about.

JULIAN COLBECK

#### A FTER A one-year break, the pro-audio based, Turnkey-sponsored Hands On Show returned with a change of venue to central London's Strand Palace Hotel. Advertised as "bigger and better than ever", the

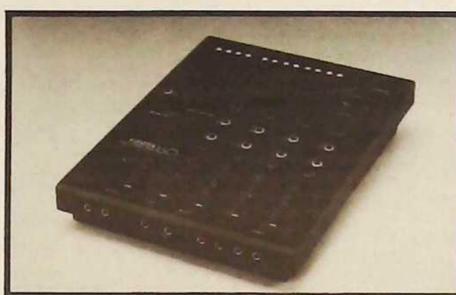
exhibition, held over November 22 and 23, seemed no more extensive than when resident at its previous location in North London's Clive Hotel.

Visitors could have been forgiven for wondering if they'd failed to find a complete section of exhibits. They hadn't. The entire show was located within a relatively modest self-contained area. And one or two leading proaudio names were certainly conspicuous by their absence. No Sound Technology for instance, hence no Midifex, Midiverb or latest hot little number, the Microverb.

If the exhibition itself wasn't the ultimate in product availability, the accompanying seminar programme ensured, for many visitors, a worthwhile trip. Traditionally well attended, this year's programme was no exception, covering such diverse topics as wiring up and using jackbays, acoustics in studio design, SMPTE and its application in video production, and promotional demos by the likes of Akai and Synclavier. I looked in on Gateway's Stretching Eight-Track seminar during the Saturday afternoon and it was standing room only.

Back among the exhibits, only a handful of new product was to be seen, listened to and fondled. Vying for attention with aspiring multitrackers were Tascam's recently launched Porta Two and the new Fostex 160. For the latter,

# HANDS OFF?



FOSTEX'S NEW compact four-track, the 160

this was the first public showing, and Turnkey say that the first shipment has just arrived in the country. If you've recently ordered a 160, now seems a good time to find out whether one of these has your name on it.

Tascam (Harman UK) were understandably using their new JBL Control 1 speakers to drive some of the demo setups. In brief, Control 1 are mini (maximum housing dimension 91/4in) two-way units handling 120 watts into 4 ohms, priced at £149 per pair. They look good, sound good and, by golly, if you're looking for some workmanlike nearfield monitors or maybe a remote system for your hi-fi, they'll do you good. Such is their current popularity, you may have to hunt around a bit to find a pair.

Notwithstanding, you should find them stocked equally by musical instrument and selected hi-fi stores.

AKG were showing a nifty looking new electret head mic - the C410. Designed for both

vocals and speech, the C410 is extremely lightweight (being unencumbered by usually integral headphones) and worn rather like a backwardfacing pair of specs with mic stalk curling round to end up in front of your north and south! First shipments are apparently pre-sold but when generally available, a C410 will set you back approximately

£150. As is sometimes the case, a product of potentially enormous significance will make a most unassuming debut. So it is with The Box. Actually born a couple of years back but, for various reasons, not really visible on the scene until now, The Box is a small, control-less device with a 100-element LED display (in a four-colour diamond configuration) designed to tell you lots of useful things impossible to interpret from VU or peak meters. As it deals with analysing phase and shifts thereof, it provides a continuous analysis and

display of the stereo image of a recording, including balance, levels, width, positioning, and degree of phase inversion. These are all determined by interpreting the LED display.

Just as useful is a facility probably viewed with a certain trepidation by some tape machine manufacturers. That is, hook The Box up to the output of your tape deck and it will display the level of phase error of the heads (or not, if they're perfectly lined up). For this purpose The Box is an ideal substitute for the conventionally required oscilloscope and, with some careful homework beforehand, brings tape-head alignment within the realms of DIY.

Kitted out in a very analogue looking wooden cabinet, The Box is available in three versions (according to range of facilities/inputs etc) priced at £130 for the RSA-5, £173 for the RSA-4 and £260 for the top-of-the-line RSA-1. Further information can be obtained from manufacturers Tapetalk on (0908) 77710.

Top marks in my book go to Revox for providing a service point within their display. Owners of A-and B-77s could, if they chose to lug along one of said machines to the show, have a full once-over and lineup done - free of charge. That's service for you! And adjacent to Revox, Akai were attracting a steady quota of punters to their MX73 Controller Keyboard and the new X7000 Sampling Keyboard (reviewed this week).

Well, I thought the X7000 was new. When I commented on its newness to an Akai staff member, he retorted: "No, it's been around a couple of weeks now."

JERRY UWINS

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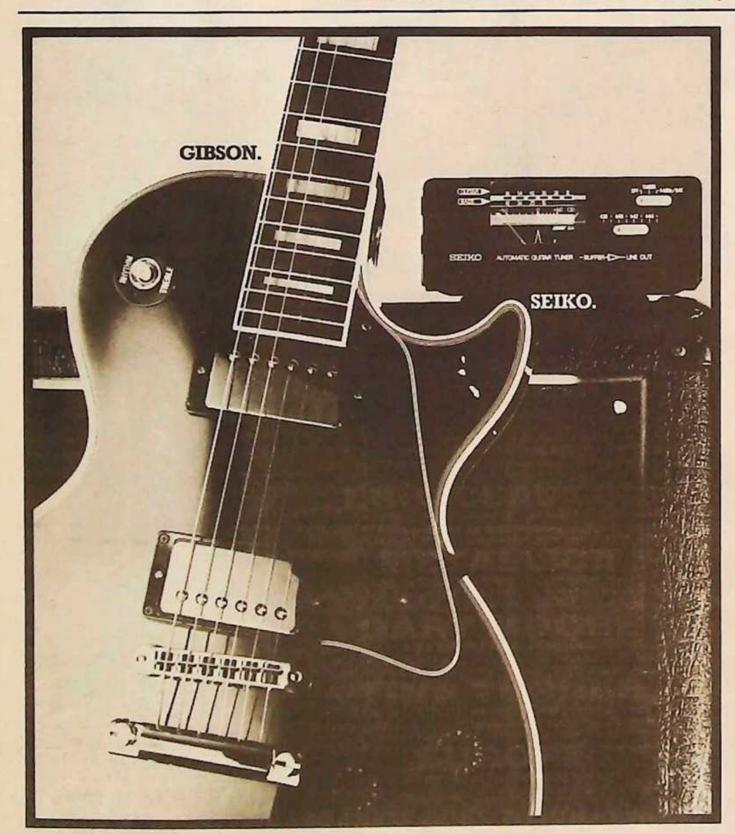
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