

## Toronto date, Kudu LP for Esther Phillips

Kudu recording artist Esther Phillips made a recent appearance at Toronto's Colonial Tavern the week of March 7. It was her first Toronto appearance in three years. Her last appearance was also at the Colonial.

Phillips is currently on release with a new album titled *Capricorn Princess*, her first product since the recent acquisition of the CTI/Kudu line for Canada by RCA. She is best known for her hit single *What A Difference A Day Makes*.

The Colonial is booked exclusively by Dixon-Propas, who also book the Ontario Place Forum shows.

## Mary MacGregor single goes gold in Canada

Mary MacGregor's *Ariola America* single, *Torn Between Two Lovers*, has gone gold, with unit sales over 75,000. RCA reports increased album sales over the past two weeks indicating a probability that the album will also go gold.

The single and album are MacGregor's debut efforts.

## Taped rock library for Canadian radio

Canadian radio stations are offered a complete rock history of hits on tape from 1955 to 1976 by the Music Director Programming Service based in Massachusetts. The library makes available the 29 reel tapes containing 417 hits in whole or in part, in mono or stereo.

Although prospects look good for stations starting out, some established Toronto radio stations have reported no real need for the service.

## Valdy receives three gold albums

Valdy received CRIA gold awards for albums *Landscapes*, *Family Gathering* and *Valdy And The Hometown Band* in Calgary February 21. The SRO concert there marked one of the 93 stops on Valdy's current cross-Canada tour. The awards were presented by A&M Calgary branch manager Paul McClure.

## Starr, now with 20th coming to Toronto

Edwin Starr, newly signed artist with 20th Century, will be appearing at Toronto's Colonial Tavern the week of March 28. GRT Records, who distribute the label in Canada, are predicting strong disco action on his upcoming first product on the new label, a single titled *Do My Thing*.

Starr was previously with Motown.

## MCA promoting two new Cancon releases

MCA is doing major priority promotion on two new Canadian singles. The company is running a major ad campaign on the new Trooper single *Santa Maria*, which is receiving airplay on stations from Vancouver to Montreal.

The other single, Bob McBride's *Sail On (Through The Night)*, is being worked across Canada. MCA's Bob Johnston reports the single strong in Top 40 appeal and reminiscent of the Lighthouse sound.

Johnston also reports good listener response on Toronto's CFTR and CHUM to Brian & Brenda Russell's *Gonna Do My Best To Love You*, playlisted the same day at both majors over six months after its release on the Rocket label.

Look for a new single release by Ottawa group *Octavian* produced by Corky Abdo of Bay City Rollers fame.

## RCA's Mighty Pope to record debut album

RCA's *Mighty Pope*, currently on release with *Whatever Goes Around*, is booked for RCA Studios in early April to record his debut album. Producing will be the team of Toronto's Harry Hinde and Detroit producer David Vanderpit, who has produced such names as Marvin Gaye and Johnny Taylor.

Pope is a native of Jamaica now living in Toronto. He is a Canadian citizen.

## Lavender Hill Mob gets strong early press

United Artists group the *Lavender Hill Mob*, whose first album is about to be released worldwide, have already been receiving strong reviews. U.A.'s Allen Matthews reports the album was reviewed in New York's *Village Voice* by well-known critic Richard Meltzer, who called it "... the sort of project the Beatles could have embarked upon if they had decided to muscially go somewhere after the white album instead of doing *Abbey Road*..."

The young Montreal-based group are the first artists signed to U.A. Canada to ever have product released simultaneously around the world.

## Attic releases Spector production by U.K. group

Attic Records has released a new single *Under The Moon Of Love* in Canada by Showaddywaddy. The single, written by Curtis Lee and produced by veteran Phil Spector, was a number one record in England and went gold.

Attic's Tom Williams reports, "I always wanted to have Phil Spector producing for Attic."

## Moxy complete Styx tour and third album

Polydor group Moxy, whose current single *Cause There's Another* is receiving extensive cross-Canada airplay and chartings from many majors, have just completed their extensive Canada tour as openers for Styx. The last dates of the tour were in Montreal February 25 and Quebec City (26). The Montreal concert was postponed from a previous date by a blizzard.

Moxy have just completed recording their third Polydor album, to be titled *Ridin' High*. Production was done at Toronto's *Sounds Interchange* by Jack Douglas and Ed Leonetti of Aerosmith and Patti Smith fame. The album is being mixed down in New York.

## Rocket signing for Blue

Blue, who toured Britain with Kiki Dee last fall, has signed with Rocket Records. The band's first single *Capture Your Heart*, written by lead guitarist Hugh Nicholson will be released in the near future. Elton John and Clive Franks receive producer credits.

## Realistic, London promo new Paul Clinch single

*Living Like A Rich Man*, new single on Realistic by Paul Clinch, is picking up strong Ontario action within the first weeks of its release. Realistic promo representative Anna Moore is planning an extensive cross-Canada campaign to boost airplay and sales.

The single is the title cut from Clinch's upcoming Realistic album, already released in the U.S. on Buddha. The single will also be released in the U.S. shortly.

The album was produced by Ian Guenther and Willi Morrison of Three Hats Productions and engineered by George Semkiw at Toronto's Phase One Studios.

## Month of folk music at Groaning Board

The Groaning Board has a month of varied folk talent prepared with ex-lead singer with Bearsville recording group Lazarus Bill Hughes finishing March 12. Future appearances include Ottawa's David Wiffen (15-19), instrumentalists Watson and Reynolds (22-26), Yorkville regular Jackie Washington (29-April 2), Michael Cooney (5-9) and B.C.'s *The Pear Of Pied Pumpkin* (12-16).

The Groaning Board guarantees at least two sets per night Tuesday through Saturday usually at 9:30 and 11:00 p.m. Cover charge before Friday is \$2.00, with Friday and Saturday \$3.00.