

## Pop Picks

**FACES—Ooh La La**, Warner Bros. BS 2665. Rod Stewart is one of the superstars of today's rock world and the band is one of the tightest so the combination is a definite winner. In the past, there has often been criticism that Face's sets lack something when compared to Stewart's solo efforts, but this set measures up to anything he has done on his own. Ron Wood must rank as one of the top guitarists in rock, and this LP gives him as well as Stewart a chance to show off. Besides the rock which best characterizes the group, a few softer tunes are also included. Wood and Ronnie Lane also get chances to sing and use them well. Definitely the best Faces effort to date.

Best cuts: "Silicone Grown," "Cindy Incidentally," "Borstal Boys," "Ooh La La."

Dealers: Group is almost guaranteed top seller so display prominently. Interesting cover with maneuverable face and poster of group and lyrics inside.

**ANNE MURRAY—Danny's Song**, Capitol, ST-11172. A fine set from the Canadian songstress who is scoring so heavily on the singles charts now. LP is extremely versatile, featuring rock, MOR and material bordering on R & B. Ms. Murray has drawn from many sources to put together what seems to be her best set yet.

Best cuts: "Danny's Song," "Killing Me Softly With His Song," "I Know."  
Dealers: Ms. Murray is coming off strong single hit and LP should be displayed prominently.

**T. REX—Tanx**, Reprise MS 2132. Electric Warrior. Marc Bolan and his boys are back with a set of what they do best, straight, unpretentious rock. Possibly the best way to describe this LP is to call it a package of 13 potential hit singles. The band has never been one to engage in long, complicated pieces of music. Rather, Bolan has chosen to write and sing short, gripping rock, and it has been proven a wise decision. As always, lyrics take a back seat to the music, melting into it rather than drawing attention, but again, this is what T. Rex does best.

Best cuts: "Rapids," "Country Honey," "Born to Boogie."  
Dealers: Band has a solid reputation for producing good LP's. This set includes large poster of Bolan for good wall display.

**MAC DAVIS**, Columbia KC32206. Crossover superstar does it again with tasty country-pop ballad set which offers something for everybody. Rick Hall produced

immaculately.

Best cuts: "Woman Crying," "The Way You Look Today."  
Dealers: Smooth, mellow listening for all family.

**SEALS AND CROFTS—Warner Bros. BS 2699.** Superb folk rock set from the duo that has scored so heavily in recent months. LP is characterized by fine instrumental work, tight vocal harmonies and almost perfect arrangements. Set contains several possible singles and is almost certain for strong FM and AM play.

Best cuts: "Diamond Girl," "Jessica."

Dealers: Group is coming off two strong singles and can be displayed in folk and rock.

**FAIRPORT CONVENTION—Rosie**, A&M SP4386. Another fine folk set from one of the pioneer British bands in this area. The group has its most stable lineup in years with the addition of Trevor Lucas and Jerry Donahue, and a number of guest stars help the set along. Group is still tops at traditional folk material and still uses acoustic instruments and fiddles to top advantage.

Best cuts: "Rosie," "Peggy's Pub," "My Girl."

Dealers: Band has strong cultist following.

**MALO—Evolution**, Warner Bros. BS 2702. Fine mix of Latin and rock by one of top groups in this field. Jorge Santana on electric guitar and Ron De masi on keyboards and vocals help set the pace as the band moves through a number of well-done tunes. Group seems to have tightened up since last LP.

Best cuts: "All is For You," "Entrance to Paradise."

Dealers: Place in rock and Latin sections.

**ARLO GUTHRIE—Last of the Brooklyn Cowboys**, Reprise, MS 2142. Another strong mix of rock, folk and country from one of the brightest stars in music today. LP contains material ranging from the folk of Woody Guthrie to Dylan to originals to straight country. Guthrie has provided more variety of all sorts here, including horns on some cuts, fiddle solos and the fine guitar work of Ry Cooder. His voice remains one of the most distinctive on today's scene, and a number of potential hits are here.

Best cuts: "Gypsy Davy," "Miss the Mississippi and You," "Last Train."

Dealers: Guthrie is a proven sales winner. LP can be placed in folk or rock bins.

**FLEETWOOD MAC—Penguin**, Reprise MS 2138. Fleetwood Mac were one of the first big name British blues bands and have probably gone through more member-

ship changes than any other, but this LP may be their strongest line up since the Peter Green days. New lead vocalist Dave Walker (former Savoy Brown) has added depth to the already fine vocals of Christine McVie, Bob Welch and Bob Weston. Material ranges from strong blues to rock to almost folk and there are several potential singles on the set. LP should get heavy FM airplay. Possibly their best release in several years.

Best cuts: "Dissatisfied," "The Derelict," "Did You Ever Love Me."

Dealers: Band has strong following and should be displayed prominently. Watch for tours.

