

Full of rage and love, that's U2

by Gisele Marie Baxter

With the possible exception of The Jam's **Sound Affects**, U2's second album, **October**, makes everything else I've heard this year seem at least somewhat pretentious. This is fresh and powerful music, full of rage and love.

U2 is a young band -- the eldest of the four is probably 22 -- living and recording in Dublin, Ireland, which may account for its individualistic music, which owes no strong debt to British or American trends. The rhythmic rock influences are wedded to a soaring Celtic mysticism born of folk traditions, and a lovely sense of harmonics which must owe something to ancient devotional music. Instead of the specific imagery of many popular lyrics, this band prefers to create strong, if terse, pictures and emotions which gain depths of meaning in their singing, and relationship to the music.

The result is magical, yet utterly honest. While the first album, **Boy**, dealt with leaving adolescence, **October** makes its explorations from the vantage of young adulthood. Though never specifically Irish in its lyrics, the landscape often resembles that of a violent and divided country. Yet by remaining somewhat obscure, the songs broaden the scope of the problem -- we all must confront concrete and spiritual truths, even in the midst of violence and bleakness. What seems regional is part of an essential scheme of things.

And so, the songs work on levels. "Gloria" is as much a poem of religious revelation as it is a love song. "I Threw a Brick Through a Window" takes an image of stark violence, backs it with forceful percussion suggestive of riot and anarchy, yet pleads with poignant conviction "Be my brother; there is another way out of here." "Tomorrow," probably the most complex and

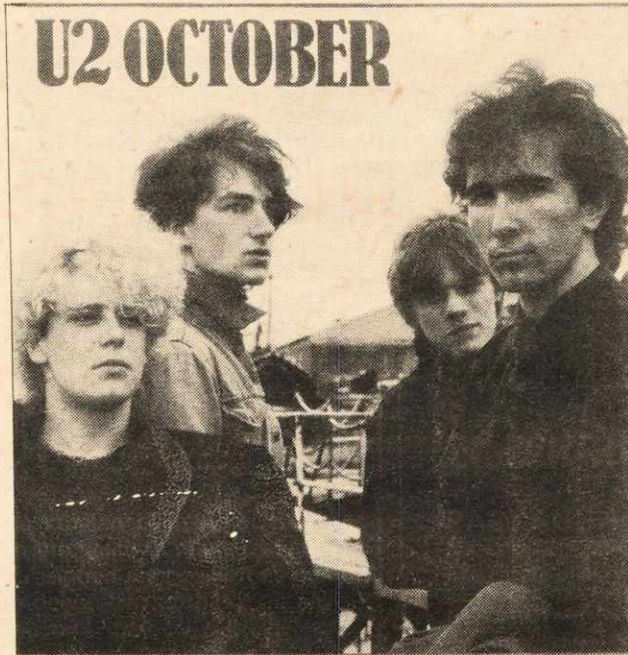
powerful of the set, takes you into the confused and terrified mind of a young man, standing with his mother in their vandalized house and pleading with some unnamed force to give

him one more night of peace. We don't know if he's going to be arrested, if this is part of some reprisal which includes the vandalism, or if he's going to take part in reprisals for the des-

truction. We can see him veering between duty and fear, and wishing the world about him would forsake violence for a vision of the love of God.

U2 creates most of its music within a simple instrumental structure; the band consists of Larry on drums, Adam Clayton on bass, and The Edge on guitars and piano, with Bona handling the lovely, complicated vocals. There is effective assistance from Vincent Kilduff on traditional Irish instruments.

There is a powerful, almost myth-inspired sense of wonder about this music, but there is also a saddened sense of reality. However, even when the universe seems to knock you down altogether, U2 believes in hope, both with youthful exuberance and wisdom, as "Rejoice" declares: "I can't change the world; but I can change the world in me." I'm impressed by this band, for although the world it confronts offers so much reason for cynicism, it can retain wonder in its humane, exultant vision.



Eat dessert with a silver spoon

by Elizabeth Patterson

I have found the perfect place to blow a diet. It's called The Silver Spoon and it serves -- you guessed it -- only desserts. And not just any kind of desserts either. They specialize in such delicacies as tortes, cheesecakes, truffles and liqueur-soaked cakes.

All this is served in a country inn setting. Stone walls surround the small dining room, the tables are covered with check tableclothes and calico placemats, and the waitresses wear demure Laura Ashley inspired dresses. In short, it's a wonderful place for tea time.

The few times I visited I tried desserts unknown rather than the standard cheesecake and Black Forest cake. But those I

know who have tried the cheesecake (there are at least five kinds) say it is "most wonderful."

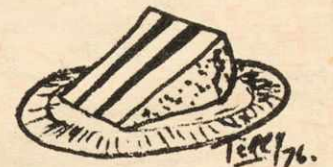
One dessert I would recommend is the Dobos torte. This consists of six layers of light cake between layers of chocolate butter cream frosting and topped with a caramel glaze. Another favorite would be the Grand Marnier Velvet. Real whipped cream surrounds light cake which surrounds an orange liqueur and chocolate cream centre which contains slivers of liqueur-soaked orange peel.

Their bran muffins were too cake-like and didn't have enough bran for my taste, but the raspberry jam-and-cream-cheese topping was a nice

touch. My personal favorites were the truffles, especially the rum truffles. These consisted of chocolate, cream and rum flavoring. Another truffle, the whiskey and raisin, is also delicious.

The prices for a piece of cake range from \$2.50 to \$3.50 while the truffles are \$.75. Whole cakes can also be bought if you're in a really piggish mood.

Where is this calorie-laden den located? It is on 1866 Water St., near Historic Properties.



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