



Various Artists - The 20th Anniversary of the Summer of Love (Shimmy Disc)



I'm in love right now...well, maybe not really 'in love', but a sort of 'teetering-on-the brink of-doing-somethingstupid' mood, if you know what I mean. Anyway, the whole thing's got me feeling rather morose so I thought I'd do a review for the Bruns (it's certainly better than watching t.v. or picking my nose...)

Aptly enough, the album I chose to do is entitled "The 20th Anniversary of the Summer of Love", the Summer of Love being the summer of '67 to the point the hippie movement peaked. I guess the whole peace/love thing soured after '67, to the point where it's almost nonexistent nowadays. This album, which compiles the work of 23 artists, adresses love and politics in the 80's and as you'd expect it's one hell of a mixedup mess (ie. the 80's AND this record!

The album starts with Californian freak-group, Half Japanese, aided and abetted by Kramer (ex-Shockabilly and also producer of the album) and John Zorn, whose autre sax work just tears up the rock and roll melody of "Should I Tell Her?"

multi-Indescribable instrumentalist, Fred Frith, turns in a typically expressive piece of pop in "True Love", as do Shockabilly with the song "Nobody's Place", recorded live in Austria in 1985. Sharky's Machine brings us back to reality (?) with the more routine rock/punk of "Collide/Collide", sounding a lot like Black Flag. The Shaved Pigs also tread more normal waters (this time hardcore) with "Two Car Garage". However, like everyone on this album, they move beyond the purely routine and manage to intrigue the listener without alienating him (or her).

Perhaps that's the strength of this album. All of the bands tough upon music that is familiar to the listener, but they filter it through their own realities, usually to good effect. Take the workdogs; at times they sound like Black Sabbath (especially on the

solos), at others, like a Spookier Cramps. It's this experimentation and mixing of musical genres that makes this record such an interesting

There are lots of great bands here, and such a great variety of sounds that the record will likely appeal to many people. From 80's flower power to art rock to punk to lazz to purely indescribable. Personally, I couldn't find a single song that didn't blow my

Personal faves: Krack House's "My Revolution" ("...my mind is filled with hate and I'm gonna spout my Chairman Mao in your ugly kisser, Meathead!'), Half-Japanese, Steve Taylor and Alan Ginsberg, Men and Volts, and the great Tuli Kupferberg's "Mother" ("...'e' is for the ecstasy...'r' is for the rotten shows...put them all together, they spell Mother-fff!..") warped Warped. Warped. Yet brilliant at the same timeñ Life in the '80's is just as screwed as the Go's, you just have to look a little harder to see the

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1. Michael Jackson 'I Just Can't Stop Loving You' : "... aargh kraak ... pass the cheese dip/ the anti-christ is among us/ take your hooves off/ whoorgh

2. Whitney Houston 'I Wanna Dance With Somebody' : "Ha Ha Ha/Scrape Yourselves in my evil words/ But take a bath afterwards/ Stick a zucchini up your nose/ You're dead kid but so it goes/ Ha Ha Ha . . . "

3. Fred Astaire 'Cheek to Cheek' : "The entrails of the white christian race/ will be scattered like dust over the bloated corpses of unbelievers/I am not really Fred Astaire/I am the Devil/ . . . argh he he he/a black cloud of cockroaches will descend on the land and carry the first born child of every house/ the sea will turn to blood/ is the tea ready yet . . ?"

4. U2 'I Will Follow' : "Go and buy drugs my children/ Do it much and often/ I am the devil/ But I can't really afford 'em"

5. Bruce Springsteen Born in the USA' : "Cackle cackle/ Whats another a soul? / I think I'll stay home with soup and my bowling (Shome mishtake shurely? - Ed.)

6. Mr. Ed. 'Mr. Ed Goes to Town' : "Ha Ha Ha . . . I'm evil/ Death Death Death/ Satan is amongst you now/ Has anybody

7. Johny Mathis 'When a Child is Born' : "Arrghskreg! / The sky comes down/ Winged creatures with fire/ The great king power terrible - an who you callin' a liar'

8. WASP 'Animal -F**K Like a Beast' : "Ho Hum sitting amongst the roses/ Flicking through the Bible/ What wonderful life/ I think I'll send all my money to Ethiopia" (Are you sure about this one? - Ed.)

9. Fredericton Pentecostal Choir 'Hallelujah' : (That's enough. - Ed.)



seen my other sock?"

RICHARD THORNLEY

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