**ROY WOOD'S WIZZARD—Wizzard's Brew**, United Artists UA LA042F. Straight rock from one of the top talents on the British scene. Wood, former member of the Move and ELO has put together a set of no-holds-barred rock, using the wall of sound concept he helped pioneer with ELO. Band features horns, cellos and strings along with the powerful vocals, and the contrast works well. Should get strong FM airplay.

Best cuts: "Meet me at the Jailhouse," "Wear a Fast Gun."

Dealers: Wood is already known through his activities with the Move and ELO, so display prominently. He's also due for tour here.

**DEEP PURPLE—Made in Japan**, Warner Bros. 2WS2701. One of the world's premier rock groups offer up a double set consisting of live recordings done during their tour of Japan last summer. The set consists primarily of elongated versions of familiar tunes, which serves to give the listener an idea of how the band handles themselves in concert. Highlights include Jon Lord's keyboard work, vocals of Ian Gillan and Ritchie Blackmore's biting guitar. Many bands lack something in concert, but this set only accentuates the group's already strong reputation.

Best cuts: "Highway Star," "Smoke on the Water," "Space Truckin'."

Dealers: Group tours U.S. several times a year and are currently coming off an extremely strong LP.

**FOCUS 3—SIRE SAS 3901.** A superb two-record set by the Dutch chartered group. Worth the \$9.98 list. Group right in the midst of successful U.S. tour. Almost MOR in most of its content, this set has wide appeal.

Best cuts: "Round Goes The Gossip" and "Focus 3."

Dealers: Great for demonstration, especially for adults seeking a bridge between their normal music and modern rock. Packaged in normal one-LP sleeve, so be wary in stocking and pricing out this LP.

## also recommended

**JOSE FELICIANO**, Compartments, RCA APDI-0141. His best album in years, not one routine cut. Quadrisc. Best cuts: "Me and Baby Jane," "Hey Look At the Sun."

**TONY BENNETT**, Listen Easy, Verve MV 5094. (MGM). Several new gems among the over-familiar fare ("My Funny Valentine," etc.) in beautifully produced album. Best cuts: "Tell Her It's Snowing," "Rain, Rain."

**BARBARA MAURITZ—Music Box**, Columbia KC31749. Ex-lead belter of San Francisco's Lamb steps out solidly on her own. Best cuts: "He Knows What to do For Me," "Music Box."

**THE NEW SEEKERS**, Pinball Wizard, Verve MV 5098 (MGM). With group's single success on title cut in competition against Rod Stewart's album version. LP sales are a natural. Best cut: "Pinball Wizard/See Me Feel Me."

**CHER**, Bittersweet White Light, MCA 2101. Sonny's first production for his spouse since splitting with Snuff Garrett consists entirely of ballad-rocked standards by Kern, Gershwin, etc., and should please the artist's TV fans. Best cut: "Jolson Medley."

**RICHARD HARRIS—His Greatest Performances**, Dunhill, DSX-50139. Greatest hits collection. Best cuts: "MacArthur Park," "A Tramp Shining."

**WET WILLIE—Drippin' Wet**, Capricorn CP 0113. (Warner Bros.) Excellent live blues set. Best cuts: "No Good Woman Blues," "Macon Hambone Blues."

**ELLIE GREENWICH**, Let It Be Written ... Let It Be Sung, Verve V6 5091 (MGM). Good mix of old and new from one of the best writers in rock history. Best cuts: "And then He Kissed Me," "River Deep, Mountain High."

**COLD BLOOD—Thriller**, Warner Bros. MS 2130. Solid LP from veteran group displaying much variety. Best cuts: "You Are the Sunshine of My Life," "I'll Be Long Gone."

**FLO & EDDIE**, Warner MS2141. Those ex-Turtles are edging into a brighter new sound that incorporates their Mothers experiences in their second solo LP. Best cut: "If We Only Had Time."

**ROBIN TROWER—Twice Removed from Yesterday**, Chrysalis CHR 1039 (Warner Bros.) Strong debut rocker from former Procol Harum guitarist. Best cuts: "Twice Removed from Yesterday," "I Can't Wait Much Longer."

**VARIOUS ARTISTS—History of British Blues**, Sire SAS 3701. Excellent anthology with stars like Stewart, Winwood, Clapton and Bruce. Best cuts: "Mean Old Frisco," "Homework."

**DOMENIC TROIANO**, Tricky, Mercury SRM-1-670. Good acoustic/electric rock mix. Best cuts: "All Night Radio," "Fanny Mae."

**SHERMAN HAYES**, Catman, Barnaby BR 15009 (MGM). Interesting folk rock. Best cuts: "Winter's Just Like Comin' Home," "Waitin' for Tomorrow."

**CHRIS DARROW—United Artists**, UA-LA048F—good country rock material. Best cuts: "Albuquerque Rainbow," "We don't Talk of Lovin' Anymore."

**GALLAGHER AND LYLE—Willie and the Lap Dog**, A&M SP 4384. Good soft rock from former members of McGuinness-Flint band. Best cut: "Jesus Save Me," "Dan."

