

Records in Review

X-Static-Daryl Hall & John Oates

I can't really say that I've been a follower of these two guys since their team-up in the early 70's but like most people I can remember their radio hits such as "She is Gone," "Rich Girl" and others. But I didn't have a clue as to what their lp's sounded like until last fall when I happened to spot "Beauty on a Back Street" in the delete section of a local department store. Curious by the sleazy album cover and greasy appearance of Hall & Oates (who I thought too "folksy" to be Vick Vaseline types) I took a small monetary gamble and bought the lp. Undoubtedly this cheap record (\$3.99) was one of my better buys last term. So just before Christmas I picked up X-Static on another wild urge that seems to always overcome my pocketbook and better sense once I get inside a record shop. Luckily the investment paid off once again in terms of good music.

Most radio listeners have probably heard "Wait for Me" by now and this song is probably the least made-for-radio cut on the lp. A catchy vocal line and intricate mixing of musical sounds provide listeners something extra upon each listening. This song seems to be a bit livelier than previous Hall and Oates singles and like the rest of X-Static "Wait for Me" has a "high energy" level not altogether common to other soul-rock-jazz outfits operating today. (Steely Dan does not quite reach the frantic pace set by X-Static but Becker and Fagen are capable enough to do so if they put their mind to it.)

"Portable Radio" is Hall and Oates modern day ode to the portable tape deck craze that swept through many American cities last year. The music provided here is perfect for the "portable listener" with his giant machine tightly pressed to his ear blasting away on downtown streets. Turn up the bass and you have a disco song; turn up the tenor and you have a rocker; balance the two and you have the "white soul" that Hall and Oates are becoming known for. Obviously "Portable Radio" has something for every type of listener.

"The Woman Comes and Goes" begins with a honky-tonk sound and quickly changes into a jazz-like tune in which Charlie De Chants saxophone just soars above staggering bass line. Somehow it reminds me of a mix of the Rolling Stones and Tom Scott. Although there doesn't seem to be much profound in the lyrics the high energy level of the instruments carries the song well enough so that it's a pleasure to listen to.

More wattage is supplied after "Wait for Me" with "All You Want is Heaven", for hard core guitar solo freaks like myself, there is really good onemidway through the song that leaves one gasping for more. Also, the vocal sharing by Hall & Oates really shines here with their gentle harmonies and backup singing most noteworthy.

Synthesizer wizard Larry Fast (a.k.a. Synergy) shows his influence on "Who Said the World Was Fair" with the myriad of sounds Hall and Oates get out of their synthesizers and guitars. The funky electric guitar playing sounds like one would imagine Ry Cooder would play if he ever became entangled in the web of blank funk music. Possibly this song is more radio material with its quick rhythm and vocals.

Overall, side one provides us with as many mixes of music forms as there are genres of music and it tends to defy categorization under any one label. A very pleasant fast paced side results that has something for almost everybody.

Side two does not differ much from the previous side. "Running from Paradise" is another complex mixture of musical styles but with synthesizers and distorted electric guitars predominant at various points along the song. Hall and Oates audacity to mix a disco-funk bass line with distorted guitar chords has to be admired in this age of "all disco" or "all punk" music.

"Number One" slows the pace for the first time on "X-Static". The

gutteral reggae bass in the focal point instrumentally on this song about old relationships and lost feelings. With the reggae influence on "Number One" it seems that Hall and Oates have touched yet another musical base of the many genres that abound today.

With "Number One" finished we enter the "fast lane" once more with "Bebop Drop" a synthesized rocker along the lines of Mangenera and Eno's better compositions. If you are not quite sure that you are ready for a Hall and Oates lp then "Bebop Drop" will probably convince you of the merit of owning "X-Static". Its easily the best cut off the lp. But if this song doesn't convince you of X-Static's quality there is always "Intravino" left to change your mind. Its a strange mix of guitar chords and organ notes remind me of the old "Munsters and Adams Family" TV show and are a weird backdrop to some of the lp's catchiest vocals. This odd mix of music and vocals propell this song along perfectly. The lyrics pay homage to something pleasurable to most of us and have you humming along to the songs end.

