

No more head trips here - bo r

by Norm Frizzell
Photos: C.R. Wilson

Beverly Glen-Copeland has changed in the past five years since the release of her first and, so far, only album. In five years she has changed her music, her

voice, her philosophy, and her record label. She is ready this time, with a self-confidence equal to her considerable performing talents.

Five years ago, Doug Riley, local Toronto producer and

guiding light for the group Dr. Music, recognized Beverly's talents. Beverly, a native of Philadelphia, had only been living and playing professionally in Toronto for a year when she called up Doug on the chance that he might have some commercials she could do. Doug said maybe and invited her down to the studios for an audition.

The audition went well, but Beverly did not do any commercials.

Riley was so impressed with her performance that he decided an album must be cut immediately. GRT, the company Doug was connected with, agreed, and in a short while Beverly was in the studios with some of Toronto's top jazz musicians cutting her first album. Released as 'Beverly Glen-Copeland', the album received much critical acclaim but did very little in the sales department. It has since been dropped from the GRT catalogue, thereby becoming one of the better buys in the delete bins around the country.

Beverly was pleased with the album but realized some of

the drawbacks arising from her contract with GRT:

"The contract was a stroke of good fortune that kind of just came along without my having to really do too much work or pay too many dues. Very shortly after I was involved in it, though, it became obvious to me that it wasn't going to be a contract that was going to propel me. Part of that was because of me and the material that I had at that time, and part of it was just because of the company and where they were at."

"They just didn't know what to do with me. I hadn't developed to the point where I was going to give them any hit singles yet. Because I didn't have any hit singles, there wasn't any way they could break me, unless they were willing to pour a lot of money into me to make sure my voice got around. There was no easy way to break me and they weren't really into putting any money into it."

Beverly and GRT eventually went their separate ways. She retreated from the scene to do a little soul searching:

"I hid around in the backwoods for a while, trying to

find more of my voice, more solid expression. When I came out of that first album I was just out of classical music (voice) by about a year and a half. I'd wrote some songs, but I really hadn't found my own voice yet. So, after that album, I kind of retreated for a while, practiced and wrote a lot, looking for that space. I was performing, but I wasn't recording.

"It's taken years to get to the point where I felt I was ready. I'm sure I felt I was ready all along, but I wasn't willing to push and I wasn't ready to look for a record contract before. Now I'm looking, I'm pushing."

The five years have definitely made some changes in Beverly's music. Unlike some artists, Beverly is perceptive enough to recognize these changes:

"My music is a lot funkier than it used to be; more playful too - although it was playful then, it's even more playful now. Blacker: a little less European, a little bit more black. It was jazzy, so, in essence it was coming from some black roots, but it's more populace-based now, not so jazzy, so esoteric, spacey,

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For further information contact Brian Mason, Executive Vice-president in the Students' Union offices, 2nd floor SUB (phone 432-4236).

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specifically noted how carefully religious sites and rights were being safeguarded by Israel. By way of correction, however, the raid mentioned in the article was carried out by 3, not 30, planes; and according to Radio Beirut, seven, not "over 100", persons were killed. Let's also note that the raid was a reprisal for the murder of 5 Israeli

students by terrorist "heroes" who, a few days earlier, had sneaked into a border village to attack unarmed civilians. It's apparently o.k. for Arabs to murder Jews, but not o.k. for Jews to react to such murders.

Yes, I am a Jew and a Zionist; and the Zionist record makes me very proud. If an unholy alliance of Communists

and Arabs, and the votes which Col. Khaddafi of Lybia and others of his ilk bought with oil money, made the UN call Zionism "racist", so be it. I shall now include being "racist of the year" among my personal honours.

Jonathan Berkowitz
Sci. IV

students union

Cinema



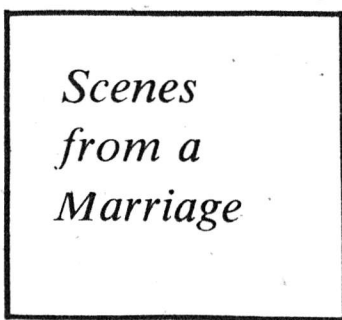
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