

Dutchie's new album is a raunchy, saucy success



the blues

by Tony Minkoff

Oh, he's back! Bigger and better than ever, the chain smoking, guitar playing Dutchie Mason with his latest album "Wish Me Luck". The record, in my opinion, doesn't need any good luck to be a good seller. It's a saucy combination of Dutchie's old rock and roll background, added to his present southern blues style. The result for anyone who is in to toe tapping blues rock, is clean sounding tunes which supplied me with a real pleasant treat.

At 41, Dutch is making a comeback with this album, which was cut this summer in Montreal at Studio Experience and Mastered at London Records, also in Montreal. After a brief interview with Dutchie during his last visit to the SUB, I learned that Decca Records are bidding for the contract from London Records and intend to send Dutchie and the band to England to cut another album.

After England he mentioned touring the United States with a blues group that recently visited Dalhousie, the James Cotton Band. Dutchie met James in Newfoundland while on tour and they hit it off according to James and Dutchie. Could be interesting

with two fine southern blues players shakin' the road together.

In his album, Dutchie does his own versions of "It's Your Thing", "Goin' to Chicago", and "Polk Salad Annie". Dutch's fine guitar playing and vocal arrangements are complimented by his band, a group of very talented musicians. The band consists of Rick Jeffery from the Maritimes, who plays one of the meanest blues harps I have heard and who's versatility is heard throughout the album either soloing or background; Gary Blair, drummer, who maintains that steady snap-your-finger beat necessary for the blues; Greg Fancy, the wild and crazy Cape Breton bass player's presence is heard throughout the album and especially in "Goin' Down Slow"; and Donnie Muir, the organ and piano player for the group provides the necessary mellowing quality found in the blues but lets go with some keyboard clattering in "Barefootin'" and "Ain't Nobody's Business". Special guests on the album are Michael Leggat who plays piano on "Goin' to Chicago", and George Antonicek who plays the slide guitar in "Polk Salad Annie".

All in all, a very decent album.

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