A-LIVE

PAPA MICHIGAN AND GENERAL SMILEY. MIKEY JARREST, WORLD QUAKE BAND at the SEVILLE HOTEL, MIAMI BCH.. MARCH 26 --- More reggae shows have been overpriced, under crowded, cancelled, and otherwise fowled up by the promoters than any other kind of shows I've been to so I had serious doubts that this one would be pulled off. Well someone finally figured that they'd get 3 times as many people at \$8 than at \$15 so when I got there at around 10:00 the place was pretty well packed and more people were still coming in. The World Quake band went on first and although they were all very good musicians their set consisted of the usual covers and not much else. Mikey Jarret went on next but he was very boring so I just wandered around the lobby for awhile.

Then it was time for Michigan and Smiley, two former DJ's from the land of dub wise B sides. They went on with the Quake band backing them up and the lack of practice was made clear by the keyboardist and the guitar player arguing about chords during some of the songs but the show came off great and the sound was terrific. Although the set was slightly short. they were the best reggae band I've ever seen. Oh by the way, there was supposed to be another show on March 28 but not enough people showed up so the show was delayed 4 hours and then cancelled- oh well. (DAVID CAMP)



PINSKY ZOO at THE VENUE FEB. 18 LONDON, ENG .--- Why is it that names for alot of up coming bands are associated with animals? There's Pigbag, Animal Magnet, Animal Nightlife, Pinsky Zoo, Monkey Farm, to name but a few. Well I tried to find an answer since Pinsky Zoo were playing at the Venue along with The Dance and the beautiful and sexy Carmel. I turned up after a few pints to find a bunch of people milling about in the doorway. "Oh Bollocks" I said politely, not wanting to wait in the cold and proceed past the que towards an offical looking gent, with spectacles and flared trousers. Hi I said (with my best Southern States accent) what's happening man! Then I introduced myself and said I was writing a series of articles for Suburban Relapse- one of the leading US pubs (some folks will fall for anything-Ed.) and wanted to check out his club. He promptly put me on the guest list and I walked into the club straining and trying hard not to explode with laughter. A "wit of a banker" I thought!

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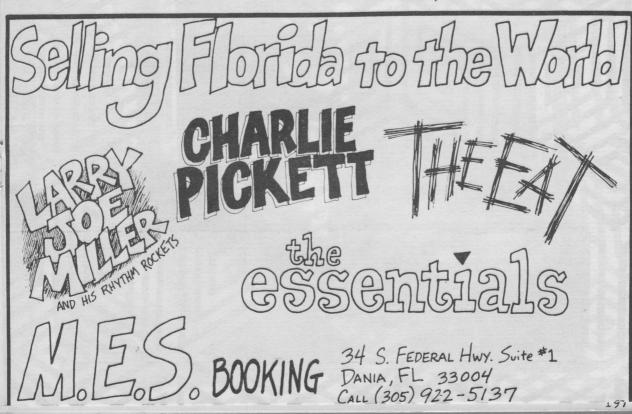
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The place was full of "wallies" so I found my way to the bar and continued to get pist. After a rather dissapointing performance by Carmel, the Zoo came on. I managed to find a good spot away from the pseudo hipsters. The sound as far as I can describe was avant garde rhythmic jazz- if that makes any sense! Jan was doing a fine job of blowing his sax into different proportions while Tim (bass) and Tim B (drums) were keeping up the beat. This mixed with choppy piano cuts, and a dazzaling display of percussion, produced the fine sounds that this band makes. I was very impressed. They are currently supporting Pigbag in the UK and have an LP out entitled, "Introduce Me to the Doctor". --- Well why is it that names for alot of up coming bands are associated with animals? Fuck knows! Why do giraffes have velvet covered horns? (JAMES DAVIES)

HIP, RIG, & PANIC at ALBANY EM-PIRE LONDON, ENG .--- It was my first time at the Empire and after a 20 minute tube ride, followed by a 30 minute walk, I began to wonder if it really did exist. Well it did, and what an amazing place it was too! Quite small, octaganal in shape, and with a balcony that made it look like a Shakesperian theatre. The show started with what I can only describe as a "one man band". A strange looking bod that played a violin, foot organ, harmonica, all at once, with a flute shoved up his ass! There was an overwhelming sigh of relief from all around, when he exited the stage. RR&P wasted no time in coming on. Playing a long set, with Gareth dancing like a crazy man (maybe he is) from start to finish. Their performance showed what a team they really were. The crowd were just as visual as the band. Rather than "dressing up", people had "dressed down" and favored the "beat look". The atmosphere was more like that of a party, my only criticism was that it had to come to an end. (JAMES DAVIES) THE BONGOS at THE CUBAN CLUB, TAMPA, FLA. MAR. 20, 1982--- It's been 5 years since Rick Barone left the snails of Tampa and moved up to NYC in search of the perfect pop band. That band, the Bongos lead by Rick played the Cuban Club. It was in one sense a homecoming for him with many friends showing up and seeing him for the first time since he strong out for NYC. Others came because they were attracted by the reputation of the Bongos or for the lack of other entertainment.

The audience was treated to enthusiastic live versions of their well known singles, plus material from their LP. The Bongos' music appeals to those who like pretty pop tunes by pleasant people reminescent of the psychedelic 60's. Those who love the bands' records were not disappointed. Others were won over by the groups' enthusiasm. The rest of the crowd amused themselves by slam dancing (to the Bongos???) in the back of the hall, or were to be found on the patio discussing where they would rather be and with whom playing. Then it was over. A good hall was had by time ... (PAM WIENER & JOHN DUBRULE)



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