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20-PAGE FRANKFURT MUSIC FAIR PREVIEW

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ALBUMS REVIEWED

SALAAM BOMBAY ON INDER'S STREETS OF SORROW INTERVIEW WITH DIRECTOR MIRA NAIR

ICA ROCK WEEK - MANE'S ADDICTION, SHINEHEAD, A HOUSE

CHUCK PROPHET AND DAN STUART PHOTO BY IAN T TILTON





Snake, rattle and roll

GREEN ON RED's 'Here Come The Snakes' album - recorded over a year ago and released very briefly last September before Red Rhino's financial problems left it high and dry – will come out on China Records (via Polygram).

Several indie and major labels have been bidding for the album which has already received rave reviews in the music press. A few copies have also been available on import.

At press time there was no release date set for the album, but Sounds understands that copies are already pressed and awaiting distribution in a warehouse.

Green On Red feature pages 16-17.

Playboy delayed

MORRISSEY fans will have to hold on to their shirts for one more week, as his new single, 'The Last Of The Famous International Playboys', is now to be released on January 30.

"We needed another week to get everything together," said a Parlophone spokesperson. There is no sign of a new Morrissey album as yet, and the spokesperson added that there would be another single first.

Hüsker axeman goes Paisley

Bob Mould cuts solo album at Prince's **Paisley Park Studios in Minneapolis**

FORMER HÜSKER DÜ guitarist, Bob Mould, is recording a solo album at Prince's Paisley Park Studios in Minneapolis. He's signed a record deal with Virgin in America, but there's no records scheduled for release as yet. "The ink is still drying on the contract," a Virginal American told Sounds this week. News of Mould's first activity since the acrimonious split of Hüsker Dü a year ago, follows drummer Grant Hart's first single with his new band The Swallows called '2541' on SST. (Full details and revelations of Hüsker Dü's demise appeared in last week's issue).

last week's issue)

And bassist Greg Norton, who gave up music to work as a waiter in a Minneapolis restaurant, has also now started working with a new band

Return of The Runaway Boys



THE CATS: UK reunion tour

MORE NEWS ON P4,6,7



THE STRAY CATS, who got back together for an American tour last year, have now lined up British dates for the end of February and the first half of March.

Brian Setzer, Slim Jim Phantom and Lee Rocker – whose solo endeavours never matched the success of The Stray Cats before they disbanded in '84 - are finishing off a new album, with producer Dave Edmunds, who was also responsible for the Cats' earlier albums.

There will be a new single out to coincide with the tour, which starts at Norwich East Anglia University on February 25 and continues at Worthing Assembly Halls 27, Leicester University 28, Nottingham Rock City March 1, Folkestone Leas Cliffe Hall 2, London Kentish Town Town And Country Club 4, Manchester International 7, Stoke Keele University 8, Newcastle Polytechnic 9, Glasgow Queen Margaret Union 10, Redcar Bowl 12, Leeds University 13 and Birmingham Powerhouse 14.

'No split' for Rapeman

RAPEMAN have denied reports circulating recently that they've split up.

'Absolutely not true," said the band's record label, Blast First, last week.

And Steve Albini sent a message saying, "I have a fax machine and as soon as I die of a heart attack I'll send the information through to you!"

Out on a limb?

STUMP are rumoured to have split up, reportedly disillusioned with the disappointing sales of their 'A Fierce Pancake' album and 'Charlton Heston' single.

A spokesperson for their record company said last week: "It's true the band have been having problems, but we're trying to work out a positive solution. So bear with us for a week, please."

Eating out

EAT sidle out on their first tour of the country's nite-spots to support the release of their 'Autogift' EP.

They'll assuage their hunger pangs at Keele University February 4, Birmingham Cod Club 5, Sheffield Take Two 8, Glasgow Fury Murray's 9, Bristol Tropic Club 15, Oxford Polytechnic 16, Bath Moles 17, Reading Paradise 18 and Canterbury Kent University 21.

Kings for a date

THE WONDER STUFF have a new single, 'Who Wants To Be The Disco King?' out on February 27

To coincide, they will play a handful of dates around the country. See them at Bristol The Studio March 14, Manchester Venue 15, Newcastle Mayfair 16, Glasgow Barrowlands 17, Birmingham Hummingbird 19, Cambridge Corn Exchange 20 and London Kentish Town Town And Country Club 21-22.

Dog day afternoon

THE WOLFHOUNDS venture out on a tour to promote their new single, 'Rent Act', this week.

Track them down at Salisbury Arts Centre January 26, Oxford Polytechnic 28, Norwich Premises Arts Centre 31, Edinburgh University February 3, Leeds Duchess Of York 11 and London Market Tavern 15.

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in the rock

Sweet honey

Sonic Youth join support band Mudhoney for new 12-inch

SONIC YOUTH, whose British tour dates in March were exclusively revealed in last week's *Sounds*, team up with their support band, Seattle-based Mudhoney, for a joint 12-inch single to coincide with the tour

Mudhoney have recorded a version of Sonic Youth's 'Halloween', while Sonic Youth have returned the favour with a version of Mudhoney's 'Touch Me I'm Sick', which featured in Peel's Festive 50 at the end of last year.

Mudhoney also have an album, the delightfully titled 'Super Fuzz, Big Muff', out in the States on the Sub Pop label. It is being released here via Southern Studios.

here via Southern Studios. Sub Pop also release an album by another Seattle band called Swallow, described as "Stooges, Stooges Stooges, Sonic Youth, MC5 and more Stooges", at the end of February. And they've got some early tracks by Flaming Lips (who've now signed to Virgin) who are described as "13th Floor Elevators meets early Pink Floyd". *The Sónic Youth 'Providence' single mentioned in last week's exclusive turns out to be a promo single, which will be used to excite radio stations in time for the band's visit.



Emotional seen



PETROLS GO chemicrazy

THAT PETROL EMOTION release a live video next week, followed by a new single.

The video, Seen And Unseen, features an hour of music – 17 songs, including 'It's A Good Thing', 'Big Decision', 'Swamp', 'Creeping To The Cross' and 'Groove Check'.

The single is a limited edition 10-inch EP and CD single fronted by 'Groove Check', taken from their recent LP, 'End Of The Millennium Psychosis Blues'.

There is one new recording, 'Chemicrazy', their first since the temporary departure of Sean O'Neill with new bassman John Marchini, and two live recordings of 'Tension' and 'Under The Sky'.

See Petrols competition page 45.

Colour co-ordination



LIVING COLOUR: return dates

LIVING COLOUR return to the UK in March, supporting Anthrax on their tour. A single to coincide with the dates, 'Open Letter (To A Landlord)' (as previewed on one of last year's Sounds Machine EPs), will be out on March 6.

DRI lose bassist



Frost in February

Eleven-date British assault next month



TOM: THE only remaining member

CELTIC FROST start their 1989 world tour with an eleven-date British assault next month.

The Swiss rockers, who recently released their 'Cold Lake' album, have a single called 'Cherry Orchards' out to coincide with the opening date of their tour.

The Frosties start at Cardiff University February 20 and then play Nottingham Rock City 21, Newcastle Mayfair 22, Bradford Queen's Hall 23, Edinburgh Playhouse 24, Liverpool Royal Court 25, Brighton Dome 27, Folkestone Leas Cliffe Hall March 1, Birmingham Hummingbird 2, London Hammersmith Odeon 3 and Manchester Apollo

Support on all dates will be German band Destruction and Acid Reign.

Cult album for April

THE CULT are reported to have finished their next album, which has apparently been produced by Bob Rock, whose latest credits include Led Zeppelin copycats Kingdom Come.

But a Beggars Banquet spokesperson had no title or release details beyond the "likelihood" of April with a single to precede it in March. But there is already talk of "artwork delays", which could change these schedules.

lan, Billy and Jamie also have to find a drummer to replace Les Warner who departed last year in acrimonious circumstances. Warner is persuing legal action against the band, as is the management they parted company with last year.

McCarthy album out

McCARTHY's debut album 'I Am A Wallet' – which came out last year but was deleted in the summer when September Records went bust – will be reissued on February 6 by Midnight Music/Revolver.

It's been remastered, which should counter some of the reviews when it was originally released which talked about "great songs but lousy production". And the CD will also include the four tracks from their 'Well Of Loneliness' EP as well.

The band have recorded a new album, which should be out in March, when they'll be touring again. And a single, 'Keep An Open Mind Or Else', will be out on February 20.

Valentine's day

MY BLOODY VALENTINE venture out again in February, following their last tour in October.

They have a new single out in April and are currently rehearsing and working on their new album.

The tour takes in Oxford Polytechnic February 9, Manchester University 10, Trent Polytechnic 11, Norwich Arts Centre 13, Portsmouth Polytechnic 14, Bristol Bierkeller 15, London ULU 16, Sheffield University 17, Glasgow Queen Mary University 18, Newcastle Riverside 19 and Leeds University 20.

Guitarist quits

HELLOWEEN guitarist Kai Hansen has left the band in the wake of their world tour.

A band statement says the separation was amicable and was Kai's own decision.

"The main reason was the everincreasing stress of touring with Helloween. Even if some would like to think otherwise, his departure was not the result of internal quarrels. All the band members have the highest respect for each other and we would like to assure everyone that there was no argument with Kai whatsoever, leading to his decision.

"As for the future, don't be concerned because neither are we. Things will continue pretty much as before and we wish Kai every success with other projects, as he wishes us further success with Hellowe en."

DRI: DEALING with their loss

DRI bassist Josh Pappe has left the band who haven't long been back in San Francisco after their European tour.

No official reason has been given but the band say they are looking for a "creative replacement", which may give some clues.

Meanwhile, the band have their second album, 'Dealing With It', released over here for the first time by Roadrunner next month. The 25 tracks include 'I'd Rather Be Sleeping', 'Couch Slouch', 'God Is Broke', 'Don't Need Society', 'Reaganomics' and 'Slit My Wrist'. Only singer/guitarist and leader Tom G Warrior remains from the group that last played London in October '87. Since then there have been radical changes, but at least the new album line-up of guitarist Oly Amberg, drummer Steve Priestly and bassist Kurt Victor Bryant has stayed together to form the live band. Recently there was speculation that Priestly had quit in a row about hiring a second drummer.

Meanwhile, original Celtic Frost bassist and musical terrorist Martin Eric Ain is currently reforming the legendary Hellhammer contenders for the "worst band in the world" tag – who transmuted into Celtic Frost soon after releasing their 'Apocalyptic Raids' EP in '84.

Have rock, will travel: Crazyhead hit the road

CRAZYHEAD, who are still reeling from being saddled with the "future of rock and roll" cliché by one music paper, recently, now feel duty bound to prove it with a tour next month. They release a new single from their 'Desert Orchid' album, called 'Have Love, Will Travel', on February 13, and start their tour at Rayleigh Pink Toothbrush on February 23, followed by Treforest Polytechnic Of Wales 24, Walsall Junction Ten 25, Bristol Bierkeller 26, Belfast Limelight 28, Dublin Baggot Inn March 1, Edinburgh Venue 2, Glasgow Review 3, Aberdeen Venue 4, Dundee Dance Hall 5, Newcastle Polytechnic 7, Leeds Polytechnic 8, Middlesbrough Teesside Polytechnic 9, Warrington Legends 10, Manchester University 11, Leicester Polytechnic 13, Liverpool Polytechnic 14, Nottingham Rock City 15, London Kentish Town Town And Country Club 16, Dudley JB's 17 and Sheffield Leadmill 18. To reinforce the point, Helloween have already recruited a replacement, Roland Grapow, an old friend of the band.

The second Ice Age

THE NEW WAVE of Icelandic rock takes off next month when Strax, who played at The Sugarcubes' end-of-tour party at London's Borderline just before Christmas, arrive for British gigs.

Strax were formed in '86 by keyboard player Jakob Magnusson and feature the now traditional female singer Ragga.

They've already played a month-long tour of China and released three albums in Iceland. The most recent, 'Face To Face', is likely to be released over here soon. It was recorded in London with British musicians Busta Jones, Alan Murphy and Preston Ross Heyman.

First confirmed London dates for Strax are at The Borderline February 6 and The Marguee 7.

Page 4 SOUNDS January 28 1989



AcGowan ... binge Booze rap for Pogue big Shane

by GEORGE HOLLINGBERY OOZY pop star Shan McGowan was blasted by a magistrate yester lay for kicking in a window during a drunken binge. ell-raiser McGowan lead singer with The Pogues, admitted he had been boozing al? Jay — despite being warned by doctors that he will DIE unless he with



Singer fined £250 for smashing window

POGUES singer Shane McGowan was fined £250 by Highbury Magistrates last week for smashing a window on Boxing Day.

smashing a window on Boxing Day . "The plug-ugly Pogue", as he was so elegantly described in *The Sun's* report of the case under the headline "Booze rap for Pogue pig Shane", admitted he'd been drinking, but magistrate Mr Graham Parker said, "The fact that you were drunk is no excuse for this offence".

He was also ordered to pay £100 compensation to Islington Council, owners of the tragic window, and bound over in the sum of £150 for 12 months.

Shane refused to blame his behaviour on the failure of 'Yeah Yeah Yeah Yeah Yeah' to repeat the success of The Pogues' last Christmas smash, 'Fairytale Of New York'.

In fact, he refused to say anything at all after the case.

Area by area

THEN JERICO, whose 'Big Area' single has steamed into the Top 30, are now set to embark on a nationwide tour.

Catch them at Edinburgh Playhouse March 10, Leeds University 11, Liverpool Royal Court 12, Newcastle City Hall 14, Sheffield City Hall 15, Manchester Apollo 16, Nottingham Royal Centre 17, Birmingham Alexandra 19, London Hammersmith Odeon 20, Portsmouth Guildhall 21 and Bristol Colston Hall 22.

Dollies dates

THE CORN DOLLIES play Lancaster Sugarhouse February 2, Wolverhampton Polytechnic 3, Walsall Junction 4, Sheffield University 6, Portsmouth Hornpipe 9, Coventry Warwick University 11, London Marquee Club 15 and Hull North Humberside College 18.

Thunders reschedules dates

JOHNNY THUNDERS, who had to cancel another London date last week when his European datesheet became "overcomplicated" (ie, he was double-booked), has rescheduled the date into a British tour.

The dates start with a solo acoustic gig at Leeds Duchess Of York on February 1. He then links up with his band to play Leeds Polytechnic 2, Wolverhampton Polytechnic 4, Cardiff Venue 5, Bristol Studio 6, Brighton Pavilion 7 and London Marquee 9.

Trigger Happy

WIN have announced a series of dates to coincide with the release of their 'Love Units' single. Their new album, 'Freaky Trigger', is due out in early March.

They kick off at Glasgow Queen Margaret's Union on January 27 and then play Aberdeen Venue 28, Edinburgh Queens Hall 29, Manchester University February 1, Leicester Polytechnic 2, London Marguee 3 and Sheffield Leadmill 4.

Please ensure that all news information reaches us as early as possible. Write to the News Editor, Sounds, Greater London House, Hampstead Road, London NW1 7QZ or telephone 01-387 6611.



SOUNDS

GREATER LONDON HOUSE, HAMPSTEAD ROAD, LONDON NW1 7QZ

TELEPHONE: 01-387 6611 TELEX: 299485 MUSIC G FAX: 01-388 5010

EDITOR: TONY STEWART DEPUTY EDITOR: BILLY MANN NEWS EDITOR: HUGH FIELDER REVIEWS EDITOR: ANN SCANLON PRODUCTION EDITOR: SUE SMITH EDITORIAL: ROBIN GIBSON, SHAUN PHILLIPS TECHNICAL CONSULTANT: TONY MITCHELL PRODUCTION ASSISTANCE: EVELYN COURT, IAN CRANNA

DESIGN CONSULTANT: DAVE WINPENNY

CONTRIBUTORS: GRAHAME BENT, SUE BUCKLEY, KEITH CAMERON, DAVID CAVANAGH, JULIAN COLBECK, RICHARD COOK, GARY COOPER, SIMON COOPER, PAUL ELLIOTT, MARY ANNE HOBBS, ANDY HURT, PETER KANE, SAM KING, STEPHEN KINGSTON, JOHN ANITHONY LAKE, BARRY LAZELL, ROBBI MILLAR, NEIL PERRY, JOHN ROBB, RON ROM, MAT SNOW, MR SPENCER, RALPH TRAITOR, CATHI UNSWORTH, JERRY UWINS, ROY WILKINSON, DAMON WISE

PHOTOGRAPHERS: PETER ANDERSON, DOUGLAS CAPE, STEVE DOUBLE, GREG FREEMAN, LISA HAUN, LAURA LEVINE, MARY SCANLON, IAN T TILTON, GAVIN WATSON, RUSSELL YOUNG

ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER: JON NEWEY ADVERTISEMENT REPRESENTATIVES: PAUL ANDERSON, HARRY HELLYER ADVERTISEMENT ASSISTANT: MARGARET CURLE AD PRODUCTION MANAGER: KATHY BALL TELEPHONE SALES SUPERVISOR: ANDRINA MACKEE PUBLISHER: ERIC FULLER MANAGING DIRECTOR: MIKE SHARMAN

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Record News Seven days in the hot vinyl kingdom

THIS WEEK'S

MICHAEL GREGORY: 'Jubilee' (BMG Records) Avant garde guitarist goes

KARIYA: 'Let Me Love You For Tonight' (Sleeping Bag Records/Cartel) - Production and songwriting team Bob Moss and Jerry Ferry say, "She's not a teenage bimbo, we know that she really can

FREDDIE MERCURY & MONTSERRAT CABALLE: 'How Can I Go On' (Polydor) - More high camp from Freddie and his friend. THE WOLFGANG PRESS: 'Kansas' (Rough Trade/Cartel) The A-side is a re-recorded, extended version of 'Kansas' and there's two previously unreleased songs, 'Scratch' and 'Twister', on the B-side. GLENN FREY: 'Soul Searchin' (MCA) – Former Eagle who's been appearing in Miami Vice lifts the title track of his album. TGT: 'Machine Gun' (Play It Again Sam) – Anonymous musicians from the "cult underground".get down and get weird with industrial acid techno house. HG WELLS: 'Walkin" (BMG Records/Ariola) - Despite record company efforts to uncover any background

information, the identity of Mr/

Ms Wells remains a mystery.

TIL TUESDAY: 'Lucky' (CBS) -Back after a two year absence with a song by singer and leader Aimee Mann, and her ex-boyfriend. IG: 'Sold On You' (Phonogram) - Their first release for 18 months and a taster, from their album due out next month.

SEQUAL: 'I'm Over You' (Capitol) - Female dance duo who have spent the last few months working with such names as Mantronik and Stock, Aitken, Waterman. FRANK WHITE: 'One More Lonely Night' (PRT Records) -Recorded last year at London's Pavilion Studio, this track was originally released as a limited edition of 1,000 copies on White's own label. MONIE LOVE: 'I Can Do This' (Cooltempo) – Debut from female rapper who's been working with DJ Pogo. DOROTHY: 'Loving Feeling' (Chrysalis) – An original, not a cover of the Righteous Brothers standard, from Gina and Vicky. Both were once members of The Raincoats. COMMANDO: 'Tell Me' (Nowyertalkin') - Swedish rockers who've already been compared to The Pretenders and Eurythmics - which means they have a girl singer! IAN NEVILLE: 'Not Just Another Girl' (Polydor) - Son of Aaron Neville, the famous New Orleans singer best known for his 'Tell It Like It Is' hit

THE **PROCLAIMERS:** 'I'm On My Way' (Chrysalis) **Includes a live** version of 'Over And Done With' on the B-side, plus two more live tracks on the 12-inch and CD.



ROADSIDE PICNIC: 'Roadside Picnic' (Novus/RCA) - A fusion band who leave no style uncovered. Reggae, jazz, classical and rock: they've embraced the lot. APOCRYPHA: 'Eyes Of Time' (Roadrunner) - Apparently unrecognisable from the band that released 'The Forgotten Scroll' in '87. Led by guitarist Tony Fredianelli, they've now tightened up their act. **OVERLORD X:** Weapon Is My Lyric' (Mango Street/ Island) - Prime mover in the X Posse and previously known as Kool Doc Rock. "We don't rap American," he declares, "we're British and we try to be ourselves

VARIOUS: 'A Food For Thought' (Nettwerk Europe/ Play It Again Sam) - Second sampler from the Brusselsbased label featuring electronic bands Severed Heads, Manufacture and Single Gun Theory plus pop bands MOEV and The Water Walk, as well as a Chris & Cosey track **THE STRETCH HEADS: 'Five** Fingers, Four Thingers, A Thumb, A Facelift And A New Identity' (Moksha) - Twentytwo tracks from the Paisley grunge merchants, including a

'classic" rendition of 'I Should

Be So Lucky'.

MARTYN BATES: 'Love Smashed On A Rock' (Integrity) - Former Eyeless In Gaza member goes solo with a combination of semiacoustic, 12-string and electric guitars and harmonium to create "folk blues balladry tinged with jazz-flavoured blasts'

SOULED AMERICAN: 'Fe' (Rough Trade) - Roots Americans from folk to rock, cajun to country, blues to soul. THE SHRUBS: Vessels Of The Heart' (Public Domain/Backs) -Second album, following on from last year's 'Another Age' single

CONFLICT: The Final Conflict' (Mortarhate) – Back with their new line-up, featuring Steve Ignorant from Crass and guitarist Chris Parish. Ten vinyl assaults on the powers that be. THE JAZZ RENEGADES: 'Playing For Real' (Acid Jazz/ Revolver) - "Danceable fusion" from the band who collaborated recently with jazz rapper Roberto Galliano and are led by tenor sax player Alan Barnes and former Style Councillor Steve White. **DIESEL PARK WEST:** 'Shakespeare Alabama' (Food) - Out to coincide with their tour with Big Country and produced by Chris Kimsey (of Rolling Stones note). Two extra tracks on the CD. The album will be available at a budget

price (£3.99) for a limited

period.

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JANUARY 28TH - ABERDEEN - 'THE VENUE' JANUARY 29TH – EDINBURGH – 'QUEENS HALL'

FEBRUARY 3RD – LONDON 'MARQUEE' FEBRUARY 4TH – SHEFFIELD 'LEADMILL'



Tous News-

A rush of blood



THE HEART THROBS promote their new single, 'Blood Like A Stone', with gigs at Southampton Raffles February 9, Bath Moles Club 10, London Fulham Greyhound 11, Bournemouth Academy 14, Leeds Duchess of York 16, Hull Adelphi 17, Birmingham Cod Club 19, Trent Polytechnic 20, London Camden Palace 21 and London Camden Falcon 24.

KITARO, "one of the most acclaimed recording artists in the Orient", arrives in the UK for a show at London's Dominion on February 18.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, who have just completed a successful string of UK dates, support Simply Red on their forthcoming UK tour.

VOW WOW have lined up their most extensive British tour to date, which will coincide with the release of their new album and single, 'Helter Skelter'. They play Oxford Polytechnic March 2, Wolverhampton Polytechnic 4, Reading Majestic 8, Bristol Bierkeller 9, Milton Keynes Woughton Centre 10, Sheffield University 11, Birmingham Goldwyns 14, London Astoria 15, Folkestone Leas Cliffe Hall 16, Walsall Junction 17, Manchester International 18, Aberdeen Ritzy 21, Edinburgh Venue 22, Newcastle Riverside 23, Bradford St George's Hall 24, and Bury St Edmunds Exchange 25.

George's Hall 24, and Bury St Edmunds Exchange 25. BLOW UP promote their forthcoming album, 'Sidekick', at St Helens Citadel January 28, Grimsby Gullivers 31, Hull New Adelphi February 1, Leeds Duchess Of York 2, Huddersfield The Wharf 3, Portsmouth Hornpipe Arts Centre 10 and London Camden Falcon 11.

TOO MUCH PEACE AND QUIET play a one-off London gig at Stoke Newington Golden Lady on February 5.

THE VOLUNTEERS air tracks from their new album, 'Bladder Of Life', at Bolton Crown And Cushion January 31, Halifax AEU Club February 3, Widnes Derby Arms 8, Manchester Swinging Sporran March 3 and Wigan The Den 10.

THATCHER ON ACID, Political Asylum and Danbut Nobacon rock out for the No Poll Tax campaign among other benefits at Sherborne Woolmington Hall February 4, London Islington Lady Owen Arms 5, Middlesbrough Empire Hotel 6, Bradford One In 12 Club 7, Wolverhampton George Hotel 8, Edinburgh Venue 9, Liverpool Planet X 10, Manchester Swinging Sporran 12, Nottingham Eden 13, Lancaster Gregson 14, Norwich Arts Centre 15, Southampton Labour Club 16, Milton Keynes Counterpoint 17 and Brighton The Richmond 19. PICTURE THIS, the London-based five piece currently attracting record company attention with their 'Awake' and Whatever Happened To Terry' demos, play London gigs at Fulham Greyhound January 25 and Woolwich Tramshed February 9 TUNNEL FRENZIES play Manchester Swinging Sporran on January 28, supporting AC Temple. They have also lined up London dates at Finsbury Park Sir George Robey February 13 and Kentish Town Hype 14. BASIL GABBIDON'S BASS DANCE extend their UK tour with dates at Brunel University January 28, Glamorgan Polytechnic February 3 and Cardiff University 11. RAM, Dirty Shoes and Strega are planning a gig to raise cash for a teenager orphaned in the Lockerbie air disaster, at Brighton Richmond Pub on February 3.

BROTHER BEYOND have added a second date at London's Hammersmith Odeon on March 16.

SHAKIN' STEVENS hits the road with a 26 date UK tour, to follow up the January release of his 'Jezebel' single. Catch Viz comic's favourite rock star at Nottingham Royal Centre March 23, Blackpool Opera House 24, Halifax Civic Theatre 25, Liverpool Empire 26, Bristol Hippodrome 27-28, Sheffield City Hall 30, Carlisle Sands Centre 31, Edinburgh Playhouse April 1, Aberdeen Capitol 2, Newcastle City Hall 4, Leicester De Montfort Hall 5, London Dominion 6-7, Manchester Opera House 9, Harrogate Centre 10, Scarborough Futurist 11, Wolverhampton Civic Hall 12, Brentwood Centre 14, Southampton Mayflower 15, St Austell Coliseum 16, Oxford Apollo 18, Portsmouth Guildhall 20, Brighton Centre 21, Reading Hexagon 22 and Birmingham Alexandra 23.

THE CLAIM promote their new single, 'Wait And See', with dates at Ipswich Council Chambers January 27, Chatham Victorias 28, Manchester University February 2, York Spotted Cow 3, Cliffe Scene 70 Youth Club 4 and Oxford Jerico Tavern 10.

WE ARE GOING TO EAT headline gigs at Canterbury Keynes College January 30 and London Marquee 31. BRIAN SPENCE with his six string guitar, plays London Harlesden Mean Fiddler (Acoustic Room) on January 31.

- SALLY TIMMS plays her first solo date for some while at London Harlesden Mean Fiddler on January 28.
- MDMA have lined-up a brief cross-country jaunt, visiting Leeds Duchess of York February 6, London Camden Palace 7, London Kilburn National Ballroom (with The Godfathers) 14, Brighton Escape Club 19 and London Camden Dingwalls Panic Station 20.
- RED JASPER play Gloucester The Guildhall January 26, Oxford The Dolly 31 and London Harlesden Mean Fiddler February 5. THE THIRD UNCLES, who recently wrote the theme music for
- THE THIRD UNCLES, who recently wrote the theme music for a new HTV series, "kick up a manic dust storm of hard-nosed pop lust" at Cardiff Chapter Arts Centre January 28, London Fulham Greyhound 30, Cardiff Chapter Arts Centre February 17 and Hull Adelphi Club 25.
- KICK play a string of London dates to promote their debut album, 'Providence', at Camden Dingwalls January 31, Finsbury Park Sir George Robey February 1, Oval Cricketers 7, Kentish Town Hype 9, Angel Islington Lady Owen Arms 11, Finsbury Park Sir George Robey March 1 and Kentish Town Hype 3.



FRANTIC FLINTSTONES, the "Didcot based psycho slappers", play Birmingham Breedon Bar January 27, London LMS February 4 and Birmingham Kaleidoscope 7. Friday, February 10th VENUE, EDINBURGH Saturday, February 11th GLASGOW ART SCHOOL Sunday, February 12th DANCE FACTORY DUNDEE

DON'T WANT A LOVER

The debut single available_on 7. inch, 12 inch and CD singl

Page 8 SOUNDS January 28 1989

SOUND

Inside Stories-

Kill or Cure – J Mascis changes his mind

LAST WEEK we exclusively revealed the next Dinosaur Jr single as a cover of The Jesus And Mary Chain's 'Just Like Honey Well, DJ frontman J Mascis has had a change of mind. Rising from a quick 40 winks, J proclaimed: "Yeah, like, we'll be doing a Cure

song. Robert Smith is a much more laid-back kind of guy than Jim Reid. I like that. Sounds did not make a mistake, OK?" The single will be 'Just Like Heaven', originally on The Cure's 'Kiss, Kiss, Kiss' album.

Young gun goes for it



LOU: DIAMOND geezer

HEY'RE ALL challenging the dominant WASP culture," observes Lou **Diamond Phillips of his** major film roles to date. First as Richie Valens in La Bamba, then gang member Angel in Stand And Deliver and now as Mexican Indian Chavez Y Chavez in Young Guns, Lou is unique as a front rank Latino Hollywood star.

'I grew up in Texas and was often mistaken for Mexican and had many Mexican friends. "On my mother's side I'm

mainly Filipino with some Hawaiian, Chinese and Spanish. On my father's side I'm Scot Irish and one eighth Cherokee Indian. Give me a brown race and I can play it!"

Young Guns is a roll call of Hollywood's hottest names. Lou co-stars with Keifer Sutherland, Charlie Sheen and Emilio Estevez in the compulsive true story of Billy The Kid (played by Estevez). The film sees these gelled-up modern American heroes become Wild West hoodlums. As The Regulators they're out to revenge the killing of their boss, English rancher Terence Stamp, initially as legitimate deputies and then as outlaws.

His closest colleague on Young Guns was Keifer Sutherland, a friend ever since a chance encounter in an LA shopping mall.

We hit if off and, as is the case when you meet somebody you respect, you say you hope to work with them someday. The nice thing was we were working together within a month."

WRITE TO REPLY

A problem of independence

AM writing to you concerning your "Independent" chart, and the way in which it is compiled. I realise that whatever is done it is hard to get an accurate assessment of sales, and probably the Gallup system is the most accurate

in the majority of cases. However, as an individual it is impossible to sell records through the record chains of HMV/Virgin/Our Price. They will not open accounts with individual labels such as ours (Honey Bee Records, Zoot And The Roots' own label).

This fact, coupled with the problems at Red Rhino, has left us with a big problem, since many of the Gallup shops are major chain stores. Zoots' album is registering directly to indie shops, but we do not have a hope in hell of getting into your chart whatever we do.

We had the same trouble when we released our own single because HMV etc have a policy of not stocking independent singles (unless they are in the charts), and especially not if they are released by the band themselves

I feel that, at a time when the major record companies have an increasingly stronger hold on the music business, it is up to you to make sure that the indie chart is truly indie and not dominated by the likes of Kylie Minogue, Erasure, Stock, Aitken, Waterman etc. who have as much money as the majors; they must have if they can advertise on TV Miranda McMullen, Zoots Management, York.

The singing detective

IVING IN the shadow of brother Sly has long been difficult for the affable musician and actor Frank Stallone.

But he's now emerging in his own right with a cinema career which began predictably enough with his appearance in Rocky. Since 1986 he's completed nine films.

This week sees the follow-up to his brawling barman in Barfly as the cowpoke, C&W-singing detective Ledray in Heart Of Midnight.

"I've been charged with nepotism. In 12 years I've been in five of his films. In all five I've had a sentence of dialogue and one-and-a-half minutes of screentime. So I haven't built a career on that. Getting crosscollateralised can drive you crazy and some people fold under it. But I don't plan on folding. I keep on my game plan."

Music also features in 39-yearold Frank's game plan. With a career reaching back to the '60s he now has four albums under his belt, several Grammy nominations, and shared credits for the soundtrack to Saturday Night Fever follow-up Staying Alive. This summer he plans to record an album of

"contemporary" music to follow his last LP of big band standards, 'Day In, Day Out'

Frank's rock tastes are traditional.

'I love the big band stuff. I'm a little lost where rock 'n' roll is right now. I understood The Beatles and I understood Chuck Berry, Little Richard and the R&B stuff. But heavy metal men with their hair ratted-out. . . I can't

Life's hard when you're Sly Stallone's brother and you want to act. TOBY ROSE sympathises



FRANK STALLONE: Rambo never started a fight. . .

George Michael, Pet Shop Boys and Go West.

For Barfly his friend Mickey Rourke defied the producers and stood by Frank as the beefcake barman.

"I must say there was some resistance from the company. I said, I'm used to that, being a Stallone. They said Mickey didn't want me on the film. I said fine if that's a professional decision that came down from the top, I accept it.

The next day he ran into Cannon's office and freaked out and said, I'm walking off the set and taking everyone with me. I'm ready to go with Frank." Now Frank's back as singing detective Ledray in Heart Of Midnight. .

'I'm the only one who's funny in this movie. I'm funny but I take my job seriously, a kind of cynic.

With headlines again screaming of Rambo-style carryon, fictional lawman Frank sheds light on the phenomenon.

They interpreted it wrong. Rambo never started a fight, he's always there to help people. I read about this guy in England who thought he was a Rambo, they misinterpreted it. They're wrong.

