



(****) LOVE YOU LIVE - ROLLING STONES (ATLANTIC)

The Rolling Stones have generally been considered as one of the top-notch live acts in rock 'n roll history, and this 2 record live set, Love You Live, only solidifies that opinion. The Stones have covered a wide variety of musical styles in their long career, and this set touches all bases, ranging from "Get Off Of My Cloud" to "Hot Stuff". The tunes you'd expect to hear on a live Stones recording are included as well. "Honky Tonk Women", "Jumping Jack Flash", and "Brown Sugar" receive patented Rolling Stones renditions. All in all, Rolling Stones fans will be delighted, as Love You Live is a successful live album.

(***) EXPECT NO MERCY - NAZARETH (A & M)

Nazareth's definitive album was Close Enough For Rock 'N Roll, as it had surpassed in quality every release before it and the two following it, Play 'N

The Game and this one, Expect No Mercy. The rockers offered on Expect No Mercy are poor, with the title cut and Kentucky Fried Blues being the only interesting ones. As usual, Nazareth has included two soft rockers and both are superior to the heavier material, especially "A Place in Your Heart". If you haven't liked Nazareth before, you will not like Expect No Mercy either.

(*****) LET THERE BE ROCK AC/DC (ATCO)

AC/DC are the Australian equivalent to Ted Nugent. They pump out very simplistic riff-dominated rockers that effectively implant themselves in your head. The rhythm guitarist, the frenzied lead breaks, and the vocalist the squeaky singing which resembles a 10-year-old's voice. There are no cuts that stand out over the others as all the tunes are allotted an equal amount of flash. This is by far the best raunch album of the year, and with tunes such as "Go Down", "Problem Child", and "Whole Lotta Rosie", should be a popular party album.

(***) CSN - CROSBY, STILLS & NASH (ATLANTIC)

When Crosby, Stills and Nash last released an album together, the year was 1970. Between that album and this one, the members, including Neil Young, have released 34 albums. With the exception of three Young albums, none of those 34 are worth commenting on. Thus, it comes as little surprise that CSN is a disappointing effort, with very little music up to par with Deja Vu. Musically and lyrically, the three members have nothing of substance to say on CSN, "Just a Song Before I Go", being a prime example. There are no tunes such as "Ohio", or "Teach Your Children Well" to be found here.

At a very recent concert, Neil Young joined Crosby and Nash on stage and possibly all four will collaborate on their next effort. Neil Young is and always was the main creative force of the four although in the band situation he was never given the deserved quota of songs per album. Crosby, Stills and Nash are missing something on CSN - Neil Young.

(*****) IV RATTUS NORVEGICUS STRANGLERS (UA)

Finally, a group under the "punk rock" label has produced a stunning, classic work. The punk label doesn't really fit the band as their music has been heavily influenced by the Doors and the Kinks. Although the music is electric, the lyrics are unbelievable.

The album title is the Latin name for the breed of rat that inhabits Britain. The title cut of the album would have to be "Down In The Sewer", which deals with, of course rats. The movie, "Willard" is tame compared to what goes on in this song. Other lyrical gems include "Peaches" and "Ugly", which bring up the other subject- the Stranglers enjoy expounding on: women. In all cases, women are on the receiving end of either criticism or violence. Their attitudes towards women force the listener to consider their own attitudes towards the subject. Very few albums force you to decide on

anything so the Stranglers are a valuable addition to the industry.

The rough edge of the music, and in particular the wandering bass guitar match the lyrics perfectly. If you're wondering what you'll give your neighbourhood psychotic killer for Christmas, look no further.

(**) GOING FOR THE ONE - YES (ATLANTIC)

Reunited after most of the group released solo albums, Yes has returned with Rick Wakeman again assuming the keyboard chores. Unfortunately, Wakeman's role on Going For The One is very low key, subordinated in much the same way as he was on the very early Yes albums. Going For The One is much more in the "Roundabout" vein, which should imply that the songs are more accessible. Instead, the music contained here simply will not sink in, no matter how many listens I give it. The one exception is "Wonderous Stories", which features the highlight of any Yes album, the vocals of Jon Anderson. The rest of the album will only be enjoyed by devoted Yes fans.

(*) LOVE GUN - KISS (CASABLANCA)

"Queen's new album has just been released".

"Yeah?"

"And ELP's Works Volume II is out."

"No kidding?"

"Led Zeppelin have begun work on their new one and Rainbow's latest has just been completed as well."

"I heard Kiss' Alive Volume II has just been pressed."

"Can't have it all our way, can we?"

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