

# McCartney on the wane

BY Marc Pepin

Paul McCartney has finally outdone himself. Last year he was the highest paid rock star as he made \$10 million. It's no wonder he rented a floating recording studios in the Virgin Islands to record his new album 'London Town'.

Paul McCartney is now 36 years old and still rocking as is Mick Jagger of the same age. One thing stands out of this album—that it is intentionally designed for kids ages 10-15 and is very commercial in content. It's no wonder that Joe English and Jimmy McCollough left the band after this album. I don't blame them one bit. You can imagine how degrading it would be to their artistic talents.

There was once a time when Paul was very good and very famous. He was involved in the best band, the Beatles, wrote incredible good lyrics with John Lennon, and played some excellent bass lines after switching to his stereo Richenbacher back in mid-1966. He was cute and had everything going for him. Then came the breakup and the start of his solo career. His first 2 albums were good but crude, his third was his worst but he peaked with Red Rose Speedway Band on The Run,

and Venus and Mars. Then came 'Wings At The Speed of Sound' which lacked direction and motivation, and then his successful live album 'Wings Over America'. London Town which was released in May of 1978 is his second worst. The bass playing by Paul who is rated number 2 in the world of rock bass players, is the pits. His lyrics are even worse, they have no meaning. The only worthwhile thing to say about the album is that Paul is becoming a very good producer.

The title of the album starts off the album. It has lyrics which are corny, bass playing which could have been improved, and vocals which are no where near Oh Darling! It was released as a single. Toot-toot indeed.

'Cafe On The Left Bank' is the best song on the album. It has everything going for it. It has the true McCartney voice as you expect him to have. His bass lines and the drums match perfectly. Jimmy McCullough's lead guitar blends very well, and Paul is 'ka-ka-ka-ka-fe' vocal lines are excellent and original. His lyrics here are like those found on Venus and Mars. This should have been released instead of London Town as a 45, it would have done much better on the charts.

'I'm Carrying' is reminiscent of 'I will - Julia' off the white album. It has acoustic guitar and proves

that Denny Jaine is talented. 'Backwards Traveller' is a continuation off 'Loop' off 'Red Rose Speedway'. It blows. 'Cuff Link' is a funky instrumental. McCartney proves himself here that he can play any instrument. 'Children' is shades of Puff the Magic Dragon and it sucks too. 'Girlfriend' could have been a hit in the 1950's. 'I've Had Enough' sounds off side one very well. The vocals are sloppy and the listener has just about had enough of the album up to this point.

Side Two is no better with a few exceptions. 'With a Little Luck' is the second best song on the LP. The production here is fantastic and the bass playing and overall music excels.

'Famous Groupies' is probably about his wife, Linda. 'Deliver our Children' is a song that you would hear around a campfire. 'Name and Address' is a dedication to Elvis. Is it Paul or Elvis. It's like Lady Madonna Paul imitates Elvis note for note. In 1956 when Paul met John, what impressed John was that Paul not only looked like Elvis but sounded like him too! This song fulfills its purpose.

'Don't Let It Bring You Down' is the worst song on the album. No comment. 'Morse Moose...' is garbled and over produced but it does have an interesting beginning as well as true screaming McCartney vocals. It unfortunately



has a disco bass line. End of Album.

Overall the album sucks! It's 51 minutes too long and should have been reduced to about 38 minutes. That is - throw away the garbage and the album could have improved. Paul has obviously sold out to kids and is more interested in the public than anything else. The last obvious conclusion from 'London Town' is that Linda Eastman McCartney has no talent as far as music goes. Paul quotes 'Rock n Roll is innocent talent and

this is what Linda is. Bullshit! How hypocritical can you get. She has no talent and is far from innocent. She used to be a famous groupie who wanted to land John but

couldn't get him and settled for Paul. Just think if John had fell for Linda and Paul fell for Yoko. I don't think it would have affected the results except it would be hilarious. As for advice - buy the album and give it to the 10 year old brat across the street for Christmas!

# New Brunswick Museum schedule

## EXHIBITIONS

Aug. 15 - HOWARD GARRETT. This exhibition, by Saint John weaver Howard Garrett is his first "one-man show" featuring 27 wallhangings. For several years, Mr. Garrett was one of Vancouver's leading fashion designers and because of his

background work with fabrics it is not surprising that his interest in working with textiles has continued. He thinks that his work is like painting except that he weaves his background and then builds it up like a sculptor. Link Gallery until September 30.

