



LONG PLAYS X X X X

THE GUN CLUB "FIRE OF LOVE" (RUBY LP)--- The Gun Club play a mixture of L.A. thrash, New Orleans voodoo, delta blues, and American psychobilly. How bout X meet Creedence Clearwater Revival? It comes off rather well, although they do occasionally stretch things out a bit too long for my tastes. Most interesting gimmick of the month: TWO slide guitarists. Watch out Charlie! Neat cover. (BOZ)

EYELESS IN GAZA "CAUGHT IN FLUX" (CHERRY RED LP) ---

Eyeless in Gaza's premier double LP represents fine efforts in simplifying the musical approaches of the "post modernist" school (such a music predicted by Joy Division and Echo). Indeed, Eyeless merely punctuates their songs with the "is it psychedelic" guitar one hears in bands like Echo and Wah. The darkness is merely a prelude here to confirm life, whatever hope that is but the bands approach is so firm, tangible that the philosophy must be valid. This "trust step" may also apply to the lyrics, which are hard to make out exactly but judging by the vocalist's ability to strain in just such a way... we believe them. The material on the album is all very satisfying, in the way that YMG's "Final Day" captured the bewilderment, the innocence of an age often mistaken for simple. Recommended. (Adam Klein)

TOM VERLAINE Dreamtime Includes Always/There's A Reason Penetration/Mr. Blur



TOM VERLAINE "DREAMTIME" WARNER BROS.

One of the big letdowns with the "neo-psychedelic" bands these days was that

not a one of them reminded me of Television. Yeah, it probably IS my problem, but it always seemed to me that if there was a precedent for merging punk and psychedelic sensibilities, you couldn't beat Television; textured layers of rambling, improvisational guitars, and space-case lyrics performed with a jagged urgency. Leader Verlaine was one of the most original sounding guitarists to emerge in years and it's a shame that in the 3 years since the band's breakup, he's only just now gotten around to his 2nd solo LP. Not that the 1st one was bad, it's just that the guitars didn't start heating up until the last tune. No such problem here though, as "There's A Reason" kicks off with guitar tracks jumping in and out, woven together in the finest T.V. tradition. Most of "Dreamtime" showcases this interplay as if to compensate for the last LP's... uh...mellowness. And if "Penetration" or "Mary Marie" seem a bit too jagged at first, there's always "Without A Word" which is as pretty a ballad as I've heard all year. "Dreathime" reasserts some of the punk and regains the "edge" that made Television so great. Verlaine remains the best-kept secret in town. Fun. (CB)

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THROBBING GRISTLE "GREATEST HITS" (ROUGH TRADE LP)--- Now that the legacy is over this compilation LP will probably give Throbbing Gristle the commercial success that's been denied to them. AOR stations are sure to play it to death and I'm sure that cover story in Rolling Stone won't be long to follow. OK... ENOUGH... I haven't lost my mind yet. Actually this is alot more listenable than what I had expected, still it's not for everyone. Dance music for lobotomised paraplegics. Play it for your neighbors, they'll never look at you the same. (BOZ)

FIRE ENGINES (FAST AMERICA LP)--- The Fire Engines feature aggressive and fast guitars that spiral off and explode in all directions. Raunchy guitars go apeshit! This American LP consists of their two British singles plus material from their mostly instrumental mini-LP, "Lubricate Your Living Room". Congradulations to Rough Trade for making this available in the U.S.A. (BOZ)

JOEBOY "JOEBOY IN ROTTERDAM/ SAN FRANCISCO" (BACKSTREET/BACKLASH LP)... Music without moments. Rather a sparse and disturbing drag through a despair so potent as to be terrorizing. Something of an organ grinders dirge on side A is sticking. A careless and distorted pomp full of curiosity and suspicion. Yes, suspicion, in particular, distorts what would be a gratifying "Urban Leisure". What is that snippet of filth-talk at the start of this? Finally Wild Boys is a utopian tale told through the spliced documentary, injected persona flashback formula and it works well. Ilove this record- Worth hearing! (Adam Klein)



DELTA 5 "SEE THE WHIRL!" (PRE LP)--- After four fine generally ignored classic singles, we finally have a Delta 5 LP. This is a new refined sound which was hinted at previously. There's less emphasis on the heavy funk beat, instead more attention is placed on those lovely voices, and the songs themselves. The addition of horns is a pleasant touch, as it was on the Teardrop Explodes LP. I understand that their live sound is more raw and danceable, but since I live in Miami I'll probably never be able to find out for myself. An enjoyable LP to listen to. (BOZ)

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SINGLES



THEATRE OF HATE "NERO"/"INCINERATOR"
(BURNING ROME 12") --- The machine gun drums on "Nero" start the death march... right, left, forward ... they don't stop pounding. A sharp angular guitar cuts in, joined by a wailing sax and those familar pleading vocals. This is aggressive desperate music. The production is stronger this time and the band sounds as spirited as ever. "Incinerator" from their live LP is also available here in an improved version. (BOZ)