His belief in Rambo's pacifism is underlined in the title track he penned for Rambo: First Blood

HEY - I CAN'T WAIT FOR THE NEW SKY SATELLITE T.V. I'VE GOT ALL THE GEAR OUT IN THE GARDEN

understand what they're talking about - devil worship or what? His current UK raves are

Part Two, which he called 'Peace In Our Life!' Which just goes to show Frank Stallone has a keen sense of irony.

Joining Keifer and the others for Young Guns, ego clashes were expected. But existing friendships made it more like summer camp on set in the New Mexico desert.

"It was a serious film but we had a great time together. Anytime you get too serious about your work, I think you get a little too tight. The nice thing was we were the same age. We could sit around and we understood what each other was going through.

Phillips goes straight onto his next film, Lakota, starring with Keifer Sutherland, while in the US his latest, The Bank Job, has just been released.

"It's about bank robbers and I'm the youngest of the gang, the driver of the getaway car. But he's a beach bum, an outsider really. Maybe it's in my nature." TOBY ROSE

C ALAN SEAMAN KEVF. A. PEN









MY LIFE is in a real mess at the moment, and it's all due to my embarrassing dad.

We used to get on so well, too. He got me a job as a boot scrubber at his football club, and later gave me my first break playing for the first team.

But just when things were looking bright, disaster struck. One night, in a fit of rage, Dad attacked a group of identity-card-free hooligans strolling on our lawn. Fortunately, a nearby squad of law enforcers failed to notice the incident, but by chance a nearby TV camera did.

Now all my friends are teasing me, saying, When's the big match with Mike Tyson?

My social life is ruined and I fear my career could soon be on the line. What can I do?

BRIAN SAYS: Well, Nigel. . .er, I mean, young man, you could be right. I'd be damn grateful for all your father's done for you, and hope he doesn't guess who you are from your snivelling diatribe. Otherwise, you could find yourself dropped from the squad and end up a penniless beggar or, even worse, at Spurs

A three-minute slot

DINBURGH THREE-MINUTE magicians Win have long displayed an interest in the techniques and tricks of the advertising world. They took a lyrical insert for their 'Unamerican Broadcasting' single from a Mary Quant advert. On live dates in 1987 they played ads between songs. And their 'You've Got The Power' was used as the soundtrack in an award-winning McEwan's lager advert.

Now, with the latest redesign of the magazine Woman's World, Win are getting their most notable subliminal advertising payback to date. When the photo of the model on the cover is superimposed over the Woman's World logo it becomes virtually identical to the Win logo.

The similarity is well illustrated by the sleeve of Win's current single, 'Love Units', but this stylistic interchange goes back further than that, as Win frontman Davey Henderson explains.

"With our 'Shampoo Tears' single we were modelling the sleeve on a woman's magazine cover, trying to get that feel, that softness.

And now they're ripping you off?

"Aye, I definitely think so. Personally, I don't even like the Scottish pop group in sublime subliminal advertising coup! ROY WILKINSON gets the cover story



new version of our logo - it's meant to look like the box from Life magazine or something."

Was calling yourself Win a conscious attempt to receive subliminal advertising, playing off competitions offering the chance to win, win, win?

That was definitely the idea.

When we got a smash hit single, people were meant to remember our name and then get reminded of it by Sun bingo adverts on telly. Unfortunately that hasn't happened yet."

With Woman's World on their side that could well be changing.



Rush grapple with hitech again on their new live double album, 'A Show Of Hands'. **Roy Wilkinson** hears of their love-hate relationship with computers

ANADIAN ROCK behemoth power triumvirate in double live album self-fossilisation blow out! For the third time!

Alert, alert, excess all areas - surely this isn't a healthy activity for man or dinosaur?

Following on from 'All The World's A Stage' and 'Exit. . . Stage Left', the current Rush 24-inch tour testament, 'A Show Of Hands', is the band's third shot at gatefoldsleeve-double-live-albumdom.

And, of course, these artefacts are habitually scathingly dismissed as evidence of the stadium-bound senility of the megabuck rock combo. But, if you alter your perspective, it's possible to see the hi-tech stadium performance and its attendant vinyl offshoots as logical, even natural terrain for Rush.

The three members of Rush are obviously consummate musical technicians. When this is combined with the way the band have embraced technology, both in the performance and the subject matter of their songs, you could argue that the stadium show, with its emphasis on state-ofthe-art visual and sonic technology and precision organisation, is something with which the band have a natural affinity.

Neil Peart, the band's drummer and lyricist, a man who employs the potential of technology to the extent of using a revolving two-drum-kit turntable set-up onstage, is in two minds about this hypothesis.

"I see the connection you're making," he says in his precise, articulate variation on the North American tongue. "Technology is still always a difficult thing for me to grapple with in songs. I've certainly dealt with it a lot, going back to 'Natural Science' where I put forward the argument that science is a natural thing, and that like other natural



HE APPLANCE

RUSH: "TECHNOLOGY does have a darker side."

things, we need to tame and preserve it.

"But it does have its dangerous side and a song like 'The Manhattan Project' (the name given to Oppenheimer's development of the first atomic bomb) was an attempt to be objective about the dark side and to demythologise the whole idea of nuclear power.

"But, I'm much more an organic person by nature. I love the energy of the city, but I am a private, introspective, even introverted, individual. So I would say I'm more content sitting under a tree than in an arena full of technology. But at the same time, my ambition and my creative side demands that I use technology as a tool.

"My organic interest in music is rhythmic which is pretty fundamental, and writing lyrics means putting things down on paper, so that's a very fundamental method. But when I see a computer that'll help me, or I see digital sampling which'll conceivably give me every sound in the world onstage, then I can hardly resist.

"But as I say, technology does have a darker side and in music it can be used as a mask rather than a tool."

VEN IF Neil doesn't see himself as totally at one with technology, it's difficult to connect Rush with the kind of technofear that plagues someone like **REM's Michael Stipe.**

"Certainly, we've made enormous use of technology. Especially being a three piece, it's been an invaluable tool to us - it's constantly expanded what we can do.

"I don't have a fear of computers because I use them every day. But I do have a lot of trouble with machines - I might understand how they work intellectually, but if I try to fix them there's definitely no empathy there. If some people are at one with machines then I'm definitely at two with them."

One of the pieces featured on 'A Show Of Hands' is 'Time Stand Still', a song that deals with appreciating the moment to the maximum before it's lost to the past forever. Is there a connection here with the live albums and the way they record Rush performances forever?

'Oh yes, there really is, because you so rarely get to see yourself play. We have a concert video coming out, and being able to see a show does really bring a massive shift of vantage point.

"When I listen to a performance I'd forgotten, certainly the train of thought that was in my mind at the time I played is brought back. My mind jumps all over the place, from what I'm doing to what I'll be doing in a few seconds to what somebody in the audience is doing.

'That's the confusion, the mental

state of loss, and that's a nice thing to step out of - to step out of that continuity and concentration and that level of intensity and just be able to enjoy it, to appreciate it as a finished thing. That's the leisure you don't have at the time."

Could 'A Show Of Hands' inclusions like 'Big Money' and 'Marathon' be seen as subtitles for the performance process? After all, arena shows are virtually synonymous with the generation of big bucks and marathon duration.

"Marathon' certainly has a metaphor to playing a two-hour show. There is a kind of mental focus in the Zen state that goes with long distance running and that definitely is comparable to getting yourself into a groove for playing a long live show." And long term tour grind?

"Touring has become a science for us: of how to do it and what system of work works best for us - how many days in a row put us at our peak and how many push us over the top. We like to be away for three weeks, then home for a week. It's on that kind of rotation.

T times like this, Neil sounds like a time and motion consultant from some industry. Which is just what a Rush tour is - so does it feel strange to be at the centre of a mobile industry on this scale?

"Yes, it does – and obviously it has its difficulties. But there is a sense of power in it, a sense of achievement. That's satisfying, and there's a reponsibility that comes naturally from working on that scale.

"It's a big responsibility for the 40 people who work for you. Then there's the scale of economics involved and the record company politics involved. It can become a headache, certainly. I'm very much into immediate gratification, having things happen, dreaming ideas up and making them come true. So when stupid things get in the way of that, I get very impatient."

Realising fantastic notions? The man sounds like Steven Spielberg, and rightly so, because Rush's hi-tech entertainment machine is not that far removed from the Hollywood dream factory. Both work on awesome schedules and both are oiled by big money. In which case it's happy coincidence that a rush is movie industry jargon for the first print of a film. Moving pictures indeed.

PWEICANUDIGIT?

OUT NEXT WEEK I THE NEW SINGLE ON SEVEN: PB 4 26 2 1 ON TWELVE: PT 4 26 20 ON CD: PD 4 26 20 ALSO ON LIMITED EDITION ORANGE VINYL SEVEN: PB 42619 PRODUCED BY ANDY COX AND DAVID STEELE OF FYC

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27 JAN	SHEFFIELD	CITY HALL
28 JAN	NEWCASTLE	CITY HALL
30 JAN	EDINBURGH	PLAYHOUSE
31 JAN	ABERDEEN	CAPITOL
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8FEB	CORNWALL	COLISEUM
9 FEB	GLOUCESTER	LEISURE CENTRE
11 FEB	BIRMINGHAM	HUMMINGBIRD
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THE NEW SINGLE phonogram mercury PEACE IN OUR TIME 7"-12"-CD & SPECIAL 7" POSTCARD PACK ALL FORMATS FEATURE PREVIOUSLY UNAVAILABLE TRACKS. CD SINGLE FEATURES THE CLASSIC "CHANCE". COMING SOON ON VIDEO "PEACE IN OUR TIME · LIVE IN RUSSIA"







HERE'S NOTHING lovable about Loop. This causes problems, because people meet them

expecting a bunch of spaced-out goofballs with whirling eyes.

Instead, they get Neil, who sits and stares silently out of the window; John, who speaks only occasionally; and Robert, who talks a lot – but only if you ask him about recording techniques and the characteristics of various brands of wah-wah pedals.

Loop may indeed play earmincing, kaleidoscopic rock 'n' roll, but as individuals they bear no resemblance to the vivid, almost cartoon-like personalities that make up the likes of Crazyhead, The Wonder Stuff, or even Dinosaur Jr.

Loop take their craft seriously. It's The Music That Matters is their motto, and fiddly little background details are a waste of time.

Nothing, they say, should be allowed to divert attention from their rolling, humming, deafening, electric guitar noise symphonies.

When we started people kept on asking us all the time, How many acid tabs do you drop? And it wears you down after a while, you just get so f***ing bored with the same questions all the time.

"In the end you find yourself not even bothering. It's a bit bad really, but it's getting better now. People are managing to get to grips with us at last

Robert gives me a meaningful look, John does something complicated with his fingers (hard to see with all the hair in the way) and Neil, continuing to gaze out of the window, merely nods. The urge to check this man's pulse for traces of life is strong.

They're an odd bunch and yet, somehow, they've hit upon a winning formula, packing in the crowds and enjoying the kind of feverish loyalty only bestowed upon a highly select minority of rock acts.

Loop's new album, 'Fade Out', will soon be floating effortlessly to the top of the indie charts. Just watch it go.

FEW people, whose names I won't mention, are actually moaning about us playing to 1,500 people now at the Astoria. We've not sold out, we've got very tough ideals and we've kept to them. We've never even done anything that we didn't want to do.

Robert is exasperated. How could people say such things? The 'sell-out' jibes may be totally dumb, but they're getting to him, and they shouldn't.

'I think 'selling-out' is when. mean people want us to still be playing down some f***ing small little pub, so everyone can be really underground, you know? The fact is we're booked into the Astoria because that many people want to see us, so surely that's fair enough.

"We do sound as big in a large place 1 as we do in a smaller place. I still think the music can drag you into whatever people like getting into. I don't see that there's any difference, really. "Every gig we do is almost a one-off

for us, because we try to put 100 per

wholehearted approval of compact discs, among Loop's primary concerns is the restoration of stereo to its former twin-pronged glory.

Robert talks affectionately of the medium's early days, albums by The Hollies where you'd get all the bass and drums on one side "...and the guitar and vocals all on the other. It never swims around or anything, it's just there

'From the moment the record starts, to the moment it finishes, you can guarantee you'll hear exactly the same things out of each speaker.

Coincidentally, good stereo separation was a trademark of both Hawkwind and Black Sabbath – the two bands with whom Loop are most frequently compared.

And it really is a coincidence. For, spurred on by all the comparisons, Robert's curiosity recently drove him into buying his first Sabs and Hawklords LPs. Neither group impressed him.

'I never really owned records by people with long hair. I've always been into music. I inherited my father's collection of stuff like The Byrds, Neil Young and Buffalo Springfield, things like that.

"Everyone went through that punk

thing where they all sneered at the old farts, but I didn't chuck my records out,. because I still admired those bands. That's what I grew up with, and a lot of Tamla Motown as well.

RIVIALITY IS Loop's biggest enemy. It's what they're kicking against most of all, so getting them to own up to little personal details is like drawing blood from a stone.

We'll have to make do with the knowledge that they're fans of the downmarket end of late '60s psychedelia, and also the German techno bands of the early '70s, like Can, Faust and Neu.

Additionally, Robert used to be a bit of a tearaway at school and, still more intriguing, Loop have jobs. These range from working in garages to toiling in sandwich bars

"Really crap jobs, you know?" Robert sighs. He wishes he'd kept his mouth shut.

I dunno, other people probably would like to know what we do, I guess, but really we don't class it as important. We're basically here to talk about our music, and the way we act, the way we survive, it's all there. It's in SOUNDS January 28 1989 Page 13

the music." Apart from It's The Music That Matters, another of Loop's mottos is Nothing We Do Is Nice. They often use "nice" as a grave insult – as in Neil briefly emerging from beyond the valley of death to announce that he "hates Womack & Womack's 'Teardrops', because it's nice.

When I confess to having difficulty in imagining them going out and having a good time, they pour scorn on the notion. Ridiculous idea, laughs Robert.

"But that isn't to say that when we're not doing Loop we're totally fun-loving people who just go out and set the world alight.

"I mean, there are times when you have to think about the band, you have to think about writing the songs and stuff.

How far ahead do you look with Loop?

- "Until the end of next week, probably.
- What about on a personal level? The same.
- Not even a year?

"No, not really, there's no point. I might be dead before then."

But your music, Robert. That would live on

Why does the music of King Swamp bring to mind the blues of Muddy Waters? Mary **Anne Hobbs** wades in deep to find out. Pic by **Peter Anderson**



WAMP. WHAT a great word. A word which becomes more and more attractive while contemplating its murky entirety in a Battersea tea room at lunchtime.

Mission seem to have come through now, but The Cult have only ever re-hashed borrowed riffs. It seemed to us there was a place for rock music again but that it should be hard hitting and exciting.

"We started talking about The Doors, Hendrix, Zeppelin and the whole '77 punk thing," continues Halliwell.

album's remaining tracks. "With 'Is This Love?' everyone went, Yeah, lurve, that's a single," grins Halliwell.

"There's only a couple of songs about lurve on the album; 'Is This Love?' which is about falling in love, and 'Blown Away' which is

cent commitment into everything we do. Laziness comes into it with some bands after a while, because they start believing their own press, and they don't really care any more about what they're doing.

Have you always been attracted to high volume?

Oooh, yeah. That came from all the groups I used to be into when I was younger, the Velvets and the Stooges and that. But we don't use high volume for high volume's sake. It's our fifth instrument, you can create an atmosphere with it. We use volume.

'We've had people telling us we're too loud, but that's not their business. We're doing the business and we're trying to create the best possible atmosphere to listen to our music."

Loop are very much into sound ("I make no bones about that," says Robert, currently nursing a perforated ear-drum to prove it) and the effect that a well-aimed chunk of psychedelic grunge can have on the human mind. Although they confess to a

"It's really a metaphor for the way things have worked out for this band," begins singer Walter Wray.

"It's rootsy. It brings the old blues men like Muddy Waters to mind and it symbolises a breeding ground."

King Swamp began, the product of festering dissatisfaction Shriekback exile Steve Halliwell and Gang Of Four bassist Dave Allen shacked up on the banks of the Mississippi, just outside New Orleans, with a couple of guitars. "We were fed up. We

wondered what the hell was going on with music," sighs Allen. "There were all these bands making pretend rock music... The Mission, The Cult. The

"The idea of taking dirty, grungy R&B, maintaining that original spirit, which came from an outcry against tyranny. We wanted to capture that and bring it up to date.'

Two years later, guitarist Dominic Miller and drummer Martyn Barker complete a line-up that shivers with feral energy beneath Wray's deadly vocal.

HIS MONTH, King Swamp release a self-titled debut album (mixed by Bob Clearmountain) of startling gravity. Meanwhile, their first single, 'Is This Love?', may smack of simplistic sex, but is virtually threadbare in comparison to the

when you're failing out of love.

"Love is a bitter sort of thing that decays, like everything else, and we've tried to write about it quite accurately.

"Everyone's romantic," he smirks. "But plumbing the depths is just as interesting as singing about how, um, nice it is.

"I'm sure the album will rise above the dross and stand up as one of the better records of 1989," asserts Allen. "It was a deliberate policy to write songs like 'The Mirror', which owes a lot to The Doors, and the reference points on tracks like 'Motherlode' and 'Widders Dump' will remind people of when rock music was good." 'You can dance to it," offers Halliwell.

"And you can f*** to it."



Brain Game

PRIZE X-WORD **BY SUE BUCKLEY**

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THE POGUES, Steve Earle, 10,000 Maniacs, The Proclaimers, The Robert Cray Band and Tanita Tikaram (pictured) all on a 28-track double album - now, that's what I call music.

'New Roots' draws together some of today's top talent - artists that draw on tradition yet create unique sounds - as an antidote to formularised chart fodder. And we've ten copies to give away (courtesy of Stylus) in this week's X-Word.

Send your completed X-Word, with details of your name and address, to: New Roots X-Word, Sounds, Greater London House, Hampstead Road, London NW1 7QZ. All entries must be in by February 1.

IN TODAY'S MUSIC

ACROSS

1. Flash lighter? (3.8) **K**Queen spent a day here 197-Boss hot rod (5) 11. Tiger fear ignited XTC! (5.4 anag) When Costello wrote the book (8) 13- Guitar ace from Paris, Texas (2.6) 15. Elemental soul band in September (5.4.3.4) 19. Writer and famous small person (5.6) 24. Four stop and reach out (4 anag) 23. Cave, the bad seed (4) 24. Emmylou's hotel (5) 26: Changes sure are gonna be made in the circus (7 anag) 27. There was a big 'un in the windmill (3) 29. It's new, or red, but was blue last Monday (5 anag) 30. Beatles' lovely meter lady (4) **31.** Steered by a wet and lunatic Plant (4.2.5) 34: Pretenders' gang (5) 36: The Pointers, relatively speaking (7)

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OUT NOW ON 7"& 12" AND LIMITED EDITION 7 GATEFOLD AND 12" PICTURE DISC

DOWN

1. Pere Ubu's 365 days in residence? (3.8.4) He had no regrets (5.3) 3. Omnipresent hit from Fleetwood Mac (10)

ONE LITTLE INDIAN X-WORD WINNERS

Andy Tibbs, Robert Gadsby, Craig Logan, Sarah Rose, David Turner, Doug Turner, K Spaull, Paul Rabjohn, Lee Humphries, Bob Stead

14. He ripped it up with a fruity band (5.7)

4. She had Eric down on

5. Pop singer? (4) 6. All About Eve see 'em in

7. One in UB40's kitchen

Style Council spoke like one (5) Queen's see-through

his knees (5)

heaven (5.5)

heart attack (5)

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

ACROSS 1. Substance 5. Elton 8. Astral 9. Endless 11. Can't Buy Me Love 13. Good Tradition 16. The Seer 18. Toto 19. Dr 21. All 22. Hook 23. Up 24. Elected 27. Sweet 28. Imagine 30. Noddy 31. EP 32. Nitty

DOWN 1. Staring At The Sun 2. Bat 3. Train 4. Every Little Bit 5. Eddie 6. The 7. No Sleep 10. Abba 11. Close To Me 12. Leo 14. Them 15. In The Rain 17. Rapture 20. Red 25. Twist 26. Stay 29. Ely

16. With his band he lived in the past (3.8) Fatale lady (5) **18.** His eyes are evil (5.3) **20.** They shove it (3.5) Plandick latter 2 (7) 22. Blondie's letters? (7) 25. Tripled by the Beach Boys (3) **29.** Openings for storm riders (5) **32.** Wage for Waybill (3) **33.** Rain for Rose Of Avelanche (1, 1) Avalanche (1.1)

OOLLY UNASSUMING, Tom Keifer is something of a rarity in a business where gaucherie pays.

Picking at seafood lasagne, his frank realism seems at odds with his role as mouthpiece for US arena rock conquistadores Cinderella.

"People like things that they're familiar with. I do," he admits. "I like to buy records that remind me of other records. I like new bands that remind me of an old band I used to be into. You grow up on a certain sound and that's what you like."

Is the familiarity of your highly derivative songwriting Cinderella's chief strength?

"I don't think that hurts, y'know? If you're gonna play rock 'n' roll, you're gonna play rock 'n' roll. You can play something brand new that no one's ever heard before, but it's not gonna be rock 'n' roll. And that's what we want to play - traditional rock 'n' roll and you gotta be derivative in some way to play that.

"I haven't put anything on record though, that's a cop from anyone else."

"My song had been sung," Tom croaks on Cinderella's current second LP, 'Long Cold Winter', but it's not a self-deprecating joke, nor a preemptive swipe at critics. In fact, Tom can't think what he meant by that line.

"What did I mean by it? To be honest, I don't know. Let me think about it." He pauses, buttering a roll.

"No," he shrugs, "I don't know. It came to me very quickly, that line. I never even thought about it."



Cinderella combine a glad rags image with the rich pickings of traditional rock 'n' roll. Paul Elliott hears their story of the blues

HERE THEIR 'Night Songs' debut shoe-horned AC/DC and Aerosmith licks into tacky new spandex, 'Long Cold Winter' tilts at blues. The title track sounds like blues learnt from a Led Zeppelin album, although Tom talks of other, more essential influences.

"I listen to a lotta Johnny Winter, Muddy Waters, BB King, Keith Richards – and Jimmy Page is a very bluesy guitarist. Either straight blues or rock 'n' roll that's heavily bluesinfluenced."

Might people have difficulty equating a strong blues influence with your stubbornly quasi-glam look?

"No, it's something that's been done before. The Rolling Stones were a blues and R&B-influenced rock 'n' roll band and they had a glam look. Aerosmith too. It's not like it's new."

Tom is an unflappable reactionary, and at its best - the husky, thumping 'Gypsy Road' - his songwriting is an irresistible vibe; off-the-cuff gut rock.

"On this record, we've opened up some doors that we can explore further. Acoustic music, blues, rock 'n' roll. I think we're an honest band. We don't put on an act for anybody. We don't have to talk about how much Jack Daniel's we drink. The music's from the heart and kids like that.

"Plus, it's a sound that hasn't been around for a while. A lotta bands claim they're blues-influenced hard rock bands, and there's not too many that really are. I've never really considered us a heavy metal band. We're a hard rock 'n' roll band.

Indeed, Cinderella's new UK offensive, the single 'Don't Know What You Got (Till It's Gone)', may quiver and sniffle, but its stiffness of delivery suggests that Cinderella were born to kick bottoms, not break hearts.

Maybe it's not enough to love the blues. Maybe you have to live them too.



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AN STUART is about to take his beat-up '65 Dodge across a Tucson railway crossing when a Southern Pacific freight train begins crawling by. Stuart curses, more out of habit than anything else.

Chuck Prophet, brushing his lank, dirty-blond hair from his eyes, points out a drifter hopping off a rear car onto the tracks. A moment later two more jump down to the tracks and move away, the clear Arizona light separating them from the freight's shadow.

You wouldn't believe how many families live in their cars," Stuart observes as he outlines the plight of America's so-called 'New Poor'

Stuart knows something about living in a car: he's been sleeping in his Dodge lately. Between running battles with girlfriends and persistent insolvency, Dan Stuart hasn't exactly been living it up since Green On Red kissed goodbye to their lucrative deal with Phonogram Records.

Chuck fares a little better, picking up anonymous bar gigs around the Tenderloin, as his downtown San Francisco constituency is known. But, if you didn't know better, nothing about Chuck or Dan would lead you to believe they're sitting on one of the best rock 'n' roll albums of the decade.

'Here Come The Snakes' is Green On Red's ace in the hole, but so far they've been unable to collect on it. Red Rhino's lamented downfall has resulted in a small initial quantity of albums appearing here about a month ago, followed by the absence of any more. Meanwhile several UK labels compete vigorously for the privilege of releasing

In the interim, Chuck and Dan toy with the idea of a tour and console each other with banter suitable to a pulp novel about the trials and tribulations of guttersnipe musicians, like a noir jazzer number 40 years on. Green On Red don't want a hand-out, they only want what they rightfully deserve - payable in plush hotels and liberal bar tabs.

'Here Come The Snakes' should do the trick, in the end. In the meantime, though, Dan's winging it in his hometown, Tucson, and Chuck's trimming some fat off the Tenderloin.

'The Killer Inside Me', Green On Red's farewell to Phonogram, was a formidable record, but Chuck and Dan got sick and tired of playing wet-nurse to sidemen who wouldn't go all the way. In a way you can't fault them; Stuart's vision – a tangled hybrid of country-blues and rock 'n' roll disease – might not take you over 'the edge', but it'd give anyone a panoramic view. And it's a long way down.

Stuart distributes the blame for 'Killer''s shortcomings: "The problem is that, as a double album, it would have been great, but Phonogram wouldn't let me do a double. I had a bunch o' songs, country songs. . .sense of humour songs, weird shit. . .but they made me pick ten songs, and I guess I picked the most histrionic, overwrought stuff cos it was hard to balance it any other way. "We didn't do what we wanted on



Green On Red's latest LP, 'Here Come The Snakes', was both a beautiful accident and a piece of cake - according to Dan Stuart and Chuck Prophet. The straight talkin' duo admit to breaking country, rock and blues influences while carving new grooves. Ralph Traitor hears their full confession. Snake eyes by **Ian T Tilton**

IM DICKINSON is the lynchpin of Memphis' cult Mafia that includes such luminaries as Alex Chilton and Tav Falco. Stuart describes him as "looking like the Tasmanian Devil (from Bugs Bunny cartoons) when he's spinning"

His "presence" permeates 'Snakes' and undoubtedly overshadowed the sainted proceedings that created it. Chuck and Dan "goofed off" at Sam Phillips' for a while, then went up the road to Ardent Studio, itself a legendary institution, where Dickinson

really got his claws into the process. Dan fumbles to convey his mentor's gifts: "Jim's thing isn't about making music. He likes to capture life and his own sick view of how it is.

Chuck: "He's just a liar and manipulator, paranoid eight-year-old mentality, genius, great man.

Dan: "He's one of three people I can

"I used to laugh at country music, v'know. I thought it was all crap. It wasn't until I went through the stuff they sing about - women leaving you, heartache, all that - that I understood,

hey, this is real."

be described as an album that is 'bewitched'. It contains a great deal of joy - and pain - and a wealth of instinctive rock 'n' roll, the kind you could never force or contrive. It's blood from a wound.

What Chuck and Dan – and Jim – did that is so special is that, while others tried in vain to force a size ten foot into a size six shoe, they put on outsize winklepickers and tramped around like a kid clattering from room to room in his dad's Hush Puppies.

Chuck and Dan, far from modifying their influences, confront them like schizos in group analysis, fidgeting and ferreting through the session with a commitment difficult to describe. For Chuck, 'Snakes' was a "beautiful accident. . .it's direct. There's no backward messages on the record".

It took so long to come out. . . I was lookin' at an 18-month pregnancy and I

just threw the baby in the river, man, post-partum blues," Dan says. "It was like this", adds Chuck, explaining Snakes" spontaneous, compulsive performances. "Dan would say, One-two-three A, and chug along on A for a while, spiel over it and we'd try and make music out of it. I wouldn't call it clever – there's nothing clever about it. . .or even thought out." Indeed, 'Snakes' cardinal strength is

its dumb-assed, idiot savant, inbred and unsophisticated. The miracle is that, because of - or maybe despite - this, 'Snakes' is consummately convincing and, at times, moving. Dan's poignant, palefaced delivery of 'We Had It All', a classic country tearjerker, makes you realise how involved he is. It's beautiful. I used to laugh at country music, y'know," Dan confesses. "When I was in my Paisley phase, like the Paisley Underground, I thought it was all crap. It wasn't until I went through the stuff they sing about – women leaving you, heartache, all that - that I understood, hey, this is real."

wiry and how/She likes to rub my head and stroke my heavy thang" treads a divine tightwire stretched between poles of parody and demonic possession.

"Jim was going through a nervous breakdown, too, when we did the album," Dan points out. "He was really being messed around by this other band he was doing for Geffen, and kind of taking it out on us. Finally Chuck just freaked out and said something like, Ah, go on home, y'baby, we'll finish it with Joe (Hardy, engineer). . .and he came in the next day and didn't say a word. .

Chuck: "Yeah, then he came in and I was workin' on a track, and I say, Gee, what do you think I should do, Jim, I'm stuck – y'know, if you get past two takes on something he gets really uptight! - and he says, I dunno, Chuck, why don't you just play somethin' decent...so then | did. That's production!"

'We weren't workin' too hard, either. Eight hours, that was a heavy day," Dan adds. "We'd spend half the day talking. . .like, Hardy would start off on why he doesn't want kids, then I say, No, kids are what life's all about. Then Jim will start pontificating about how he's only attracted to women with scars on their faces. . . I mean, this'll

take up a good half of the session!" "Then it gets worse," Chuck smirks. Or better, depending on how you look at it. 'Change', its staccato motif delivered with cut-and-dried precision by Prophet, epitomises 'Snakes' achievement. It synthesises country, rock and blues into a syncopated, drooling robot. The humid, creeping echoes and grinds which Dickinson brings to bear on every part of each song complements Stuart's greasy whine to a T. And 'Change' spills into 'Tenderloin', Stuart's autobiographical tract - true confession and freeze-dried self-pity dissolved in the faintly nauseous churn of a plain blues riff. The tail-end of the song sees Stuart lackadaisically recount one relationship's pathetic disintegration. Yeah, and Jim really bugged me to do that end part. I didn't want to he'd say, I wanna hear the recitation, like I was supposed to do 'Charge Of The Light Brigade' or something," Dan chuckles. Chuck: "After Danny and I came back from Memphis the first time, after wasting a lot of Phonogram's money cos we didn't want to do any work, Danny decides to come to San Francisco. . 'My woman had already left me," Dan chimes in, never one to miss an opportunity to play the blues. . .Danny says, Chuck, I'm gonna

Killer' cos we didn't know each other well enough -- me, Chuck and Jim (Dickinson, producer). It took time to have trust and faith in each other and be totally honest.

The secret of 'Here Come The Snakes'' outrageous simplicity and perversity should be simple too, but the reasons for its effortless greatness are manifold.

"After we made 'Killer' we toured and disintegrated," Stuart explains. ' came home, my woman left me and I just split and wouldn't talk to anyone. Then Chuck got my number from one of my neighbours and called me, said, Why don't we do another record?

"I never thought I'd get back to Memphis, I wanted to kiss the ground. Hey, I wanted to finish what I wanted to do.

Ah, Memphis, there's the key. Having spent one dreamlike spell there, frittering away at the dog track and absorbing Jim Dickinson's fractured folk-wisdom, Chuck and Dan yearned to revisit the birthplace of rock 'n' roll. And Sam Phillips' Studios. And, especially, Jim Dickinson.



say I truly love. I don't like him. . .he's the kid who, when he gets mad, takes the ball home. He's walked out on a lot of sessions."

Dickinson did everything but walk out, digging his claws into Chuck and Dan, ripping open their potential.

'He wanted to capture our disintegration, get it on tape," says Chuck.

Dan: "It had nothing to do with making us sound good or trying to do anything. It was more like capturing some kind of decay. We paid Jim for his emotional garbage – and baggage but we were required to leave ours at the door. He doesn't let you keep anything, he strips it off. . . I paid the producer to be the eight-year-old, cos I got tired of being the eight-year-old!'

'I can't believe it was so painless and free," Chuck says with wonder. 'Here Come The Snakes' might best

IDE BY side with the country blues nuggets on 'Snakes', which include originals like 'Morning Blue', with its wonderful "If you're looking for someone who don't give a damn/I think you've found your man" punchline, are some extraordinarily dirty rockers.

Keith Can't Read' and 'Rock 'N' Roll Disease', 'Snakes'' opening, doublebarrelled, rockin' salvo, shamelessly crib numberless Stones riffs and compile them into a few concentrated lumps of rhythm.

And 'Zombie For Love', a lowdown blues prototype, has all the stink of a whorehouse and the guts of a redneck gumbo. To hear Dan, a relatively nice, cultured white boy, croon, "In the corner there's a little gal/Her hair is



GREEN ON Red: (L-R: Chuck, Dan) "Snakes' is just broken, frayed around the ages. . . I pity the fool who produces the next one."

write a novel, I dunno what to do. So he got goin' pretty good on a yellow pad. And he showed up with it in the studio and I got him to read it over that thing.

"That album ('Snakes') was a piece of cake. A lot of it was because, like, on 'Killer', when we made it we were leading pretty decent lives, in the studio and all, whereas 'Snakes' was just an exercise for us, it didn't matter. Phonogram knew what they wanted from 'Killer' but, like, Dickinson knows how to get there, and I have the utmost respect for that. We made 'Snakes' for ourselves."

