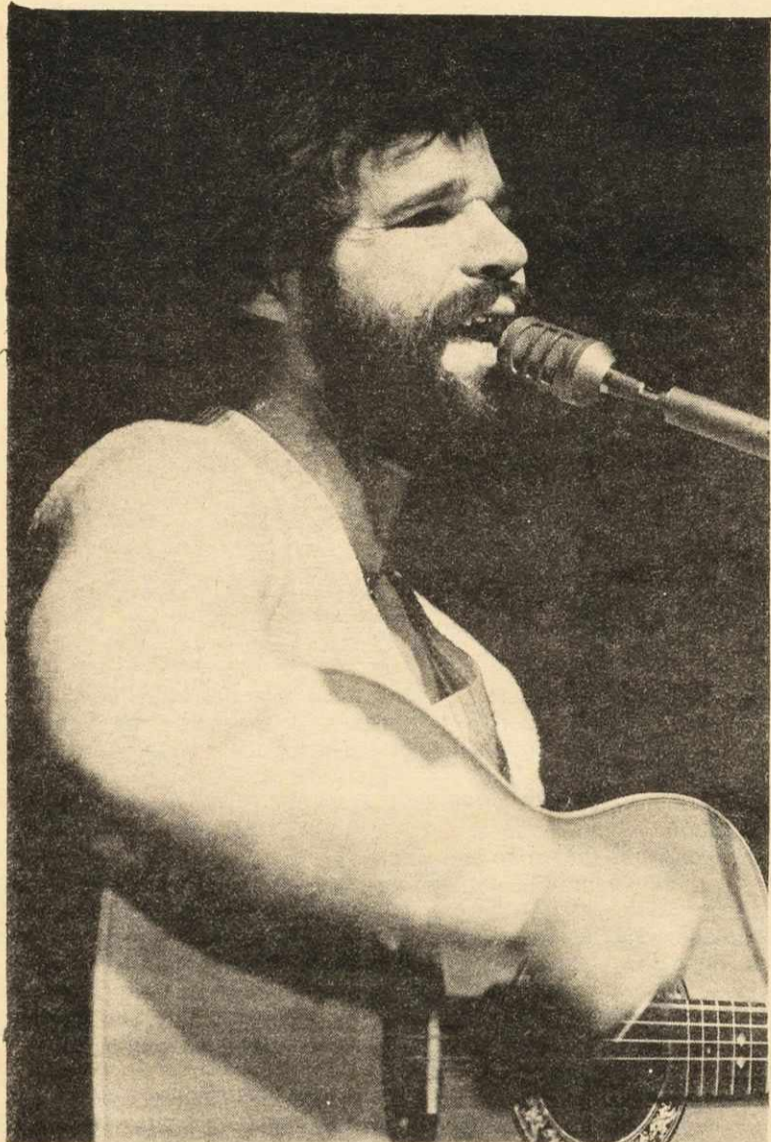


Reviewer 'buzzes out' on keyboard combos



By John Dobbs

Toucan was a hard night to follow but Mason Chapman and Terry Kelly really carried it. It was a big night for Keyboards (I play keyboards myself) and I really buzzed on the variety on Friday night. Terry Kelly came on first with a gutsy series of requests (Beatles and Irish songs) playing his guitar which he does with a definite Richie Havens involvement. He plays very ener-

getically, which is good for getting people drinking beer and dancing — It was his Stereo amplified yamaha keyboards playing that I liked though. He has excellent control over his material when he plays keyboards and his voice, powerful as it is, balances well with the big sound of the piano. (stereo amplification giving it that organ emotionalism) — He did "Let it Be" with all the feeling it deserves...

His second set, needless to say, was better than his first (after he had had a few beers) and again I was able to enjoy the keyboard material better. There was a fine rendition of the famous Del Shannon piece "Run-away" which is particularly suited to piano... He also did a moving version of a Cat Stevens song from "Tea for the Tillerman" on guitar... professional-

ly played... I though his best piece of the evening was "Mr. Bojangles", the Gordon Lightfoot song... Terry did this on keyboards with astounding dexterity and emotion and I got into it very deeply... His voice has a very broad range and plenty of action in it... He did some very rousing, beer-drinking, Irish spirituals which inevitably found their way into the true, naturally rambunctious dancing feet of

the Irish ancients in the crowd... I felt he could have done service to some Stevie Wonder material given his ample facility with keys and perhaps even some

Ray Charles... Perhaps he could add them to his repertoire. If anyone could handle their material locally, he could...

The Mason Chapman Band again was a vast collection of keyboards, this time with four sets of ivories of various description, ranging from synthesizer and organ played by Doris Mason (also lead vocalist) to electric piano and synthesizer played by Bruce Chapman, who also did backup vocals... Dave Skinner played very secure, tight drums always setting a strong, busy drum rhythm... The Bassist also gave us a good fast (echoes of Stanly Clarke) series of Bass

riffs... His name (as spelt by their agent) was Mike Andrusyk... There was ample electric effect done with just enough phasing on the drum symbols (which I thought could only be done in a studio) and everything that goes with synthesizer on keyboards and I think there was some echo on the vocals... I thought they made very good use of the effects

... They did all their pieces very well... vocally and instrumentally, notably "He's So Shy" by the Pointer Sisters and "Fashion" by David Bowie which was done with the Bass player even sounding like David Bowie on vocal. They did some

Golden age Boogie woogie piano, last piece, first set which showed both Doris and Bruce's capabilities on the keyboards... In the second set they did a magic version of "A little bit of your love"... and "Fire" which

they managed to integrate a bit of reggae beat into... Here the Bass and drummer did some very sharp work... The band also did a fine version of both Ian Dury's "Hit me with your Rhythm Stick (although I couldn't hear the words as much as I wanted to) and "I'm so speical" by the Pretenders, which was vibrantly sung by Doris Mason.

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