

Beautifully exceeds Mona Bone

Cut Stevens' Tea for the Tillerman is lovely

By STEVE DAVEY

Tea is a lovely album. Stevens' songs are unique, complex and moving. "Wild World" and "Father and Son" are perhaps the best Cat has ever written. Beautifully produced by ex-Yardbird Paul Samwell-Smith, Tea for the Tillerman even excels Stevens' previous L.P. *Mona Bone*

Jakon. Yet another living record that should be heard by everyone.

Flat Baroque and Berserk
Roy Harper (Capital)

There used to be folk-singers. Remember Bobby Dylan? and Joan Baez? and Phil Ochs? But they've gone away (their records remain, thank heaven!) We're going through a phase of singers again — Neil Young, Elton John, Joni Mitchell, James Taylor — but they're really not folk-singers in the 1965 sense.

Roy Harper is a throw-back to that golden era of folk. Who is Roy Harper?? That's exactly what the people at Capital said (his record company)! Well, Roy Harper is probably one of the greatest folk-singers of all time! There, I've said it. Possibly, he will even surpass Mr. Dylan, but you must remember this is only Roy's second album!

The construction of the songs,

and his beautiful Donovan-esque voice are magnificent. On "Hell's Angels" (Roy's rocker) he is joined by an anonymous band which sounds like the now defunct Nice. The real highlights of the album are "Tom Tiddler's Ground", "Don't You Grieve", and "I Hate the White Man".

"While back inside his kitchen the bowler hatted long hair saint cleans with soap and water but it's really just white paint.

While his gorgon-headed scaldsheet presents its daily bite to give the righteous news

believers drugs to keep them white."

The album was beautifully recorded and produced at Abbey Road in London.

If you buy only one record this year make it Roy Harper. He's just too good to let slip by.

The Best of the Bonzo Dog (Doo Dah) Band (Liberty)

Yes, dear readers, it may now be revealed that it was I, Steven Davey, who brought the Bonzo's to Toronto. It seems that three years ago I bought an L.P. called *Gorilla* by mistake (what I really wanted was the Paupers' album but that's another column ...). Upon hearing the album and later recovering I rushed to the offices of CHUM-FM (remember when?) whereupon they taped it and began playing it. (So every time you hear the Bonzo's play *The Intro* and the

Outro, they're playing my song.)

The story continues with Liberty records discontinuing *Gorilla*. Then, those romantic days of fighting through the British imports at A&A for copies of *The Donought In Granny's Greenhouse* and *Tadpoles* and waiting for that lucky day when Keynsham would arrive (it never did). Now, Liberty releases *Granny's Greenhouse* under the title *Urban Spaceman*, but discontinues it when nobody buys it (hah!). *Tadpoles* and Keynsham are still unreleased, but partially making up for that is *The Best of the Bonzo's*.

Featuring all your faves (Jollity Farm, Can Blue Men Sing the Whites, Shirt, Trouser Press, Canyons of Your Mind), the Best is that — the best! For a glimpse of a now defunct band that made the Mothers seem sweet by comparison, this album is a must for any serious record collector, or even if you just like to laugh. In Vivian Stanshall's words, "We are the most asexual group in the history of rock. We want to make sex look vulgar and boring."

(Oh yes, Liberty has re-released *Urban Spaceman* again. Where is Keynsham? For that matter, where are the Scaffold's L.P.s? Where is the Nice's first and fourth albums? Does anybody know or really care, for that matter ...)

Don Everly
Don Everly (A&M)

Yes, Don Everly. The Brothers have not split. Don just wanted to make his own music. Fitting nicely

into the pseudo-country field, Don's solo L.P. is nothing flashy.

Blows Against the Empire
Paul Kantner and the Jefferson Starship (RCA)

Picking up where *Volunteers* left off, Paul Kantner and Grace Slick along with various Airplane/Dead/friends have created a marvelous, tapestry-like prediction for the 1980's. The first side could have been taken from any Airplane album. "Mau-Mau (Amerikon)" features some insistent guitar work by Peter Kaukonen, brother of Jorma. Side two is an all together different thing. You really have to hear it to understand. Suffice to say, "Search out Atlantis: it lives and breathes inside of you. Join us! A plunge into reality."

Layla
Derek and the Dominoes (Polydor)

By now, everyone must know that Derek is Eric Clapton, and the Dominoes are fragments of Delaney and Bonnie's Friends. Possibly a disappointment for Cream aficionados, Layla is Clapton's greatest performance to date. The blues are adequately represented, as well as Eric's new found love of R'n'R. "Tell the Truth", "Bell Bottom Blues" (an excellent choice for a single), "Layla" and "Little Wing" (a tribute to Jimi Hendrix) are the highlights on this double L.P.

Clapton, like Johnny Winter, is now a charter member of a group of excellent musicians. No longer taking the spotlight for ego-boosting solos, Clapton has matured musically. Welcome Derek!



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