Dan: "Chuck looks at my songs like pieces of wood, and he's gonna carve on 'em. He doesn't intellectualise it..." Chuck: "Our stuff takes its influences and breaks 'em: 'Snakes' is just broken, frayed around the edges. .. I pity the fool who produces the next one."

Much as Chuck and Dan may bitch about producers and the rest of the rock 'n' roll circus, it hasn't prevented them inflicting themselves on others. They've produced Naked Prey's new album and it's the best thing *that* band's ever done. Stuart and Van Christian, Prey's singer, are longtime buddies, but put them in a studio together, with Dan behind the big desk, and see what goes down.

"We used a dehumanisation factor," explains Chuck with relish. "Danny'd break 'em down little by little, get 'em ready for my rap, Y'know, you're not a total loser, you can play a little bit."

HERE'S A car dealership in Tucson whose motto is 'Ugly But Honest'. You could say that's Green On Red.

You're talking about two guys who dress out of opposite ends of the same charity shop, treat their complexions like a stretch of bad road and suck on beer like a baby does a comforter. They let nature take its course and don't need a map to keep up. These are natural white boys.

Chuck looks like a film star on the slide; Dan looks like a man whose last lost weekend kept going to the end of the month. But that's just window dressing: 'Here Come The Snakes' is the real thing, or *thang*. Either way, it's as close as you'll come this year to the heart of the beast: rock 'n' roll.

Later on, at the end of a truncated crawl of country bars, Dan and Chuck invite themselves onstage to play a final number with the house band. After Chuck has quickly coached them, they launch into a drunken 'We Had It All'.

Dan sways and jerks, eyes shut tight, hand clasping his beer glass like a security blanket. His voice careening from note to note, you can soak up the emotion with a sponge. The anguished climax is levelling.

As the last note sounds, the regulars hoot 'n' holler for more. They know the real thing when they see it.

29

50 PAIRS OF DEF LEPPARD TICKETS – LIVE AT THE BRITS AWARDS

Answer the following questions correctly and you can win a pair of tickets to see Def Leppard at the Brits Awards in London on February 13. You may even get your mush on the telly...

- 'Hysteria' hit the number one album spot both in Britain and the US, but its predecessor, 'Pyromania', was denied a number one placing in America by the runaway success of which mega-million selling LP?
 a. 'Synchronicity' – The Police
 - b. 'Born Again' Black Sabbath
 - c. 'Thriller' Michael Jackson
- 2. Producer **Robert John Lange** has become an adopted sixth member of Def Leppard, contributing to the writing and arranging as well as recording of 'High 'N' Dry', 'Pyromania' and 'Hysteria'. What is Lange's widely-used nickname?
 - a. Rocky
 - b. Chopper
 - c. Mutt
- **3.** Leppard singer **Joe Elliott** has written a song soon to be recorded by '70s rock legend **Ian Hunter**. Which band did Hunter front?
 - a. Budgie
 - **b.** Racey
 - c. Mott The Hoople

Send your answers to Sounds, Def Leppard, Greater London House, Hampstead Road, London NW1 7QZ. Closing date January 31.









'his season's debutantes

An alphabetical guide to the hottest exhibits, compiled by TONY MITCHELL

ALESIS USA

SEVERAL NEW Alesis items will be shown for the first time at Frankfurt, headed up by a Mixing Console which is so new, they can't tell us anything else about it 'til we get there.

Fortunately, rather more information is on hand about the Quadraverb, Micro EQ and Micro Cue Amp which were unveiled in the States last year and now make their European show debut.

Quadraverb is a 100program, simultaneous multi processor which can produce four effects at the same time with 16 bit resolution, in stereo and at full 20kHz bandwidth. These effects include reverb, delay, pitch shift, phasing, flanging, chorusing and up to fiveband parametric EQ as well as eleven-band graphic EQ. Full MIDI implementation is also included.

Micro EQ is a monophonic, three-band, sweepable parametric equaliser with switchable bandwidth control covering ¼-octave and one-octave curves. It's aimed at backline Instrument use, but can also be used to enhance the limited EQ facilities found in cheaper mixing consoles.

Cheaper mixing consoles. Micro Cue Amp is a dual input stereo headphone mixer featuring dual stereo outputs and a stereo line out jack for connecting two or more units together, making them useful cue boxes for any studio. Both Micro units come in Alesis' interlocking V₃-width rack

format. AMPEG USA

OF AMPEG'S New Year lines, only one is destined to be introduced to the UK – but it's one not to be missed, promise distributors Commander Electronics.

The SVT400TH is a 400watt rackmount or freestanding bass amplifier with facilities like input sustain control, switchable graphic, limiting and bi-amping. Retail price will be £799.95.

ketan price will be £799.95.



QUADRAVERS ---

OUTPUT

ALESIS QUADRAVERB Multi-Processor

CASIO DH-800 Digital Horn

individual EQ controls. SH3 uses the same pickups passively, the single tone control featuring a coiltap setting for the humbucker. SH5 carries similar electronics but features the new Schaller tremolo system without locking nut. SH4 again features two 669s but this time, adds a 1500MU MIDI humbucker

for use with Shadow GTM6 or SH27 MIDI converters connected to the MIDI synth of your choice. Shadow SHP models 01, 02

Shadow SHP models 01, 02 and 03 are a range of electric acoustic models, so called because they're solid bodied instruments which mimic the classic acoustic shape and are designed to give acoustic-type performance but without feedback problems. Three initial models once again all

CARLSBRO UK

EMPHASIS WILL be on PA from Carlsbro at this year's show, with the introduction of a further five products to their already substantial range. The new line-up consists

The new line-up consists of another two stereo powered mixers to join the successful PMX range, a matching 300watt cabinet and two power amplifiers.

and two power amplifiers. The 600watt PMX 16:2 offers 16 channels each with monitor, echo, FX controls and comprehensive EQ, while its master section boasts eight-band graphic, digital echo and complete tape and patching facilities. Price is £1,283.40.

The £998.20 PMX 8:2 MP. neanwhile, is a version the standard 8:2 from the PMX range uprated from 300 to 600watts, while the PX158 300 watt. 40hm cabinet is designed to match either of these new powered mixers or the existing PMX 12:2 at a cost of £470.58. Final additions to the family are the SX600 and SX300 power amps, the former a 2u, 2x300watt bipolar design with bridge mode option, two ten-way LED bargraphs, thermal, dip and mono LEDs, and XLR outputs on each channel among its many features for £569, and the latter a no frills version priced at £362.

launches from Casio at Frankfurt.

The pianos are both 12 bit, velocity-sensitive, MIDIequipped instruments and are "attractively" priced. The CPS-700 is 16-note

The CPS-700 is 16-note polyphonic with 76 full-size keys, five presets, damper pedal input, pitch control and an inbuilt library of some 45 classical pieces! Powered by battery or mains adaptor, it's available with an optional CS-30P console stand.

CPS-300 is a pared-down version with just 61 keys and 36 classical pieces, but also boasts the facility for a sustain pedal.

Following the success of the DH-100 Digital Horn, Casio now introduce the DH-800, in stylish hi-tech matt black finish. Similar in format to its predecessor – including the recorder-type fingering and built-in speaker – the 800 adds MIDI out enabling it to be used as a MIDI controller, and also incorporates velocity sensitivity, portamento and key transpose to complete a more professional spec.

Most exclusive feature, however, is its ROM pack capability which allows the player to become an instant one-man band by inserting a ROM card and playing along with melody, rhythm and chord accompaniment!

For aspiring professional players who want to expand the sounds available to them without buying new keyboards, Casio offer the CSM-1 and CSM-10P rackmount sound modules.

The CSM1 is a dynamic sound source module and preset rhythm machine based on Casio's CT-660 – four-channel, 16-note polyphonic, with 26 melody voices, two bass voices, 49 percussion sounds and 23 effect sound voices. Each voice has preprogrammed effects such as vibrato, sustain and delay.

MIDI In/Out/Thru, line out, pitch control and main volume control (including volume for channels 2, 3, 4/rhythm) are all part of the package, as are 20 preset rhythm patterns, intro/ endings, fill-ins and a demonstration tune. sensitive and 16-note polyphonic, it is equipped with MIDI In/Out, pitch control line out, headphone out and four demo tunes.

MIX 7

CRATE USA

THE CURRENT range of Crate amps available in the UK through Commander Electronics will be expanded at the show to include the new GS150EV.

A 150watt lead combo fitted with a single 12in ElectroVoice speaker, it features Crate's unique Shape control, gain and level in the overdrive channel, volume, low, mid and high controls in the clean channel plus a master bright switch and reverb depth control. RRP is £389.95.

CUSTOM SOUND/COLIN BARRATT UK

SHOWN FOR the first time on their stand at Frankfurt this year is Custom Sound's uprated Colt 50R guitar combo, which has been topped up by some 15watts RMS to become the Colt 65R.

Retailing at £199.95, the 65R retains its predecessor's compact enclosure but boasts an improved reverb circuit driving an Accutronics spring and comes fitted with an American-built 12in, 100watt Eminence high efficiency speaker.

Other new products expected from Custom Sound include a bass version of the same combo as well as a 300watt, sixchannel, ten-band graphic PA amp, monitor speakers, 200watt speaker cabinets and a Colt 30watt, twochannel keyboard combo aimed at the home consumer market.

All Custom Sound products are now fitted with Eminence speakers, which are also available as separate retrofit units.

European distributor Colin Barratt will show

DOD USA

THREE NEW rackmount products from the DigiTech series are introduced by DOD this month.

DOD this month. The DSP-128 Plus is a fully programmable, studio quality digital effects processor which delivers up to four effects simultaneously, the GSP-5 offers up to five simultaneous digital effects including distrotion for the guitarist, while the ISP-33 is a remarkable Intelligent Harmoniser (see review in this feature).

Meanwhile, the Audio Logic range of products from DOD is joined by a number of new items including the SC131 cutonly, 31-band room equaliser, the rackmount, six-input SC610 mixer and SC611 expansion module, plus the R1D1 digital room delay offering up to 320 msec of delay.

EMG

USA

A RANGE of accessory circuits will be launched by EMG to complement their pick-ups. Precise details are being saved for the show, but we hear from EMG president Rob Turner that it will include "something for the bass player".

Another innovation from the company is the availability of S, SA, T and TC pick-ups – previously available only in sets – as separate units.

EMS

ELECTRONIC MUSIC Studios, those pioneers' of British synthesis, celebrate 20 years in the business at Frankfurt this month with the products that started it all – the VCS3 and Synthi A – still in production and "defying the onward march of technology".

EMS aren't total Luddites however, since the Fair will find them unleashing an updated Vocoder 2000 featuring improved spectral response, LED bargraph displays and switchable output gating as well as a restyled appearance. Main attraction, however, will be the Soundbeam ultrasonic MIDI controller

BARNES & MULLINS UK

SHADOW GUITARS and pickups, distributed in the UK by Barnes & Mullins, will be the focus of considerable attention at this year's Fair since the company has now established a whole range of solid and electric acoustic guitars with numerous innovative features. First off is the SH family,

First off is the SH family, models SH1 to SH5, with basswood bodies, maple necks, rosewood fingerboards and – with the exception of the SH5 – Floyd Rose II locking trems.

SH1 features two 669 single-coil pick-ups and one EQ5 humbucker with integral five-band equalisation, plus a pull-foractive tone control. SH2 carries two 669s plus one 681 humbucker and an allactive EQ system comprising master gain control and four initial models once again all feature basswood bodies, maple necks and rosewood fingerboards.

Completing Shadow's new guitar family is a 29-fret Model 1 with basswood body, maple neck, ebony fingerboard and non-trem bridge, with individual piezo pick-ups plus EQ5 humbucker in exactly the same electronic configuration as the SHP02. This model is also said to feature an innovative contoured neck design based on a close study of the guitarist's 'neck hand' position.

Also to be seen individually will be the whole new range of low impedance pick-ups Shadow are introducing to complement the EQ5.

Last but not least, a range of competitively priced mics and accessories is on the way from Sountrack and Sky.

CASIO Japan

TWO NEW digital pianos, a new digital horn and a range of inexpensive sound modules are among this year's plethora of product The CSM-10P is a dynamic digital piano module allowing players access to five preset sounds found in

the CPS-700 piano, over a

Vanwood drumsticks, Drumguard cases, Lew Chase strings, Teonex tubes and Greyhound cases.





launched at last year's show. Customers for this now include Jean-Michel Jarré, who's never been averse to a bit of arm-waving, and Kraftwerk, who weren't actually discovered to have arms until very recently.

EXECUTIVE AUDIO UK

US-BASED Samson's Stage 22 True Diversity wireless mic system with dbx noise reduction is among the new items Executive Audio have announced for the Fair. There'll also be a clutch of

new products from C Audio, including 2u rackmount RA1000, 2000 and 3000 power amps, ROM and RAM expansion units for the Ensonig ESQ1 and a new dB meter from AMB.

And EAW show new enclosure including the KF300 and 600.

HEARTWOOD UK

THIS BRITISH maker of top quality guitars (previously known as Heart until a certain litigious rock band stepped in) is launching a revised range of instruments at Frankfurt, to mark its commitment to establishing Heartwood as manufacturers of production instruments rather than custom one-offs.

This has involved the rationalisation of the original range and the introduction of a clutch of new models in familiar and less familiar configurations. Those who favour the muchvaunted Gibson revival, for example, will be pleased to see a number of Les Paul shapes and a "stunning looking" Firebird type among them.

Technical improvements include the substitution of Sperzel locking machines for the ubiquitous locking nut on trem-equipped models.

M HOHNER

W Germany

HOHNER ARE saving precise details of their new Frankfurt lines until the show itself, but we can tell you that among their introductions this month will be several new guitars in the highly praised Professional series and some new keyboards which may, as with other recent Hohner forays into this area, originate from the Casio stable.

A new range of British-made amps, from a designer long associated with quality products, is also promised for the Fair.

existing K1M stand-alone module, and will sell at £435. The MAV-8, meanwhile, is a MIDI patchbay facilitating interswitching of MIDI-coupled instruments for just £99. A new digital MIDI

sequencer, the Q-80, boasts a 150,000-note memory, built-in disc drive, visual display and comprehensive record and edit facilities, all for £595

Multi-keyboard fans are treated to the SR2, 3 and 4 budget-price, high-spec instruments which join

existing best sellers SRS and 6, while no less than seven digital pianos are scheduled for release, split between five models in the P160-PV2500 family and two PVs -the 10 and 30 - featuring added voices and automatic

features. From the Contemporary Keyboard division come the WK40 and 50 personal keyboards at £295 respectively, plus the PH50 Pop keyboard incorporating 200 sounds derived from the K1 synth and 30 rhythms from the R50 drum machine.



KORG Z3 Guitar Module

KORG Japan

FOLLOWING UP Korg's notable success with the M1 synth in 1988, the company launch a ramount version, the M1R, this month. Priced at £1,229, the M1R is identical to the M1 except for the lack of a keyboard and the additional MIDI overflow feature. Also new is the A3 Performance Signal Processor, a 16-bit, four-

CONTINUES OVER



An alchemist named Avedis

It all began in 1623 in Constantinople. A young alchemist named Avedis was experimenting with metal alloys in an attempt to 'manufacture' gold. During these experiments, he discovered a process of forming copper, tin and certain trace elements into an alloy which had extraordinary, sound qualities. He decided to apply this alloy to the art of making cymbals which, as a result, had unique properties of clarity and power. His fame spread, and he was given the name Zil-djian, the Turkish for cymbal-smith. Today that still-secret process is used by Armand Zildjian and his family to produce the finest cymbals in the world that carry their name.

he Zildjian secret is not in the composition of the alloy (approx. 80% copper, 20% tin, plus trace elements of silver, etc). The secret lies in the process of forming the alloy from the raw metals.

Tin is more expensive than copper but is more 'musical' and durable. The result is an extra hard bronze that gives Zildjian cymbals more projection, clarity and durability, than other cymbals. Most manufacturers make their cymbals from standardized preformed sheets (using approximately 92% copper and 8% tin) which as a result do

not have the same qualities as Zildjian cast cymbals.

'A' Zildjians,

(the 'A' stands

for Avedis, of

Z-series are a new range of cymbals from Zildjian. They have no tonal grooves cut into the cymbal. Instead they have hammered patterns produced by computer controlled technology. The Z-series sound is solid, quick and explosive with high volume potential plus the feel and playability of a Zildjian cast cymbal.

Throughout its long history, Zildjian has developed new cymbals with the leading artists

of the day. In the 1930s, Armand's father, Avedis Zildjian III, created Avedis Zildjian III, created cymbals for leading jazz greats like Gene Krupa, Jo Jones and Dave Tough. Cymbal names and sounds that are now part of the vocabulary of music - hi-hat. swish, sizzle, ride, crash - were all designed and developed by



Raw metals 80% copper, 20% tin, etc.



Zildiian Cast Cymbals A, K, Z



Gene Krupa with Avedis Zildjian III



1. 5. 8. A. W. Acia

米江

ROTOSOUND, THE famous string brand from James How, greets a new addition to the family this month – Billy Sheehan Bass Strings.

This set of stain!ass steel strings – number BS66 features "especially versatile gauges which offer something extra for all bass players", says James

Also on show will be the new Spacer bass strings, produced in black stainless steel and claimed to be impervious to sweat.

KAWAI Japan

FRANKFURT WILL see new organs, digital pianos, personal keyboards and hitech products all unveiled by this major manufacturer. On the hi-tech front, we'll

see the arrival of a rackmount version of the acclaimed K1 synth, the K1R, which complements the



Armand Zildiian

course) is the largest and most popular of the Zildjian ranges, played by leading drummers from all fields of music: rock, jazz, funk, pop, classical, etc.

'K' Zildjians, (the K is for Kerope, an ancestor of Armand's who ran the company in the 1860s). K's undergo a special handhammering process which produces the original, dry, dark tonal colours characteristic of the range.

the Zildjian Company, working with top drummers.

To meet the exacting demands of drummers and percussionists of today, Armand founded the Zildjian Sound Lab, at the ultra modern factory in Norwell, Boston, U.S.A. Here, Zildjian technicians consult and work with current top musicians, producing new cymbals, new sounds, for both live and recorded performance.

If you would like more information about Zildjian cymbals, drumsticks, or the new ZMC-1 cymbal miking system, please write to Avedis Zildjian International, 15 Sheet Street, Royal Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1BN. We will be pleased to send you full details about Zildjian the drummer's cymbal.

Today's drummers: Vinnie Colaiuta, Dave Weckl



All cymbals individually tested

11 5 112 Jle. r tegra zileups erries t Mur 188 schve EC master &



KORG FROM PAGE 21

times-oversampling unit featuring 20 programmable chains of up to six simultaneous effects, including digital distortion, speaker (size/type) simulation, Leslie effect and pedal wah.

For guitarists, not only will Korg show the A6 Guitar Sound Processor featuring compression, parametric EQ, digital reverb, chorus, flanging, delay etc – for under £3001 – but they'll also unvell the Z3 Guitar Synthesiser which, it is claimed, has cut the tracking times of 'other' models by half.

The £799 Z3 features builtin programmable synth sounds, 16 bit reverb and a built-in tuner, and can be used with an existing Roland gultar pick-up if you like. If you don't like, you can make use of Korg's own (and also new) ZD3 Guitar Synth Driver Unlt, priced at £199.

LEVINSON

Switzerland

TWO BASS guitars - the

Blade B-3 and B-4 – are the big news from Gary Levinson.

> Modelled after the nowlegendary L-Series Fender Jazz Bass of the early '60s, both Blade basses incorporate new technology in the form of the Swiss designer's Silencer noise reduction circuitry and Tonal Character switch.

Gary will also introduce us to the Japanese Tune company's new lower priced Synchron bass utilising existing Tune technology.

MARSHALL UK

RACKMOUNTED GUITAR amplification in the form of the 9000 Series will be the big news from this famous British firm this year.

big news from this famous British firm this year. Driving force behind the range is the valve-powered MGP 9001 stereo pre-amp, complemented by two solid state power amps and one stereo value power amp. The pre-amp features two

The pre-amp features two switchable rhythm modes, one clean and one distorted, with switchable EQ and effects routing. A balance control sets the relative rhythm levels while an enhance control reshapes the tone when the full fiveband EQ is bypassed. Enhance is also a feature

Enhance is also a feature of the footswitchable lead section, which allows in/out switching of the effects loop and front panel control of effects and master levels. Around the back you'll

find stereo and mono effects connections, send and return level controls, output level selector and a "very authentic" cabinet effect output for DI purposes. All the major features are interfootswitchable and a programmable footswitch is on the way.

For stage use, the solid state power amp options are the MGP 9030 300watt mono or MGP 9060 2x300watt stereo units, both 2u high with level controls, linking facilities and high efficiency power stages. The MPG 9005 stereo

The MPG 9005 stereo valve power amp, meanwhile, offers twin 50watt valve amps, each with its own volume and presence control plus attenuator which reduces them from 50watt to 25watt output by switching from pentode to triode operation. A specific range of matching cabinets is promised in both powered and unpowered forms with stereo or mono inputs and a radical new look. Also on show for the first time will be the Guy'nor

time will be the Guy nor overdrive pedal featuring gain, three-band EQ, master level, send and return loop and battery or mains operation.



MARSHALL 9000 Series

McKENZIE UK

AT THIS year's Fair, McKenzle Acoustics, already known for their chassis loudspeakers, crossovers and accessories, launch a range of Q-Max gultar, keyboard and practice combos. The range includes a 50watt practice combo for guitar, with progressive distortion control, parametric EQ and 12in speaker, a second 50watt, 1x12 combo that will take two keyboards, and a 12watt practice combo with headphone output for both guitar and keyboards.

Other products in the Q-Max series are a 100watt, four-channel PA amp, a matching 100watt 1x12 reflex-tuned PA enclosure and a lu rackmount reverb unit with footswitch control. Three products have also

Three products have also been added to the firm's Compact series of speaker enclosures. For guitarists there's a 300watt 4x12, for bassists a 200watt 1x15 reflex cab and for vocalists a 100watt 12in wedge monitor.





SIAMARNS

Simmons Digital Music LTD. Campfield Road St. Albans Herts. AL1 5JG Tel : 0727 36191 Fax 0727 41755 Telex 291326 HEXDRM Simmons Electronics GmbH. Emil-Hofimann-Strasse 7a 5000 Koln 50 West Germany. Tel: 02236 - 67666 Fax 02236 - 67392 Telex 8882604

MTRUK

S. p. ta

MTR'S OWN range expands this month to include Series Ill stereo and eight-track mixing consoles plus the DNG-1 dual noise gate at a new lower price, the GE 2010 stereo graphic, PB-80 40-way stereo jack patchbay, a new MIDI patchbay and a 2×100watt mosfet power amp in lu rackmount format. Racking needs are catered for with 4, 12 and 16u Statik Raks, the OR126 open rack, a new 8u open rack and soft-covered shoulder bag racks in 2 and 4u sizes. The DI-1 direct box is joined by the new Gain





Brain, a device accepting low or high impedance, balanced or unbalanced mic or line level signals and boosting them to -10dB, OdB or +4dB.

Other brands distributed by MTR are also in the news. Among studio/recording

makers, Rolec has introduced an ultra-slim 6 into 2 mixer with add-on EQ and XLR/phantom modules while Cutec has graphics, mixers and mics and Rush offers a sophisticated twochannel outboard EQ.

Overwater, meanwhile, has added a six-string bass and, for the first time, a six-string guitar to its family of Deluxe, Artisan and Progress basses, Celestion has introduced the SR3 (half an SR1) and the 100 watt 5in Compact system, and McGregor has expanded its range of mixer-amps, bass and keyboard combos, discos and speakers.

PEARL Japan

NO PRIZES for guessing that the "best selling" range of drums from Pearl that's about to undergo major revamping is the Export Series, even if the company is being a little coy with this information prior to the show.

And while exact details will have to wait until we get to Frankfurt, we're also reliably informed that a new professional kit will be launched at the show.

Called either the Custom Z or ZRX Series, and featuring bird's eye maple shells, this new kit will be manufactured not in Taiwan, as with previous Pearl product, but in Japan, and will be the company's undisputed new top-of-therange model.

PEAVEY USA

PRODUCTS FROM Peavey's digital group will spearhead the new lines unveiled by the company this month, following on from the success of the DECA-528 power amp and the Ultraverb, both released last

year. Apart from a number of we can expect the next public appearance of the new Autograph automated EQ unit launched at the recent AES show, while core products such as the Backstage, Special, KB keyboard series and chorus amplifiers will all benefit

from updates. Another old favourite to be updated is the Bandit. The new Bandit 112 combo now has 80watts RMS with active EQ on the lead channel and is claimed to be as radical an improvement on 1987's Bandit 75 revamp as the 75 was on the original 65 model.



PETERSON'S NEW family of combos, heads and flightcase amps PETERSON

UK

FOLLOWING THE launch of the solid mahogany-encased Peterson Amplification at Frankfurt two years ago, the company's second birthday is celebrated by the introduction of a new range of flightcased amps made from a high density material said to be acoustically far superior to conventional chipboard.

The new flightcased 300watt PWT300 bass cabinet uses 10 and 15in ElectroVoice speakers and is fitted with rear-mounted castors for easy transport. The P200C,

PICATO UK

THESE STRING makers have improved their most popular nickel rock sets to give, they say, even better tone and pick-up response. They've also taken on distribution of the

Concertiste classical range, available in a wide selection of tensions and both silver and goldwound sets.

REFLEX GUITAR SYSTEMS UK

REFLEX LAUNCH an entirely new range of pickups at Frankfurt to complement their innovative Reds range. Called Reflex Blues, they are, like Reds, of active design, and are said to boast the "quietness, power, precisely controlled sound and tonal quality that Reflex have become rightly famous for

Unlike most active systems, however, they can be bought singly, mixed with other pick-ups already fitted to an instrument, and do not require replacement of existing tone circuitry or controls. Their lower prices also mean musicians can experience Reflex quality at minimum expense. **Pick-ups in the Reflex** Blues range come in two formats: with and without the black box containing the system's magical active ingredients'. Since only one black box is necessary for any instrument, the player need only buy the first pick-up with a black box, adding any subsequent Reflex Blues from the cheaper 'without' format. Single coils, humbuckers, Jazz type and Precision type models are among the initial models, with prices ranging from £29.95 for a single coil without black box (£39.95 with) to £69.95 for a Jazz palr with black box.

meanwhile, is a new combo fitted with a single 15in EV speaker and comes either in the traditional solid mahogany hand-finished cab or the new flightcase trim, which includes heavy duty flap-back handles.

Third introduction at the Fair is a 120watt guitar combo, the P120G, using a 12in EV speaker in solid mahogany cabinet and offering two entirely separate but footswitch-linkable channels, each with active four-band EQ. This model has the same facilities as the P100G which has been a best-seller for the company in the UK, Europe and Japán.

Roland once again take the honours for the longest and most comprehensive preshow product info. What follows is, believe us, the short version!

Product demos at the show will feature Amin Bhatia, Canadian rock trio Uzed on the new GR-50 guitar synth and Frankfurt regular Tommy Snyder putting the £665 R-8 Human Rhythm Composer and Octapad II through their paces.

Centrepiece of the MI display will be the W-30 Digital Music Workstation. Based around a 61-key, aftertouch-sensitive keyboard, the W-30 boasts a powerful sampling section and multi-function MIDI recorder, both compatible, courtesy of the built-in 3½in disc drive, with existing Roland software systems.

The recorder section features a 16-track sequencer with 150,000-note memory, comprehensive edit functions and compatibility with data created on MRC-500 and Super MRC software. Similarly, the 16-bit multi-timbral sampling section is compatible with the S-series sampler system discs for access to Roland's existing sample sound libraries.

Originally, the design also incorporated an SCSI interface for hard disc. CD-ROM system but this has now been changed to an option, bringing the W-30's retail price down to £1,599. Building on a decade of guitar synthesis, Roland now introduce the GR-50/GK2 Guitar Synthesiser System, combining the controller unit and a powerful multi-timbral LA sound source in a single module which, by eliminating the need for additional MIDI connections, is said to give fast, accurate tracking over all registers. Controls for the on-guitar control box have been reduced to the bare minimum while the GR-50 itself offers 128 preset sounds and 64 preset rhythms plus space for 64 programmable sounds and 64 patches – a memory capacity doubled by the optional M-256E Memory Card.



£950 and the GK-2 at £125, while for another £80, you can have the BC-13 Converter Box which makes the system fully compatible with Roland's existing GM-70/GK-1 set-up.

Also proimised for guitarists is the unveiling of a digital guitar amp, details of which will not be available until the show itself. Other surprise releases

are also predicted. Meanwhile, for keyboard players using S-550 sampler modules fitted with HD-51F SCSI interface, comes the four times oversampling CD= 5 CD-ROM system with a data capacity more than 500 times greater than a 3½in floppy disc. The £1,399 price includes S-550 operating software and a CD-ROM disc containing 120 floppies' worth of sound data from

the S-series library. Still on sampling, Roland announce a range of ROM Sound Library Cards for the U-110 Sampling Sound Module, Seven, covering everything from pipe organ to electric guitar and percussion, are currently

available at £44 each. Hot on the heels of the Boss ME-5 comes a new low-cost Boss multi-effects processor – the BE-5 – which offers manual control over five popular effects at a package price of £299. The effects – compressor, distortion/overdrive, chorus, digital delay and noise suppressor – are all created on a single PCB to give sound quality superior to separate pedals. A huge range of multi-FX combinations is possible and the spec includes stereo outputs.

Also new from Boss is the TM-3 Training Monitor-Line Driver, a mixable-input ultra compact headphone amplifier which sells at £125. Special features include switchable modes to match guitar or keyboards/bass input levels and a Line Driver circuit to recreate the tonal response of a guitar amp.

Roland's Contemporary Keyboard Division will show Europe products like the E-20 and E-10 and the new HP pianos that were launched at the BMF last year, and there's a strong likelihood of some last-minute additions. New ISM software titles will certainly include Piano Skills, a two-volume package for the PR-100 or MT-100/MT-32 priced at £26 per volume. Last but not least is a new series of ROM Style Cards for the E-20, each providing four new style patterns/ rhythms.

ROLAND W-30 Music Workstation



SIMMONS UK

IF THINGS went a little quiet for Britain's foremost hi-tech hardware company last year, then this Frankfurt should more than make up for it, with launches of a clutch of new products all far more accessibly priced than the innovative but costly SDX. Heading the impressive list of newcomers – and

reviewed elsewhere in this feature – is Portakit, a compact, portable electronic kit which combines pads with a performance recorder and can be MIDI'd up to any suitable sound source. Next come Drum Huggers.

These are small, unobtrusive drum pads that hug your acoustic drums at the same angle and with the same reach as your favourite drum set-up because they use your existing drum hardware They offer, Simmons point out, the security and tradition of the acoustic kit and the new and exciting sounds from the world of electronics via MIDI. Then there's the Acoustic Drum Trigger, also logically and cleverly known as the ADT (since, in a sense, automatic double tracking is its function). Designed to solve the problem of replacing acoustic drum tracks on tape, or played live, with the digital sounds available via MIDI, it's a lu rackmount device with eight inputs for mics or trigger bugs. It also incorporates Simmons' exclusive 'learn' feature which samples the drum sound of any other triggering signal and automatically sets gain



As 1989 unfolds, Peavey will announce the European Introduction of products from two new divisions recently established in the USA – the Architectural Acoustics division which will specialise in commercial PA installations, and Audio Media Research which will soon debut a range of sound and video recording products.



PEAVEY BANDIT 112 combo

ROLAND Japan

THE FRIGHTENINGLY prolific



ROLAND GK-2 Guitar Synth control box



SIMMONS DRUM Hugger pad

CONTINUES OVER

SIMMONS FROM PAGE 23

threshold, hold offs and anti-crosstalk circuits to produce the optimum settings for a clean, fast trigger signal.

There is also a host of MIDI effects including compression, expansion, echo, dynamic sample switching, layering and cross-fading to play with, and there are 99 patches which can be chained if needed.

Trixer, already reviewed in Sounds, is another triggering device also employing the 'learn' process. But the difference here is that Trixer is a selfcontained unit, combining triggering system with onboard sounds. There are four drum kits consisting of six digitally sampled drum sounds for bass, snare and four toms, and further sounds are available via plug-in cards.

Last but not least come a number of direct

developments from the SDX, including SDX keyboards and the SDX Sound Workstation.

SOUNDTRACS UK

In-Tech

AMONG THE consoles and mixing systems shown by Soundtracs this year is the IL4832 console fitted with **Tracmix automation first** shown in Britain last Summer. This 32-bus console has a high analogue spec greatly enhanced by the fitting of Tracmix, which is available as a centrally controlled, stand-alone VCA fader automation package for fitting to any Soundtracs console.

Also new to Europe is the **FM Series of consoles**

CARL SPENCER UK

BRITISH DISTRIBUTOR OF Kurzweil, Carl Spencer, tells us to expect a 'budgetpriced' keyboard boasting Kurzweil's "perfect piano sound" to be strongly

featured at the show. Called the Mark III, it offers the famous piano sound plus a further 99 different sounds and mixes, as well as onboard, 100watt quad sound and many other Kurzweil features including pitch bend wheel, mod wheel and transpose control, at a retail price of around $\pounds3,300 - a$ third of the cost of a K250.

