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Their new album
HOME AGAIN
featuring the hit single
HIT ME OFF

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Older

George Michael
Dreamworks/MCA

New record company, new album, new look... George Michael is indeed older. And you know what happens to people when they get older? They get boring. Not so our Georgie...

Undoubtedly smooth, *Older* was well worth the wait. This is the album that will probably establish him as a serious artist and finally put the boozed-up, shuttlecock-down-the-shorts Wham! days behind him.

Older includes the singles "Jesus to a child" and "Fastlove", both of which entered the British chart at Number 1. Other worthy mentions include "It Doesn't Really Matter", "The Strangest Thing" and "Free".

Overall, this album is very laid-back. From ballads like "Jesus to a Child" and the title track, to the relatively upbeat "Fastlove", to the blues-y "Spinning the Wheel" (currently doing very well in Europe), *Older* is a producer's dream.

One gets the feeling that this was what he was trying to get at when he released *Listen Without Prejudice*. Unlike the latter, however, *Older* appears to be finished, as opposed to something that was hastily thrown together to keep the fans happy. Apparently there was a point to all those much-publicized court battles and leaving Sony behind him was a smart move.

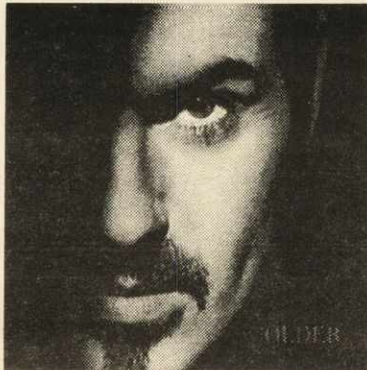
EUGENIA BAYADA

Odelay

Beck
DGC

In an interview recently on Muchmusic, Beck told his audience that he was trying to use all the tools available to him to make good albums. *Odelay* — his followup to the successful *Mellow Gold* — hits pay dirt.

This has to be one of the most creative albums I have ever heard. Beck blends folk, punk, 70's funk and country and comes out with some of the best tracks to hit the market in years. And it's his a-little-outside-of-left-field sense of humor that makes all these different styles mesh. Check out the video for "Where it's at". Beck chants "I've got two turn-



tables and a microphone" while line dancers dance in the foreground.

Beck's creativity can only be rivalled by his musicianship. The entire band sometimes sound like they are about to lose

touch but they never do. This playing on the edge feel is a refreshing break from the over-produced candy that plagues the music scene.

All the songs have a different feel, but my favorites have to be "Novacane" — featuring one of the most sonic climaxes in history — "Hotwax", "Lord Only Knows" and the quirky "Where It's At" which has some of the best samples I've heard.

So pick *Odelay* up, it's perfect for all kinds of moods and people. There will be something on this album you will like.

JOHN CULLEN

A Mover La Colita

DJ Juanito presents Artie
The 1 Man Party
Groove Nation/ Scotti Bros./ Attic



Moreno", this album basically bites the big one.

DJ Juanito uses the exact same drum machine setting to 'mix' latino songs into faux acid house in what may loosely be termed as musical wanking.

The title track rips off basslines from early Technotronic, as does "Queremos Bailar". The latter also manages to rip off Isotonik's "Dif-



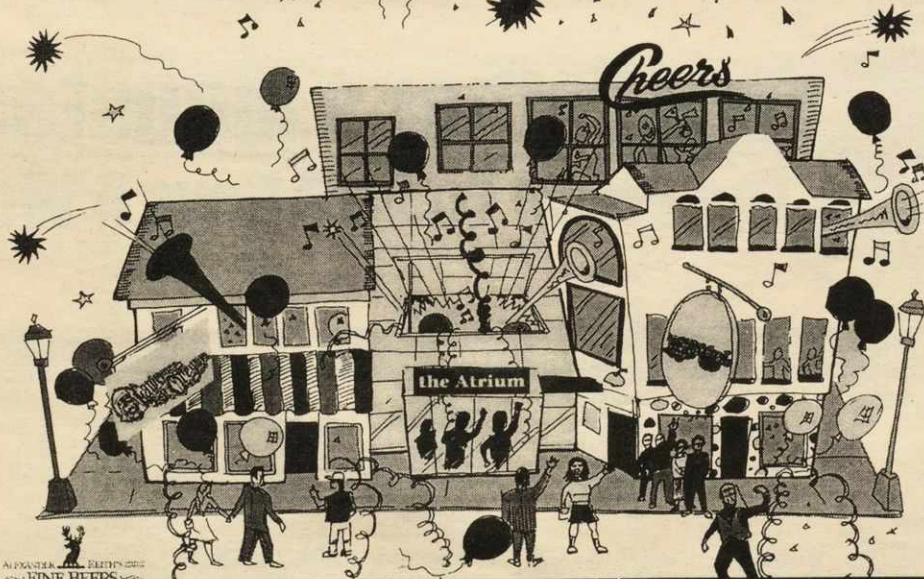
ferent Strokes". DJ Juanito is about as clever as a headless chicken, albeit less original.

There isn't a single good reason to buy this CD, not even if you do hallucinogens (no, not even LSD would work). *A Mover La Colita* is medieval torture at its worst and should be avoided at all costs. If you already possess this tragedy, allow me to comment on what an unfortunate individual you are, but don't worry — there are special institutions for your kind.

EUGENIA BAYADA

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