Like the so called "power pop" and new wave music Hall and Oates unique sounds are making a welcome addition to the airwaves of A.M. radio. Hall and Oates have plucked the best qualities out of many musical genres to make X-Static a highly varied and enjoyable lp for almost anybody. Leaving the final words about X-Static to Hall and Oates "Hot-cha!"

Rideout Noontime Series

Patricia Rideout, a leading artist with the Canadian Opera Company will perform at the UNB Noontime Series on Tuesday, Jan. 22. Miss Rideout is a native of Saint John whose contralto voice is well-known to Canadian devotees of opera, oratorio, art song and contemporary vocal music.

She will perform at 12:30 p.m. in the auditorium of d'Avray Hall on the Fredericton campus. Tickets are free to UNB and STU students and to subscribers of the Creative Arts Series. For others, admission will be \$3 for adults and \$2 for students.

Miss Rideout's performances in no fewer than 20 of the Canadian

Opera Company productions have been interspersed with appearances at the Stratford, Guelph and Vancouver Festivals. She was chosen to record Stavinsky's opera "Mavra", with the composer conducting and to make the premier recording of the opera "The Fool" by Canadian Harry Somers. Her extensive television credits include several operas as well as Glen Gould's ongoing series on "Music of Our Time". For the UNB performances, Miss Rideout will select from a program which includes works by Handel, Puccini, Webern and Britten and a series of Spanish songs by Sandoval.

Music at Noon with Arlene Pach

12:30 the Woodshed

Free Bring your lunch

ATTENTION: ALL B·ED· STUDENTS

Intending to do your 3rd year practicum and your internship in 1980? Did not attend a session on evaluation procedures in 1979? Then you are required to attend one of the following sessions:

WHEN	WHERE
Tuesday,	Room 343,
January 22 at 3:30	Marshall d'Avray Hall
Wednesday,	Room 343,
January 23 at 12:30	Marshall d'Avray Hall

CHSR 700

CHSR began broadcasting on a regular basis this past week. We're on every morning from 7 until 9 a.m. and again from noon to midnight. There are several reasons for having a mid-morning break between 9 a.m. and 12 noon: for one thing, we don't have quite enough staff to fill all of the morning slots (Hint; this is a request for more members-come on up, our doors are always open!); another reason is that by having a break we are allowed extra time for new members to be trained and gain experience by practicing with the equipment while we are off-air; lastly, the break gives our over-worked technical staff a bit of time to do further renovations on our equipment.

The BBC "In Profile" programs will be starting again, this Saturday at 8 p.m. For the next seven weeks, we will be presenting an in-depth look at the Rolling Stones; The Who will be profiled later this term.

Of course, with the mid-morning break in effect, our 9 a.m. major newscast will no longer be done; we will have news summary at 8 a.m. and the other major newscasts at 12:45 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. will still be aired.

ROUND-UP will also start this Saturday at 6 p.m. The program will kick-off the term with an interview with the York-Sunbury Liberal Candidate Mr. Dan Hurley. ROUND-UP plans to interview each York-Sunbury candidate, as well as provide pre-election coverage of the upcoming federal election.

Nitecap

By Ross A. Libbey

I've decided to base this week's recipe on one of the many international incidents in the news, in particular the situation in Afghanistan.

I've heard much in the last week and a half about the inevitability of world war III and how Canada will be the blazing battleground and I thought perhaps maybe we should get used to drinks like:

THE MOSCOW MULE

Ice cubes
1 oz. vodka
1/2 oz. lemon or lime juice

Fill with ginger beer and garnish with a slice of lime, on the side

BLACK RUSSIAN

1 oz. vodka
1 oz. Tia Maria
Build in a rock glass over ice

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