

RECORDINGS (cont.)

recording, and Kwameister is backed by the best. A guest appearance by "Door" Matt Hairyass of Social Club fame on the track "King Greed on Speed," is fascinating. Hairyass's shouts of "money's all I want/ money's all I need," sends shivers up the listener's spine. A must.

THE CARPENTER'S SONGBOOK Steve & Bill

Ever since Tim "Lion of Judah" took Steve and Billy into his stable of artists, this exciting duo has really taken off. Their sell out show at the Club Crotchmo is testimony to their newfound success. That the duo has decided to abandon the Simon and Garfunkel/Beatles/Steve Miller drivel that was the staple of their live performances and perform music by Karen and Richard Carpenter for their first LP is an example of their quirky, unpredictable nature.

The album kicks off with "We've Only Just Begun," and this reviewer feels that this is a larger statement which refers to the band's impact on the music scene. The harmonies are perfect and the strumming by both guitar players is forceful and never contrived.

The next track is "Rainy Days and Mondays"; they are joined by guest musician Dave "Cymbal-Head" Bartlego on percussion. The constant cymbal crashes are a nice touch.

The next track, "Hey Mr. Postman" is the LP's most interesting track. That Steve and Billy decided to go electric for this number, and draw it out for a 16-minute psychedelic rendition, shows their refusal to be pegged as MOR folkies.

I haven't listened to the rest of the LP, but if it is as good as the first three tracks, it is well worth its \$11.98 price tag.

OLD FOGIES AT WORK The Dispossessed

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This album by ex-Ujamaa and ex-Small Axe members Carcass Lapel and Atom Bent-me can be filed under drunk-dinosaur rock. The music is reminiscent of classic, ancient rock acts such as Cream, Lynrd Skynrd, the Who and others. This in itself would not be so bad if not for the blatant rip-offs that predominate. Tracks such as "Sunshine of Your Hate," "Sweet Home Fredericton," and "Substitute (teacher)," can only be described as derivative.

Lapel's bass solos begin to wear on the listener by the third track, "Sing No To New Wave," and Bent-me's drum rolls miss one time too many.

If not for the endearing tracks "Don't File Me Away," and "Be My Sweet Marie, Absolutely," this LP would get zero stars, but as it is, two will do.

I'M A DRUMMY Jerky Retchers

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A whole album of drum solos? Please. What can Retchers be thinking, or rather, is he thinking? The guest appearance by Sax Larue on Biko saves the LP from a prompt dismissal by the reviewer. Also, the drum solo version of "Bridge Over Troubled Scotch and Water" is minimally interesting.

IDLE GUYS Ras Baba & Sax Larue

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The new solo album by Ujamites Ras Baba and Sax Larue is new and refreshing. Their discovery of the tribal rhythms of the music of the state of Alaska is cool. They are joined by a number of guest musicians such as

Jamaicans Sly Drumbar and Robbie Basspeare, Kwameister, Indiana Errow Williams, Kiwi Hicks, and Daniel Lavatoire. Ras Baba and Sax Larue were surprised to see their lifelong idol, Frank Mills, show up for some more of the livelier sessions.

The whole album was mixed and engineered by "Pink" Lloyd Hanson's-son. Instruments were graciously donated for a small fee from Morrissey's Music and Tony's Music Snatch.

Unfortunately the LP is only available in the ital cassette format as Ras and Sax believe that vinyl is not ital.



OIL RECEPTACLE REUNION Pole Hill Vice Lords

In the milieu of exploding cars and scantily clad women overselling disparate metal haircut bands on the music video channel and the pings! and oinks! and stabs! of AM radio, it certainly is refreshing e a group such as the Pole Hill Vice Lords getting back together and back to basics.

"People have generally forgotten how an electric guitar sounds when it's not plugged in," pontificates Derf Breathly, "and that's sad"

The writers from the Recordings section, who probably didn't hear the albums they reviewed, are complete and blithering idiots