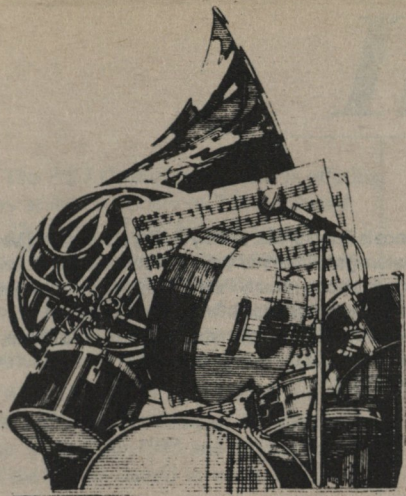


TERRICLARK



E-40
In A Major Way

Recorded under the Jive logo this LP features some excellent mixing ruined by E-40's tortured lyrical style. Marketing a hard-core image that is not really there, he has enough smarts to get help from more notable rappers such as Spice-1, Suga T and 2pac. Guest appearances such as these make it worth buying, but only on sale.

-- Lorne Cabarn

For country music fans on campus, a great new release to pick up is the album Terri Clark by Terri Clark. This female singer performs new-style country songs while keeping traditional country music storyline -- a good combination. Clark sings such songs as "When Boy Meets Girl" and "Better Things To Do" with great enthusiasm, while her slow songs, "Tyin' A Heart To A Tumbleweed" and "Is Fort Worth Worth It", are performed just as well in her new-style country voice. This release is all around an excellent first album for this new country artist and is well recommended

-- Amy Gallan

Tricky
Maxinquaye
(Island)

I really expected to like this CD. I really wanted to like this CD. I really did not like this CD. With a passing knowledge of the European "overdub" sound made famous by Massive Attack and Soul II Soul, I had expected great things from these 12 tracks. However, I got an earful of sublime sound that lulled me into a trance-like state. One of the few saving graces of this CD is the third track, "Black Steel," where guitars emerge from layers of weird percussion for a change of pace. Definitely an acquired taste, but worth buying if you like quiet, pensive music that has an ever-so-slight techno edge.

--Joel Gillespie.

SOUND OPINIONS

By Mike Beagan

The summer has ended, and a world of change has begun to unfold itself upon the students of U.P.E.I. Our Mcjobs have been replaced by the first assignments of our new courses, and our well earned minimum wages have quickly spent on stacks of overpriced textbooks and surprise parking fees. As our summer fades into memory, we must take a look back to see just what we might have missed before it is gone. What did you miss out on? All of the music reviews that you couldn't read while the X-Press was in hiatus, of course! Oh my, what a summer it has been for music.

First on my hit list is Sandbox's Bionic Attitude/EMI). These guys from Nova Scotia have been shaking up the airwaves all summer with their radio friendly sound and intelligent lyrics. Although this release is far from groundbreaking in its contents, it is a wholly pleasurable listening experience.

Far more interesting is the "official" major label release by Everclear. Sparkle and Fade (Capitol/EMI) is an outstanding release that is virtually exploding with raw emotional power. Heavy guitar driven sounds combine successfully with deep and realistic lyrical poetry to form a very fulfilling album. I recommend it highly.

No nearly so interesting is Radiohead's Pablo Honey. Although there is nothing particularly wrong with this disk, there does not seem to be anything particularly right with it either. Although well played, none of the songs exude the magical power of Radiohead's previous hit "Creep". Not bad, but not memorable either.

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13 Engines have returned with a great effort on their new release Conquistador (EMI). The sound is still loud and raw, however this particular release stands far above 13 Engines' previous release Perpetual Motion Machine. Consistently entertaining and thought provoking, this is some fine party music.

On the lighter side of this summer's releases is the self-titled Gene (Polydor) from England. While this debut disc features two bonus songs on the Canadian version, there is not a whole lot to get excited about. The first time that I listened to this disc, I thought it was wonderful, however, it has quickly lost its appeal for reasons I am unable to understand or explain. It may be the overall sameness of the tracks, or the blatantly radio-friendly sound. They are a light sounding, bluesy pop band. If you are interested, then check them out.

Bob Marley and the Wailers Natural Mystic (Tuff Gong/Island)

is a wonderful companion to the Legend compilation released several years ago. Marley is a poet and prophet to millions, and this overdue collection of his more politically motivated classics is bound to satisfy the vast majority of them. Natural Mystic is a must have for any reggae fan.

Well folks, that about does it for this week. I'll be back next week to impose more of my uneducated opinions on you. Hope to see you again in the pages of the X-Press (or whatever we're called next week).

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Empire Records: The Soundtrack
(various)
(A&M Records)

While I haven't seen the movie yet, I like the soundtrack enough that I might go. Even though the movie looks like just another flick about little guys against the big, bad corporations, the soundtrack absolutely rocks. That only makes sense, since the movie's about a record store.

It's an album with grunge appeal. It contains a wide variety of artists and styles from modern rock, with a refreshing absence of techno and not one certified number one band in the whole mess. The biggest draws are the Gin Blossoms, Toad the Wet Sprocket and the Cranberries. The rest aren't exactly cut-rate nobodies... they're GOOD nobodies! From manic intensity (The Miacs' "Ready, Steady, Go"; Coyote Shivers' "Sugarhigh") to slower introspective tunes (Innocence Mission, "Bright as Yellow"), this album is more of a cross-section of contemporary underground than a soundtrack. That's good! Variety is very nice.

Don't matter an iota if you see the movie, just buy the soundtrack.

(4) -T. Drake

STUDENT HEALTH PLAN

The Student Health Plan is designed to supplement existing provincial medicare. For more information regarding benefits and claims procedures, contact the Student Union Office, 1st floor of the Barn, 566-0530, 9:00am - 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.

If you have other coverage, you may apply to opt out of the Student Health Plan. You must bring with you to the SU office on Wednesday, Thursday, or Fridays ONLY, (a) proof of existing coverage, (b) proof of full time UPEI registration. THE DEADLINE TO OPT OUT IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1995.