STEINBERG W Germany

M.ROS IS the new buzzword from software supremos Steinberg.

Standing for Music Realtime Operating System, it's claimed to be the first multi-tasking operating system that allows simultaneous operation of various musical applications from one computer. This



TC ELECTRONIC'S TC1128 with software-generated display

"future-orientated concept" also allows networking

Atari ST, Macintosh and IBM

PC but designed to anticipate the performance

example, to use a synthesiser

of a future generation of

microcomputers, M.ROS makes it possible, for

between computers of

various types. Presently available for

sound editor and a mix automation system and run a sequencer program, all simultaneously

TC ELECTRONIC Denmark

TWO NEW options have been introduced by this legendary signal processing company for the TC 1128 programmable equaliser/ spectrum analyser launched at last year's Frankfurt show.

The equaliser, with a frequency response of 10-100KHz and a remarkable slgnal-to-noise ratio of 110dB, is notable for being completely software-controlled. This enables incorporation of 100 programmable presets, a unique function for feedback search and destroy and an advanced MIDI system allowing linkage of up to 100 units controlled by a single mother unit.

The two new options are a PC board allowing connection to an IBMcompatible or RCA video input-equipped monitor for larger data display, and an SMPTE read/generate facility allowing, for example, the TC 1128 to change EQ settings automatically by reading SMPTE code.

TOA UK

A RANGE of high quality, versatile two-way speaker systems is to be launched by sound reinforcement specialists Toa.

The F500 and F600 Series speakers, available in either standard or SR versions, use state-of-the-art computer technology to ensure the best combination of acoustic characteristics and durability. Overload protection is built-in and a variety of fixing methods makes installation easy.

Also getting their first public airing at Frankfurt will be the CX Series of mixing consoles - the CX-1, 2 and 3 which come in 12/4/2 and 16/4/2 configurations. Alongside will be the latest SL and SD speakers with their new scratch-resistant texture finish

It's international debut

track cassette recorder launched last year at the BMF

TRACE ELLIOTT UK

FRANKFURT '89 has been chosen for the European launch of the New Series 6 range of bass amplification from these Queen's Award winners.

Brand new products in the Series 6 range – which replaces the Mark V range – include the GP12X Graphic Preamplifier which offers 12band graphic EQ down to 30Hz – particularly useful for five and six-string bass

players. Replacing the older AH150 amp head but costing no more is the AH200, offering an extra 50watts of power plus headphone practice facility and a padded nylon gig bag. Aimed to bring the Trace

Elliott name to a wider market, meanwhile, is the budget-priced 100watt AH100 bass head.

TRANTEC SYSTEMS UK

MAKING ITS European show debut is Trantec's latest 52 series of radio mics and diversity receivers. The S2 incorporates Trantec's exclusive Autodiversity design featuring two separate receivers, plus **Noise Blanker to eliminate**

Noise Blanker to eliminate noise from digital sources. Also available is the ADU-VHF Active Antenna Splitter which allows four 52 receivers to be fed from one pair of common antennae, providing 6dB of RF gain to allow greater range, and coming complete with common power supply.

WASHBURN USA

HOTTEST NEWS from Washburn is a new addition to the nine-strong KC Chicago series of guitars the KC90.

This Japanese-made instrument features Seymour Duncan pick-ups (one Jeff Beck model, two SSL3s), a solid light ash arched-top body, very thin neck and Floyd Rose locking trem. Expect the UK street price to be under £500.

Accompanying the KC will be a range of pro quality full-bodied jazz guitars and semi-acoustics featuring figured timbers. Two to look out for in particular are a new small-bodied semi and a full-bodied acoustic bass with an active piezo system. Prices here start at £650. Still on the bass front, we

see the debut of the longawaited, extended cutaway, 24-fret Spitfire bass, while Washburn USA strings (which sell at £3.99 a set)



time, too, for the rackmounted MR-8T eight-

will feature a new set called 9+, denoting its 0095 top E.

ҮАМАНА Japan

YAMAHA HAVE denied us their usual comprehensive pre-Frankfurt product launch, but we have spies everywhere and can still let you in on a few of their secrets prior to the show!

For starters, it seems they've finally caught the workstation bug and will be launching a home keyboard-based model called the SD-55 at the Fair. A similar tag might also apply to a new synth, the V-50, which features sequencing facilities, built-in signal processing and good old FM sounds. The TQ8 synth module is bound to create interest at its

retail price of around £600, as will a whole new range of PA speakers, the Club series, co-designed in Britain and Japan and priced from as low as £200.

High on the company's list of priorities comes two new signal processors, the SPX1000 and SPX900. The SPX1000, using two new DSP chips, features a wide variety of cascading and multiple effects and is designed as a top-ofthe-range, professional piece of gear to sell at around £1,000. The SPX900 Is designed along similar lines but is destined for the working musician market with a price tag of around

£600.

A new MIDI wind controller, the WX-11, has also been announced.





RATINGS: QQQ – absolute perfection; QQ – good quality; Q – naff; VVV – a real bargain; VV – a fair price; V – definitely overpriced Taking the 'A' STARTS HERE



JHS A8-3T: an individualist among clones

JHS ENCORE A8-3TBK GUITAR £169 QQ3/4 VV3/4

SOMETIMES I wonder if JHS take the brand name of their own guitar line a little too literally. Another Encore? Not again!" the cry goes up from bewildered reviewers as they try to keep up with the rate of issue of new models.

Fortunately, the A8-3TBK is nowhere near as unprepossessing as its name. Here we have the familiar Strat body shape, but with the truncated lower horn and two-sided, V-shaped headstock with offset machines which lend all the recent Encore 'A' models a touch of individuality.

The visuals of this brat are undoubtedly further enhanced by the presence of three matt black, plain-covered unbranded EMG-clone pick-ups which blend so completely into the aywor distance that the instrument seems to have nothing at all between bridge and neck. Pretty hi-tech, pretty damned cool. Shame they didn't use similar white pick-ups for the pearl white model. Totally colour-coded hardware has got to be the next cosmetic innovation with guitars, don't you think? Certainly, the A8 would benefit visually from black bridge and controls replacing the chromed overkill of the current bridge/trem and control cluster.

another heavy duty shiny knurled metal knob or mini-toggle. Minimalism this ain't but with good reason.

What we have here are your basic master tone and master volume knobs, but, instead of a second, ordinary tone control, there's a reasonant frequency control – a passive notched filter à la Hohner Claim Blend, designed to wring more tonal versatility and more vintage authenticity out of the guitar's crisp-sounding pick-ups. This has its own on-off switch, as do each of the three pick-ups - a humbucker at the bridge and two single coils.

Such pick-up switching tends to be a mixed blessing. While offering potentially more 'instantly' switchable tones than the usual five-way selector, it is inevitably more fiddly and more timeconsuming than the

with a touch of sweetness which makes them far more 'natural' on high volume, undistorted amp settings.

Inevitably though, there is a paucity of bass, and from the overall level and sustain obtainable even with gross amp overload, you would never guess that one of the pick-ups is a humbucker. I guess that's why they didn't bother to fit a coiltap.

Overall construction of this axe is hard to fault.

The quality of the hardware is impressive, the fine-tuning, twinpost, locking, fulcrumtype trem holds its tuning well (it even works with someone else's whammy bar - just as well since our sample arrived without one) and the three-clamp string lock behind the nut is as unobtrusive as these beasts will ever be. The neck is a wonderful piece of

craftmanship - slim, shallow, oil-finished maple with a rosewood

fingerboard, 22 well finished, medium gauge frets and sharkstooth inlays. And – a nice touch, this – behind the headstock you'll find a twin clamp holding a pair of Allen keys.

A neck for lead players, to be sure. But I'm not so sure if the guitar itself is. With the accent on tonal clarity but a lack of real guts even from the humbucker, the A8 is more of a killing 'em softly with your rhythmy pickin' type of guitar

than a knock 'em dead with scalding, whining raunch sort of machine.

In fact, if you want a point of reference, I'd say the A8-3TBK comes closer in sound to the **Guild solids released** around a decade ago than to any classic incarnation of the Stratocaster. But playing a Guild never did **Eurythmics' Dave** Stewart any harm did it?

So if you're looking for individuality rather than a bog standard Stratocione, and recognise that for £169, you're getting, ply body aside, Japanese build quality at a Korean price, this might just be for you. TONY MITCHELL



Talking of which, I swear the controls are breeding like rabbits on my sample. Every time I look, there seems to be

gear selector.

And there's always the chance of finding yourself with everything off' just when you were about to rip into The Best Solo Of Your Life. But at least the on/off switch for the RF control means you can 'preset' your filtering and just switch it in as needed.

The sound of this guitar is one of its more endearing - and simultaneously limiting features. The heavy laminated body bolted to maple neck is a sure formular for toppiness, but the A8 manages to avoid the dryness usually associated with the sound of plywood. The tones throughout the zingy and cutting but



6 Letchworth Business Centre, Avenue One, Letchworth, Herts SG6 2HR Tel: 0462 480000 Fax: 0462 480800 Telex: 826967





WASHBURN STATUS 1000 BASS £539 QQ1/2 V1/2

NO, NOT another fiendish Oriental exercise in ripping off someone else's genius because -

like Hohner's licensed Steinbergers -Washburn's Status Design Series 1000 is an example of international cooperation; in this instance between American owned



WASHBURN STATUS 1000: available in walnut topping at £539 (above), or solid colour (below) at £460

Washburn, their Korean manufacturers and Status' Rob Green. On the face of it given that a genuine UKmade Status will currently set you back from around £830 to

£1,350 – this Korean made version looks like pretty spectacular value at only around £539 in the shops, with a solid colour alternative going for even less at £460. But looks can be

deceptive. The Washburn's neck isn't made of carbon graphite, as is the original Status', but is actually a cunningly painted maple substitute.

Nonetheless, at this asking price it's hard to rail too hard against this economy, particularly when you realise that the neck is a straight-through type, and that the Washburn boasts genuine original (ie Status UK-built) pick-ups and active electronics which are fitted in Korea during manufacture. Certainly, you would have to be an unreasonable perfectionist to fault the Washburn Status on its construction. The few rough edges on my sample's paintwork were really insignificant even if I am more inclined to be critical about the somewhat tatty endfinishing of some of the frets.

The mating of the through neck, with its 24fret phenolic fingerboard, to the two side wings of ash and a very nicely finished top piece of walnut has undoubtedly been expertly executed.

The hardware too was virtually flawless - bright, shiny brass, with the prestigious Status logo engraved on the bridge/ tuner cover at one end, and the string retainer repeating the quality metalwork at the other. There are no protruding sharp bits and the machines turn every bit as smoothly, and with that remarkable accuracy. of pitch control, as the Status' superb tuning system

All the expected touches on the bridge are there too – a hugely sturdy set of side-to-side locked brass saddles, with full height and intonation adjustment, the system's ability to handle double and single ball-ended strings - it's just what you probably hoped for, but never expected at the price. From the playing angle, the Washburn continues its virtually faultless round. Much like the handbuilt ones. this version is light to wear, and has that familiar neck profile which makes, for me at any rate, the Status a rare thing among basses - slim enough to be fast on, but not so slim that you risk getting tangled fingers. **Couple that**

comfortable, slightly contoured shaping with excellent quality, well finished, heavy gauge fretwire and you have a bass that is as good to play as it is to look at.

Plug it in, though, and the beast finally stumbles at least, mine did. To begin with, whoever installed the three control pots didn't tighten them sufficiently a small fault, but one which will get progessively annoying until it's corrected. At present you'd have to be a bit heavy handed to make my Washburn's controls (centre detended pick-up balance and EQ, with a stepped volume) turn right the way round, but they're heading that way and they shouldn't be, especially on a bass sent out for review.

Secondly, although the bass has a lot of typical Status characteristics notably that much acclaimed hi-fi like clarity, coupled with superb sustain – mine didn't have what you'd call a versatile sound. In fact, I can think of many passive basses I've played which have had greater tonal ranges, and that's bdd given the use of Status' own active lectronics. Could I have nad a dud?

All the same, the Status-made pick-ups do have a fundamentally fine sound – perhaps not the sort of tone you'd choose to piledrive a heavy metal band, but more than clear, crisp and pure enough to give a pop or funk outfit the zingy sort of bass sound which so many like

Perhaps above all, you mustn't forget the pose potential of owning one



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of these Status clones. Even close-up, there's very little to distinguish this £539 bass from one costing several times its price.

The point that really does need making, however, is that for all the Washburn's resemblance to an original Status, it neither challenges, nor even approaches, the original.

Rather than compare this with a genuine Status, therefore, you're probably more along the right lines if you consider it against, say, Hohner's Jack or Steinbergerderived clones. At £539 you might just feel, as I think I do, that Washburn are being a little ambitious. GARY COOPER

A new type of fat cat

In-Tech-

CHEETAH MS6 module: fat analogue sounds aplentv

CHEETAH MS6 MULTI-**TIMBRAL ANALOGUE SYNTH MODULE £299 QQQ VVV**

UNLESS SOMETHING goes disastrously wrong, this low cost, analogue synth module will be the one to establish British company Cheetah as a major force in the musical instrument business.

With its easy operation, and plethora of rich and punchy sounds, to say the MS6 is a useful instrument is putting it very mildly; for this sort of money, no self-respecting keyboard player should even consider not buying it?

The MS6 has been a long time coming, but makes mighty impressive listening, drawing on all the classic analogue synth sounds of yesteryear (Roland Juno and Jupiter, Moog, Sequential Prophet-5, Oberheim. . .) for its inspiration.

It has a pretty up-to-the-mark MIDI spec too, including multitimbralism, velocity and after-touch, and MIDI overflow – the latter to persuade a number of connected MS6s to behave as one increasedpolyphony instrument.

First the basics. The MS6 is a six-voice, dual oscillator synth module (standard 19in rackmount/1u), offering ome 320 sing presets, 96 single-tone user-programmable memories, plus a further 64 memories for storing combination/multitimbral set-ups. To keep it priced so low, Cheetah have had to make sacrifices; thus not only won't you find separate voice outputs, you won't even find stereo ones, the screen is 'low tech' LED, and there are no knobs or faders on the control panel just two rows of six push-buttons. The quality and range of sounds more than makes up for these 'losses' however, and the instrument is simplicity itself to operate.

other words you cannot overwrite them. You can edit them, however, and store edited versions in Banks 6 and 7.

All 64 sounds in bank 1 come under the strings banner. They range from classic thick and swirly analogue 'synth' strings, to thin and fluted tones, slow attacks, pizzicato, to all manner of modulated types. Although some make a pretty fair stab at authentic string sounds, buy a sampler if that's your prime objective. Bank 2 covers pianos,

Clavinets and brass. Although brass and **Clavinet sounds were the** staple diet for most analogue synths, a good piano sound was definitely a chef's special. But in fact the MS6 doesn't fare badly in this department, especially with bell-like electric piano types.

The next bank, primarily made up from bass sounds, is a killer though, and reason enough to buy the instrument on its own. Here you'll find an almost complete range of bass sounds, from wow-synth 'acid' sounds to fat Moog types, raw funk, woody, metal, clunky, clicky. . . all in all a brilliant selection.

At the end of bank 4 are a dozen or so 'sync' voices produced by hardsynching two oscillators together. This results in searing, cutting lead synth sounds.

parameters comprise Bank number, tone number, polyphony, high and low note limit, MIDI receive channel, and volume - one set of such for each of the six voices' contained in the MS6. The way Cheetah have set this out may

seem cumbersome to experienced programmers, but it's simple and friendly – the right answer in my book.

Such is the overall quality of the presets that I reckon Cheetah might have been able to get away with a preset only module. Even so, they haven't, and you're quite free to edit and/or program sounds.

The MS6 sports all the standard analogue components plus some neat/unexpected ones such as two full ADSR envelope generators, the option of envelope generator control over oscillator mix, and pressure control over pitch. Filtering (using **Prophet-5 type Curtis** filters) is set at 24dB/oct low pass.

Programming, even

without the aid of a single knob to twiddle, is far from difficult: select parameter, toggle up/ down buttons.

External storage of sounds? Only over MIDI I'm afraid, no cartridges nor even a cassette interface. Editor software won't be possible, either, but librarians are on the cards.

Currently, a lot of music - hip hop and House especially - is almost entirely based around 'old analogue' sounds. So far from appearing dated, the MS6 should be viewed by many as containing the best sounds at the moment, a situation that **Cheetah has simply** lucked into. Well good for them.

JULIAN COLBECK



Banks 1-5 house sounds stored in ROM. In

i ne last preset banl contains a hotchpotch of sound effect, percussion and lead sounds, along with sounds that won't fit into any other category, and then we're onto banks 6 and 7 which are reserved for your own creations.

But before we get to that, there's a Bank 8, where combinations and multi-timbral set-ups can be found. How you split or layer sounds is really up to you. You can simply stack up six sounds culled from any of the regular banks, you can set up multi splits across a keyboard, or vou can set up a multi timbral patch using different MIDI channels for each of six sounds. Bank 8 programming

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he Mission are not your average 'Goth' band, singing long dirges about doom and despair, covered in dry ice and wearing black from head to toe.

They combine a powerful rock feel with some of the best in modern technology to create a warm full sound that works as well on record as it does live.

They're back from a mammoth world tour which took in twenty five countries, including South America which is relatively uncharted territory for most European bands, some of whom wrongly think they only like a Samba or Salsa rhythm down there. The Mission played to packed stadiums, with the excited Latinos shouting from start to finish and singing along with all their songs. They had just returned from gigs in Portugal and Spain when Newslink caught up with guitarist and keyboard player Simon Hinkler in London, on the eve of their latest British tour, which includes a first for them, a gig at the prestigious Wembley Arena.

'So, Simon, what's your current stage line-up?'

Well the line-up hasn't changed in the last three years. Wayne (Hussey – singer and second guitarist) and Craig (Adams – bass and keyboards) left The Sisters of Mercy to start The Mission and got me in along with Mick Brown on drums.'

'What are you using on stage now?'

'I use two Roland JC-120 amps which go through a couple of 4 × 12's. At the beginning of the year I got a GP-8 effects processor. It's that with the GP-8 and the Boss pedals I don't change guitars in the middle of the set any more. With my set-up I can change the guitar sounds really drastically, so that with one guitar and my effects I can get all the variety of sounds I need on stage.'

'What sort of sounds do you use the GP-8 for?'

'Mostly it's a combination of chorus and delay. It means I can have the right sound with the right delay, be it a slapback or a long timed delay, without having to fiddle with floor pedals in between songs. Now I can just concentrate on playing. I use the distortion of the GP-8 for a couple of songs, but then in a track like 'Tower of Strength' I use a very over-the-top echo for the lead guitar parts, while for the rest of the song I have a very heavily compressed sound from the GP-8.

'Because we tour so much, when I first got the GP-8 I only had time quickly to get the right sounds for the songs we do on stage. It's so handy to be able to pre-set all the effects you use live, without having to scrabble about on the floor in between numbers changing the settings of the effects. It doesn't look very good and you obviously don't get the right settings for each song, so the GP-8's been brilliant for that.'

'How about Wayne's guitar setup?'

'He uses pretty much the same as me, but he doesn't use any pedals because he really likes the GP-8 distortion sounds, and that also goes through two JC-120's.' 'So what keyboards do you

use?' 'Well, we finally decided we ought to get a piano for use on

The Mission are going places, and Peter Gleadall discovered the short-list for producing their next album has included names like Eno, David Byrne,

stage. We tried all the alternatives

made things a lot easier than they used to be, because now I don't have to have the same sound on the guitar all the way through the set, and since I've had it, I've started writing the guitar parts around it's capabilities. The output of the GP-8 goes into the JC-120's which I run in stereo. I always have the JC's chorusing on, never turn it. off. I've also got the FC-100 floor control unit for the GP-8 along with the EV-5 expression pedal I use two Boss pedals as well, the Turbo overdrive and DS-1 distortion, the 'Orange' one, which I use in just about every song.

'My main guitar is a Zematis, which is a carbon copy of the one Ron Wood uses, because I was always a fan of his, and I've found and the one that we liked the best was the Roland RD 300. We all love the sound of a grand piano, but they're just totally impractical to cart around on tour. Dick Rabel (Music Market, Northampton), who we got all our gear from, suggested the RD 300 firstly

because of the sound, of course, but also in his experience it is the most reliable piano you could buy. It's an 88-note keyboard with a proper action, which is important because I don't like synth keyboards. We've also got an S-10 sampler, a D-50 and we've had a JX3P for ages as well.'

'So you're pleased with the RD 300's sound then?'

'Oh yeah, I always used to have a piano at home. Actually, I went to a piano tuning college, so I know quite a bit about pianos and and Kate Bush. No prizes for guessing what the equipment will be.

how they should sound. Part of the course was how to assess what's good and bad about a piano, and like I said, the Roland piano sounds the best to me.'

'You've also got an S-330 sampling module. What does that get used for?'

'We've only just got it actually, but we're going to put all our other keyboard sounds into the S-330 and put it at the side of the stage and have someone change the sounds for us.

'Apart from that, I use the JX3P for one number, called 'Crystal. Ocean'. The sound on the JX3P was actually copied from an ARP synth that must have come out of the Ark because it only had four sounds in it! So we copied it to the JX (it's a sort of cross between strings and organ) and we've used the 3P for it ever since.'

'How about the D-50. How does that fit into The Mission's sound?'

'Craig plays that live, but we use it a lot in the studio. He's recently got some sort of MIDI pedal board, bass pedals to play the D-50 from, because he's

Name

Address



playing bass guitar at the same time, Live, Craig uses things like the 'Glass Voices' sound and some really deep rumbling noises which work really well, It adds another pair of hands on stage. We're playing four new songs in our live act, and Craig's using the D-50 and the pedals in all of them.'

'You're known primarily as a guitar band. Are there any songs that are just keyboards?'

'We've been doing a re-worked version of a song off the last album. It's called 'Kingdom Come' and it was just guitars on the record. Live we're doing a piano, bass and drums version, which is great. Craig plays the D-50 on that too. I'm only playing keyboards on two numbers at the moment, but we used to do a song called 'Garden of Delight' from the first album. On that we used a string quartet in the studio, so live I used a violin sound on the S-10 for the violin parts and Craig used the D-50's 'Arco Strings' for the other string parts. That was really effective. It became a bit of a fave with the fans live.

The thing with us is that we don't like synthy sounds at all, we like real sounds. That's why we use Roland keyboards, and particularly the D-50 because it sounds more live or organic than, say, a DX7 which I hate. On the B-side of our last single, 'Beyond The Pale,' it sounds to all intents and purposes like an orchestra, but it was all done with keyboards, lots of D-50. We used the 'Pizz' strings, the 'Arco' and the 'Jete' strings and it's great! It's nothing like a synth record at all, but really full and warm. Oh yes, and we also used a violin sample from the S-10, so it was all done on Roland equipment, It's funny, I've only just realised that!'

So even though most people think of The Mission as a guitar band, you can see that Roland has a place for them both live and in the studio. Catch them live if you can – if not, wait for their next album. With a short-list of names like Eno, David Byrne and Kate Bush up for the producer's chair it's bound to be full of surprises, no doubt ably assisted by Roland. I, for one, will be very interested in the result! Roland

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PITCH SHIFTING can be lots of fun, but until now there have been restrictions on how it can be used creatively. First, most pitch shifters have only been capable of providing one interval against the note being played.

Second, unless you're

using a MIDI pitch shifter with a sequencer to program in note-by-note or phrase-by-phrase patch changes in the pitch shifter, you're stuck with chromatic runs where the pitch unit sticks resolutely to the same interval, regardless of the notes being played or the key of the piece.

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NEW 7^{PC} KITS £35 Available in Burgundy/White/Black 33 Intelligent Pitch Shifter. Not only can it produce two harmony parts simultaneously but it offers a total of 59 different scale disciplines which superimpose intelligent interval progressions on the notes being played.

Based on 15 basic scale types, augmented by up to five different variations on each - like diatonic, diminished, modal and so on - that differ in the way they treat notes that fall outside the particular scale, this can be an area for severe brain damage. But lest I totally cop out by referring you to Grove's or DigiTech's own brief exposition on music theory in the owner's manual, let me try to illustrate with a simple example.

In the Major Ionian scale, a progression starting from a 3rd in the key of C will run E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E. In the Major Pentatonic, it will go E, G, A, A, C, D, D, E. Your run up the scale thus creates different harmonies, and this is what the IPS-33 is programmed to interpret - but for all 59 scale types.

Physically, the IPS-33 is a single-depth rack module with the usu I +4dB/-20dB input gain selector, and rotary controls for adjusting input and output levels, and output mix. Around the back, aside from a single input and full MIDI compatibility with In, Out and Thru, are multi outputs that maximise the ways in which the pitch shifts can subsequently be treated.

The combined harmonies plus dry can be cen out of a single output or split between two outputs, and there's a third output which is like a Line Out for the untreated signal only. An FX loop specifically for distortion is also provided, as is a bypas footswitch socket. Operationally, the IPS offers a total of 99 factory presets all of which can be edited and saved in their own or alternative preset number positions. Unless you choose to default to factory presets on powering up, all edited presets are safe in the module's internal memory. Scrolling through the presets and altering parameter values is via

two buttons adjacent to the LED display (a slightly tedious affair since, for instance, jumping from preset 99 to Tinvolves scrolling all the way back down again), and there are two function buttons to select the 12 function modes which are indicated by LEDs on a graphics panel to the left of the centre display.

The 99 presets themselves are split into chorus effects, standard chromatic pitch shifts, single and double-part harmonies and User Defined Harmony presets.

Other user defined harmonies can also be programmed (and saved any preset number) by using four dedicated function selectors. Harmony Define selects any of 16 VDH scales, then each can be programmed by first selecting the starting note (using Note, funnily enough) and specifying two intervals in Interval Tand Interval 2. This procedure is then repeated 12 times to give fixed interval values for the whole chromatic scale

The LED display is helpful whatever you're trying to do. Note characters are displayed in real time, and bars are used to indicate sharps and flats and if the intervals are in the octave below the root note: A tuning function, again real time, provides a useful visual indication not only when tuning up to begin with, but for checking intonation if you're using the ISP with, say, a guitar.

The majority of our review was done using electric guitar but I suspect that whatever source is used, the results will be impressive - both live and in the studio. Tracking is excellent and the IPS33 is like magic really. Although competent music theorists will be able to approach it in a more meaningful way initially, much of the fun for the rest of us will be listening to the way all those familiar phrases and melody lines take on whole new polyphonic dimensions simply at the change of a preset. The complexities of user programs can wait 'til later.

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JERRY UWINS





SIMMONS PORTAKIT £599 QQQ VVV

THERE SEEMS no holding back on Simmons' output of new releases this year. The quiet period following the launch of the long awaited SDX has finally been terminated with a vengeance: no sooner have they launched the Trixer than they're offering new toys to play with.

One of them is the Portakit – and a serious little number it is too. The Portakit is a portable MIDI drum kit the size of a briefcase, complete with carrying handle, incorporating 12 playing surfaces that, when struck, will trigger any external MIDI sound sources from drum machines to samplers. This is a very basic description mind you, since, as with most Simmons products, Portakit comes with lots of extras.

But before we go into all the tricks this unit will perform, let's take a look at its construction.

It certainly is a well laid out and robust piece of equipment. The grey playing pads are designed and presented to follow the logic of a traditional acoustic drum set, although pads can be assigned any MIDI number, so which pad fires which sound is entirely up to you. There are also optional inputs for Simmons bass drum and hi-hat pedals that give you a total of 14 sound playing areas.

The pads themselves

WEROCK IT YOU POCKET

Briefcase encoun



PORTAKIT IN use with inputs from hi-hat and bass drum pedals

incorporate the force sensing film technology first developed for the SDX pads, with a highbounce playing surface that offers speed and good playing feel. **Because of this** technology, there is absolutely no crosstalk between pads. The 12 playing surfaces are surrounded by black ribbed rubber so there's no danger of marking the unit with an attack slightly off the mark. Above the pad area are located the control

buttons finished in the same robust rubber as the pads, and at the top right of the unit is located the backlit, 32character LCD information display. The layout of the controls is neat and easy to get to grips with.

One of the first of the new tricks the Portakit has to offer is ease of **MIDI note assignment.** Each pad has to be allocated a MIDI number so that it can play its appropriately numbered sound source. But Portakit saves you having to look up the MIDI note values by a system that learns the note value of the sound directly from the sound source itself, ensuring that each pad will quickly and simply correlate its MIDI note number to that of the sound you wish it to trigger.

start, stop and continue messages as well as MIDI notes and channels. It has record, overdub and play modes, and tracks can be overdubbed continuously up to sequencer capacity. As sequencers go, it's not the world's most advanced or flexible but it is certainly a most useful built-in tool and great to play along to.

Fifty kit memories can be stored and recalled in selected order by the press of a button or external footswitch. These programmed memories allow you to store information about MIDI notes, durations, dynamic curves and MIDI channels for each of the pads. You can also store program changes and MIDI effect and tempo for the kit. MIDI note effect can range from single to four note chord and the echo effect offers you up to 15 programmable repeats.

Portakit also provides 20 song memories so your kit memories and various patches can be organised to run in a sequence of events.

Six external inputs are available to accept acoustic drum mics, bugs or pads to use instead of the onboard playing surfaces. Like the Trixer, Portakit possesses the unique learn facility that

analyses and

immediately memorises the sampled curve of a trigger, thus ensuring perfect triggering from all sources.

As with all Simmons products, the Portakit is a tool built with the interests of the drummer/percussionist in mind. You really need to spend a while experimenting fully to appreciate and enjoy the scope that this sort of equipment offers. But it certainly is portable and very robustly made for on-the-road applications. So it looks like another winner from Simmons. BOB WICZLING





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Another interesting feature of the pads is the ability to use one of them to alter MIDI effects such as after touch and pitch bend, as well as the relationship between the amount of effect produced and the amount of pressure exerted on the pad. Dynamic control is also excellent with a choice of ten dynamic curves programmable for each pad.

One of the great features onboard the Portakit is the presence of a 10,000 event sequencer. It is eightnote polyphonic and can store 12 sequences, each 240 bars long, provided your total of MIDI events is not exceeded. The sequencer will store song

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Wind of change

AKAI EWI 1000 WIND CONTROLLER £499 EWV 2000 £399 QQ1/4 VV

NOW THE '80s are nearly over, maybe someone will realise just how boring letters and numbers are. What is wrong with calling an instrument by a proper name anyway?

Here we have the EWI 1000: OK, at least people are calling it an EeeWeee.

The word 'plumbing' never seems far from people's lips either. Akai seem to have used as little imagination in the aesthetic design of this instrument as they have in the name. They must have spent far too long making things that live in rectangular surroundings because they've managed to give birth to yet another grey box.

Though this one has been stretched, unceremoniously grafted on to a darker grey lump, and has a few silvery bits added, it remains to all intents and purposes another damn grey box.

Now come on, I know this is an attempt at continuity but enough is enough; maybe Akai bought up all the army surplus grey metal boxes.

Bitching aside, the EWI is an impressive machine. But it has to be linked up with the EWV 2000 (more bloody numbers!) sound module before you can elicit a squeak.

And, only through the module does it have MIDI capability. So, unlike Yamaha's WX7, it is not a MIDI controller in its own right. The module is a standard analogue synth with two VCOs, two VCFs, two VCAs and four EGs, the ability to store 64 sounds, a 16-character LCD readout, cassette data interface and vibrato.

There's also a touch plate on the back for accessing

various functions like pitch bend and glide, which I would think would need to be cleaned regularly in some way. I had a digital clock/alarm which relied heavily on a similar touch-sensitive plate; as the years rolled by, it became increasingly more difficult to turn off the Chris Tarrants and Tony Blackburns of this world – I think I eventually took a hammer to it...

There are 'lots of different ways' to contour how the instrument responds to your touch (or lack of it), ie breath control; Akai have also kindly included a headphone jack as well as auto tune, transpose, oscillator detune for fat sounds, the ability to play



AKAI EWI 1000 and rackmounted EWV 2000

pre-programmed chords when hooked up to a polyphonic MIDI device and an ingenious roller mechanism for leaping from octave to octave. I found this latter hell to get used to – but if Michael Brecker can do it then anyone can, right?

do it then anyone can, right? My main beef with this gadget is that the keys do not move up or down; they respond instead to having a finger lightly rested against them. This requires a wickedly precise technical ability as was necessary for the Stepp guitar synth. Most people who play an instrument are apt to razz and blunder around – that's half the fun. The EWI seems to lend itself to a more clinical approach; fine for a small minority of jazzers but mistakes on this instrument definitely sound a lot worse than mistakes on a real sax.

Yes it's expressive, yes the sounds are rich and warm, yes it's fun to combine the sounds in the module with

other synths and samplers, yes the mouthpiece does feel like sucking a teat but, compared with a real sax, it is the difference between a meal at your favourite restaurant and a microwaved TV dinner – both are equally filling but only one is truly satisfying. Perhaps when the next incarnation of the Electric

Perhaps when the next incarnation of the Electric Wind Instrument becomes available from Akai, they will have seen fit to round off a few edges, even though the EWI is neat in a Jetsons sort of way and will actually stand on its end on a flat surface – try doing that with your Selmer Mark Six! It could be of course that Akai have taken note of the projected trend away from 'image' and all its connotations. If this is so, then they'll be bang up to date – 'Cubist Metalwork 1'...

On a more positive note, the one thing that can be said about the EWI is that everything Akai have set out to do has been achieved – the thing works and works well. If the reliability of their other products is anything to go by, I'm sure it will be durable enough to withstand the rigours of the road.