Aug. 23 - AND TIME WON'T MATTER AT ALL. An exhibition of

clocks from the collections of the New Brunswick Museum. It is a panoramic survey of clocks of various styles covering a period of some two hundred years. The exhibition was designed, researched and put up by student volunteers with the assistance of the Collections Administration Dept. Artifacts range from sundials through unique "grandmother" clocks. Rotunda.

Sept. 1-29 - Works during the last five years by Rothesay artist CATHARINE MCAVITY. 50 paintings reflecting the influences of her painting places - Maritimes, Caribbean Islands and Mediterranean coast of France. Alice Webster Gallery.

Sept 11 - "MOODY SCAPES" ... REACHING BEYOND LANDSCAPES - An exhibition of 21 acrylic paintings by Fredericton artist, Pat Badani. Translated into simplified compositions, the artist portrays land, water and skies seen from different points of view. The series conveys a quality that reaches beyond landscape and moves along human themes. Gallery 3 until October 10.

Sept. 22 - IMAGES OF SPORT IN EARLY CANADA. Sponsored by the McCord Museum, Montreal, and based on the original exhibition presented during the 1976 Olympics. The exhibition is not intended to be a history of Canadian sports but rather an evocation of the important part amateur sport once played in the whole social fabric of Canadian

life as it was reflected in the country's arts and crafts. Gesner Gallery until November 19.

Oct. 15 - BRUCE ST. CLAIR: A TEN YEAR SURVEY. A selection of thirty paintings showing St. Clair's development from 1968-1977. St. Clair is an Ontario artist featuring material from the region around Ontario's Lake Nipissing. They show his concern with broad-based subject matters within his particular environment. Gallery 3 until Nov. 25.

## FILMS

Once again Monday Movies at the Museum will be held in the King George VI Hall, 8 p.m. Subscriptions will cost \$15.00 for 15 movies and will go on sale the first week of September.

## LECTURES:

The University of New Brunswick Saint John Branch will be giving a credit course entitled "History of Music in Canada" at this museum from September 12 to April 9 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30

## THEATRE

Plays will be staged by Stage 1 and possibly the University of New Brunswick Theatre Group in the months to follow.

Instructor will be Walter Ball. The course will outline the nature and development of music at various stages of Canadian history, with particular attention given the Atlantic area and the role Europeans, Acadians and Loyalists played in nurturing music in the Maritimes and New Brunswick.

## ON TOUR

Aug. 7 - Nov. 19 - The Spirit of the Windships, Glenbow-Alberta Institute, Calgary.  
Sept. 1 - Oct. 15 - An Arctic Oasis, Richibucto Museum, Rexton, N.B.  
Oct. 15 - Nov. 26 - Land of the Maple Leaf/Home of the Beaver, Moncton Museum.

## WE'RE OFF AGAIN!

This time the New Brunswick is sponsoring a charter coach tour to Grand Manan. David Christie, Curator of Natural Science will accompany this tour which is tentatively scheduled for September 22-24. The number of places available will be limited. For further information and for reservations, please call, Eleanor M. Parke-Williams, 693-1196, Extension 60.

# A.S.O. Review

By HELEN GOLLINGS

Monday, October 30th saw the second in this year's series of concerts given by the Atlantic Symphony Orchestra. It was also the first appearance of the orchestra's new concert master Peter Jaffe. An interesting programme of 19th-century works included Weber's Overture *Euryanthe* (1823), Dvorak's Violin Concerto, Opus 53 (1883) and Brahms' Third Symphony (1884) — three very different and individual embodiments of the Romantic Spirit. The programme opened with Weber's Overture, in which a strong attack and some fine lyrical playing from all sections of the orchestra got the concert off to a very promising start. This was followed by the Dvorak Concerto, with solo violinist Vladimir Landman. A general work, marked by passages of beautiful orchestration and marred by a

lack of structural terseness, the Violin Concerto was in general managed well by both orchestra and soloist. Particularly notable were the many delicately scored dialogues between solo violin and individual sections of the orchestra. The concert closed with the Brahms Symphony, a massive work notorious for revealing the weak points in any conductor and orchestra. Not surprisingly, therefore, the performance was lacking in a certain warmth, tone and Brahmsian fire. There were still many moments of beauty, however, particularly in the second movement. Overall, the Atlantic Symphony Orchestra presented a very encouraging concert, and a marked improvement on their first concert of the season. Let us hope that music director Yampolsky continues to achieve such results.

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