

Clarke not a *Hopeless Case*

Anne Clark
Hopeless Case
Virgin Records

by Stephen A. Noble

Anyone who has ever witnessed Anne Clark live will appreciate the rather off the wall nature of her performances. It's the suggestive things she does with cucumbers and melons that are, to say the least, interesting. Not exactly concerts to take Mom to.

After witnessing antics like these, one would probably expect something just a little bizzare and perhaps even innovative from her records, something just a little fresher than the stench of the mindless rubbish which piles up on radio stations everywhere. It might have taken her long enough to show some spark, but finally she does.

Hence the irony in the title *Hopeless Cases*. Anne Clark has worked with some well renowned musicians: John Foxx of Ultravox on "Pressure Points" and Vini Reilly of The Durutti Column on "Changing Places". Her best work, though, seems to be a result of the constant partnership with David Harrow. In the tracks they play together, his music and her words fit naturally and, consequently, flow along smoothly. Her style is truly distinctive, sometimes having about as much decorum as RATT on a Friday night.

However, it's a style that music today needs. She works along the same lines as Richard Jobson was working along a few years ago, her albums being similar to poetry readings set to music. "Armchair Theatre" is backed by thoughtful flawless rhythms, while "Homecoming" is a more straightforward, honest, energetic dance number.

Sadly, however, there is a certain sameness in many of her songs which often brings the album too close to monotony. As is the case on her previous records, she is incredibly self-centered in her lyrics, talking endlessly of the personal aspects of loneliness and love. Sometimes you just want to throw your red-and-white-spotted handkerchief at the record player and cry, "Oh come on Anne, cheer up."

Surely Miss Clark would be a good companion for Mr. Morrissey "I'm so miserable now" Smith, as he doddles off to the bank contemplating his misery while drying his eyes on a larger-than-life cheque.

It's a shame that the album is marked by

these rather annoying flaws because they'll cause a lot of people to put it down too soon without having noticed some of the more interesting points. I mean to say, who else is putting poetry on vinyl nowadays and selling it through one of the biggest record labels?

Crowd sings with Gurus, dances with Upangybottoms

review by Tracy Rowan

A capacity crowd of seemingly fanatic guru followers were treated to a superb set by the Australian band Hoodoo Gurus last Thursday at SUB Theatre. It didn't take long for the quartet, led by head guru David Faulkner (complete with headband and a colorful array of love beads) to whip the crowd into a frenzy.

Faulkner's quirky, frenetic style was nicely offset by lead guitarist Brad Shepherd's brooding, sensual manner, with drummer Mark Kingsmill and bassist Clyde Bramley providing a consistent, vigorous rhythm section.

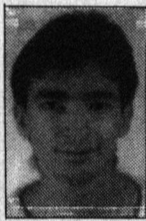
Although some of the songs from their third and latest LP, *Blow Your Cool*, lacked the harsher edge of their earlier material, the melodic "What's My Scene", "Good Times", and "Middle of the Land" (dedicated to Jim and Tammy Bakker) proved to be audience sing-a-long favorites. The Gurus wrapped up their encore with "Poison Pen", featuring a blistering harmonica solo from Shepherd. Fresh from sharing a couple of prestigious UK dates with U2, the Hoodoo Gurus showed they can 'blow your cool' on their own terms.

Local band the Upangybottoms delivered a respectable and somewhat humorous opening set. It was highlighted by a fun version of "Way Out" — a *Flintstones* tune — which had the crowd doing the band's own clam dance.

You can check out the Upangybottoms at the beer gardens at 3 p.m. Monday, September 14 in Quad.

Making Waves

By Dragos Ruiu



Start saving your money now. There are some great new movies coming. Things like *Space Sluts in the Slammer*. No joke, that's a real title. A company named Beyond Infinity is releasing it. The ad campaign is "Beyond the Outer Limits they're bound and determined." It's starring nobody you ever heard of.

Just in case you were wondering, Beyond Infinity is the same great bunch of guys that brought you *Creepozoids* and that ever-popular winner *Assault of the Killer Bimbos*. A real fun bunch of guys.

They will also bring you *PandEvil* ("All the deadly sins in one sin-titilating package") and *Friends with the "R"* crossed out so that it reads *Fiends* ("What are friends for if you can't use them?")

There's more . . .

New World International is releasing *Elvira Mistress of the Dark* (ad: "Bad taste never, looked so good") and *Jane and the Lost City* (you'll love this one: "Always losing her dress but never her sense of humor . . .").

Cannon films (aka Golan and Globus) which recently released *Superman IV* has a whole spate of classics coming. We'll see *Captain America* and *Spider Man: The Movie*. Hey, once you find a rip-off formula, stick to it.

The absolute gem from Cannon has to be *It Ate Cleveland* ("He emerged from the depths of Lake Erie and ate everything in sight.") I can't believe this one, but then again I would have never believed *Chainsaw Massacre II* either.

Or how about Dister Productions' *Slugs, the Movie* ("They slime, they ooze, they kill — the ultimate shock horror thriller.") Just when you think they can't top corny . . . Worldwide Entertainment is releasing *Prison Ship Star Slammer* ("SEE Alien Monsters, Space Wars, Astro Zombies, Jagger Rats, Robot Torture.") Maybe they should get together with the *Space Sluts*.

Empire International has *Pulse Pounders* ("Three heart stopping tales in one film.



Three new dimensions in terror, treachery and time travel") and *Subterraneans* ("When our world has gone to hell . . . theirs is waiting.")

Shapiro Entertainment is bringing us *Zombie Nightmare* ("Her Power Goes Beyond Life . . . His Rage Survives Even Death.") And speaking of nightmares, Premiere International has *Twisted Nightmare* ("Before the world existed there was a power . . . an evil power.")

Cincom Entertainment, the company that brought you *A Room With A View* (!!!) and *Swimming to Cambodia* will be releasing, get this, *Sammy and Rosie Get Laid*!

Not to be outdone, Concorde Pictures has *Munchies* (" . . . just when you thought it was safe to raid the fridge! They're Cute. They're Cuddly. They're Out for Blood. From the creator of *Little Shop of Horrors*.")

Start lining up at the drive-in now. Tee hee . . .

To be continued . . .

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