

entertainment

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR: R.
ENTERTAINMENT: 453-4983
DEADLINE: Noon Tuesday

January 11, 1985

Friendly Giant evicted from castle!

By CAL RIFKIN
Brunswick Scapegoat

In 1984, the massive CBC cutbacks have affected even giants in the Canadian television industry, like the Friendly Giant, seen on CBC-TV weekday mornings.

The POGBIC (Put Our Giant Back In Castle) committee in Montreal has already

received well over 60 cards, letters, and petitions. There's a similar movement afoot in Calgary. Let's keep it going. The CBC spends *your* Friendly Giant.

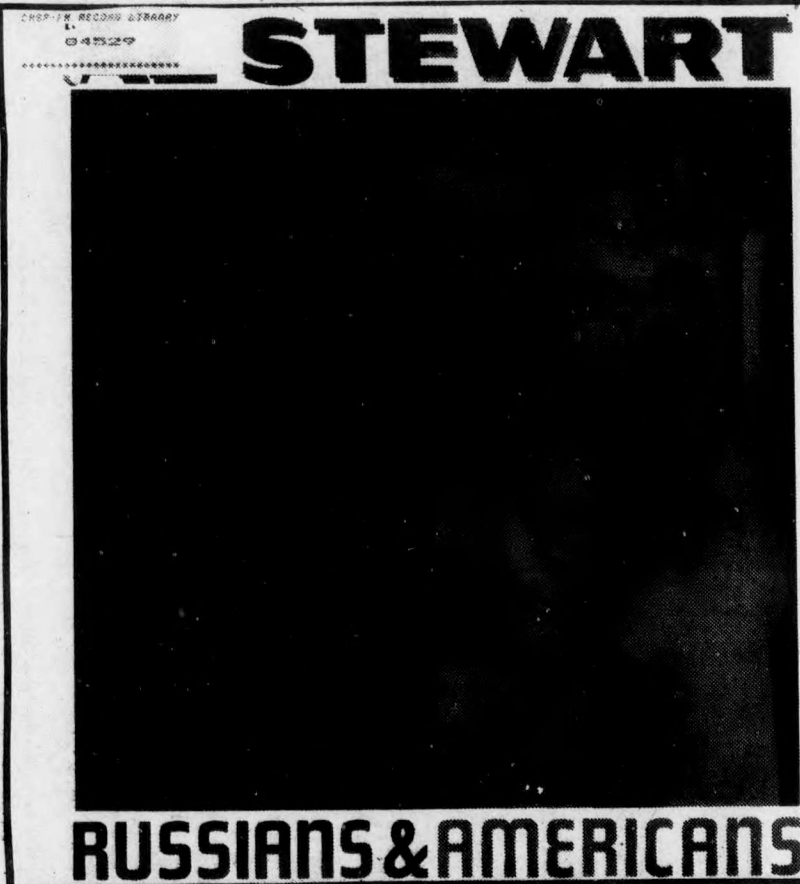
His future is in your hands. We're paying the piper so let's call the tune.

Many children, Brunies, members of the SRC and

CHSR look forward to seeing the Friendly Giant every morning.

Express your concern by writing to Cal Rifkin, POGBIC, c/o Brunswickan, Rm 24, SUB or to Thomas Schnurmacher, Concerned Columnist, the Gazette, 250 St. Antoine St. W., Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 3R7.

Survival of a lyricist



Stewart's Fine Lyrics Remain

By WILFRED LANGMAID
Brunswickan Staff

Al Stewart - Russians and Americans

Out of sight, out of mind, they say, and after quite a lull in productivity, the name Al Stewart had more or less faded from view. However, he is back with his first studio album since 1980 in the just-released *Russians and Americans*.

Fusing folk and pop, this British artist has a lyrical knack for making historical precedents articulate contemporary truths. He released his first album in 1967 but made it big in 1976 with *The Year of the Cat* which went platinum, aided by the classic title track

which became a huge hit. 1978 saw the release of the equally splendid *Time Passages* which, too, went platinum. However, 1980's strong *24 Carrots* did not sell a lick. From then until now, the only peep which we heard from Stewart was a sketchy 1981 live album entitled *Live/Indian Summer*.

