

## Popular appeal without empty-headed idiocy

by Anthony Pizzari

Looking at some of the song titles ("Chihuahua," "Vitamin," "Hetero Scum"), you won't know what to expect from the SugarCubes' third album, *Stick Around for Joy*.

All the songs contain the SugarCubes' signature: an extremely melodic, almost contagious chorus and a "quirky" approach to songwriting.

Bjork Gudmundsdottir (whose style deserves an entire article of its own) and Einar Orn's vocals continue to give the band its distinct sound. Together, they give the songs on the album melody.

The tracks are catchy and rhythmic, making *Stick Around* a danceable collection of songs. Unconventional instrumentation (for example, the flute on "Walkabout") give the songs an "international" flavour.

The light-hearted music is only a facade, however, making tracks like "Leash Called Love" extremely de-



## MUSIC

The SugarCubes  
*Stick Around For Joy*

ceiving. The song deals with the issue of wife/girlfriend/partner abuse in the style of New Order: the music is upbeat and melodic, but the lyrics describe a frightful relationship.

It is this juxtaposition that gives the SugarCubes popular appeal without the idiotic, empty-headed shallowness of most pop music.

## Call for photographers

On an extended tour of the Far East last year, Toronto photographer Paul J. Smith worked with the Canadian Embassy in Bangkok to arrange a large show of Canadian photography at the National Gallery of Thailand and the faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Chang Mai.

Smith is arranging another Thailand show, to take place in 1993, and is inviting amateur as well as professional photographers to submit work. Non-professional photographers may submit three slides, black and white or colour, along with a resume.

He expects the show will be made up of 125 photographers; possible subjects include landscapes, small community events, sports, rural architecture and outdoor activities. It will focus on images that feature the Canadian cultural environment.

"My standards of quality are high," Smith writes, "and the selection of those photographs chosen will clearly reflect the pride of the craft as well as the pride of their community that the artist attempts to capture."

For more information, write: Paul J. Smith, 175 Indian Road, Toronto, Ontario, M6R 2W2, or phone 588-0499.



This photograph was one of a series taken to Tibet by photographer Paul J. Smith. Amateur photos can be part of his next show in 1993.

# Serious Pleasures and its sequel are about womyn's sexual fantasies and encounters

by Margaret Mizuik

What would you get if you asked a variety of lesbian writers throughout western English speaking countries to write about "...the very force that drives our lives and our passions?"

*Serious Pleasure: Lesbian Erotic Stories and Poetry*, published in 1989 by Cleis Press, edited by the Sheba Collective.

Within two months of the book's publication, it was already in its second reprint. The Sheba Collective asked more lesbian writers to submit more stories and poetry on the same subject. A year later, what do we find?

The publication of *More Serious Pleasure: Lesbian Erotic Stories and Poetry*, of course.

Each book contains exciting "sexually and culturally" diverse erotica. Celebrating "Lesbian sex as a thing in itself," *Serious Pleasure* and *More Serious Pleasure* explore the possibilities of womyn's sexual fantasies and erotic encounters without the mediation of male definitions and/or control, without entering the debate over what constitutes erotica or pornography and without trying to compromise ourselves for fear of feminist critique.

The two books are long overdue. Finally, there is writing we can call our own by our own, about womyn in lust, in love, in relationships, out of relationships or just looking. In these books, womyn talk to womyn about what they would like to do, what they want to have done and where. *Serious Pleasure* and *More Serious Pleasure* shows womyn imagining the sexual possibilities.

What about safe sex? Do lesbians believe they are at risk of contracting the HIV? There are a few references to safe sex in some of the poetry. *Serious Pleasure* does include notes on lesbian safe sex, and the Sheba Collective does suggest that safe sex be discussed and practiced.

LESBIAN  
EROTIC  
STORIES  
& POETRY

More

Serious  
Pleasure

Edited by the Sheba Collective



## BOOK

Series Pleasures  
More Serious Pleasures  
edited by the Sheba Collective  
Cleis Press  
\$9.95 paper each

*ous Pleasure* combine intelligent analysis with a no-nonsense commentary about lesbian identity within our lives. They are well worth reading...with a highlighter.

*Serious Pleasure: Lesbian Erotic Stories and Poetry* and *More Serious Pleasure: Lesbian Erotic Stories and Poetry* are available for US\$24.95 (cloth) or US\$9.95 (paper) from Cleis Press, PO Box 8933, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, 15221.

If anyone out there has a fantasy or erotic encounter that includes safe sex practices, start writing. The Sheba Collective wants to hear from you. *Serious Pleasure* and *More Seri-*

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The Toronto Art Therapy Institute and the Institute for Arts and Human Development at the Lesley College Graduate School in Cambridge Mass. have completed arrangements for a co-operative program of studies leading to a masters degree in expressive arts therapies. Students and graduates of the Toronto Art Therapy Institute 2 year diploma program, are eligible to apply to the Lesley College Masters degree program in the Expressive Art Therapies where their graduate-level training at the Toronto Art Therapy Institute will be given credit as part of the Lesley Masters program.

To complete their Masters degree, students spend two summers at Lesley College for 2 five-week periods. If you would like to receive further information about this joint effort, please contact our office and a staff person will be pleased to talk to you. Tel: 924-6221