

Payolas debut with solid sound

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Brunswickan Staff

In *A Place Like This*, the debut album for The Payolas, is starting to get a good deal of FM airplay, so more listeners are becoming aware of their good sound, and their tendency to not mince words.

The album begins with the title cut *In A Place Like This*. It opens with industrial noise, and tells of a young man living at home and employed in a war machines factory who 'doesn't want to die in a place like this.'

An equally provocative song *I'm Sorry*, follows. It is the first single release from the album, and should soon start being heard on AM stations. Its sound makes it very clear that The Payolas are punkers at heart. It tells the rags-to-riches story of a musician who forgets the fans who put him where he

is, and says 'I'm sorry, I only did it for the money.'

The next cut, *Jukebox*, is a clear crack at radio stations at their criteria for selecting what is played. A young music fan who works in a record shop is offered a job as a disc jockey, but soon becomes disenchanted with the music he is forced to play.

However, The Payolas are more than repetitive punkers, and that is one of their strengths. They are a well-grounded group, and that is shown in the next track *Whiskey Boy*.

The steel drums which are used on only this song add a whole new dimension, giving it a special Latin American flavour which makes the song stick in one's mind. It is about a really rugged, hangover the morning after the night before. The punkish vocals of band leader Paul Hyde still make it

clear where the band is coming from, however.

Good Job follows. Its main distinguishing factor is good keyboard works by Lee Kelsey. It is followed by *You Can't Walk Away*, which has good breaks by Kelsey and guitarist Bob Rock, effectively supported by Lawrence Wilkins on bass, Taylor Nelson Little on drums, and Hyde on rhythm guitar.

Too Shy to Dance opens side two. It is a relatively uncomplicated, but well-performed punk song, with some relatively clever lyrics, that tells of a guy who enjoys going out but is too shy to ask anybody to dance.

The next track is *Hot Tonight*, just a bit more complex than its predecessor, and leaves one totally unprepared for *Female Hands*, which follows. The latter is a beautiful pensive, slow song, which features fine vocals by Hyde accompanied by Kelsey on piano, aided by strings arranged and conducted by Peter Bjerring.

It is followed by *Comfortable*, which is the closest thing the album has to a weak cut. One has to be an avid

punker to get into this song; many won't.

However, the album is very effectively closed by *China Boys*, which has good lyrics, and simulated Chinese music, largely created by good synthesizer work by Kelsey.

The Vancouver-based Payolas have come up with one of 1981's best Canadian albums to date with *In A Place Like This*. With its good, well-executed songs and timely lyrics, commercial success in Canada and elsewhere seems very conceivable.

PAYOLAS



Art display

The work of Fredericton artist, Tim Harding is now on display at the Playhouse Galleries. Starting December 1st, Angel Gomez Miguelancz will display his work.

The wood-turning crafts of local artisan Tim Harding will be openly displayed allowing everyone to explore by touch the different textures of wood.

Mr. Harding, past student of the New Brunswick Crafts School and currently with Theatre New Brunswick, was responsible for the intricate wood-turning for the TNB production of *Talley's Folly*. His work will be on view through November.

Following Mr. Harding's exhibit will be Mr. Angel Gomez Miguelancz's display of

brilliantly-colored oil paintings.

Mr. Gomez, schooled in Segovia, Spain, reflects the Spanish countryside in many of his paintings. He later travelled to Africa and it was during that period, his dedication to his art became full-time.

He has painted and shown his works in Spain and Canada. His paintings are displayed in both these countries, as well as France, the United States, and Switzerland. His most recent collective exhibition was the YMCA Arts and Crafts Show in Fredericton.

The Playhouse Galleries are encouraging local artisans to display their works. Anyone interested, please contact Lola Murphy at the Playhouse, 455-3080.

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