

Reviews: Vinyl, vinyl and more vinyl

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by Andrew M. Duke

The first release from the new FRONT 242 LP, Front By Front, is the "Headhunter"/"Welcome To Paradise" mix (Nettwerk/Capitol). Avoiding compromise, this release is even more agressively dancefloor-shaking in intent. The flip features great sampling once again.

Acid Banshees? Yes, indeed, there is an acid mix of "Peek-A-Boo", the first release from the Siouxsie and the Banshees LP, Peepshow (PolyGram). Tire of the dance grind (it's number 1 on the Rockpool dance chart) and you'll find a return to the familiar in "Catwalk" and especially "False Face".

The German trio Camouflage are finally reaching Canada with their "The Great Commandment" track, one that has been a hit in almost every other country in the last three years. You get 12", extended, and dub mixes plus the unreleased, ethereal "Pompeii" on the single. The album Voices & Images (WEA) is

College-fave Let's Active ("the Mitch Easter & friends project") known for such solid material as "Waters Part", are back with Every Dog Has His Day (I.R.S./MCA). This record is well-crafted and can be experienced passively or actively. Above all, it's fun. Think of it as a work that will interest even those people who say they don't like

Raymond Watts, under the PIG moniker, has produced the A Poke In the Eye With a Sharp Stick LP(Was Trax). His styleplundering modern music, twisting it to his own ends while throwing in his own perverse ideas - is akin to that practised by Mr. Scraping Foetus Off The Wheel himself - Jim Thirlwell. In fact, Watts dedicates "The Press" to J.G.T. (and even spells his name correctly!) From the accessible dance frenzy of "Never For Fun" to the traditional "Hildelinde", this package is full of welcome surprises.

All Of This and Nothing (CBS) is the "best of" the Psychedelic Furs with the well-known later singles "The Ghost In You" and "Heartbreak Beat" featured along with earlier tracks that are just as good but not as familiar. On the other hand, A&M Records has released Human League's Greatest Hits, a singles-only compilation. The Furs' package comes across as a very solid release due to its approach, while the League LP sometimes falls flat for the same reason. Everything you'd want is here from the early "Being Boiled" (a hit in '78, re-released in 1982) to "Don't You Want Me". Also included are hits such as "Louise" (with its horrible almost-early-Steve Winwood keyboard solo) that were mostly the work of the producer, not the band. Fortunately these tracks are outnumbered by the good ones and new Human League material will be out soon.

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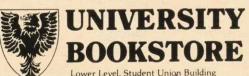
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