

Canadian croons

by Paul Gazzola

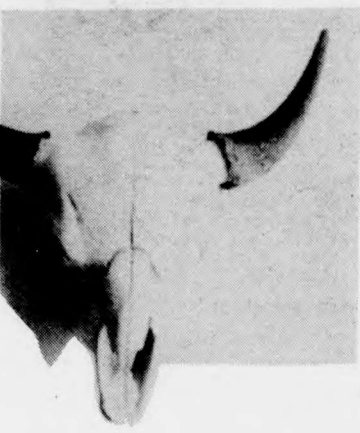
The problem with Ian Tyson's latest record isn't that he has the voice of a crooner—soft, smooth and low. After all, there have been a number of those in country and western music, from

the ever-emoting Marty Robbins to the latest cry-in-his-voice, Chris Isaak.

Tyson's problem is that he sings his songs with all the intensity of a lullaby. "Ballad of Jack Link," a song about an old cowboy (most of the songs are about cowboys), comes across as a children's song due to Tyson's phrasing and tone, not to mention its dipsy-doodle beat.



music
Ian Tyson
And Stood There Amazed
Eastern Slope Records



Worse, Tyson's delivery and arrangements often cheapen his strong lyrics. Whatever power "Magpie" could have held, for instance, is sacrificed to a totally inappropriate reggae bass line. "Lights of Laramie" ends with a piano passage that could have been written by David Foster.

A few songs do survive, though, especially "Spring Time in Alberta," "You're Not Alone Anymore" and "Black Nights." In the last, Tyson sings "I could dive into the bottle, but I ain't built that way."

Too bad he doesn't have the same good sense to leave off a cover of "Home on the Range."

Marley's bounty

by Robert Klint

Jahmekya, the third album by Ziggy Marley and the Melody Makers, is by far the band's strongest release to date.

The album covers much more musical territory than their 1989 release *Conscious Party*, joyously returning with a rich bounty of wonderful songs.

It seems as if Ziggy has been liberated from the daunting legacy of Bob Marley. The result is the breaking of new ground; rather than producing weak venerations which rehash his fathers' memory, Ziggy has finally acquired his own voice. Unlike many other offspring of famous parents, he actually holds his own.

Sixteen songs are offered on *Jahmekya*. "Raw Riddim," the first track, is the only weak number. The rest are well-crafted songs which manage to be uplifting even while talking about oppression, injustice and exploitation.

Ziggy and the Melody Makers transcend bleak situations, finding hope within them. They talk about the struggle for freedom and desperate

political situations, and how these are reasons for positive change. The sentiment is grounded in reality; there are no vacant dreams or apathetic responses, there is action in the music. The main source of this is their Rastafarian faith, which provides them with inner strength and resilience; the music provides joy and healing.

Ziggy has plenty of help from the Marley clan, with brother David Marley emerging as an extremely gifted and talented writer. He penned the two strongest songs on the album, "Drastic" and "Problem with my Woman." Both are funky, spirited ventures which showcase everybody's talents and give rise to a new wave of powerful Marley heritage.

Ziggy sings "I've become a slave to my purpose," which is undeniably to privilege us with his exceptional music.



Top-40 rockers the Crash Test Dummies played the Student Centre pub last Tuesday. Biff the security guard (centre) was careful to prevent any undue frivolity or dancefloor disenhelicidacularity. The audience received a special award for good behaviour and perfect posture.

Fine Arts for Children and Teens at York University

Courses Offered in Dance, Music, Visual Arts and Theatre
Fall Term: September 21 to December 14, 1991
Winter Term: January 25 to May 2, 1992
Registration day: Saturday, September 14, 10 a.m. to 12 noon

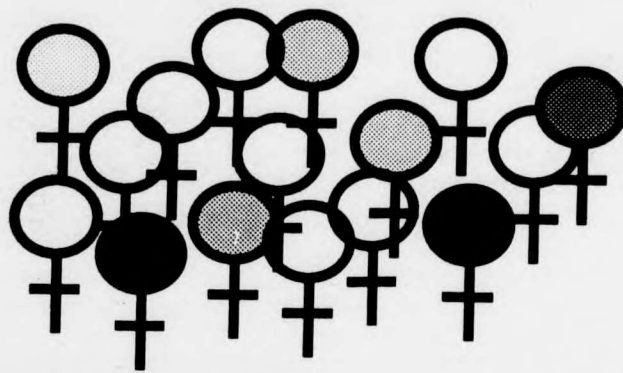


For more info, call or write:

Artstart
Fine Arts Building,
York University,
4700 Keele Street, North York,
Ontario M3J 1P3
(416) 736-2100
ext. 33817
(Don't hesitate to leave a message on our answering machine)

Artstart

EXCALIBUR WOMEN'S CAUCUS



Women's Caucus will have its first meeting on Thursday, September 26 at 4:15. Or come in to our office and speak with Jeannine.

GMAT/LSAT

Preparation Weekend Seminars

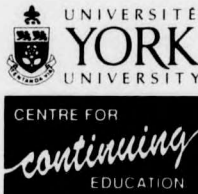
(Held at York University)

GMAT \$195

LSAT \$225

October 11-13, 1991
January 10-12, 1992
March 13-15, 1992
June 12-14, 1992

September 28-29, 1991
November 30-December 1-1991
February 1-2, 1992
**(Early registration: \$195
One week before seminar)**



For more information or a registration package, call:

(416) 736-5802

GMAT Math Prep Course \$295.00
January 9-March 16/92 (Thursdays)

Other courses offered by the Centre for Continuing Education include: Business Certificates, Computer Training and Languages. Call 736-5025 for information.

Mr. J's deli dogs

Track & Field Centre
York University
11:00 am - 9:00 pm

Yes...Manuel Castro, Toronto's premiere Hot Dog Vendor is back again at York University, conveniently located at the Track & Field Centre to serve you his famous 100% all beef recession-proof hot dogs, with all the toppings you've grown to like...cheese, jalapeno peppers, dill pickles, saurdrut, and many more goodies.

Come and try a Toronto tradition.

Bring a friend for the cheapest and tastiest lunch in town.

**99¢ DELI HOT DOGS
100% PURE BEEF**

Offer expires October 1, 1991