**CAN—Ege Bamyasi**, United Artists, UA LA063F. Excellent space rock from Germany. Best cuts: "Spoon," "One More Night."

## Country Picks

**ROY CLARK—SUPERPICKER**, DOT MCA 26008. This is the "other side" of Roy Clark, who has often won instrumental awards. He doesn't sing, although voices back his numbers, but he shows his versatility with a guitar. This should get air play on pop stations, too.

Best cuts: "Somewhere My Love," "Snowbird," "Today I Started Loving You Again."

Dealers: Clever album covers makes a great display piece.

**OSBORNE BROTHERS—MIDNIGHT FLYER**, MCA 311. The Osbornes set out to display that they are more than Bluegrass stylists, although they certainly perform some of this "in" music on the album. A mixture of ballads demonstrates their close harmony. Two traditional songs, and the rest are new.

Best cuts: "Miss You Mississippi," "How Long Does It Take," "The Condition of Samuel Wilder's Will" and "Tears."

**BURL IVES—PAYIN' MY DUES AGAIN**, MCA 318. It's remarkable how the man does it, but after all these years he shows strength and versatility. And he has one of the finest collections of songs ever put on any album, any number of which could be singles. It's one of his best ever.

Best cuts: Nine of the 11 could make it anywhere.

Dealers: This one should catch on real fast.

**DOLLY PARTON—MY TENNESSEE MOUNTAIN HOME**, RCA 1-0033. This is an autobiography, from start to finish, telling musically what has happened in Dolly's life, her relationships with her family and friends, her career, etc. A little out of the ordinary, and her devotees will love it. It even has liner notes by her parents, and a picture of her early home.

Best cuts: "In the Good Old Days When Times Were Bad," "My Tennessee Mountain Home," "Down On Music Row."

## Jazz Picks

**JIMMY McGRUFF & GROOVE HOLMES—Giants of the Organ Come Together**, Groove Merchant GM 520. Pertinent pairing of two hot funk organists, with each spotted on his own stereo speaker through the set. Originals are especially good. Standards lack the blusey sound each gets on his own LP's. Great opportunity to

study the styles of these two monsters. Chord work by two guitarists often does not match up to keyboard leadership.

Best cuts: "Licks A' Plenty" and "The Squirrel."

Dealers: Full-color front and back matching covers offer unusual dual window or counter display.

**ANITA O'DAY—"Recorded Live at the Berlin Festival"**, MPS 20750. (BASF). This

is one of the rare recent recorded excursions of a jazz immortal. Accompanied by a virtually unknown trio, she maintains a terrific pace from the opening tricky combination of the Beatles' "Yesterday" and the classic "Yesterdays" to the closing buoyant "Sunny."

Best cuts: "Yesterday-Yesterdays," "Street of Dreams."

Dealers: Long gone from the browsers boxes, this deserves window display in jazz-oriented store.

## Soul Picks

**SPINNERS**, Atlantic SD 7256. A long-awaited LP from the group with two gold certified singles already to their credit. The album contains, for the most part, tunes with strong lyrics dealing with the theme L-O-V-E. The struggles, the satisfactions, and the vows are all put into producer-arranger Tom Bell's hit-making machine. The group's well-phrased lead and background vocals, coupled with excellent orchestration is a masterpiece.

Best cuts: "I'll Be Around," "Could It Be I'm Falling In Love," "One Of A Kind," "Just Can't Get You Out Of My Mind."

Dealers: Goes pop and soul equally.

**THE MAIN INGREDIENT, Afrodisiac**, RCA LSP 4834. A brilliant mixture of the trio soft soul sound combined with Stevie Wonder (courtesy of Motown Records) wide scope of musical direction. Each tune is enhanced with the proper arrangement of strings and horns to go with the matchless vocal lead of Cuba Gooding.

Best cuts: "Something Lovely," "Where Were You When I Needed You," "You Can Call Me Rover."

Dealers: Consistently hot group.

**DON COVAY, Super Dude I**, Mercury SRM 1-653. This long time singer/writer has come up with another winning package, using the typical soul backgrounds and lyrics that have made him a star but adding more pop sounding material as well. Covay has a strong voice which can handle rock as well as soul, and this LP with its variety could reach the widest audience for him yet.

Best cuts: "Money," "Leave Him Parts 1 and 2," "I Was Checkin' Out She was Checkin' In."

Dealers: Display in soul and pop.

## also recommended

**BROOK BENTON**, Something For Everyone, MGM Se-4874. In this collection of 11 tunes, there could be another "Rainy Night In Georgia." Best cuts: "If You've Got The Time," "For The Good Times/It's Just A Matter Of Time," "Remember The Good."

**OLLIE NIGHTINGALE**, Sweet Surrender, Pride PRD 0017 (MGM). "Here I Am Again," "How Far Am I From New York City," and "I Don't Know Why I Love You."

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