Stewart clearly realizes that he has to change with the times. As such, the boppiness of much of *Russians and Americans* may well nauseate his fans of old upon a first listen. However, with the exception of the dismal "Strange Girl" (just watch this loser become a top forty hit!), *Russians And Americans* still has those marvellous Stewart lyrics, even if they are occasionally hidden in a sea of trendy sound. The best examples of originally unsettling Stewart melodies bearing strong musi-

cianship nonetheless as well as those omnipresently great lyrics are "Rumours Of War" and "Night Meeting." The latter is clearly Stewart - a historical story of covert activities with intrigue, espionage, and the turning of a blind eye to justice. Following the rather boppy album opener "The One That Got Away" (candidate number two for the nondescript singles fodder), they get the album off to an odd start for a person expecting to hear the Stewart of old.

The fact that bobby lyrics do not necessarily constitute a meaningless song really hits close to home on "1,2,3", a remake of the bubblegum million seller back in 1965 for teen idol Len Barry. It begins with Stewart singing Barry's joyful strains:

"One, two, three, that's how elementary it's going to be/ Just fine and dandy, it's easy/ Like taking candy from a baby."

From there, Stewart makes the song instantly meaningful when his own lyrics follow those originals, expressing disdain over the horrible scam which occurred in so many lands, including the one which we call our own:

"Primitive country, rich in minerals/ Pay them with beads/ Tip the generals, it's easy, like taking candy from a baby."

This song is one of the many Stewart commentaries about politics, closing with the chilling lines:

"Once they get you sucked into the system/

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UNB film society

UNB FILM SOCIETY WINTER SERIES

Memberships \$10 (13 Films) - Available at the door and Westminster Bookstore on King Street.

Nightly memberships available at the door.

Main Series showtimes 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday Nights. Sunday Club Series Showtimes 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.

All Films in Tilley Hall Auditorium, University of New Brunswick.

YOL

Turkey, 1982, Director - Yilmaz Guney, January 11, 12 - 8:00 p.m., English Subtitles.

A devastating drama dealing with the political, ethnic, and cultural repression in contemporary Turkey. The film follows five prisoners who are given a week's pass from their prison to visit their families and find the same restrictions face them on the outside. The country is a prison. The eloquent portrait of a society in contradiction with itself was winner of the best film award at the 1982 Cannes Film Festival.

SMALL CHANGE, France, 1976, Director - Francois Truffaut, January 18, 19 - 8:00 p.m., English Subtitles

An enduring and entertaining celebration of childhood. Small Change consists of a series of vignettes about a group of French children in a small village who manage to survive in an adult world with or without love. One of Truffaut's tenderest and most observant films.

HAROLD AND MAUDE, USA, 1972 Director, Hal Ashby, January 29 - 7:00 and 9:00 p.m., SUNDAY CULT SERIES

A cult favorite, this funny and original black comedy follows the adventures of a young man who contemplates comedy films in years.

DEATH OF A BUREAUCRAT, Cuba, 1966, Director - Tomas Gutierrez Alea, January 25, 26 - 3:00 p.m., English Subtitles

A man who invented a machine for manufacturing hundreds of plaster busts of a Cuban national hero dies in the course of tinkering with his machine and is buried holding his beloved union card. His widow learns she must hand in his work card in order to receive a pension. Attempts to have his body exhumed, and later reburied, are frustrated by the invincible, unbudging bureaucracy. Death of a Bureaucrat is a hilarious account of the tyranny of red tape.

BREAD AND CHOCOLATE, Italy, 1978, Director - Franco Brusati, February 1, 2 - 8:00 p.m., English Subtitles

An insightful and deeply compassionate comedy about the frustration of Everyman in trying to better his lot in life - in this case an uneducated Italian waiter who painfully tries to fit in among the stuffy and orderly Swiss. Brusati illustrates the agony of the outsider with force and intelligence.

ALLERGRO NON TROPO, Italy, 1977, (Animated), Director - Bruon Bozzetto, February 8, 9 - 8:00 p.m. English Dubbed

This animated film is a subtle social satire of Italian life. The stylized and harmonic animation is enhanced by the classical music soundtrack. Allegro Non Troppo is a masterpiece of animated cinema.