These are early rungs on the ladder towards wind synth perfection – to come so far so quickly is very promising. Technology, however, is sweeping ever upwards in a staggeringly steep curve and that which is ultra-hip today becomes tomorrow's trash.

Nowadays if an electronic instrument gives good service for over a year, shut up and be happy.

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Encore for a Master Touch

REMO ENCORE SERIES FIVE PIECE KIT £499.90 (without hardware) **REMO MASTER TOUCH SERIES FIVE PIECE STANDARD KIT £450** (without hardware) **REMO 510 HARDWARE** PACK £225 All QQQ VVV

THESE LA based manufacturers, initially famous for their top quality drum heads, have gone from strength to strength with some wonderful drum kits.

Both Encore and Master Touch kits are sold as shell packs which is why the hardware pack is reviewed seperately. But it is possible to review these kits side by side as they have an awful lot in common.

First and foremost, the shells of both kits are manufactured from the same lamination of wood fibrous material, called the Acousticon SE.

The catalogue states they are moisture proof and highly durable and I found them to be good weighty shells, well made and well finished on the interior. The exterior drum finish was equally impressive.

Both these kits were finished in a very striking glossy black Quadura covering, and came fitted with the same hoops and tom mountings, with Remo pinstripe heads on top and clears on the bottom.

Visually stunning, these kits have little to tell them apart as far as sound is concerned.

The Encore drums are the more expensive set mainly due to their ingenious Power Snap Lug system.

For those of you who have not yet seen it, the **Power Snap Lug is a** brilliant innovation which enables you to remove the drum head simply by flipping up the drum lugs and releasing the tensioning screws.

All Encore drums including the snare are fitted with this system, whereas the Master



REMO ENCORE (above) as nine-piece kit; below: Master Touch six-piece; right: piccolo snare



mountings are designed to avoid any tom holder fittings intruding into the interior of the shell itself. The tom holder that slots into the bass drum is sturdy and very manoeuvrable with a central locking system that makes it adaptable to take two or three fittings.

I won't list drum sizes here as there are too many to mention but both Encore and Master Touch series come in a good choice of standard and power tom sizes.

With the Encore series kit came a 51/2 x 14in wood snare also finished in black – good sounding with lots of volume and a smooth acting snare

snare tensioning system on each side of the drum.

Remo have no less than four different grades of hardware systems available. The one I was sent is the top-of-the-line 510 Extra Heavy system. On the stands, all legs are double-strutted and all locking systems have nylon bushes. There is a straight stand and a boom, both with good height and stability

Obviously a lot of thought went into the hardware. The snare stand is easy to position thanks to a ball and socket system, and there's an easily usable cradle locking system. The bass drum pedal is



lock system (adjustable only on one side).

From the Master Touch series, Remo sent me a 51/2 x 14in chrome snare and also a really great 31/2 x 14in piccolo snare finished in a very attractive gold Quadura finish which looked just like a brass shell. Great sounds came from both snares with a very live, bright sound from the piccolo drum.

No internal dampers again -- instead, Remo supplied the very effective damping skin hoop that you just lay on top of the batter head.

Although there are no snap lugs, the Master Touch series snares do have the advantage of a very impressive - big and chunky with a very responsive chain pulley action. The main support of the pedal is telescopic to adjust height and the tensioning of the single spring, while a locking nut allows adjustment of the beater angle. The large footplate has bolts to secure it in place and there is a quick release and lock system for securing the pedal to the bass drum hoop.

The hi-hat pedal is equally well manufactured; with a double spring action and a tension adjust mechanism, it is fast and responsive. I love these drums.

BOB WICZLING

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Touch series drums come

with regular type lugs. The Encore bass drum possesses a rather more

complicated and chunkier spur system then the Master Touch.

Both systems fold out from the drum and both are extremely effective. The tom mounting unit is the same on both kits with a thoughtful drum key housing built in.

The bass drums also possess the Remo muffler system which is a great way of damping down the sound. A nice, compact 20in bass drum gives this particular kit a great punchy sound.

The toms sound wonderful, with no internal dampers present. The side tom

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TO MY mind, American amp manufacturers Polytone have built their reputation on two factors: producing amps with jazzer appeal, and packing a lot of watts into remarkably small packages.

The Mini-Brain, while not obviously aimed at the 'squeaky-bonk' fraternity, certainly falls into the second category. A functional looking black rectangular box approximately 2u deep and measuring only around 9 x 9in, it's basically a guitar amp without a speaker and is capable of pushing out up to 85 watts when driving a 20hm enclosure.

Not that you have to use a 20hm speaker. A 40hm set-up will deliver 60 watts, and an 80hm speaker – which we used for our review – will chuck out around 40 watts.

Although it may be possible to purchase an adaptor plate and have the Mini-Brain permanently installed in a rack set-up, the real idea is music on the move. To this end the box is fitted with a carry handle and the whole thing comes supplied with a padded, shoulder-strapped, carry-bag and a set of lightweight headphones.

Apart from the roving private practice possibilities (you'll need an AC outlet, though, since the Mini-Brain is mains powered only), the general idea presumably is that you can carry your backline around without the normal transportation headaches, and when you stroll into the studio, say, all you need is to hook up to a convenient speaker cab, and off you go. The alternative proposition of having one's own

The alternative proposition of having one's own cabinet as part of the system seems to defeat the object.

Operationally, the Mini-Brain is a dual-channel unit – accessed through common high or low gain inputs – switchable between clean and distortion channels by an optional (but essential) double footswitch which also provides switching for the unit's spring reverb. LEDs on the front panel indicate which channel is selected. The Mini-Brain's diminutive dimensions inevitably

The Mini-Brain's diminutive dimensions inevitably mean compromise in control layout. First, EQ – with the exception of a specific tone pot for distortion – has to be shared by both channels, and even allowing for that, the controls have had to be arrayed as a line of dualconcentric style knobs.

From left to right we find bass and mid-range, treble and distortion EQ, clean and distortion volumes and, adjacent to the twin inputs, another paired knob Brain power



MINI-BRAIN: one way to show which bag your head's in

providing reverb adjustment on the outer portion, and distortion boost on the inner knob. Slightly confusingly, the control graphics are all marked 0 to 10 yet the three-band EQ is supposedly active, described as providing 20dB of cut or boost from a 'flat' 12 o'clock position. In practice this doesn't present a problem since the controls act more like passive pots and give a perfectly adequate range of tonal tailoring. The mid-range is particularly good, beefing things up nicely without adding boxiness. Completing the front panel facilities is a power switch

Completing the front panel facilities is a power switch offering reverse polarity to reduce mains hum (this wasn't a problem anyway); a mini-blade gain switch;

For most purposes the gain switch – dark, normal, brite. For most purposes the gain switch can happily be left on its minus setting. Switching to plus does add some balls but increases the risk of unwanted background noise.

When it comes to ancillaries, Polytone have made sure the Mini-Brain can integrate into pretty much any backline arrangement. The various other Ins and Outs – located either on the side or rear panel – include the obligatory Line Out for Dl'ing or slaving up, twin speaker sockets, and an FX loop with individual volume controls for Send and Return. The headphone socket, which cuts off the main speaker sockets, is also round the back.

Soundwise, the Mini-Brain gives a fairly creditable performance. But as with any amp sharing a master EQ, it's not particularly easy to sort out simultaneously good clean and distorted sounds without juggling the tone controls in between times.

With this in mind, the best results of channel switching were definitely achieved with Strat type guitars. The single-coils' inherently more vibrant tonalities simply seemed happier with the amp – and more convincing on the ear.

Having said this, in a studio situation where you're likely to be dealing with just one sound at a time, users of both single-coil and humbucker instruments should find that time spent on setting up will be rewarded with a healthy spectrum of decent sounds.

As a powerful, go-anywhere amp that can simply be slung over the shoulder, the Mini-Brain – which is also available as a £245 bass version without distortion or reverb – offers distinct possibilities. But this largely pre-supposes that the owner will be content to use whatever speaker system happens to be handy.

And if the owner decides that's too risky and he's better off investing in a speaker system for consistent and predictable results, he's back to square one and may just as well have bought a combo in the first place.

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RAHAM LEWIS takes a slurp of lager and considers the divided opinions over Wire's last LP, 'A Bell Is A Cup'. He's playing, as ever, with pop.

"It's interesting. I've heard both opinions and they seem to contradict each other. The one side which says, The essential pop song, and the other which says, Obscure.

"I think it was particularly with the break Wire took that it was reappraised. Then it became an adjective - this is pop. Then with 'The Ideal Copy' and 'A Bell Is A Cup', people say, Are you deliberately trying to court a pop market. .

Another slurp.

"It's pop in the sense of its availability. And there it is."

Maybe a swig, rather than a slurp. One thing is certain and that is that Graham would know which. Rarely have I met someone with such a measured and precise use of language, even in the informal confines of a central London boozer. And, of course, it's a trait that has always defined Wire's pop terminology. From 1977's '1-2-X-U' to 1988's 'Kidney Bingos', a rigorous attention to exactitude has corralled those four individual impulses and made Wire what they are.

Which is. . .there. As Graham says of their seven year dormancy, "Wire didn't not exist, it was just that we hadn't done anything. Colin was in India. It was a natural pursuit of the ideas you'd got and you wanted to realise them."

We can take it, then, that Wire are presently in another period of not not existing. For his part, Graham is releasing his second solo album – or "project" as he invariably terms it - under the He Said moniker.

'Take Care' works perfectly as a subtext to Wire's immediate past and, perhaps, their impending future. It's best not to speculate too much on the latter; Graham certainly doesn't.

He regards every recorded work as a natural outpouring of ideas: a process. This is a word he utters at least 50 times in the course of our conversation - the 'Take Care' process was a

Graham Lewis has taken another break from Wire, to chase his dreams and turn

gruelling three weeks with producer John Fryer and beat visionaries Keith LeBlanc and Adrian Sherwood.

"It wasn't until months afterwards that I was able to listen to it. Cos my relationship to it was so strong, to the process rather than to the actual music. I didn't know quite what I felt about it. I was quite pleasantly surprised.

Quite often you make something and it does take a time. maybe a year, before you forget

how it was that you made it and start to hear it as a separate thing. Whereas everyone else, when they hear it, they broadly hear what it is rather than what you did."

Er, right, Graham. Indeed he has only recently discovered that he really likes 'The Ideal Copy' "I always thought I did" - Wire's triumphant "comeback" album of two years ago! For many, that record was the debut from a band they had never encountered before the expansive thunder of

the accompanying 'Ahead' single. Graham doesn't see the sabbatical as anything other than a positive, natural period of creativity.

"Being able to live outside it, that's what we attempted to do, because we thought it was the only healthy way of continuing.

"That was what we wanted in '79 which wasn't forthcoming from EMI and in that intervening period we were able to realise that, to do different things. I think it's healthy, it's what everyone wants.'

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So there's never been a necessity to make another Wire record?

"Obviously, people expect us to make another one and we are, in fact, going to make another one but that's because we've been thinking about how we might approach it and what we might do. Another experiment, see what happens."

EEMS LIKE an eminently civilised way to conduct one's affairs. Life as one quarter of Wire is a nomadic, rootless existence: processes here, collaborations there.

Graham has just spent six weeks in Sweden and was about to set off for Belgium when we met. This latter jaunt was to see Colin Newman for some Wire plot-hatchery. Do they keep in touch a lot?

"Yes and no. I haven't spoken to him since I saw him in Portugal in November. Bruce has. That way has always been the nature of how we've worked. It was never a social society of a bunch of mates.'

He serves the words with an inflection that suggests he could never bear to conceive of such an arrangement.

"It's always exciting to meet again. Y'know, What have you been doing? For instance, Colin's got a baby son now. So no doubt he'll be excited about that."

What his solo work does preclude is playing live, something that Graham particularly enjoys. He is interested to know why I enjoyed last year's Wire show and I suggest that it broke most of the live concert conventions and was more rewarding for that.

"You weren't being told what to do. I think that's always been a strong element, a principle, if you like. We always disliked that aspect, the rabble-rousing. I don't think I need to be told I should be clapping my hands or what I should be doing at a particular time.

"I still think that the most rewarding experience is that feeling of, in a weird way, being alone in a crowd. And where your mind and your imagination go to then, and what connections you make with sounds - that's great. And if that's possible. that's the thing, cos l've never seen it. I've never seen Wire! So I don't know. But that's what I always appreciated in other people's stuff. I think that's recognition.

That's real power. "I think it is. It's. . .potent."

LL OF Wire's late period work confronts the wonders and puzzles of everyday life and how our experiences are refracted through technology. Graham's He Said project is no different in this respect, being "accumulations of observations". If anything, it depicts a more human face than is common with Wire; wholly technological music but, as Graham might say, never enslaved to the process. "I haven't got a fetish about it at all. I'm not technically expert in any shape or form. Doing two records with John Fryer has been great because John describes himself as not musical but he has an inquisitiveness about the technology. "I always find myself saying, Does that mean you can do this? Well, we can always find out, let's see. You know, in that way it's a subversion of the technology, a destruction. Rather than treating it with a fetish and ending up with something which is just a veneer, you don't ever get below the table.



them into reality. **Keith Cameron** hears of the creative process that spawned Lewis' latest solo project, 'Take Care'



GRAHAM LEWIS: "The most rewarding experience is being alone in a crowd."

"Cos it's still the words and the noise that are interesting. What kind of noise can you make?"



ALBUMS RATINGS: ***** CLASSIC *** BORROW **** HEAR + IGNORE**

ABDULLAH MUSSA AHMED & SEIF SALIM SALEH 'Taarab I - The **Music Of Zanzibar'** (Globestyle ORBD 032)

A technical hitch

IKHWANI SAFAA MUSICAL CLUB Taarab 2 - The Music Of Zanzibar' (Globestyle ORBD 033) *** EXCURSIONS INTO World

Music take us to locations ever more exotic. Zandibar is a small island group off the east coast of Africa, now part of Tanzania, but once a country in its own right.

It's a musical journey worth exploring and introduces the listener to a vividly expressed folk song with strong Arabic inflections and also a feel curiously akin to European classical music.

This is true, in particular, of the Abdullah Mussa Ahmed & Seif Salim Saleh set. Ahmed plays a ganoon, a plucked zither, and is accompanied by Saleh on the fretless stringed ud. Their melodic duets together have all the inevitable reiteration of theme and sprightly counterpoint of a baroque piece by Scarlatti, perhaps, or lute music from the courts of France.

The Ikhwani Safaa Musical Club set translates much of the same in more grandiose terms, as befits a 41-piece group. Being mostly sung, their sound is more readily identifiable as to its source. Issuing from Turkish record shops along London's Cyprus Avenue Green Lanes – you hear music like this.

EVELYN COURT

REGGAE PHILHARMONIC **ORCHESTRA 'Reggae** Philharmonic Orchestra' (Mango ILPS9898) **

JUST AS some things are better left unsaid, so some deeds are better left undone. The Reggae Philharmonic Orchestra match dreadlocks with dinner jackets in an effort to bring the assumed class of classical musicianship to reggae. It's an idea that should have stayed on the shelf.

The use of strings to increase pop's potion is nothing new. But moving the fiddles, viola and cellos to the fore in a setting such as this hasn't been done before. Unfortunately,

NEW ORDER 'Technique' (Factory FACT 275/CD) ***3/4 TECHNIQUE – OR, very often, the lack of it – has served New Order well. From some unashamedly basic abilities has flown the most perfectly exhilarating and muscular pop music of the decade. Their singles veer between the timeless ('Temptation',

'True Faith') and the tedious ('Blue Monday', 'Confusion'), as singles probably should. While, with the exception of the still-born 'Movement', their albums are invariably imbued with a consistent gut-punching thrill. Ten years on from 'Unknown Pleasures' and New Order are a fact of life, familiar and dependable.

This very dependability is both a blessing and curse. 'Technique' is, without question, their least remarkable album ('Movement' was, let's face it, incredibly bad). The cock-eyed Balearic activity of 'Fine Time' is a total red-herring, opening affairs almost apologetically before metronomic drumming and Hooky's bass leads us into 'All The Way'. And it's well-worn territory from here on in

'Round And Round' and 'Vanishing Point' refine New Order's dancefloor fetish to its most pastel-hued beauty, and the remaining five tracks tread the 'Brotherhood' path of semi-acoustic bitterness.

Though New Order are as bitch-minded as ever, the emotional peaks have been honed to a soft-focus plateau. When Barney's voice finally quavers during the refrain to 'Guilty Partner' it's almost a shock. He strains to break free, but 'Technique' has submerged his band in a lush digital vat.

This New Order record demands far more from the listener than usual. Perseverance is required to unearth the highs, and even then these pleasures are lightweight rather than physical. 'All The Way' is The Cure's 'Just Like Heaven', reclaimed by its real progenitors, and is a wonderful rush. 'Vanishing Point' is impish in its pretty

allure and invokes a rare moment of lyrical positivity. Maybe New Order have nothing truly remarkable left to offer. I instinctively doubt this but, if so, 'Technique' will at least ensure commercial wealth. On 'Run', Barney asks, "Well, what's the use in complaining when you've got everything you need?" Fair enough. KEITH CAMERON

TESLA 'The Great Radio Controversy' (Geffen WX 244/CD) ****

SURE AS Wolfsbane are ugly, Sacramento's Tesla will grow into one of the biggest hard rock draws of the '90s. Their second album,

'Controversy', is another big rock spectacular in the vein of their 'Mechanical Resonance' debut. And if not a classic, it still establishes Tesla as a Montrose-cum-AC/DCcum-Thin Lizzy-cum-early Def Leppard set to explode into the biggest thing since Mötley Crüe reached puberty

While they're more authentically song-oriented than your average highfibre rockers, it's still chomping riffs and shouting, big-in-the-saddle s fhat are lesia's stock in trade. 'Controversy''s 13 tracks are brash in an all-American kinda way that's neither stodgy nor stupid. Singer Jeff Keith may ham it up on 'Heaven's Trail', spouting off about being ready to kick ass or some such baloney, but the song itself is fiercely addictive. Keith is a great singer, his rough charm evocative of a young Rod Stewart. **Guitarists Frank Hannon** and Tommy Skeoch are one of the few genuinely exciting partnerships to have emerged since the demise of Thin Lizzy. In 'Controversy', Tesla have produced lean, honest, timeless spit 'n' sawdust rock that's highly saleable yet with a minimum of crass phrasing. PAUL ELLIOTT

FAIRPORT **CONVENTION 'Red And** Gold' (Woodworm RUE002/CD) ***

MARTIN CARTHY 'Right Of Passage' (Topic TSLP 452/CD) **** THE ALL-time folk-rock

legend trundles on, but with one subtle difference: this is the first album in a while where Fairport Convention haven't either tried to live up to it or debunk the legend tag.

This time they've just got on with the business of being an '80s roots band, which is roughly the same as a folk rock band give or take a hip label or two.

They've persuaded Ralph McTell to write them the title track about a Civil War battle at their home village of Cropredy. They've also dusted off Simon Nicol's of Dylar White Wonder' (which brought them their only hit back in '68 with 'Si Tu Doir Partir') to find 'Open The Door Richard'. Martin Carthy hasn't

MELTDOWN 'Anything Can Happen Day

(Disinformation 4901A/ Import) *** MELTDOWN CLAIM to

deliver a fission of hightech metal and proto-punk. But 'Anything Can Happen Day' is more a controlled explosion than an atomic blast.

Meltdown have all the components needed for a devastating bomb; their problem is in assembling them correctly.

From Boston, Meltdown misleadingly line themselves up with Bullet Lavolta and the late, lamented Lemonheads. But though they haven't the former's punch or the latter's pulped pop, they do have a strange, warped momentum topped by hyperactive leads. A unique dynamic reveals itself slowly from song to song, underlaid by seemingly spontaneous harmonics. But there's also a frustrating anti-climactic restraint, holding off extremes. The meticulous lead guitar offsets the sameness of the rhythms, and it's nearly enough to make you forget that a band set on crushing you is sometimes hard put to leave a bruise. 'Resignation' refers to "repressing the animal", which is what Meltdown do to excess. They strive for technical expertise while sacrificing the animalism that would give their inventive songs bite. What could be a full-bodied war cry ends up as a strangled bellowing that has to work too hard to convince. **RALPH TRAITOR** **SOULED AMERICAN 'Fe'** (Rough Trade ROUGH 131) ***1/2

'FE' IS not the sort of album to come to terms with on a single hearing. It's only on the second time around that things fall into place.

What at first appeared to be a gratuitously ramshackle attempt to disembowel country music - that would have The Mekons applauding emerges as a loose salute to the many strands of traditional American styles. There's not an ounce of flab on either the songs or the playing. Souled American get down to the bones.

'She Broke My Heart' is a classic country weepie, melancholy steel guitar and all, that's stripped of excess and slobbering sentiment. 'Make Me Laugh Make Me Cry' and 'Goin' Home' are in a purer rock vein, yet stick to a similarly skeletal approach. And while elements of cajun and blues can be detected elsewhere, 'Fisher's Hornpipe' is almost what the title suggests: a folksy instrumental gone slightly awry.

OVERLORD X Weapon Is My Lyric' (Island ILPS 9924 CD) **1/2

SOAKED IN the stench of death, Overlord X literally erupted onto the indie scene last year.

His debut 45, '14 Days In May', a rap spliced to newsreel footage, told of the cruel twist in American justice which took Edward Earl Johnson to the electric chair. A record that was as hard and uncompromising as the 12 just men and true who signed Johnson's death warrant.

Surprisingly, this was no cry of anger from a NY ghetto but from London, hinting that a quality rap act might at last spring from the Big Smoke.

However, it hasn't. If Three Wize Men's credibility crashed when they dared boast of hailing from Peckham Rye, then Overlord X 737s on the album's first track, when the big X hangs around with his Hackney homeboy pals. In his ghetto, where switchblades nestle up to out of date bus passes, Overlord X shouts for sanity. But his ideological cries against racists, rapists, muggers and moneymakers seem superficial. The music is similarly disappointing, with outdated ideas - like mock sampling Michael Jackson's 'Bad' for '2 Bad' – jerking out of the Public Enemystyle mêlée. Despite its faults, 'Weapon' stands as one of the best British rap albums to date. Which, unfortunately, isn't saying much.



there's little inspiration left for the songs.

Work And Sleep', for example, aims for the cut and thrust of social comment only to flounder in cliché. The instrumentals, too, have titles like 'Sharpeville' and Working Class', burdened with conceits their construction and performance could never live up to.

To further confuse things, there's a reworking of Cab Calloway's 'Minnie The Moocher', and a far less happy reunion with 'As Time Goes By' that would make even Ingrid Bergman have second thoughts, never mind Sam.

A case of back to the drawing board, and no need to tell Tchaikovsky the news.

made a record in six years, but 'Right Of Passage' more than makes up for the time lapse.

He hasn't lost his biting edge, adapting an anonymous pre-First World War tune, 'The Banks Of The Nile', into an anti-Falklands barb. But he has mellowed from the inwardlooking, intense style that sometimes made it a strugale to stick with him.

His playing is slow, deliberate but pristine; his voice is more relaxed. The result is an absorbing album, rich in detail and character.

HUGH FIELDER

It's an intriguing mix that has the plump bass-lines of Joe Adducci pumping away like an overly anxious heart, seemingly probing for a way out through the watery layers of guitars, hunted vocals and strangled harmonies.

Souled American come from Chicago and I'm still trying to figure out whether that's relevant or not. In the meantime, I'm practising loving their record. PETER KANE

SHAUN PHILLIPS

PETER KANE





ZOOT AND THE ROOTS 'Guardian Angels Of

The Groove' (Honeybee Records BEE002) *1/2 ZOOT AND The Roots are one of those honest, hard working and, therefore, eminently dull bands who've been on the live circuit long enough to be considered an institution.

They seem to exist in some sort of sensory deprivation vacuum, totally oblivious to what's going on outside and harbouring dreams that maybe next time around they'll come back as The Famous Flames, The Bar-Kays or, who knows, even the JBs.

They jolly themselves along by endlessly declaring that they're "feeling funky" and their idea of a really good time is, no doubt, to "shake a tail feather".

Not a particularly healthy state of affairs on the whole, and one which this live album, recorded in Geneva early last year, does nothing to dispel.

With the exception of Sly Stone's 'Dance To The Music', everything is of their own invention, including such tired workouts as 'Groove Thang (Let The World Go Round)' and 'The Bee Jives Out'. There's a whole lot more, but what's the point? They sound like pretty desperate men to me.

Get up. Get down. Get lost.

PETER KANE

Endless farewell

ROY ORBISON 'Mystery Girl' (Virgin V2576/CD) **** "I THINK it sounds like me," said Roy Orbison, and it does. The trembling but never quite breaking falsetto of 'In The Real World' is the deep soul of Orbison's art, and the jaunty boardwalking feel of 'You Got It' is the upside of his world.

But some of 'Mystery Girl' is less impressive, which serves as a reminder that this wasn't meant to be a final statement but a steady comeback record for a stilltalented figure.

The eagerness of people to work with Orbison has made the LP into something of a jumble of collaborators. 'She's A Mystery To Me', by David Evans and Paul Hewson, has a lovely ethereal melody for Roy to sing, but Bono's production sounds heavy-handed next to the glossy treble of Jeff Lynne or T-Bone Burnett's crunchy rock patterns.

A couple of the songs could blow away on the breeze: even Orbison can't coax much out of 'Windsurfer' and 'California Blue'. The fact of his passing makes everything which isn't a winner into a waste.

The most bizarre piece is Elvis Costello's 'The Comedians', a cryptic obscurity from 'Goodbye Cruel World', which here sounds like a Marty Robbins gunfighter ballad.

The man excepted from these criticisms must be the singer himself. Roy might not have believed that any of this stuff was as good as the perfect hits he wrote nearly 30 years before, but he gives every lyric a performance that has you holding your breath at least once in nearly every song.

once in nearly every song. He skims over the heartbreaking chords of 'A Love So Beautiful', treats the potential rawness of 'The Only One' with delicacy, and turns the sobbing lines of 'In The Real World' from soap into poetry. Just occasionally you might catch a thickening of his voice, a gumminess that wasn't there on 'Blue Angel'. But it's nothing much.

'Mystery Girl' is a gentle record, a pleasing reminder that turned out to be a goodbye.

RICHARD COOK





BABY FORD 'Fordirax' (Rhythm King BFORD 3/ CD) ****

LESS THAN a year old, the Ford man-child proves he's more than just a blurred press photo.

Released as two 12-inch singles, 'Fordtrax' puts UK House into orbit and instigates a bizarre noise/ MOR interface. This album recognises that spaced-out stabs of synth can liberate House music from a simple 2D body-jerk rhythm track.

Baby Ford's greatest liability is perhaps their concept. Put simply, mainspring Peter Ford will insist on singing and sadly, he is blessed with a white elephant of a voice. Somewhere between Marc Almond and a breathy Green Gartside, it renders tracks like 'My Innersence' uncommonly dated and ineffectual.

VARIOUS ARTISTS 'New Roots' (Stylus SMD972/ CD) ***

OF COURSE, any selfrespecting serious record buyer wouldn't touch a TVadvertised compilation with a barge pole. But maybe a small exception should be made for this double LP.

I don't think we need to concern ourselves unduly with what constitutes roots music so, for the purposes of this exercise, it's deemed to include The Robert Cray Band, Enya and even Martin Stephenson And The Daintees.

New Country is well represented, with proven favourites from Steve Earle, Nanci Griffith and Lyle Lovett as well as the pairing of Dwight Yoakam and Buck Owens on the 'Streets Of Bakersfield'. Other familiar names include Ry Cooder with 'Get Rhythm', Los Lobos, The Poques Richard Thompson, 10,000 Maniacs and dear old Billy Bragg, who's still 'Waiting' For The Great Leap Forward'. Bit of a potpourri, eh? As with any collection of this kind there'll be quibbles about the choice of individual tracks. Why, for instance, does Michelle Shocked's 'When I Grow Up' gain preference over 'Anchorage'. More importantly, why is African music allowed only four out of 28 starts when space is given to the less than inspirational Rory McLeod and Runrig? Mind you, 'Unchandifunga' from The Four Brothers is sweet enough to last a lifetime.

SUICIDE: ANOTHER way of life

SUICIDE 'A Way Of Life' (Chapter 22 CHAP35/CD) **** ALAN VEGA and Martin Rev are no longer the skinny, scrawny bratpunks of '77. Their appearance, if still tatty and tacky, is now fleshed out with age. Their music, however, remains stripped to a minimalist core, all bare bones and raw nerves.

Six cuts in, 'Dominic Christ' is quintessential Suicide. Rev's one-finger keyboard riff is monstrous and monotonous, repetitive yet forever on the brink, Vega's vocal is queasy with madness.

Much of 'A Way Of Life', the duo's third album – two years in the making, released eight years after the second – recalls the eponymous debut. 'Suicide' haunts its creators as it does its slowly-gathered audience.

Without, understandably enough, a 'Frankie Teardrop' to freeze the blood, 'A Way Of Life' provides its shocks on the first side. Sandwiched by the suitably edgy 'Wild In Blue' and the relentless, heavy riffs of 'Rain Of Ruin' are the surprise packages of 'Jukebox Baby 96' and 'Surrender'. The former, reworked from Vega's first solo LP, is thigh-slapping rockabilly, while the latter (featured as a flip to 'Rain Of Ruin' on a recent double A-side single) is a dreamy, almost treacly slow croon. It finds Vega oddly mellow and lovelorn amid seven bouts of psychotic outpouring.

Side two comprises four giant, obsessive pieces, two of which find no conclusion and trail off into the subconscious. Characteristically, the slyly-titled 'Love So Lovely' is the most nightmarish creation on the record, its riff constricting and claustrophobic, Vega breathy and panicky

Plagiarism is deemed the most sincere form of flattery, but Suicide aren't flattered by their imitators. None of the many copyists get anywhere near Suicide's pioneering spirit and heart of darkness.

'A Way Of Life'. No guitars, pure rock 'n' roll. Only Suicide.

PAUL ELLIOTT

Elsewhere, the mix congeals into a surprisingly organic whole. Snatches of sound, like half-heard TV sets, filter and die. 'Crashing' and the title track exemplify the Baby Ford hypno-therapy treatment.

Sometimes their experimentalism becomes prissy and precious, (as with the drearily un-jokey 'New York') and a track like 'Flowers' is glaring in its contrived, PiL-ish nonconformism. But for the most part, 'Fordtrax' is a surprisingly competent debut, sharply defined and with a firm sense of its direction.

Modern dance as heard from the intestine, Baby Ford have quickly outgrown the Acid rain that spawned them.

A worthwhile attempt to show there's more to life than Jason and Kylie.





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Performance

Non-stop erotica



THROWING MUSES: for even the faintest of hearts

THROWING MUSES 'Hunkpapa' (4AD CAD 109/ CD) ****1/2

IN THE past, one or two people have found the multi-faceted nature of Throwing Muses' songs too much to handle.

With the attractively titled 'Hunkpapa', these previously baffling Bostonians have suddenly become a lot more approachable – an exciting proposition, at last, for the faint-of-heart.

Kristin Hersh's spooky little word-tangles are still firmly embedded at the core of the Muses' close-knit sound, the element of mystery is still there, but this time the group are allowing us to get our bearings and lock into the beat.

The most surprising example of this new, slightly more

JESSE GARON AND THE **DESPERADOES 'A Cabinet Of Curi**osities' (Velocity SPEED 111) *1/2

THIS ISN'T very good at all, I'm afraid. Purportedly a 'best of' collection, 'A Cabinet Of Curiosities' (terrible title) never veers far enough away from Edinburgh shy-boy melancholia to hold the attention, let alone intoxicate the blood.

The demo feel and awful mix don't exactly help, but it's the songs themselves that make this an initially irritating and eventually infuriating record.

'Splashing Along' is fair enough with its smooth bassline, but it's got a completely unnecessary middle section and twee lyrics about "trying to dodge the raindrops like Billy The Whizz". 'I'm Up Here' fares no better with its John Hegley And The Popticians stylings. Keep going and it starts to get rough. Mentions of 'Jackie Kerouac" and weekends with my granny by the sea" ('Laughing And Smiling') give the listener a similar sensation to being intravenously forcefed new lemon flavour Lucozade. All we really need is an atrocious 12-string guitar

Rape And Honey' (Sire 925 799-1/CD) **** WELCOME TO a nightmare rigid with urban paranoia, cold and wet with fear and loathing. A core of two - Alain Jourgensen and Paul Barker – augmented by unspecified 'additional musicians', Ministry are creators of a grotesque, dark rock. It's uncommon that such bleak, ugly and forbidding music should

hatch on a major label such as Sire. Granted, the mother label, Warner Brothers, brought you the addled, world of Jane's Addiction, but Ministry are more violent and grimly

traditional approach to the art of songwriting comes in the form of 'Dizzy', it boasts a chorus so delightfully up and inviting that you'll swear you're listening to a summer smash single by a different band entirely. Honestly. Brilliant.

Wordwise, Kristin sprinkles erotica without even trying, whether it be in the lonely jolt of 'Devil's Roof', or the lusty free-fall of 'BEA'. Check the near-gothic guitar frenzy at the end of the latter for further signs of increasing accessibility.

Trauma, warmth, fear, desire – all these things and more are spinning around in the songs of Throwing Muses. And for once you can see exactly what they're getting at.