NAKED SKINNIES "ALL MY LIFE"/
"THIS IS THE BEAUTIFUL NIGHT"
(NAKED HOUSE 7") --- This record was sent to me by TKA, the editor of The Offense, a great zine from Columbus. Well... leave it to my idiot mailman who managed to bend this record in order to make it fit in my mailbox. After a desperate attempt at trying to unbend it, I got it to play once before I had to send it to the scrapeyard. All I can remember was that "All My Life" started out slow and gradually built up in momentum. The singer kept repeating something that vaguely reminded me of Ian Curtis ("I put my trust in you... in you...in you..."). My initial impression was favorable. If interested send \$2 to Naked House Records, 1585 N. High St., Columbus, Ohio 43201. (BOZ)

FLIPPER "HA HA HA"/"LOVE CANAL"
(SUBTERRANEAN 7") --- Raw and dangerous music from L.A. Be warned this isn't your typical L.A. heavy metal on speed slam, it's slower with a touch of the avant garde(?). Flipper don't play their instruments, they attack them. The picture sleeve has to be seen to be believed. (BOZ)

THE CREATURES "WILD THINGS"
(POLYDOR DOUBLE 7") --- The Creatures are Siouxie Sioux and Budgie, drummer for the Banshees. This double EP consists of 5 tunes, just vocals and drums. It's a full and rhythmic sound; tribal, exotic and quite danceable. An interesting experiment that works well. (BOZ)

NEW ORDER "PROCESSION"/"EVERYTHING'S GONE GREEN" (FACTORY 7") --- New Order continue their break from the past. "Procession" begins where "Ceremony" left off. The guitar is not as prominent, however the overall effect is more fluent, a beautifully textured blend of sound. More positive and uplifting than anything by Joy Division. "Everything's Gone Green" features an Ian Curtis like vocal. Personally I find the synthesizer somewhat overbearing, it seems to throw the songs chemistry slightly off wack, but heck, I'm only nitpicking. If I had to make a choice for a single of the month column this would be it. (BOZ)

THE LYRES (ACE OF HEARTS 12" EP)
--- Good 1960's influenced garage music. No wimpy retreads here! The Lyres actually have the arrogance and conviction to make it work. This record's got it all; nasty vocals, cheesy organ parts, biting guitar breaks, all performed in true 1966 raveup abandon ala the Sonics or Remains(you can fill in your own favorite). Not very original but who cares. (BOZ)

A NEW PERSONALITY(GREEN 7"EP)---
A New Personality's 3 song maxi single is an great record. It is one of the best "recorded" local singles and the songs are good as well. They range from the slow, "What I Lost" to "Saturday", a fast Orange Juice type song. Buy this, you're supposed to like it. (Kevin)

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PRIMITIVE ROMANCE (DOT CITY
3 SONG FLEXI SINGLE)--- Pretty
good but still disappointing.
Primitive Romance are capable of
more. Perhaps it's the sound
quality of the flexi. The urgency
of their live performance seems
to be missing. Maybe they'll get
Steve Lillywhite to produce their
LP. How's that for a rumour? (BOZ)

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BILLY IDOL "MONY MONY"/"BABY TALK"
(CHRYSALIS 7)--- Old punks don't
die they just become more annoying.
At the end of "Baby Talk" Billy
Idol sings, "don't stop....the
punk rock...red hot...can't stop
the punk rock." I think I'm gonna
be sick! Actually this will
probably be Billy's first American
Top 40 hit. Why? Because he sounds
like Pat Benatar. (BOZ)

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SLITS "EARTHBEAT & EARTHBOB"/
 "BEGIN AGAIN RHYTHM" (CBS 12") -
 -- Heavy body music. Echo, drums,
 and dub, dub, dub... It's all
 here, as the Slits continue
 their collaboration with dub
 master supreme, Dennis Bovell.
 "Earthbeat" is the best dance
 tune I've heard in months, so why
 isn't the disco playing it? In
 keeping with this year's trend
 set with "Flower's of Romance"
 and the Raincoats LP this is very
 Eastern influenced, which should
 come as a shock to those who
 thought they had the Slits pegged.
 "Begin Again, Rhythm" is yet
 another remake of... (BOZ)

JAD FAIR "THE ZOMBIES OF MORA-
 TAU" (ARMAGEDDON 7)--- Jad
 Fair is 1/2 of 1/2 Japanese, the
 band. For the bargain shopper
 this single is a must, as there
 are 7 songs included. This is late
 night kiddie horror movie R&R.
 Perhaps it's the male equivalent
 of Teddy & the Frat Girls without
 the sexist lyrics. In other words
 it's stupid, primitive, fun and
 most people will probably hate
 it. If you think PIL play minimal
 music you haven't heard this. (BOZ)

TEARDROP EXPLODES "PASSIONATE
 FRIEND"/"CHRIST VERSUS WARHOL"
 (ZOO 7)--- I think "Passionate
 Friend" with it's ba-ba-bas is
 really Spanky & Cur Gang doing
 "Sundays Always the Same" or
 something like that. Also this is
 probably the first record made in
 the past 10 years (George Harrison
 LP's excluded) to use what sounds
 like a sitar. Actually it's
 pleasant enough, but personally
 I like their older stuff ("Books",
 "Treason") much better. This just
 doesn't hit hard enough. (BOZ)

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