

Parachute club jump to the forefront of Canadian music...

By MIKE POTTER

THE PARACHUTE CLUB have jumped to the forefront of

contemporary Canadian music with their latest album *At the Feet of the Moon* and have landed right on target in the international scene, joining other Toronto-based bands such as Blue Peter and Boy's Brigade.

The seven consummately-talented members of The Parachute Club are at the leading edge of the new breed of musicians, and, as an added bonus, their lyrics have a social consciousness reminiscent of early Dylan, Britain's UB40, and our own Bruce Cockburn.

The title track of the LP conveys the group's intrinsic optimism, in lines such as: *We have desire to follow/A poem for the future whose name is tomorrow*, which can be taken as a reference to the hope that the world will not be annihilated in a nuclear holocaust. The Parachute Club's musical innovation is illustrated in an a cappella refrain near the end of the song.

Innuendo features an inspired lead vocal by Julie Masi, and is a haunting melody about vague

expectations and false connotations. The concluding crescendo leaves us with the perennial questions: *Is this real or just imagination?/Who's to know, what is the truth?*

The last offering on Side One is the only weak one. It never seems to quite take off. *Equal/Equally* has good lyrics, written by Lauri Conger, but the music (which is also her creation) drags somewhat. Still, all can agree with the suggestions to *Listen carefully/The call to understanding/We could use some trust again*.

Walls and Laws alludes to our cavalier treatment of nature and the perceived necessity to be 'safe from the unknown', moves on to the topic of the imposition of authority: *Fear is ruling/We have lost control*, and ends with the

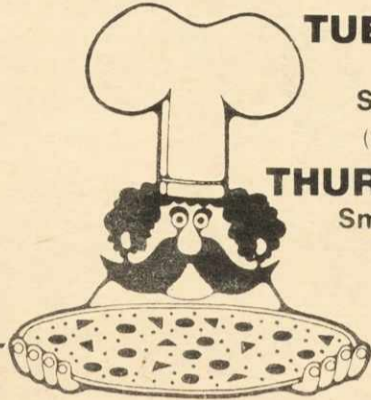
rallying cry which can redeem us: *Time is closing in my friend/Let's turn the law to love again*.

The Parachute Club are both aesthetically and intellectually stimulating with their harmonies and their lyrics. The intention of their music can be summarized as an attempt to get us to transcend our personal concerns and adopt a more holistic perspective, as expressed in the track, *Act of an Innocent: Believe we're gonna make it thru/There's a larger vision/Bigger than me and you*. Their anthem is epitomized in the enthusiastic *Freedom Song*:

*All I know is that it's a matter of choice
Hold on, tighter
We'll find freedom
Hold on, tighter
Freedom!*

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Gee, this sure beats Sony Walkman's eh? Volunteer checks on the hardware at CKDU-FM. Photo: Mary C. Sykes, Dal Photo.



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Response mostly positive to CKDU-FM

IF YOU'VE BEEN READING the newspapers or watching the local news lately, you are no doubt aware of the arrival of CKDU-FM. That is now old news.

Today, the important involves the type of response the variety of programming is eliciting from those in the Metro area. Despite the fact that CKDU did win a Dalhousie student referendum last year to increase student fees so the station could afford to go FM, many students were unhappy with the type of programming the station was supplying.

Last year's problems do not seem to be affecting this year's station. Derek Spagnoli, a CKDU programmer, says there have been hardly any negative responses to programming since Feb. 1, the day CKDU began broadcasting. "The response has been pretty good. We've been getting a lot of requests - they seem to be calling all day and night," says Spagnoli.

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