MR SPENCER

MINISTRY 'Land Of

GIRL TROUBLE 'Hit H Or Quit H" (Next Big Thing NBT 3303) *** THE PACIFIC North West, particularly Washington state, is one of America's great rock 'n' roll backwaters. Long ago, The Sonics and Paul Revere And The Raiders put it on the map, and successive generations of bands have kept the garage flame burning – including Beat Happening and, now, Girl Trouble. Girl Trouble are a

Tacoma quartet plainly fixated on their roots - a cover of the Raiders' 'Steppin' Out', puts their mouth where their memory is. Yet this is not revivalist

JOHNNY WINTER 'The Winter Of '88' (MCA

MCF 3436/CD) ** 1/2 ALBINO ELECTRIC blues crock Johnny Winter has been wrestling with the same few bruised chords for 20 years. And while close to physical ruin himself, his guitar playing still has the kick and sting of emotion.

Winter may clutch a tacky newfangled guitar on the back sleeve, he may also have hired Terry Manning (of ZZ Top repute) to produce, but he's not turned renaissance man. The Winter Of '88' (even the title's dated) ain't nothin' but that old croak 'n' splutter licked into ten

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Bingo. It comes on the last song, Wealth Of Nations', which is truly appalling. 'A Cabinet Of Curiosities' is a three-stepsbackward stroll along a recently-tarmacked road. **DAVID CAVANAGH**

solo.

obsessive by far.

At times, Ministry tote a freaky electro-terror the like of which hasn't been unfettered since primal Suicide or extreme Cabaret Voltaire. 'Flashback' and 'Stigmata' are jolts of impulsive, brutal, steely shock-noise

Not that they're guitarshy. There are hard, punishing riffs here, hung on a machine-like repetition. 'Deity' even has a quasi-hardcore feel. The voice is hellish, FX-warped, raw with emotion yet, eerily, almost inhuman.

Like Slayer, Ministry articulate the horror that even the heaviest of metal can blur with technique. 'Land Of Rape And Honey' is an ugly revelation. Rock has rarely sounded as black or enraged.

PAUL ELLIOTT

music. It simply follows a track parallel to the past; independent, resplendent but never redundant!

Those initiated in the garage cult will enjoy rummaging through Girl Trouble's pop culture jumble sale. The Cramps, **Fuzztones and Fleshtones** have walked the same hallowed path to rock 'n' roll redemption, their fuzz to the fore and their fringes close behind.

Titles like 'Wreckin' Ball' and 'Hot Monkey Love' say it all: Girl Trouble have reanimated and interbred styles, creating another reminder that rock 'n' roll ain't dead yet! Guitarist Kahuna, "sings

along to Roy Orbison records every night", the liner notes inform us. I thought everybody did! **RALPH TRAITOR** (almost) new shapes.

Winter has written just one song here, the hoary, autobiographical whine of World Of Contradictions'. Of the rest, 'Anything For Your Love' is as deliberate as 'Contradictions' but sweeter and less trad, 'Rain' is cool and smooth like Robert Cray, while 'Lightning' is jerky and flashier than Johnny's, erm, eye-catching new tattoo. Cray and Jeff Healey

may have reawakened interest in this stubborn medium, but the stringy, ghostlike Winter seems unlikely to reap a knock-on success. For all the title's allusions to progress, 'The Winter Of '88' is too staunchly reactionary to do anything other than thrill Winter's adoring purist following.

PAUL ELLIOTT

Pezfozmance singles REVIEWED BY DAVID CAVANAGE

TIL TUESDAY (Believed You Were) Lucky' (Epic) A twist on the dreaded Dear John

scenario. Aimee Mann, who these days is 'Til Tuesday, has curtailed all amorous proceedings because her man lacks self-belief. Now she feels bad about it, but he's doing just fine with a handful of man-size

Scotties and his Martin Amis novels. Fans of authentic emotional trauma should note that Aimee cowrote this with her exboyfriend.

It's piping, tuneful stuff, but necessarily wistful.

THE CHAIRS 'Honey I Need A Girl Of A **Different Stripe' (Pink** Halo) Of course if I say the words "power pop" you'll only go off and do the crossword. But think of an ultra-beefy approach, especially in the bass and drums, and I'm sure you'll agree that; when a slice of soaring, jangling melodrama gets a wallop up the rear, it's an entirely different proposition to the lackadaisical puppy fat that passes for decent guitar

pop these days. The title, incidentally, is non-representative of its Morrissey factor.

BIG COUNTRY 'Peace In Our Time' (Mercury) This piece of hands-on brio is the tune Big Country repeatedly tried to start their press-heavy Moscow bash with some months back. Unfortunately, the Marshall stax were acting up, having been pushed to the limit by top-notch[®]local band Bros Karamazov, and this led to "a riot" (The Mirror), "bloodshed" (The Mail) and "one of the best scraps I've had all year" (Nattingham Argus).

The comparative nonevent of their visit inevitably makes this song a squib of the damp variety.

THE SWINGING BLUE **JEANS 'Hippy Hippy**

Shake' (EMI) If you think this is a joke, you should be aware that I came this close (holds fingers two inches apart) to making it Single Of The Week. I mean, you only have to look at the sleeve - How can anyone hold their guitars that high?

The Georgia Satellites durrently have a fair-tomiddling stab at this sort of thing but, at almost four minutes, theirs is way too long. Here, in all its howling glory, is one minute 40 seconds of life, from way back when Terence Stamp and Julie Christie were Jason and Kylie.

SINGLE OF THE WEEK

THE PLANET Wilson: riding high

re-releasing gems like 'So. **Central Rain** The back cover has a

photo of Peter Buck as a small boy and you'll be appalled to know the guy was cool even then.

THE STRANGLERS **'B9' (EMI)** This purports to be a re-mix, and J believe it, but it has clear elements of a re-recording, with Burnel's bass sounding particularly menacing. I cannot seriously entertain the idea that anybody out there has yet to hear the original, but there's Waltzinblack on the B-side, which committed foodies will suss as Keith Floyd's theme tune.

BOBBY McFERRIN 'Thinkin' About Your Body' (EMI) Re-released (puelle surprise!) to tie in with the chocolate ad, McFerrin's voice is possibly the most irritating noise since the last great Alan **Ball interview**. Halfway through this the audience bursts into

applause, scaring the hell out of you. Anyway, all the scat pyrotechnics in the world can't hide the fact that he's just Rolf Harris with a bit more street cred.

SAM BROWN 'Stop' (A&M) Trust Joe 'None Of quality, strongly influenced by jazz and classical music". This means they're Focus speeded up. Meanwhile, the original Hendrix version of this is just about to come out, which will leave Corone looking pretty stupid.

PAT BENATAR 'One Love' (Chrysalis) Cho la if you must but this is a future number one. Ard

good one. Going completel against the rock chick grain, Benatar waxes internationalist. Hers is a plea for unification of the races, based on to deep, spiritual affinity with l'amour, Count me in, Pat. And the biblical look, "Let it be done right ow", takes us back to Donnia Summer's unbelievably joyous 'State Of Independence' ("Hey! Hey!"). Lovely.

LAST PARTY Die In A Spy Ring' (Idol) After a scratchy and encouragingly riff-happy start this plummets into tepid Cureisms. There's a foul tongue at work here, but the snarl of the lyric can't save the lack of a tune.

The organ, however, reminded me of The Triffids' Jill Birt, for which I am profoundly grateful.

THE DOREDT COAV

on 'The Last Letter' is getting free trinks all night

THE DYNAMIC **GUVNORS** 'Rock The Discotheques' (Blapps!) This gets onto this page not

because it's good or anything, but because on the sleeve it says, "Acid music is OK but acid the drug is stupid: Please steer clear

Well; exactly, Life's too short? y'know? Far too short to listen to this piffle for a short.

TOP BILLIN' 'Straight From The Soul'

(Rap Sonic) Rum cove, nio hop. Such a lot going on without anything appening.

THE CARRINGTONS 'Swell Party'. (Dex Discs) The girl singing on this mid-tempo whine (the title is tinged with irony, fans) is either Annie Lenno or an excellent impersonator. And if she's an excellent impersonator, what's she doing with The Carringtons when she

could be making merry japes with the repulsive THE PLANET WILSON 'Taken For A Ride' (Records Of Achievement '89) When that great lost band The Red Guitars called it a day, there was genuine sorrow that their unique sound had perished with them.

The Planet Wilson, who include former Red Guirars Hallam Lewis (guitar) and Lou Howard (nee Barlow, bass), have kept things low-key and intersting since their formation. But now, with 'Taken For A Ride', they have come up with something genuinely massive.

Describing themselves as Psycho Aphrodelic (reminding everyone that Lewis was getting into African guitar long before Paul Simon heard the eureka bells a-calling from that continent) The Planet Wilson sound like no one else on earth. Though at times they recall Can, or even Shriekback, that's usually only for five or ten seconds.

If you invest in the 12-inch of this you'll get a ten-minute mix of the title song, on which every Planet Wilson idea is mooted. Starting off as crazy James Chance-meets-Holger-Czukay-solo-albums it lurches into bar-chord guitar boogie, intercepting the odd Afro distress signal along the way. Lou's bass playing is unbelievable -- not just the tunes

she invents, but the actual sound of her fingers hitting the strings. Mike Watt of Firehose is probably the only person who could match this.

Beats me why those assholes at Houston Central are peering up at Mars when they could be checking out The Planet Wilson.

YAZZ 'Fine Time' (Big Life) The foghorn that commenced The Only Way Is Up' was probably the single most powerful sound of 1988. Not only was it capable of instilling deep fits of depression into sensitive young men, but it was equally likely to glean shouts of, "Wa's 'at you're drinkin', Wend? Bacardi? On its awn?" from the burly

white-socked types. If anyone ever tries to tell always a badything, just remember which side of the great divide you were on when Yazz was number one. This, her third dreadful record, is reggaefied Sade - boring, pointless and slimy. It will not be a hit.

HUE AND CRY 'Locking For Linda' (Circa)

Citizens Kane return with a song about a flustered refugee from a doomed marriage whom Pat met on the Glasgow train. She tells him her life-story, exits at Paisley, and he's never laid eyes on her since, though not for want of looking.

Do you doubt for a moment that - should this jittery soul stomp be a hit – Rick Sky's spies will run her to ground?

CAIRO 4 Want That Girl' (Citybeat) If you

scream. Debbie first of all said thank you to everybody she had ever met. Then her producer said thank you to Debbie for being such an irrepressible bundle of fun in the studio. And finally, Debbie's parents said thank you in writing - to their daughter for being so, beautiful and talented and mommy loves you and daddy does too and yeeuuchh... I can't wait to see what the next album will say.

THE DAVINCIS 'Pull'

(Pink Moon) A bit more like it., A furious noise, not a billion miles from REM but also incorporating huge we'dges of Stiff Little Fingers angst, from a Liverpool band who've acquired a cult following on US college radio.

Even a corny Michael Stipe-type talking bit in the middle doesn't detract from its satisfying clout, and there are two like-minded beasts on the flip-side.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

'A Certain Attitude' (Parlophone) Tim Hutton, chief warbler with The Neighbourhood, has the most blatantly contrived diction since Mick Jagger. Is this a Thomas Dolby pisstake, I wondered, as the disc revolved. Do I give a toss one way or t'other? "There's a surtin tap a gaah/Ain't gat much between the aahs" is his approximation of the chorus. The Neighbourhood are probably the sort of people who only examine their reflections in the windows of expensive cars.

Vever meet them.



It's going to be a hit once again, so you might as well get used to it.

REM 'Stand' (Warner

Bros) This could be a sizeable hit, given that (a) 'The One I Love' was totally misinterpreted as a heartfelt billet-doux by most of the people who bought it, and (b) it's got the most blatant modulation since 'Save All Your Kisses For Me'l

The wah-wah solo's not what you'd call commercial but 'Stand' is REM's most realistic shot at the charts, unless they want to stat

Your Lip' Brown to give his daughter a bloke's name. Less predictable, however, is the extent of her talent It's something like three thousand times her old man's for a kick-off, and this self-penned tearjerker is absolutely corking. Sam's obviously a sucker for Dusty Springfield and is equipped with a startlingly good voice. And the sense of joy at hearing a Hammond organ solo on a pop single again is hard to communicate in acceptable English.

This song is solid gold and I hope that Joe is jolly proud.

CORONER 'Purple Haze' (Noise

International) Coroner are a trio who play." thrash metal of a technically high

BAND 'Acting This Way' (Mercury) The 12-inch comes complete with a 'guitar version' (cor, good idea!) and the tricky, expertly syncopated by-ways of the song give a real boost to Cray's legendarily fluid soloing.

THE FIELD MICE 'Emma's House'

(Sarah) Most artefacts with a pro-Smiths bias are excruciating (get a bloody tune!) but this is delinious. Imagine a much less strident version of the man Morrissey - none of that yodelling - fronting a pop group put together by

The painful introspection of these four terrific, unassuming little tunes isn't just adyrical trick ("I never

Davro

THE ORCHIDS 'Underneath The Window, Underneath The Sink' (Sarah)

Scottish chaps with one thing on their minds - how to stop that Poll Tax, and quick.

Didacticism in rock can go horribly wrong, as Easterhouse discovered the night they played to 14 Swedes and a packet of Cheesy Wotsits at the Marquee. It also helps to sound mean, which The Orchids don't. Still, it's an engaging sound and if its self conscious guitar noodliggs

don't quite boast the physique to demand squatters' rights, at least they're writing a cross letter to the council.

think Luke Goss does a fair Michael Jackson rip-off you should hear this guy. Every orunt, squeak and sigh is delivered intact. Not only that but the tune has been snaffled from 'Off The Wall', given the 'dance treatment', and emblazoned with the legend 'radio mix' to help out the poor oafs at Broadcasting House.

I think the words, Bah, humbug are in order here.

DEBBIE GIBSON 'Lost in Your Eyes' (Atlantic) I've only just noticed how much Debbie Gibson looks like Susan Perihaligon. It's almost un anny. But it's not enough to take one's mind off this insipid piece of midperiod Osmondism.

On Debbie's last album the dedications were a

ONE 2 MANY 'Another Man' (A&M) One 2

Many are a Scandinavian trio, and A-ha are as good a reference point as any - it was in their celestial company that keyboard maestro Dag Kolsnud once played. But here's a better idea. Get out those Abba records which your friends think you've sold. Now play the B-sides. Grim, huh?



- FILM
- VIDEO
- A ----
- BOOKS

STORMY MONDAY Palace)

FILMED ON location in Newcastle's dockland area, Stormy Monday is, at first glance, an uneasy attempt o transplant and update Hollywood gangsterisms. A urther foray into Brit noir, the movie, like the strikingly similar Long Good Friday, depicts a power struggle in the lowest echelons of society.

Cosmo (Tommy Lee lones) is a ruthless American property developer with a view to a alling on quayside properties. Owned by the equally ruthless Finney Sting), only one property he Key Club - remains. nto this hot bed of intrigue alls Brendan (Sean Bean), he wide-eyed cleaner who alls for Cosmo's former nistress Kate (Melanie Griffith) and complicates natters further.

Though directed with peed and panache by **Mike Figgis, Stormy** Monday's Anglo-American nelange is an uneven narriage. Griffith is omething of a fish out of water here, but for the most part performances work. Awash with stylistic eferences, Stormy Monday never quite fulfils he promise of its B-movie nspirations. Ultimately it's overcast in more than the neteorological sense.

DAWN DAVENPORT

Streets of sorrow

MIRA NAIR's first feature film, Salaam Bombay!, was highly acclaimed at last year's Cannes and is sure to reap further honours. RALPH TRAITOR reviews the film, TOBY ROSE meets the director

SALAAM BOMBAY! (Mainline)

PIXOTE, A Brazilian film detailing the hard lives of Rio's street urchins, made a substantial impact upon its release several years ago, taking festival awards aplenty as it stirred the conscience of its affluent Western audience.

Salaam Bombay! parallels Pixote's intent by compassionately dramatising the struggle of one young life against Bombay's formidable street hierarchy.

Salaam Bombay! is the story of Krishna (Shafiq Syed), a village boy who flees to Bombay after a family quarrel. He spends the remainder of the film becoming progressively more embroiled in the chaotic underbelly of a city he is desperate to leave. He needs to save 500 rupees for his return fare, at the outset a seemingly simple and ultimately attainable goal. But within days Krishna has been sucked under by the city's subterranean slipstream.

Chillum (Raghubir Yadav), a small-time dealer and hopeless addict who is in thrall to Baba (Nana Petakar), the heartless bossman pimp, befriends Krishna and educates him in the futility, adversity and perversity of the streets.

Krishna persists in naive dreams of returning home, but gradually his essentially gentle nature is corrupted, making a return impossible.

Mira Nair, a distinguished female Indian film-maker, enlisted numerous street children to 'play', and they proved able, natural actors and actresses. The lives of these children are depicted with dignity and realism, revealing rites of passage and strategies of survival, almost incomprehensible to the privileged audiences destined to see Salaam Bombay!

An intriguing, inspiring film that's hard to forget.





SHAFIQ SYED on the streets of broken dreams

INDIAN DIRECTOR Mira Nair is sick of hearing that she romanticised city streetlife in Salaam Bombay!, a film inspired by the memories of that city's clamouring urchins and, more particularly, a crippled kid who gets about by trolley.

"We did not pretty up poverty, but you can't tell a story about everything. Film-making is about choices, and Salaam Bombay! is big enough as it ie

"We have 54 characters and six major stories going on at any given moment. If we had met a kid who had something to offer, apart from the fact he was limbless, there would have been room for him. Is it over-romanticising because the film doesn't have a limbless person in it? We have a hell of a lot else which isn't romantic. You have brown sugar (heroin) all over the bloody movie!"

Though she radiates conviction, Mira is constantly fighting the charge of vogueish concern. Her movie star looks don't help, nor does

a jet-set life split between New York and Bombay. As a young Indian female film-maker, Nair tackled unpopular women's issues – exploited strippers in *India Cabaret* and the use of amniocentesis (the technique of determining an unborn child's sex) to abort the female foetus in



MIRA NAIR: reputed

Children Of Desired Sex. She built a solid reputation for Westernstyle film reporting in India, and won the Camera d'Or for outstanding debut feature film with Salaam Bombay! at last year's Cannes Film Festival. Salaam Bombay!'s

obvious film reference is Hector Babenco's Pixote. "It gave me courage," she admits. Tragically the day filming began she read that Pixote's child star (Ferdinand Ramos) had been killed by a police

bullet, in Sao Paulo. After that, and because she'd become so deeply involved with the street kids of her cast, Mira set up the Salaam Bombay Trust.

"I am now legally and financially looking after two training centres in the city."

And what of the future? "My next film's about the Indian families, expelled by Idi Amin, now settled in the Bible Belt of the American South. There are lots of options at the moment, but I don't want to approach the money men before the idea is fully formed."

NOW AVAILABLE ON VIDEO

BOOK

Mick Mercer (Omnibus Press)

(Omnibus Press) IT TAKES a long, hard look at the cover before you realise what's going on here.

The front of this fearfulsounding probe into one of pop's daftest ever cults is designed to make it appear like a collection of heavy metal sheet music or, worse still, a guitar tutorial.

The circle of burning candles placed around the scholarly-looking axe, however, soon gives the game away. And when you notice that the author is none other than master mischief-maker and music buff extraordinaire, Mick Mercer, you know the emphasis is going to be on the ludicrous, rather than on black leather and lace. But first there's the obvious problem: what, exactly, is goth? Easy, says Mick, "Goth is an invisible substance at the heart of emphatic but essentially differing forms of music – goth in reality being its audience...".

He's cracked it. The only constant factor in goth is the crowd that turns up for the gigs. Thus, the typically bubbly Mercer is free to unleash his thoughts on a vast array of bands, ranging from the sublime (the original Sisters Of Mercy) and the criminally misunderstood (Alien Sex Fiend), through to the truly atrocious (Sex Gang Children). Warming to his subject, Mick succeeds in tracing goth's roots back as far as early Toyah (ahem!), before getting slightly more rational and namedropping the likes of Siouxsie, Bauhaus and UK Decay – along with a few of his personal favourites (who the hell were Belfegore?).

Employing a likeable policy of mocking the often disastrous dresssense of the artists in question, Mercer gives us a chapter each on the Sisters, The Cult, The Mission, Fields Of The Nephilim and All About Eve, and arrives at the conclusion that it's all a bit of a laff, really. A treat. No exaggeration. MR SPENCER

SCANNERS



GORILLAS IN THE MIST

(Universal/Warners) LET'S FACE it, apes ain't exactly 'ad a great write-up in the film world!

There was that big 'un called King Kong who went around smashin' up New York. Then there was Bonzo who slept with old Ronnie Reagan. Dodgy! But I tell you what, the gorillas here are a great bunch.

Centring on the life of Dian Fossey (played by Sigourney Weaver of Aliens acclaim) who left Kentucky to study the mountain gorillas in Rwanda, the story is beautifully filmed. It develops into a confrontation between Fossey and the poachers who'd chop the apes' hands off to make ashtrays.

The making of the film involved living with a group of gorillas, some of which Fossey recognised individually. This certainly adds to the emotional tension of the film which is without doubt a grade-A tearjerker.

With the current popularisation of 'Green' politics, Mist's conversation content is timely while a great performance from Weaver, and the appearances of the gorillas, make this a memorable treatment of a worthy subject.

A designer Daktari. **ROY WILKINSON**



SIGOURNEY AND friend

Night clubbing



Ø

JENNIFER JASON-Leigh's private hell

HEART OF MIDNIGHT

(Vestron) HEART OF Midnight is a kind of contemporary Bluebeard's castle – a violent fairytale set in the real world.

Carol, a mentally fragile young woman (Jennifer Jason-Leigh) inherits a seedy nightclub from her estranged uncle. She attempts to establish her identity by leaving home and overseeing the club's reconstruction and repair.

But Carol is soon overwhelmed by a malevolent presence which stalks her in each of its strange rooms. Mirrors shatter, drugs materialise in empty medicine cabinets, rooms scream and even the walls pulse with the memory of sinful goings-on.

Only after she is gang-raped by workmen, and an ex-cop turned detective (Frank Stallone) becomes

involved does Carol learn that the club was a house of debauchery in which each room was used to satisfy a different sexual appetite.

A man shows up and she assumes he's the detective Stallone promised would investigate the case, but is he? Like the club, he turns out to be full of malevolent secrets, and it's the revelation of his true identity which leads to the film's disturbing climax.

This is a stimulating yet moral tale. For underlying its multi-faceted horror elements, there's a heartfelt protest against child abuse which surfaces in the final scenes.

Jennifer Jason-Leigh and Peter Coyote, as the mystery man, are both well cast in the main roles. But the real genius of the film lies in writer/director Matthew Chapman's evocation of a miserably sleazy world which cheapens and dehumanises everyone who comes into MELINDA GEBBIE contact with it.



TV EYE

WHAT DO Clare Short, Russ Meyer and Barbara Windsor have in common? An uncommon interest in the female breast, of course. And if you want to find out the whys and hows, I suggest you tune into *Arena* (this Friday January 27, BBC2, 9.30pm). Subtitled *Tip Of The Iceberg*, this hourlong documentary explores the plight of the mammary in all aspects of popular culture, from cinema and the press to religious iconography, fashion and art.

Though highly recom-mended, even this can't overshadow the goings on in Brookside Close. No one's giving anything away but let's just say that this Wednesday's that this Wednesday's edition (January 25, Channel 4, 8pm) is the big one. Forget Neigh-bours – Lucy's brain tumour is nothing com-pared to Sheila and Bil-ly's shilly-shallying. Will they? Won't they? Find out tonight! out tonight!

Those less susceptible to fictional drama should lend an eye to Wednesday's Rough (BBC1, 9.30pm). day's Justice Known for its uncompromising reporting style and methods, this week's programme opens the file of the Darvell brothers. Homeless and illiterate, both men received life sentences for a murder could prove. Worth watching to see if the for-mat's been muted since the last series.

Back to the Antipodes, though, for this week's *True Stories* (Thursday January 26, Channel 4, 10.30pm) which dives down under to discover the real meaning of the recent bicentennial for Australia's inhabitants. Filmed from midnight to midnight on Australia Day (January 26, 1988), Australia Daze assembles a collage of the day's events in an attempt to define the national condefine the national con-sensus of opinion.

An anniversary of a different kind is the subject of *Screen Two* (Sun-day January 29, BBC2, 9pm). A fictional account of the last 24 hours of the of the last 24 hours of the life of Buddy Holly, it's no accident that this drama-tisation should appear in a week marking the 30th year since the horn-rimmed giant's untimely death. Beware, though, of a possibly high schmaltz factor factor. Film Of The Week: VCRs at the ready for The Sleeping Tiger (Wednes-day January 25, Channel 4, 2pm). Directed by veteran Joseph Losey (under the pseudonym Victor Hanbury in a bid to beat Hollywood's anti-commie blacklist), The Sleeping Tiger stars Dirk Bogarde as a petty crifactor. Bogarde as a petty cri-minal causing havoc in the lives of a psychiatrist and his wife who try to take him in hand. 1954, vintage Dirk. DAMON WISE

SEEN AND UNSEEN **That Petrol Emotion** (Virgin)

THAT PETROL Emotion have always matched their vitriolic words with vibrant live performances, drilling home their heavily reported politics with songs that literally come alive on stage.

So what could be better than capturing the band live at London's Town And Country Club towards the end of last year? It sounds like a fine idea on paper but, according to most reports, the band, were sounding particularly jaded at the time. Unfortunately, 'Seen And Unseen' seems to support these claims, with the Petrols only firing on one jet for the first half of the evening.

It's only when the urban funk shuffle of 'Groove Check' rumbles into action that this rough, hard video seems to ignite. The charismatic Steve Mack boogies across the stage, like a stick insect bathed in baby oil, while his shrill voice pierces through the inspired raps and powerful slogans.

'Seen And Unseen' might not be essential viewing, but drawing mainly from 'Babble' and 'End Of The Millenium Psychosis Blues', it captures the sheer diversity of one of our best live bands, doing what they do best. RON ROM

Road, London NW1 7QZ

THE PETROLS: video groove check



LIVES EDITED BY SHAUN PHILLIPS

14 ICED BEARS/ CATAPULT/SHINE! **Norwich Arts Centre** SHINE! SEEM like a bunch

of good blokes and it's precisely this earnest bonhomie which drags them down.

Melodies are stillborn, drowning in a flurry of textureless twin guitars and the sweat of honest endeavour. They're like That Petrol Emotion without the tension or The Wedding Present minus the brassneck.

Despite their sullen demeanour, Catapult still can't quite shake off their 'C-86' origins. Spangly cadences and formula crescendos grin idiotically from behind glowering expressions until, suddenly, they come to life. Their shambling pop is swallowed up and spat out, in a purging hail of feedback. 45 extraordinary seconds later, Catapult leave the stage to astonished silence.

Whereas Shine! and Catapult attempt to provoke the audience, 14 Iced Bears generate the impression that you're engaged in some voyeuristic act.

Calloused chord patterns scrape the shine off lilting vocal melodies, bringing Primal Scream to mind as much as Simon & Garfunkel. It's almost as though 14 leed Bears are attached to the late '60s by a long piece of elastic and have just caught fleeting glimpses of Buzzcocks' energy and Pink Floyd's mature psychedelia before being yanked back to The Beatles' era.

Surprisingly, this mish mash of styles is worth seeing. But be quick, the Bears look like they're heading towards Barrettesque introspection. There could well come a time when they finally shut the door on a prying world. ADAM GREEN

THE MILLTOWN BROTHERS **Camden Dingwalls** 'Panic Station'

THE MILLTOWN Brothers are one of those finds.

Supporting diabolically stagnant indie bands, this five-piece from various parts of Lancashire played a set of songs so strong in passion and conviction that their supposed superiors

THE MAN FROM DELMONTE **Manchester Boardwalk**

THE GRADUAL ascendancy of Mike West's bizarre nursery rhyme pop outfit has finally seen the four-piece through to recording a live album in front of a packed Boardwalk.

Whipping the wimp following into the kind of frenzy usually reserved for cavorting hard core fiends, West, brother of Batman's Adam, sweats several buckets of gunk as he hammers himself through each song's "ba-ba-ba vocal line. Snippets of lyrics about Italian boyfriends etc float across the room, intimating that there's seriously weird shit floating underneath the superficially lightweight topping.

Tonight, the combo played two sets. The first was a nervous and restrained blast through the greatest hits and the second, for the record, was a wild celebration where TMFD almost reached Motorhead's gargantuan excesses.

West's mucky lank fringe dissolved into rats tails as the thermometers overloaded. And his almost camp wit and wisdom, so often hidden by his curious Australian accent, was reduced to a primal grunt.

But still he managed to manfully tackle those irritating "ba-ba-ba"s that glue themselves to the subconscious.

The Man From Delmonte he say, 'Erm, yeah, why not! JOHN ROBB

BRYAN FERRY Wembley Arena

HANDS UP all those who thought they'd ever again get the chance to see Bry on stage doing 'In Every Dream Home A Heartache'?

Me neither. But here we all are, clutching our copies of 'The Ultimate Collection' when, out of nowhere, there it is: reeking of decadence and as shiveringly lascivious as the day it was born. Suddenly all, well almost all, is forgiven.

Let's not be bitchy, but much of what had passed before wouldn't have kept granny awake. Bryan has long since converted himself to making a tasteful noise with an undeniable rhythmic sway; but not much else. So we'd applauded politely for the likes of 'Limbo' and concentrated on the band's more impressive moments, particularly the raking metal runs of Geoff Thall. Yet even the sight of Bryan playing admirable air guitar couldn't disguise the fact that there weren't any hits to dance to. Enter 'Jealous Guy', and it's received like a pork chop among a bunch of hyaenas. The whole horrible place is transformed and as 'Love Is The Drug' gets similarly exhumed, our presence seems justified after all. It may not have been quite the triumphant return he'd have wished for, but Mr Ferry has his occasional moments. Mind you, he's still a lousy dancer.

United nations assembly

This year, London ICA's 'Hands Across The Ocean' Rock Week wasn't so much an opportunity to see fresh, indie talent but a crafty stunt by which WEA showcased some of their less publicised acts. Some practically set the place ablaze



SHINEHEAD: A better crack than Mike Yarwood

SHINEHEAD

The Mall ICA, Thursday SHINEHEAD IS rocking the house. Tall, wiry, self-assured, this man has the audience eating out of the palm of his hand.

'Gimme No Crack' opens the floodgates, its loping roots rhythm the framework for Shinehead's madly eclectic vocalese. "Base/How much can you smoke?/ One toke/And the brother choke...", he chants, a variant of Public Enemy's 'Bring The Noise'. Before the night is out, he'll reprise Tears For Fears' 'Shout' and whistle 'Take The A Train'. Strange? Surely. Born in JA (Jamaica – Ed) and transplanted to the Bronx, Shinehead's is a fluke pedigree. And while this live set surprisingly plays down the rap influence he's known for bringing to the Rockers sound, it's still a melting pot of influences. "In 1988/It was a very good year", he muses, echoing Sinatra. Maybe this is the reason for the absence tonight of dreads or homeboys, Shinehead's manic recycling of influences and musical quotations bringing him to the brink of dilution. Perhaps only whitey can truly

Steve Double

appreciate this: "Hoorah for post-modernism!" whoop the ICA glee club, convulsing awkwardly.

Wait, no, I think they're supposed to be dancing. For the best part of an hour, Shinehead dispenses a sizeable chunk of last year's 'Unity' album, only digressing for 'Rough And Rugged' and 'Billie Jean'. Almost flawless, he breezes through 'Who The Cap Fits' and 'Raggamuffin' with a frightening show of self-confidence. Even a split-second break-down can't phase the man. Potentially catastrophic, this momentary seizure barely registers.

must have felt ashamed to share the stage with them.

There's a sense of maturity in the lyrics, a touch of Dylan in the vocal phrasing and a Celtic soulfulness in the rootsy harmonica and scurrying piano solos.

The melodies have an airy, natural flavour which makes them feel comfortable, and familiar. 'Something On My Mind', their new single, is playful enough to attract casual passers-by with its foottapping, rustic breeziness, while 'Tomorrow' is laced with a Jack Daniel's mood of midnight self-pity and white blues.

I heard snippets of Hothouse Flowers, Martin Stephenson, Van Morrison and The Waterboys but mostly all I heard was The Milltown Brothers. RON ROM

PETER KANE

STEVE FORBERT Monday

IT'S BEEN eight years since Steve Forbert visited these shores and tonight he wasted no time making up for his absence.

After spitting out the opening 'Hope, Faith And Love' with relish he rolled straight on, each song introduced with the soonfamiliar rumble, "A-one-two-three-four". Forbert swung through his catalogue, dotting the bulk of his latest 'Streets Of This Town' album with sparkling highlights from his first two critically lauded albums. As befits a man who recently moved to Nashville, there were shades of country in the

Shinehead reserves his party piece for the encore. "The people's choice/Man with a million voices", he

boasts, before launching into a series of impressions. More Yarwood than Yardy – his Yellowman is truly uncanny – Shinehead works through U-Roy, Eek-A-Mouse and comes unstuck with his version of the partially-sighted Frankie Paul when it transpires that Paul is in the crowd.

Paul is rustled up on stage for an encore and, for an instant, time stands still.

But for tonight Shinehead reigns supreme. 1989 should be a very good year.

DAMON WISE

new ballads. But it was on the older songs that Forbert shone - his understanding of the simple dynamics of the pop tune is equalled by very few. Similarly, you won't see a better harmonica player this year. Throughout the two hour set his well-seasoned band, The Squirrels (somewhat ironic when you consider

that Forbert himself looks like a prototype Chipmunk), displayed that most underrated virtue, economy

'Get Well Soon Baby' he sang, as he closed the final encore, but by then Steve Forbert had shown himself fully rehabilitated after his time in the wilderness.
JJ GREEN



LIVES

A HOUSE/THE SANDKINGS Tuesday

THERE IS much to be said for Uncle Lou's favoured combination of twin guitars, bass and drums, and openers The Sandkings displayed many of its virtues.

A primal pop soup lapped around a darkness on the edge of garageland -- Ramones without the ram, said George -- there are undoubted possibilities here.

With Edie Brickell defecting due to toothache (or was it that cruel crucifixion on last week's Singles page?) it was left to A House to headline. Before an audience numbering 27 they launched into 'Fall In Love' and almost immediately demonstrated one of the drawbacks of The Reed Theory Of Instrumentation – when not approached with due care a filthy racket results.

And although the everpopular Bermuda shorts are not one of Lou's fashion legacies, there is a sound reason for this and it was ably demonstrated tonight by the legs that these garments exposed.

A House created a rocky and energetic soundscape made up of beat and scrape 'n' scratch. There was no room for melodic relief. Components reflected rather than integrated and the thought and sentiment originally contained in numbers like 'I Think I'm Going Mad' and 'Snowball Bound' became lost in all the growltigering.

Whatever position they may occupy on the evershifting hurdy-gurdy of pop, A House, live at least, are doing themselves no favours by dressing the music in drab sack-cloth.

File under condemned buildings. JJ GREEN

NICK HEYWARD Wednesday

THE BOY Heyward! Haircut 100! Summer of '81! Pale cheeky whiteboy protofunk with sure-fire pastel pop sensibilities! Paul Morley!

Morley! Wor, takes you **b**ack, dunnit? To be fair, Heyward's

lasted the course better man rry, kemps n minor and even old Dickie 'Funk? Yeah, I can do funk' Jobson. His ability to dash a decent tune down on cardboard and sing it in a quite ridiculously dimpled style has endeared him to more than just the squealing minx brigade, winning him a pretty impressive reputation as a sort of low-alcohol Roddy Frame. What he sings about himself, and the hordes of nice women he hangs around with - is pretty cool from a distance, although tonight's show proved beyond all shadows that 'Love Plus One' and 'Favourite Shirts (Boy Meets Girl)' were desperately thin ideas at the time, beefed up by thoughts of sunshine. Isn't he sick of 'Love Plus One' yet? I am, and I don't

have to sing it. That said, 'Whistle Down The Wind', from his mistyeyed, sotto voice, lookingthru-the-raindrops-on-awindow period was quite affecting. It's interesting to note that when Nick Heyward starts a recognisable song his audience don't cheer or whoop or shout "Word, motherf***er, word". They go "aaahhh", like they're watching a little cutie panda negotiating his very

first bamboo-burger. A foolhardy stab at The Beatles' 'Dr Robert' aside, this was quite a decent show.

Like 'Copperhead Road' or '16 Lovers' Lane', Nick's new album, '1 Love You Avenue', is the sort of address to aspire to. And his large band, with brass, girls and sundry ex-Haircuts all involved, adds a bit of steam to his, ah, funkier numbers.

It's all designed to put a grin on your face. No harm in that, is there?

DAVID CAVANAGH

THEY MIGHT BE GLANTS Thursday

INDEED THEY might, though I suspect Johns Linnell and Flansburgh will settle for being just above averagely tall. Goliath status would, at least, excuse them the dubious pleasures of affairs like this.

"That was a good test to see if you're talking during the songs," said Linnell after the extremely low-key 'l'll Sink Manhattan'. "We know you're not talking between them."

Ouch! TMBG's ennervating mix of beat box driven stompers and dislocated cabaret-show sea-shanties doubtless thrives on an audience as perky as themselves; pissed and uninhibited would help, too. Well, the earlycomers at this subtly disguised music biz lig (well come on, how many people actually bought tickets?) weren't pissed (yet) and the shedding of inhibitions was never likely to get more out of hand than the occasional toe-tap

That they soldiered on like the Tin Pan Alley troupers they certainly resemble was to their credit and our slight embarrossment. It's not



JOHNNY FARTPANTS has got nothing on Perry Farrell

JANE'S ADDICTION

FOR MAYBE two minutes, 'Summertime Rolls' crawls like spilt oil, shimmering and blissed-out. The rhythm is Steve Double

limbs bound in sticky, sheer black plastic, tonight Perry is renaissance man: "I don't give a shit about politics. I just wanna f***!"

Two very, very large smokes in his headstock (the

hard to warm to the sussed catchiness of songs such as 'Ana Ng' and 'Don't Let's Start'. But when sandwiched by some near acappella lyric-heavy recitals, one's appreciation is blunted. As these moments become more frequent, They Might Be Giants assume the rather horrific mantle of fringe theatre satirists, when the epithet "clever" ceases to

be a compliment. As such, though, they are wholly proficient and it comes as not too great a surprise to learn that they have sold a million records in America, where cynicism reigns less heavily than on these shores.

So no, not giants; but they won't be pygmies either, and rightly so. **KEITH CAMERON** soft, coaxed.

Lathered with rage, Perry Farrell closes in on the sweetest notes, his saucer eyes the sole focal points. The brittle atmosphere is in his palm when, disastrously, the house lights click on.

Bewilderment. The voice of an ICA official cuts in on the PA and Jane's Addiction are powerless. Their lavish, goth-friendly cloud of dry ice has triggered the building's fire alarms. The band strum and tap and stumble to a halt, and the hall is briefly evacuated. This is what comes of trying to out-smoke The Mission!

Farrell is incredulous. Holding up an outstretched hand, he mouths "five minutes" and shuffles off. Many bands would crumble under such duress. Jane's Addiction are young, but strong. They return to the stage with half the crowd still

They return to the stage with half the crowd still packing the bar area that adjoins the hall. No matter. They restart with 'Ocean Size' a huge, flailing swirl and follow it with 'Mountain Song', David Navarro's guitar gone beserk, coiling and screaming. Jane's Addiction turn frustration into new intensity and the previous ten minutes spent sucking in cold air on The Mall seems like days ago. There are times when this band trip on near genius.

The show had begun, unfashionably early, in a confusion of dry ice. Farrell, his exaggerated features lit from below, appeared bizarre, almost spectral. His head alive with dyed-red dreads, his coathanger-wire only *real* tires in the building), Navarro totes more cool, his angelic face heavily stubbled. Bassist Eric A starts the gig how most performers finish, naked from the waist up, dripping and grimacing. Drummer Steve Perkins smacks out the intro to 'Ted, Just Admit It . . .' in a wash of red, the song's stream of consciousness more ragged than on record. It ends in stark fury.

While freeform, Jane's Addiction's music never sags. It's as taut as Farrell's stomach.

The fire panic doubles as an opportunity for a Farrell wardrobe change. He returns to flaunt kneelength breeches, Dr Martens and a crazy wide purple velvet hat finished off with a winking diamante brooch.

Taped rhythm gives Steve two free hands to add steel drums to the simple sway and wan optimism of 'Jane Says'. The four then crouch and hammer odd drums, repeating the trick that dumbfounded the Nephilim audience last year.

It's not a stale gimmick, however. There's a tripwire unpredictability intrinsic to Jane's Addiction.

They risk all. The perspective of their mind-altered metal-art collision is unique.

Farrell, this giddy, bleached-out marionette, smiles. "It just gets bigger and bigger. It's like a f***ing snowball, man."

The addiction can only harden.

PAUL ELLIOTT

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LIVES

Taking a Bible bashing

Performance



DIESEL PARK WEST Hammersmith Odeon

IF YOU don't feel like taking my word for it, and you won't accept the verdict of a Big Country audience who know arousing rock song when they hear one, invest your trust in 'Shakespeare Alabama', proof that Diesel Park West are the ones to vote for.

They're not just a viciously swinging rock 'n' roll ensemble, either. Unlike most bands with a fondness for the best of the '60s – guitars, choruses, etc, DPW have forsaken the usual gear in favour of 19th century chimney sweep chic. 'Consider Yourself' was not forthcoming, but they sure looked like five Olivers.

And, oh, those guitars Three of them, each chiming like a campanologists' Christmas party, each as plangent as your favourite Byrds song. John Butler's harmonies with Rick Willson are celestial enough on record - thrillingly, they are even better live. The gorgeous overlaps on 'Jackie's Still Sad' were breathtaking: When The Hoodoo **Comes' and 'Like Princes** Do' giggled aloud at the entire feeble Big Country oeuvre, and Butler's snarl on 'All The Myths On Sunday' was worthy of John Lennon. This is the support band?

Here is bohemian rock with its scruff coated in genuine songwriting class. With all the best bits from the past and absolutely no time for the present, Diesel Park West look towards a rosy future. John Butler may talk like he is auditioning for the lead in The Noddy Holder Story, but he and his band are an electrifying jamboree experience. DAVID CAVANAGH

THE WISHING STONES Camden Falcon

POSSIBLY INSPIRED by their inclusion in *Sounds*' Class of '89 soothsayers' special, The Wishing Stones are in death-wish mood tonight.

Never ones to play two covers when one will do usually settling for a delirious dance through Strummer's Trash City' their choice on this occasion veers from the impudent (a version of 'Cadillac Ranch' so throwaway that they were congratulated afterwards for "that Steve Earle song") to the potentially suicidal (The Band's 'Bessie Smith'). Thanks to the valour of youth they latch on to every hint of bathos in the song and suss out a fine replica of the patented **Robbie Robertson** detonator solo. It was always on the cards. Now in a "settled line-up" situation, which makes a pleasant change for them, they're making headway as a truly electric bar band. Guitarists Bill Prince and John Niven have by-passed completely not just the sonorous janglings of Marr and Buck, but also seemingly most of what happened after Richard Lloyd left Television.

Instead they settle for – what else? – a partnership moulded along the lines of Neil Young and Danny Whitten. Except that they then speed it all up and sound like Young fronting The Replacements.

On the longer numbers, only one ('Long Time Coming') of which they played tonight, their sinewy, vintage solos cling to the necks of Prince's brilliantly simple songs. That's simple as in Creedence, as in 'Jumping Jack Flash', as in 'Cinammon Girl'.

Every time they play, The Wishing Stones take a step nearer this hallowed company. And it's almost impossible not to grin every time Niven slams into one of his hair-raising four-bar breaks. See if you can keep a straight face.

DAVID CAVANAGH

SNUFF/PERFECT DAZE: Oval Cricketers

WITH BRITCORE hurtling faster and faster towards a sonic apocalypse, where noise can't get any louder or songs any shorter, it's refreshing to see two East Anglian bands slamming on the brakes and taking hardcore back to the basics of controlled exhilaration.

Perfect Daze look a mess though; the vocalist's the kind of character who'd probably feel comfortable dressed in a strait jacket. But their rip-roaring enthusiasm orchestrates an assured thrash which bubbles with garage sensibility.

One of the amps unceremoniously goes on strike as the fuzzy mixture of blistering power-chords reaches optimum fall-out, but a well practised, highly technical kick in the right place has it quickly working to rule again.

Even though they're not in the same league as Prong or Bolt Thrower when it comes to speed, fire and innovation, Perfect Daze still shoot an entertaining, but limited, bullet of post-punk fire.

However, one immediately falls in love with Snuff when they break into a hardcore cover of Tiffany's 'I Think We're Alone Now' (yes, it is possible), with 100mph choruses and garbled verses. Deep in the Snuff subconscious, tucked away behind the good humoured mayhem, is a sense of swirling melody which suggests a respect for Hüsker Dü. Like all great noise pioneers, Snuff make one guitar sound like 20 cars screeching to a standstill. Their completely deranged version of 'Purple Haze' would, no doubt, have Jimi Hendrix stage-diving from the Pearly Gates. Snuff are probably the thinking man's alternative to Napalm Death, if there can be such a thing. And when the young, cropped vocalist says, "This is your last one because there's beer to be swigged", you instantly know that here is a sensible sort who's got man with his head screwed firmly on his shoulders. The only trouble was, I could still see the bolts. RON ROM har hansa

MALCOLM EDEN gets the axe

McCARTHY/TOM Covent Garden Africa Centre

I MENTION Tom simply so that you can avoid them in future.

These three girls bounce their way through an appalling sort of clueless, homogenised pop with all the ingenuity and snotty panache of a sixth form cabaret. Surely they can get their daddies to buy them something a little less offensive than musical instruments? Another horse, perhaps?

horse, perhaps? With McCarthy's stage-presence, they might better be named Dukakis. Yet they've a potentially fanatical wordreciting audience of the early Smiths type, yearning to be putty in the hands of the sardonic Malcolm Eden. The essence of McCarthy is Eden's deadpan humour.

The essence of McCarthy is Eden's deadpan humour. Borrowed from Berthold Brecht, it's a flat conversational line stretched over constantly changing melodies.

And yet the band are so coy, smug and sloppy that all

Ed Sirrs

of the economy and wit is pulped to a cream in seconds. Eden visibly strains at the microphone, and the dreadful stage sound only adds to the misery.

Those ludicrous Morrissey eulogies printed in the music press a couple of weeks back simply demonstrates the power of good old-fashioned charisma. Morrissey could spit it out with the power of a Clough right hook. McCarthy spit it out with the power of phlegm.

McCarthy produced two excellent singles last year; 'Should The Bible Be Banned' was a minor masterpiece. From the squally, squeaky-stringed intro to Eden's panfaced "My name is Dave, I killed my brother/I wacked an axe through his head..." it couldn't fail. Their album, 'I Am A Wallet', has been re-mastered

Their album, 'I Am A Wallet', has been re-mastered and is to be released again this year. Tonight's gig should have shown McCarthy's new mastery of their material. It didn't.

PAUL SPLATCH

1775



THE FAT LADY SINGS Charing Cross Road Marquee

THE FAT Lady Sings (and just don't bother with the Montserrat Caballé jokes, OK?) are at an exciting crossroads in their threeyear career.

Approaching debut album time, they've found that they can now fill out decent-sized caverns like this one and show off their classy and passionate music to a reception which, while never reaching apoplexy, never shifts beneath the enthusiastic.

Highlighting Nick Kelly's acoustic guitar and extraordinary vocals (Robin Williams taking off Butler Rep), The Fats' two singles, 'Fear And Favour' and 'Be Still', both played excellently tonight, show them to be in a different ball game to the scarfwaving and lit-matchbrandishing crews that surfaced circa The Unforgettable Fire'. Gentle, literate and above all substantial, they're both far more representative of the band than tonight's show.

A distressing tendency to give numbers like 'Toytown' and 'Not To Touch' the Panzer treatment, and a suspicion that the guitarists might be on heat, distract from the ultimate cool introspection of their best songs. Dermot Lynch, at the bass, does all the Pete Farndon Memorial Drum Rostrum Posturing and this gets a bit tedious after about five minutes.

But further quibbles are not needed. Theirs is a problematic sound to get across live, and repeated gigging will make the bassist suitably knackered. Meanwhile, expect pleasant developments of a 45 rpm nature.

DAVID CAVANAGH

LOOP

Harlesden Mean Fiddler IT WOULD be all too easy to stiff Loop, to meet them head on with a barrage of mindless ten-year-old antiprogressive rock clichés aimed at undermining their thick, dizzy spell. But as Robert dictated to the mob screaming "Louder" from the pit, "You'll have to do better than that".

From the start it's apparent that Loop have done. Their music, with all its crevices and potholes, represents a truly British

BONEY M Charing Cross Road Busbys

"THEY'LL BE playing all the hits," warned the press release.

Get away! But it takes more than a PWL remix scenario to tarnish the Boneys' back catalogue.

A sea of screaming dementia greets the the '89 version of the band who put the cod into codpiece. The fans then proceed to gyrate and sing in perfect unison with their heroes.

Boney M themselves don't do too bad either. Courageously kitted out in dresses for which the label figure-hugging" would hardly do justice -"compressing" would be nearer the mark – the gals are as ravenous as ever, queueing up to rub bits of their torso against ... well, him. That furry rug of lovebeast who ensured that Boney M would transcend the confines of mere '70s disco tack and move into something altogether, weirder, camper, funnier.

So yeah, they did play all the hits. But what happens then for an encore? Easy, you do all the hits again but disguise them as a megamix – geniusl And although my fave remains 'Rasputin' – you know, "Russia's greatest love machine" – the impulse to holler along to 'It's A Holi-Holiday' was too great to resist.

Your move, Abba. KEITH CAMERON

GROOVIN' WITH LUCY Tufnell Park Boston Arms

IN AN era when so many aspire to be metal, it's surprising how many overlook the inherent subtlety of the genre. Groovin' With Lucy's lack

Groovin' With Lucy's lack of subtlety is painfully obvious. It's not Spinal Tap, except when Andy Crawford encloses himself within his cocoon-like wall of riffing during a disastrous auitar solo.

disastrous guitar solo. It's not even *Bad News*, where the dreadful is itself the focus of fun. It's just here, upfront; a mighty weight on your shoulders.

weight on your shoulders. So when Grape, their lanky, miserable, would-be Whitesnake-style singer (with split crotch trousers, no less) opens his maw it's not to greet us with some new, dynamic metal truth. Rather we're subjected to yet another grim tirade on needing-to-find-anotherwoman, fill-her-full ofecstasy and get-it-on-allnight-long. And all with his head hung low in embarrassment. His confusion of metal's more traditional subplots is reflected in the band's music. It's tame, carefully considered, predictable rock that instead of building on its many influences simply namechecks them, giving us a plain pastiche of The Cult, Def Leppard, Saxon and Fields Of The Nephilim. It's ungainly, unsightly and sadly lethargic. This feeling is only emphasised by the band's awful cover of Hawkind's 'Needlegun', the staccato ending of which only reflects their gawky, sixth form nature. SAM KING

The brains of Britain



counterpoint to last year's American guitar noise.

Their collision of fuzz, wah and blinding, overdriven bass, the building blocks of the dread prog rock, both warms and invigorates.

So much so that 'Torched' becomes a thick sonic fudge, that coagulates around you. Similarly, the singles 'Black Sun' and 'Collision' are allengulfing black holes – throbbing antimatter that thrashes about your ears.

To be sure it is prime stoner stuff, the sort of thing that would be perfectly at home on Savage Pencil's 'Angel Dust' biker music LP. It's the difference between a hit of pure Mescalin and a man selling you bits of tyre rims for £25 a throw. A hit.

SAM KING

CEREBRAL FIX's Simon Forrest slips into his hardcore air guitar pose

CEREBRAL FIX/INTENSE DEGREE Brixton Canterbury Arms

FOR WANT of a stage, Intense Degree shuffle on-floor. Things do not look too promising: two of the chaps are wearing glasses, and the girl with the bass has a dress with flowers on it. Is the name of their band, one shudders, some veiled reference to the BA (Hons) course in English Literature which they're studying at some university?

They certainly don't *look* hardcore. Then they start to play. Ah, sorry. . . my mistake. They're hardcore all right. Amazingly, they no longer look so meek. Screams of protest, pulverised into a gargling puree as they reach the vocalist's larynx, emanate like some beaten old madwoman's harangues and sound no more intelligible. The guitarist is playing every bar-chord in the book (the unabridged version) and the drummer is faster than anyone I've ever seen. And the flowers on the bassist's dress start to look more and more like triffids!

Everyone's losing track of the songs. One appears to break down after three beats, but, no, that's all there is to it.

"We'll do one last one," say Intense Degree:

They do four.

Birmingham's Cerebral Fix have a new album out and they want to tell us all about it. Called 'Life Sucks And Then You Die', it's a brilliant summation of their live show. Get it over with and to hell with it. Never have the words "This one's off the LP" sounded

Never have the words "This one's off the LP" sounded so terrifying – especially from a man who could fit comfortably in your wallet. Here is Simon Forrest, the Ronnie James Dio of hardcore. He's a better singer too.

Featuring two of the sturdiest guitarists since the legendary Len Tuckey, Cerebral Fix have been known to entertain the odd slow riff, a bit Black Sabbath, sort of thing. Not tonight. Land speed records were up for grabs and they proved so exciting that an outbreak of stagediving was called for. But – no stage. Not to be deterred, an enterprising youth in a Union

Not to be deterred, an enterprising youth in a Union Jack vest grabs a chair and places it next to the PA. He's already shouted so much into Forrest's microphone that he's in danger of receiving a credit as co-lyricist. Climbing on to the chair, waving us all out of the way, he screams, wild-eyed and wasted, and leaps the 14 inches to his painful death.

DAVID CAVANAGH

Lianne Hentscher

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Nishtshift



The Chills engineer terminal cool at Dingwalls' Panic Station in London Camden (Monday), supported by The Perfect Disaster (above) and Apple Boutique. Take this issue of Sounds and you'll get £1 off the ticket price before 11pm and free admission anytime thereafter.

WEDNESDAY

BATH Moles (333423) Studs On Main Street BRISTOL Colston Hall (291768) The Four Tops BRISTOL Tropic Club (49875) The Lozenges CANTERBURY Kent University (464724) Mega City Four/The Senseless

Things

CHELTENHAM Gas Club Love Jungle

- CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01-688 4500) Last Orders DARLINGTON Arts Centre (483271) Martin Stephenson DUNDEE University Love And Money EDINBURGH Calton Road Venue Christian Death REBORN BRIDGE Trades Club & Cajun And The Zydeco Bros
- HUDDERSFIELD Polytechnic (38156) Joolz KEELE University (625411) Texas LEEDS Duchess Of York Harlequyn
- LONDON Brentford High Street Red Lion (01-571 6878) Power Of 10 LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01-267 4967) Psychic TV LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01-240 3961) Poke It With A Stick
- LONDON Finsbury Park Hotel Karen Noble Band
- LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) The Wild Frontiers/Shoot/Lush/The Amazing Cattle
- LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01-385 0526) Picture This/Nude

LONDON Goswell Road Lady Owen Arms (01-278 5345) The Moment/ The Clique/The Fabulous Hairdressers/The Hairdos LONDON Greenwich Tunnel Club (01-858 0895) Pierce Turner/Aloca/

Bleeper LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Kickback/ The Quarry (Main) Pete Morton/Roger Wilson/Simon Edwards

(Acoustic) LONDON Islington Green Market Tavern The Revolting Paint Dream LONDON Malet Street University Of London Union (01-580 9551) Jesus Jones

LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave The Roadholders LONDON Marquee (01-437 6603) Nitzer Ebb/MOMA LONDON Newington Green New Pegasus (01-226 5930) The Big Show LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) Thinking Aloud/Gray By The Gun

LONDON Oxford Street 100 Club (01-636 0933) Chris Barber's Jazz And Blues Band/TJ Johnson

LONDON Putney Half Moon (01-788 2387) Bob Kerr's Whoopee Band LONDON Walthamstow Royal Standard (01-527 1966) Spoiler/ Southernei

MANCHESTER Anson Road International (061-224 5050) Jane's Addiction

MANCHESTER Band On The Wall (061-832 6625) Waduku MANCHESTER University (061-273 5111) The Banana Club NEWCASTLE Riverside The Batfinks/The Sugar Puff Demons PORTSMOUTH Polytechnic (819141) 12 88 Cartel/The Cranes

SOUTHAMPTON University (556291) The Darling Buds/The

Snapdragons STOKE Keele University Texas SUNDERLAND Royalty George Shovlin WIDNES Derby Arms Last Blues Band

THURSDAY

BATH Moles (333423) Frazier Chorus

BEDFORD Angel Quasar

BIRMINGHAM Edwards No 8 (021-643 5835) The Ice Babies/Horse BRIGHTON Richmond (603974) Edgar Broughton Band BRISTOL Tropic Club (49875) Perfect Daze/The Senseless Things

- BUCKLEY Tivoli You Slosh CAMBRIDGE CCAT Mega City Four/The Milk Monitors
- COOKHAM Ferry Graham Larkbey CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01-688 4500) Hot Club
- DUDLEY JB's (53597) Jumpin' JRs

GLASGOW Rooftops Christian Death

- HALIFAX Empire Bar Inky Pig HARBORNE Junction Ajao Blues

HABLOW Launch Pad Erick/Pregnant Neck LEEDS Royal Park Purple Ete nal/Bubble 'Ead LONDON Angel Market Tavern The Dentists

LONDON Brentford High Street Red Lion (01-571 6878) Runesters/ Sledge Hammer

LONDON Marquee (01-437 6603) The Corn Dollies

25

LONDON Dean Street Gossips Gaz's Rockin' Blues (01-434 4480) Luddy Samms And The Deliverers

LONDON Finsbury Park Hotel Warm Gloves

LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) Splodgenessabounds/The Milk Monitors/Wasp Factory LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01-385 0526) Worldwide Ltd/Riff Raff

LONDON Goswell Road Lady Owen Arms (01-278 5345) True Grit/The Lipstick Killers

LONDON Greenwich Tunnel Club (01-858 0895) Steve Marriott And The DTs/Blue 'N' Bitter/Dangerous Toys LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) The Cat

Jugglers/Playing For Time/The Wright Bros (Main) McCavity's Cat (Acoustic)

LONDON Islington Green Market Tavern The Dentists

LONDON Kentish Town Bull And Gate (01-485 5358) Pleasure Thieves/ **Creaming Jesus**

LONDON Kentish Town Town And Country Club (01-284 0303) The Darling Buds/The Snapdragons LONDON Malet Street University Of London Union (01-580 9551)

Subway LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave The Clamheads LONDON Camden Royal College Street Falcon (01-485 3834) The

Buzzing Barbarians LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) Glen Matlock's Big Living LONDON Putney Half Moon (01-788 2387) Just William LONDON Stockwell Road Plough (01-274 3879) Alice Maguire/Big W LONDON Walthamstow Royal Standard (01-527 1966) Mr Sleeze

LONDON Wimbledon William Morris Club (01-946 5041) Beautiful/ Spoilt For Choice LUTON Switch Club (423238) The Shout!

MANCHESTER Band On The Wall (061-832 6625) The Orphy Robinson Quartet

MANCHESTER Royal College Of Music Martin Stephenson NEWCASTLE Riverside Jane's Addiction

NOTTINGHAM Royal Concert Hall Big Country/Diesel Park West PETERBOROUGH Glasshouse Open To Offers

SALFORD University Texas

SALISBURY Arts Centre (21744) The Wolfhounds/Badgeman SCUNTHORPE Baths The Hollow Men

SHEFFIELD Take Two (444408) Wendy Sobel

SHEFFIELD University (24076) Love And Money SUNDERLAND Polytechnic (76191) Bradford

Air Base ve lung

FRIDAY

BATH Moles (333423) Sara Davis

BIRMINGHAM Edwards No 8 (021-643 5835) Lixx/Niagara BRIGHTON Pavilion Theatre Hot Knives/The Loafers/Ska Sounds BRIGHTON Richmond (603974) Moaning Minnies BRISTOL Tropic Club (49875) Nice Party/The Curve CANTERBURY Kent University (464724) Gone To Earth CARDIFF Chapter Arts Centre (31194) Jonah And The Wail

CARDIFF New Bogeys (26168) Dam

CARDIFF University (396421) Frazier Chorus CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01-688 4500) Bad Influence DUBLIN Buttery The Baby Snakes DUDLEY JB's (53597) 1,000 Violins EDINBURGH Lord Darnley Scarlet Lies

EDINBURGH Potterow Jesse Garon And The Desperadoes GLASGOW Queen Margaret Union (041-339 9784) Win IPSWICH Council Chambers The Dentists

KIRCALBY Panther's Bar Whiskey Snakes/Guests LINCOLN Cornhill Vaults (35113) Big Blue World LIVERPOOL Bluecoat Arts Centre Martin Stephenson

LIVERPOOL Planet X (051-236 1741) Radio Mongolia/Dead Men's Suits

LONDON Brentford High Street Red Lion (01-571 6878) Kabuki Smiles/Intimate Strangers/Old No 7

LONDON Brixton Canterbury Arms (01-274 1711) Mega City Four LONDON Camden Royal College Street Falcon (01-485 3834) The Caretaker Race/James Dean Driving Experience LONDON Clapham Bulls Head Dave Finne

LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01-240 3961) The Snapdragons LONDON East Ham Ruskin Arms Mr Meaner

LONDON Finsbury Park Hotel Officer Dibble And The Topcats LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) The Ullulators/Psidhe/Sigma String Quartet/Camels At Play LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01-385 0526) Coroner

LONDON Goswell Road Lady Owen Arms (01-278 5345) The Roxville Disco

LONDON Greenwich Tunnel Club (01-858 0895) Here And Now/ **Electric Sex Circus**

LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Buckwheat Zydeco/Andy White's Class Men (Main) The Fantastic John Wesley Harding Medicine Show (Acoustic) LONDON Hendon LMS Spoiler/Manix

LONDON Kentish Town Town And Country Club (01-284 0303) The James Taylor Quartet/Butterfield 8/The Doltones LONDON Malet Street University Of London Union (01-580 9551)

Rose Of Avalanch

LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave Mac Vini/The Waltons LONDON Marquee (01-437 6603) Winters Reign LONDON Newington Green New Pegasus (01-226 5930) Drum/The

Wish/The Arguments LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) Edgar Broughton Band

LONDON Putney Half Moon (01-788 2387) Groundhogs/Fat Tony **McPhee** LONDON Walthamstow Royal Standard (01-527 1966) Ark/Parisienne

Blonde LONDON Waterloo Young Vic Anna Palm MANCHESTER Band On The Wall (061-832 6625) Crucial Irie

MANCHESTER Thunderdome Engine

NEWCASTLE Broken Doll Cud/Crane

NEWCASTLE Polytechnic (328761) Love And Money

ORPINGTON Civic Hall Split Level/Tribe Of Dan OXFORD Jericho Tavern (54502) Wild Poppies

PORTSMOUTH South Parade Pier Wilko Johnson

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LATER 'ERE THE 'BEST NEW-NOBBY NAUSEA Nº 21 BEST BAND, EH. BAND' CATEGORY ONLY GOES. WHERE ?! SOUM RECORDS WILL AND THE NOWHERES UP TO NO 20! 5 GIMME !! WHERE ?! BE PLEASED WITH GIMME !! DOESN'T PROVE WE WEREN'T US ... ' GUYS GUYS! WE'VE MADE Nº21 NO. 21 THOUGH DOES IT ?.. UZ, MISSION, Si BEST NEW BAND IN THES JOHN PEEL, RADIO TRENT, SOUNDS READERS POLL !!) FLING W. HUSSEY ETC. 211 SOUNDS 0 UNLIKELY. WHAT'S THE 20+4 LETTER OF THE ALPHABET?)(CHEERS-2 SUGARS. ARSEHOLE BY NICK WPIGHT

31



RETFORD Porterhouse (704981) Ice Babies/Wreckage SALISBURY Arts Centre (21744) George Melly And John Chilton's Feetwarmers

SHEFFIELD City Hall (735295) Big Country/Diesel Park West STAFFORD College Thrashing Doves

SUNDERLAND Kazbah Excalibur

TREFOREST Polytechnic Of Wales Texas

WHITSTABLE Assembly Rooms Three Straw Men/Chris Wood/Peada WOLVERHAMPTON Polytechnic (28521) Christian Death

SATURDAY

ALDERSHOT West End Centre (21158) Edgar Broughton Band BATH Moles (333423) Canvey Island All-Stars BIRKENHEAD Stairways (051-647 6544) You Slosh BLACKBURN King George's Hall (582582) Gerry And The Pacemakers

BRIDGEWATER Arts Centre SE Rogie BRISTOL Tropic Club (49875) Soul Doubt CAMBRIDGE Sea Cadet Hall (353172) Sardines/Blind Mice/Bogus

Renegade

CARDIFF New Bogeys (26168) 5th Avenue COVENTRY Warwick University (417220) Frazier Chorus CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01-688 4500) Solo In Soho/Red Ten

(Lunch) Dusay (Eve) DUDLEY JB's (53597) Bogus Bros

GUILDFORD University (71281) Thrashing Doves

HARLOW Square (25594) Mega City Four HIGH WYCOMBE London Road Nags Head (21758) Mournblade

IPSWICH Harley's Quasar KEELE University (625411) Butterfield 8 LINCOLN Cornhill Vaults (35113) At Ten Paces

LIVERPOOL Bluecoat Arts Centre Martin Stephenson

LIVERPOOL Polytechnic (051-709 4047) Texas LONDON Borough Road Bridgehouse Famous Flag/Nick Rapier LONDON Brentford High Street Red Lion (01-571 6878) Mick Clarke Band/Pine Metal Kitchen

LONDON Camden Royal College Street Falcon (01-485 3834) East Village/Hellfire Sermons

LONDON Finsbury Park Hotel Mean Red Spiders LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) John Cooper Clarke/Tricia Lee/Mr Smith's R&B Band/Candyland LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01-385 0526) Kitchens Of Distinction

LONDON Goswell Road Lady Owen Arms (01-278 5345) Best Foot Forward/A Tune A Day/The Shapes/The Walking Wounded LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Nik Turner's All Stars/Freezing In Cannes (Main) Sally Timms (Acoustic) LONDON Kentish Town Bull And Gate (01-485 5358) Destroy The Boy LONDON Kentish Town Town And Country Club (01-284 0303) Tabu Ley Le Rochereau/Africa International/The Oyster Band/Geet Group LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave Close Quarters LONDON Marquee (01-437 6603) The Vibrators

LONDON Newington Green New Pegasus (01-226 5930) Jack The Bear/Garbo Talks

LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) Geno Washington LONDON Putney Half Moon (01-788 2387) Steve Marriott And The DTs

LONDON Walthamstow Royal Standard (01-527 1966) Nitro Blues Band/Old No 7

LONDON Waterloo Young Vic Anna Palm

LONDON Woolwich Tramshed (01-855 3371) Norman Lovett/Michael Redmond/David Baddiel/Rex Boyd

MANCHESTER Anson Road International (061-224 5050) Love And Money

MANCHESTER Band On The Wall (061-832 6625) Blues Burglars MANCHESTER Swinging Sporran AC Temple/Tunnel Frenzies/Slum

28

Turkeys MANCHESTER University (061-273 5111) Hypnotist And Mindreader NEWCASTLE Broken Doll Drug Free America/Stik The Pig NEWCASTLE City Hall (320007) Big Country/Diesel Park West **OXFORD Co-Op Hall The Wolfhounds/Hullas** RETFORD Porterhouse (704981) 999/Fuel To The Fire

ST HELENS Citadel Blow Up SHEFFIELD Leadmill (754500) Jane's Addiction/Drug Free America SHEFFIELD Take Two (444408) Awesome Cab SHEFFIELD University (24076) Christian Death e Cabaret

SOUTH MOLTON Community Centre Split Level/Tribe Of Dan/ Generator

SUNDERLAND Kazbah After Midnight SUTTON IN ASHFIELD Golden Diamond Dam UXBRIDGE Brunel University (39125) Billy Franks WIGAN King Street West Angels (33038) Last Blues Band

SUNDAY

BIRMINGHAM Barrel Organ (021-622 1353) The Membranes/The **Smoking Mirror**

BIRMINGHAM Burberries Jane's Addiction BIRMINGHAM Cod Club Little Red School/Mossbacks BRIGHTON Escape Club (606906) Inspiral Carpets/The Grooveyard CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01-688 4500) Gene Syndrome DINGWALL Jing Yahoo And The Red Hots DUDLEY JB's (53597) The E Numbers

HULL Spring Centre Martin Stephenson

LEEDS Packhorse Isaac Guillory LONDON Brentford High Street Red Lion (01-571 6878) Willy Finlayson And The Hurters (Lunch)

LONDON Eastham Ruskin Arms Tangent

LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) Dublin City Ramblers/Irish Mist/Crannog/Eric Bell And The Sunsets/Jimmy Finnegan Band

LONDON Fulham Broadway Swan (01-385 1840) Get Rhythm LONDON Goswell Road Lady Owen Arms (01-278 5345) Rise/Lixx LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Ray Lynam (Main) McCavity's Cat/Don Valley (Acoustic)

LONDON Kentish Town Town And Country Club (01-284 0303) Loop/World Domination Enterprises/The Dave Howard Singers LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave Paul Browse LONDON Marguee (01-437 6603) Christian Death LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 5059) Bill Posters Will Be Band LONDON Putney Half Moon (01-788 2387) Boogie Brothers

LONDON Walthamstow Chestnut Tree Zumzeaux LONDON Walthamstow Royal Standard (01-527 1966) Kings Of Wang

NEWCASTLE Broken Doll Blueprint (Lunch) The Stork Club (Eve) NEWCASTLE Riverside Tank/Hellbastard/Blitzkrieg/The Gunrunners

MONDAY

BATH Moles (333423) Love Jungle BIRMINGHAM Edwards No 8 (021-643 5835) Feline Groove BIRMINGHAM Kaleidoscope (021-643 7019) Coroner/Bolt Thrower CANTERBURY Kent University (464724) Popinjays CARDIFF Chapter Arts Centre (31194) Acquired Taste

CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01-688 4500) That's That

DUDLEY JB's (53597) Strictly Personal EDINBURGH Playhouse (031-557 2590) Big Country/Diesel Park West

EDINBURGH Venue Thrashing Doves

FARNHAM Maltings (726234) Sonny Black's Blues Band FLEETWOOD Catholic Club Marauders

LEAMINGTON SPA Kellys QAX

LIVERPOOL Hardman House Hotel Last Blues Band LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls Panic Station (01-267 4967) The Chills/The Perfect Disaster/Apple Boutique LONDON Finchley North Star Mossbacks

LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) Lost Angels/ We Are Going To Eat You/Anonym/Love Sex And Death/Presence LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01-385 0526) Pierce Turner/Third Uncles

LONDON Goswell Road Lady Owen Arms (01-278 5345) Dreamtime/ Girl With A Blue Guitar

LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Button Factory/Derek Nimmo's Blues Band/The Prudes (Main) Elaine Lewis/ Jim Penfold/Dave Morris (Acoustic)

LONDON Marquee (01-437 6603) Angel Eye/Staccato LONDON Putney Half Moon (01-788 2387) Ronnies Rex MAIDSTONE Royal Albion Lucifer

MANCHESTER Band On The Wall (061-832 6625) Latin Workshop NEWCASTLE Broken Doll Daw To Daw

NEWCASTLE Riverside Smash Alley/Slinky Minx/Skin Tight

SHEFFIELD Merlin Theatre Martin Stephenson SOUTHEND Cliffs Pavilion (351135) Pits/Matthew Seligman

WARRINGTON Pal Hall Lixx

WOLVERHAMPTON George The Snapdragons

TUESDAY

29

30

ABERDEEN Capitol (583141) Big Country/Diesel Park West ASHTON-UNDER-LYME Wytchwood Marauders BIRMINGHAM Kaleidoscope (021-643 7019) Christian Death CROYDON London Road Cartoon (01-688 4500) The Liver Blokes

DUDLEY JB's (53597) Leisure Drive/Vagabond Fayre DUNDEE University Love And The Gun

GLASGOW Pavilion French And Saunders

GRIMSBY Gullivers Blow Up LEEDS Duchess Of York The Hollow Men/The Impossibles

LONDON Camden Parkway Dublin Castle (01-485 1773) Loaded LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) Beethoven/ The Things Sound Ceremony/Warp Speed/Worlds Apart/The Cherubs LONDON Fulham Palace Road Greyhound (01-385 0526) Mac-Vini/My Weird Sister/5:30

LONDON Greenwich Tunnel Club (01-858 0895) Fury Things/The Final

Sound/Vertical Hold/Rockin⁷ Frog LONDON Harlesden High Street Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Badlands/ Big Big Rhythm Jteam Kings (Main) Brian Spence/Mark Shakespeare (Acoustic)

LONDON Kentisł. Town Town And Country Club (01-284 0303) Love And Money

LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave Dangerous Mind Games LONDON Marquee (01-437 6603) We Are Going To Eat You LONDON Mornington Crescent Camden Palace (01-387 0428) Rubella Ballet

LONDON Production Village Hog's Grunt QAX LONDON Putney Half Moon (01-788 2387) Kiss This

LONDON Walthamstow Royal Standard (01-527 1966) Headmaster MANCHESTER Band On The Wall (061-832 6625) Salford College Big MANCHESTER Green Room Willum Wozzum Bullum Buzzum

NEWCASTLE Riverside Love In The Asylum/Big Bang 2/Candleman Summe

NORTHAMPTON King Billy Clever Trevor NORWICH Arts Centre The Wolfhounds/Republic/The Purple

SHEFFIELD University Lower Refectory (24076) Tattooed Love Boys/ The Grip/Belladonna

STOCKTON Dovecot Arts Centre (611625) Carter The Unstoppable Sex

YORK Arts Centre (27129) Martin Stephenson

LIVE ADS...LIVE ADS...LIVE ADS

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Claytown Troupe

Friday 27th January

Prof. Provine 741 8389178 435 3211 Porm Trade 729 2041 Royell Royeller 734 8532 Pr Prof. Provine 741 8389178 435 3211 Porm Trade 729 2041 Royeller 725 0123 Teleform

ENTERTAINMENTS MALET STREET WC1.730pm 1450 ADV

12

Cordifer **ON TOUR IN THE UK**

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Admission £4.00 Doors 7pm



Admission £4.00

Doors 7pm



Tuesday 14th February

And 140 NIE SUPPORT THE WRIGHT BROTHERS DOMINION THEATRE WEDNESDAY **FEBRUARY1st** TICKETS: £8.00 & £7.00 AT 7.30pm Available From Dominion Theatre Box Office (011-580 9562

SOLO IN ASSOCIATION WITH CAPITAL RADIO PRESENTS

Tickets also available (subject to booking fee) from: Keith Prowse (credit card hotline)(01)741 8989; Premier (01)240 2245; Stargreen (01)734 8932; Ticketmaster (Open All Hours)(01)379 4444; LTB (01)439 3371

PAY ATTENTION SUCKERS

Friday 3rd February NAPALM DEATH The fastest band in the world Support: The Grey Wolves £3.00, £2.50

Thursday 9th February GYPSY QUEEN + Support £3.50, £3.00

Thursday 23rd February WRATHCHILD + The Rose Coloured Nitemares £3.50, £3.00

AT THE PASSENGER CLUB SALISBURY ARTS CENTRE Bedwin Street, Salisbury (0722) 21744

MANCHESTER APOLLO WED. 8 MARCH 7.30PM EDINBURGH PLAYHOUSE THURS. 9 MARCH 7.30PM **NEWCASTLE CITY HALL** FRI. 10 MARCH 7.30PM

BIRMINGHAM NEC ARENA SUN. 12 MARCH 7.30PM

HAMMERSMITH ODEON MON, TUES, 13 & 14 MARCH 7.30PM



si Pauls Churc leptord. SES sychedelle Nites Friday 27th January FINAL GIG OF **PURPLE PEOPLE** + Omnia Opera Friday 3rd February ERIC BELL & THE SUNSETS + Clydes Gang Shirts £5.50(Inc P&P stal Badges £2.00+5 THE LMS 10 Church Road, Hendon, NW4. 01-203 2600 **REJECTED ENTRIES** 7.30pm-11.00pm **HEAVY ROCK** SPOILER 8.00pm-12.00

BLUES

THE

FEB:

MAR:

4th

6th

7th

ASGARD PRESENTS

1.



the Waterboys

BRIGHTON Top Rank 13th **CAMBRIDGE** Corn Exchange 14th 15th PORTSMOUTH Guildhall BIRMINGHAM Hummingbird 17th SHEFFIELD City Hall 18th 20th LONDON National Ballroom 21st LONDON National Ballroom 22nd **LONDON** National Ballroom 24th **CARDIFF** University 25th **BANGOR** University 27th **BRISTOL** Studio 28th **LEEDS** University

KENTISH TOWN NW5. 7.30p.m. TICKETS £6.00 Advance Venue (01-267 3334), Stargreen (01-734 8932), Premier (01-240 0771), LTB (01-439 3371), Keint Prowse (01-741 8989), Rough Trade (01-229 8541), Rhythm (01-267 0123), Tickelmaster (01-379 4444).

Saturday 4th February

TOWN & COUNTRY CLUB

Friday 10th February

HUMMINGBIRD DALE END-BIRMINGHAM 7.30pm. TICKETS £5.00 Venue, Oasis, Odeon,

EA

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METROPOLIS MUSIC

n. Tempest

RED LION 318 High Street, Brentford Tel: 01-560 6181 COUNTRY AND WESTERN NASTY ROX **EVERY SUNDAY ADMISSION FREE** Wednesday 25th January **Yeah God** POWER OF 10 + Nameless Faces £2.00 Thursday 26th January RUNESTERS + Sledgehammer £2.00 Friday 27th January **KABUKI SMILES** + Intimate Strangers + Old No7 £3.00 Saturday 28th January TICKETS 16:00 9-17 HIGHGATE RD-KENTISH TOWN 6pm Tickets from Box Office 01-284 0303. Stargreen 01-734 8932. Keith Prowse 01-741 8989 Rough Trade 01-229 8541. Premier 01-240 0771. LTB 01-439 3371. Rhythm 01-267 0123. MICK CLARKE BAND + Pine Metal Kitchen £3.00 Sunday 29th January SLIM WILLY & THE GUSSET RUSTLERS - "Country Nite" - Free **Tuesday 31st January** DIG IT? THE NEW SINGLE 9 RELIGION + Support £2.00

NEWCASTLE City Hall 2nd MANCHESTER Apollo 3rd LIVERPOOL Royal Court LEICESTER Poly **NOTTINGHAM** Rock City **ABERDEEN** Music Hall 9th **ST. ANDREWS** University 10th 12th **AYR** Pavilion **EDINBURGH** Playhouse 13th **GLASGOW** Barrowlands 15th **GLASGOW** Barrowlands 16th

Page 54 SOUNDS January 28 1989

UK 50 SINGLES UK 50 ALBUMS

6

- 1 4 THE LIVING YEARS Mike And The Mechanics WEA
- 2 10 YOU GOT IT Roy Orbison Virgin
- 3 5 SHE DRIVES ME CRAZY Fine Young Cannibals London
- 4 1 ESPECIALLY FOR YOU Kylie Minogue & Jason Donovan PWL
- 5 6 BABY I LOVE YOUR WAY/FREEBIRD MEDLEY Will To Power Epic

Charts/

- 6 13 SOMETHING'S GOTTEN HOLD OF MY HEART Marc Almond
- featuring Gene Pitney Parlophone
- 7 3 BUFFALO STANCE Neneh Cherry Circa
- 8 23 CUDDLY TOY Roachford CBS
- 9 2 CRACKERS INTERNATIONAL EP Erasure Mute
- 10 8 WAITING FOR A STAR TO FALL Boy Meets Girl RCA
- 11 7 GOOD LIFE Inner City 10
- 12 29 LOVE TRAIN Holly Johnson MCA
- 13 18 WAIT Robert Howard & Kym Mazelle RCA
- 14 17 RESPECT Adeva Cooltempo
- 15 9 ALL SHE WANTS IS Duran Duran EMI
- 16 24 GET ON THE DANCE FLOOR Rob Base & DJ E-Z Rock Supreme
- 17 27 BABY DON'T FORGET MY NUMBER Milli Vanilli Cooltempo
- 18 19 BORN THIS WAY (LET'S DANCE) Cookie Crew London
- 19 20 HIT THE GROUND The Darling Buds CBS
- 20 WHERE IS THE LOVE Mica Paris & Will Downing 4th & Broadway
- 21 14 FOUR LETTER WORD Kim Wilde MCA
- 22 11 LOCO IN ACAPULCO The Four Tops Arista
- 23 31 BE MY TWIN Brother Beyond Parlophone
- 24 15 RHYTHM IS GONNA GET YOU Gloria Estefan And Miami Sound Machine Epic
- 25 48 STUPID QUESTIONS New Model Army EMI
- 26 THAT'S THE WAY LOVE IS Ten City Atlantic
- 27 30 AFTER THE WAR Gary Moore Virgin
- 28 12 SUDDENLY (THE WEDDING THEME FROM NEIGHBOURS) Angry Anderson Food For Thought
- 29 16 YOU ARE THE ONE A-ha Warner Brothers
- 30 BIG AREA Then Jerico London
- 31 35 TRACIE Level 42 Polydor
- 32 41 MY PREROGATIVE Bobby Brown MCA
- 33 42 FISHERMAN'S BLUES The Waterboys Ensign
- 34 22 LOVE LIKE A RIVER Climie Fisher EMI
- 35 46 BREAK 4 LOVE Raze Champion
- 36 37 YEAH! BUDDY Royal House Champion
- 37 25 KEEPING THE DREAM ALIVE Freiheit CBS
- 38 33 I LIVE FOR YOUR LOVE Natalie Cole EMI Manhattan
- 39 26 TWO HEARTS Phil Collins Virgin
- 40 I ONLY WANNA BE WITH YOU Samantha Fox Jive
- 41 21 BURNING BRIDGES (ON AND OFF AND ON AGAIN) Status Quo Vertigo
- 42 44 STRANGE KIND OF LOVE Love And Money Fontana
- 43 YOU'RE GONNA MISS ME Turntable Orchestra RePublic
- 44 45 EVERLASTING LOVE Sandra Siren
- 45 CATHEDRAL SONG Tanita Tikaram WEA
- 46 THE LOVER IN ME Sheena Easton MCA
- 47 28 SMOOTH CRIMINAL Michael Jackson Epic
- 48 5 O'CLOCK WORLD Julian Cope Island
- 49 IT'S ONLY LOVE Simply Red Elektra
 50 HIPPY HIPPY SHAKE Georgia Satellites Elektra

- 2 THE LEGENDARY ROY ORBISON Roy Orbison Telstar
- 2 1 THE INNOCENTS Erasure Mute
- 3 13 ANYTHING FOR YOU Gloria Estefan And Miami Sound Machine Epic
- 4 4 GREATEST HITS Fleetwood Mac Warner Brothers
- 5 5 THE PREMIERE COLLECTION: THE BEST OF ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Various Really Useful
 - 3 KYLIE Kylie Minogue PWL
- 7 16 LIVING YEARS Mike And The Mechanics WEA
- 8 8 BAD Michael Jackson Epic
- 9 7 THE GREATEST HITS COLLECTION Bananarama London
- 10 19 THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION Bryan Ferry with Roxy Music
- 11 12 KICK INXS Mercury
- 12 9 MONEY FOR NOTHING Dire Straits Vertigo
- 13 21 THE GREATEST LOVE II Various Telstar
- 14 15 WATERMARK Enya WEA
- 15 18 BUSTER ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK Various Virgin
- 16 6 NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC 13 Various EMI/Virgin/ Polygram
- 17 35 CLOSE Kim Wilde MCA
- 18 11 INTROSPECTIVE Pet Shop Boys Parlophone
- 19 17 THE TRAVELING WILBURYS VOLUME ONE The Traveling Wilburys Wilbury
- 20 A SHOW OF HANDS Rush Vertigo
- 21 10 PRIVATE COLLECTION (1979-1988) Cliff Richard EMI
- 22 27 WANTED Yazz Big Life
- 23 26 LOVE SUPREME The Supremes featuring Diana Ross Motown
- 24 29 THE GREATEST HITS OF HOUSE Various Stylus
- 25 14 PUSH Bros CBS
- 26 23 GET EVEN Brother Beyond Parlophone
- 27 25 NEW LIGHT THROUGH OLD WINDOWS Chris Rea WEA
- 28 44 SO GOOD Mica Paris 4th & Broadway
- 29 30 GREATEST HITS The Human League Virgin
- 30 24 RATTLE AND HUM U2 Island
- 31 50 FISHERMAN'S BLUES The Waterboys Ensign
- 32 33 ANCIENT HEART Tanita Tikaram WEA
- 33 41 NEW JERSEY Bon Jovi Vertigo
- 34 28 HOLD ME IN YOUR ARMS Rick Astley RCA
- 35 22 THE HITS ALBUM Various CBS/WEA/BMG
- 36 20 SOFT METAL Various Stylus
- 37 37 HEARSAY Alexander O'Neal Tabu
- 38 32 FLYING COLOURS Chris De Burgh A&M
- 39 45 RAINTOWN Deacon Blue CBS
- 40 34 TRACY CHAPMAN Tracy Chapman Elektra
- 41 39 DIRTY DANCING (SOUNDTRACK) Various RCA
- 42 31 THE MEMPHIS SESSIONS Wet Wet Wet Precious Organisation

Compiled by MRIB

- 43 ALL OR NOTHING Milli Vanilli Cooltempo
- 44 36 TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN The Pasadenas CBS
- 45 NEW YORK Lou Reed Sire
- 46 47 THE GREATEST LOVE Various Telstar
- 47 40 DELICATE SOUND OF THUNDER Pink Floyd EMI

50 — SEE THE LIGHT The Jeff Healey Band Arista

48 — REMOTE Hue And Cry Circa
49 43 WHITNEY Whitney Houston Arista



THE DARLING Buds hit the charts

- 2 5 THE INNOCENTS Erasure Mute
- 3 7 THE LEGENDARY ROY ORBISON Roy Orbison Telstar

COMPACT DISC

GREATEST HITS Fleetwood Mac Warner Brothers

- 4 2 MONEY FOR NOTHING Dire Straits Vertigo
- 5 3 WATERMARK Enya WEA
- 6 6 THE PREMIERE COLLECTION: THE BEST OF ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Various Really Useful

SOUNDS TRACKS

Evelyn Court

Mary Anne Hobbs

Keith Cameron

David Cavanagh

Ralph Traitor

Damon Wise

Paul Elliott

Ron Rom

Shaun Phillips

meals

boy

GIRLIE THAT I LOVE The Cellos Apollo

INFO FREAKO Jesus Jones Devastating

LOUISIANA BRIDE King Swamp Devastating

VANISHING POINT New Order Sublime album track

FORCE FED Prong Immensely heavy duty ULU show

TOTAL TRASH Sonic Youth Don't listen to that dude

WE HAD IT ALL Green On Red Live at Boondocks

CHANGE Green On Red Rough Trade Deutschland

LET THE MUSIC TAKE YOU Night Writers Westside

SOMETHING ON MY MIND The Milltown Brothers Live

CAN YOU DIG IT Pop Will Eat Itself Forthcoming RCA single

TECHNIQUE New Order Factory's sweet you can eat between

NEW YORK Lou Reed Sire's everlasting gobsmacker

SONIC YOUTH In glorious technicolor on Snub TV

ADDICTED TO LOVE Ciccone Youth Blast First

PROMISED LAND Joe Smooth Westside

TALENT SHOW The Replacements Sire

ALL AMERICAN ALIEN BOY Ian Hunter CBS

APOCALYPTIC RAIDS Hellhammer Noise

BUMMED Happy Mondays Factory

I SAW THE LIGHT Naked Prey Bitchin'

LOTS OF FOOD Sam King You don't need to force feed Sammy

ONLY LIFE The Feelies A&M import (release it over here, you curs)

OAR Alexander Spence Edsel reissue (legendary San Fran nutter)

AMICO TANGO Iller e i Suoi 5 Parlophone

YOU GOT TO MOVE Reverend Gary Davis Ace

SUNS OF VALENTINO Live at the Mean Fiddler Devastating

- 8 THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION Bryan Ferry with Roxy Music EG
- 8 14 ANYTHING FOR YOU Gloria Estefan And Miami Sound Machine Epic
- -9 10 KICK INXS Mercury
- 10 4 PRIVATE COLLECTION Cliff Richard EMI
- 11 20 ANCIENT HEART Tanita Tikaram WEA
- 12 9 BAD Michael Jackson Epic
- 13 11 THE GREATEST HITS COLLECTION Bananarama London
- 14 16 TRAVELING WILBURYS The Traveling Wilburys Wilbury
- 15 13 RATTLE AND HUM U2 Island
- 16 LIVING YEARS Mike And The Mechanics WEA
- 17 12 NEW LIGHT THROUGH OLD WINDOWS Chris Rea WEA
- 18 17 BUSTER ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK Various Virgin
- 19 15 GREATEST HITS The Human League Virgin
- 20 18 INTROSPECTIVE Pet Shop Boys Parlophone Compiled by Gallup



HOT METAL 60 INDIE ALBUMS

SINGLES

- 1 3 AFTER THE WAR Gary Moore Virgin
- 2 1 SUDDENLY Angry Anderson Food For Thought
- 3 2 BURNING BRIDGES (ON AND OFF AND ON AGAIN) Status Quo Vertigo
- 5 ONE LOVE Pat Benatar Chrysalis
- 4 BORN TO BE MY BABY Bon Jovi Vertigo
- 6 6 THE FLAME Cheap Trick Epic
- 7 THE CLAIRVOYANT Iron Maiden EMI
- 8 8 KISS ME DEADLY Lita Ford RCA
- 9 16 THERE SHE GOES AGAIN The Quireboys Survival
- 10 9 FREAKS (LIVE) Marillion EMI
- 11 13 SHELLSHOCK Onslaught London
- 12 11 WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE Guns N' Roses Geffen
- 13 12 BAD MEDICINE Bon Jovi Vertigo
- 14 19 MIRACLE MAN Ozzy Osbourne Epic
- 15
 17
 I WANT OUT Helloween Noise International

 16
 10
 CALIFORNIA GIRLS David Lee Roth Warner Brothers
- 17 18 THE EVIL THAT MEN DO Iron Maiden EMI
- 18 20 EMPTY ROOMS Gary Moore 10
- 19 OPEN YOUR HEART Europe Epic
- 20 15 SWEET CHILD O' MINE Guns N' Roses Geffen



ONSLAUGHT: shellshocked

- ALBUMS
- 1 1 G N' R LIES Guns N' Roses Geffen
- 2 2 NEW JERSEY Bon Jovi Vertigo
- 3 _4 APPETITE FOR DESTRUCTION Guns N' Roses Geffen
- 4 3 SOFT METAL Various Stylus
- 5 5 HYSTERIA Def Leppard Bludgeon Riffola
- 6 8 SLIPPERY WHEN WET Bon Jovi Vertigo
- 7 6 THE THIEVING MAGPIE (LA GAZZA LADRA) Marillion EMI
- 8 7 AIN'T COMPLAINING Status Quo Vertigo
- 9 11 FOUR SYMBOLS Led Zeppelin Atlantic
- 10 16 BAT OUT OF HELL Meat Loaf Cleveland International
- 1 9- SMASHES, THRASHES AND HITS Kiss Vertigo
- 2 13 GREATEST HITS Journey CBS
- 3 .12 HITS OUT OF HELL Meat Loaf Epic
- 14 10 SEVENTH SON OF A SEVENTH SON Iron Maiden EMI
- 15 14 SOMEWHERE IN TIME Iron Maiden EMI
- 6 23 OPEN UP AND SAY. . . AHH! Poison Capitol
- 17 20 POWERSLAVE Iron Maiden EMI
- 18 PERMANENT VACATION Aerosmith Geffen
- 19 25 THE NUMBER OF THE BEAST Iron Maiden EMI
- 20 22 RECKLESS Bryan Adams A&M 21 21 BEST SHOTS Pat Benatar Chrysalis

- 1 1 THE INNOCENTS Erasure Mute
 - 2 KYLIE Kylie Minogue PWL
- 3 4 THE CIRCUS Erasure Mute
- 4 3 WANTED Yazz Big Life
- 9 WONDERLAND Erasure Mute
- 6 7 ACIDO AMIGO Various Westside
- 7 6 JACK TO THE SOUND DJ Fast Eddie DJ International
- 8 13 IT TAKES TWO Rob Base & DJ E-Z Rock Supreme
- 9 11 THE GARAGE SOUND OF DEEPEST NEW YORK Various RePublic
- 10 5 INTO THE DRAGON Bomb The Bass Rhythm King
- 11 10 SUBSTANCE New Order Factory
- 12 INTO THE DRAGON Bomb The Bass Rhythm King
- 13 14 HOUSE OF LOVE The House Of Love Creation
- 14 12 LOUDER THAN BOMBS The Smiths Rough Trade
- 15 8 THE HIT FACTORY VOLUME TWO Various PWL
- 16 15 TO THE BATMOBILE, LET'S GO Todd Terry Project Sleeping Bag
- 17 17 THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK) Various Ode
- 18 20 ISN'T ANYTHING My Bloody Valentine Creation
- 19 -- BELIEF Nitzer Ebb Mute
- 20 18 RANK The Smiths Rough Trade
- 21 16 HATFUL OF HOLLOW The Smiths Rough Trade
- 22 19 BUMMED Happy Mondays Factory
- 23 DAWNRAZOR Fields Of The Nephilim Situation Two
- 24 22 LES MISERABLES Original London Cast First Night
- 25 25 THE MAN -- BEST OF ELVIS COSTELLO Elvis Costelio Demon
 - CD88 Various Beechwood

26

- 27 TRAVELLERS AID TRUST Hawkwind Flicknife
- 28 24 ACID TRACKS VOLUME THREE Various Serious
- 29 30 STRAIGHT OUT THE JUNGLE Jungle Brothers Gee St
- 30 TENDER PREY Nick Cave And The Bad Seeds Mute Compiled by Spotlight Research
- SAM 'EAT' KING
- **1** SAFEWAYS HERE WE COME The Smiths
- 2 FORCE FED (Fork) Prong
- **3** GREED Swans (stuffed with widgeon)
- 4 BITTER SWEET Marc Almond (sauce)
- 5 GREEN PEA SOUP Alice Donut
- 6 A GROWING BOY NEEDS HIS LUNCH Dead Kennedys
- 7 PRAWN CRACKERS INTERNATIONAL EP Erasure
- 8 FRESH FRUIT FOR ROTTING VEGETABLES Dead Kennedys
- 9 EAT EAT EAT Eat
- 10 FIRST TO THE BUN Prong

Compiled as a tribute to Sounds' top foodie and his favourite bands

11 2: -2 -





NITZER EBB: believers in the albums chart

INDIE SINGLES

- 1 ESPECIALLY FOR YOU Kylie Minogue & Jason Donovan PWL
- 2 CRACKERS INTERNATIONAL EP Erasure Mute
- 4 GET ON THE DANCE FLOOR Rob Base & DJ E-Z Rock Supreme
- 3 SUDDENLY Angry Anderson Food For Thought
- YOU'RE GONNA MISS ME Turntable Orchestra RePublic

7 SAY A LITTLE PRAYER Bomb The Bass Rhythm King

12, 11 JACK TO THE SOUND OF THE UNDERGROUND Hithouse

14 9 JOHN KETTLEY (IS A WEATHERMAN) Tribe Of Toffs

17 12 STAND UP FOR YOUR LOVE RIGHTS Yazz Big Life

14 JE NE SAIS PAS POURQUOI Kylie Minogue PWL

18 SS PAPARAZZI Stock, Aitken, Waterman PWL

17 HE'S GOT MAGIC Sid Haywoode Fresher

SHIP OF FOOLS Erasure Mute

20 THE CIRCUS Erasure Mute

23 CHAINS OF LOVE (REMIX) Erasure Mute

22 WAITING IN VAIN Total Contrast Criminal

19 MY DJ (PUMP IT UP SOME) Richie Rich Gee St

15 13 WALK ON BY Smith & Mighty & J Jackson Three Stripe

- LIFE (IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT) Frighty & Colonel Mite Mogul

FLOW WITH THE NEW STYLE T La Rock Sleeping Bag

27 THE ONLY WAY IS UP Yazz And The Plastic Population Big Life

24 WEEKEND/JUST WANNA DANCE Todd Terry Project Sleeping Bag

MIGHTY HARD ROCKER Cash Money & MC Marvelous

5 FINE TIME New Order Factory

Sleeping Bag

Completely Different

15 A LITTLE RESPECT Erasure Mute

Supreme

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16

18

19

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HIP HOUSE/I CAN DANCE DJ Fast Eddie Westside

10 10 CHIKKI CHIKKI AHH AHH Baby Ford Rhythm King

13 8. STAKKER HUMANOID Humanoid Westside

6 DOWNTOWN '88 Petula Clark PRT

IITA Lita Ford RCA
 ELIMINATOR ZZ Top Warner Brothers
 WHITESNAKE 1987 Whitesnake EMI
 -- WIDE AWAKE IN DREAMLAND Pat Benatar Chrysalis
 I7 PIECE OF MIND Iron Maiden EMI
 LIVE AFTER DEATH Iron Maiden EMI
 ...AND JUSTICE FOR ALL Metallica Vertigo
 STATE OF EUPHORIA Anthrax Island
 NO REST FOR THE WICKED Ozzy Osbourne Epic

IMPORTS

- 1 2 SWEET DREAMS Sword Aquarius
- 2 10 MAN IN MOTION Night Ranger MCA
- 3 3 KILL TO SURVIVE Meliah Rage Passion
- **4** TOO HOT TO SLEEP Survivor Scotti Brothers
- S PICTURES FROM THE EAST Jon Butcher Capitol
- 6 SHERIFF Sheriff Capitol
- 7 8 INTENSE DEFENCE Joshua RCA
- 4 BARNSTORMING Jimmy Barnes Mushroom
- 9 7 WEAR AND TEAR Concrete Jungle ABCM
- 10 ULTRAPOP Ultrapop Noise

Compiled by Spotlight Research

SAM KING (left) - out to lunch or whit?

3	0	26	BLUE MONDAY New Order Factory		
3	1	16	IT'S PARTY TIME AGAIN George Van Dusen Bri-Tone		
3	2	21	LOVE MACHINE Love Machine & Rose Windros Danceyard		
3	3	29	DESTROY THE HEART The House Of Love Creation		
3	4	25	BURN IT UP Beatmasters featuring PP Arnold Rhythm King		
3	S	30	THE PEEL SESSIONS Jimi Hendrix Strange Fruit		
3	6	_	THE WORLD IS OURS The Rose Of Avalanche Avalantic		
3	7	39	BORN FREE Merlin Rhythm King		
3	8	31	WILL YOU LOVE ME TOMORROW The Shirelles Charly		
3	9	40	REVOLUTION Spacemen 3 Fire		
4	10	37	EAST-WEST Jay Strongman Rhythm King		
4	11	38	CALL ON ME Dreaming In Colour Savage		
4	12	35	NO 6 Taboo Anagram		
4	13	32	THE PEEL SESSIONS The Smiths Strange Fruit		
4	4	28	THE LOCO-MOTION Kylie Minogue PWL		
4	15 .	36	ACID MANIA Dolbie D Desire		
.4	6		TOUCH OF LOVE Liz Torres featuring Master C & J Black		
			Market		
4	7	50	CAN'T WIN FOR LOSIN' Blaze RePublic.		
4	18	_	CAUSING A COMMOTION Ice Cold In Alice Revelation		

- 49 PROMISED LAND Joe Smooth Westside
- SO _____ SURRENDER Suicide Chapter 22

Campiled by Spotlight Research

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