



Records...

Nana and the snake

Nana Vasconcelos **Saudades**
ECM

The berimbau is a Brazilian stringed percussion instrument that has not exactly found a place of its own in recording studios the way the conga drum or tambourine has. Brazilian percussionist Nana Vasconcelos is changing that. Vasconcelos has appeared on albums with Jean Luc Ponty, Don Cherry, and Collin Walcott to name a few. *Saudades*, his first solo recording date for the innovative ECM label, is among the most unique and original of the latest batch of albums from the German-based company.

Most of the selections feature Vasconcelos on the berimbau and various other percussion instruments accompanied by a string orchestra, together

Gismonti (who did the orchestral arrangements) joins Vasconcelos for "Cego Aderaldo", a haunting duet that is as beautiful as the ones they have recorded on Gismonti's own albums.

The most exciting song on *Saudades* is "Vozes". It starts off with one voice chanting which is quickly joined by more and more overdubs of the same voice chanting. The orchestra joins in and then just at the climax of the chants, the voices suddenly stop, leaving the orchestra to slowly wind down the song.

Saudades is a unique and challenging album that will reward the patient listener.

Howard Goldstein Steven Hacker

Whitesnake

"Yeah! Yeah!" With these immortal words, Ex-Deep Purple singer David Coverdale opens

side one of the first 'Whitesnake' effort. Although decidedly unoriginal in style, one has to admire their complete lack of "new wave" influence. Which, in this era of Freddie Mercury in black leather, does lend them a degree of distinctiveness.

But even this fails to save them from their own blandness. There are nine songs in this package and the range of lyrical content extends from flagrant macho posturing to lurid sexual (or is it love?) extollation.

On the other side of the coin—there is some pretty slick playing and a flawless production. This is not surprising with Deep Purple alumni Jon Lord, Ian Paice, and David Coverdale. It seems like these hippies refuse to grow old gracefully—they can't even get indignant about their fate.

Michael Smith



creating a sound that can best be classified (if it must be at all) as world music. European and South American styles are fused in songs like "O Berimbau" and "Ondas". Virtuoso guitarist and fellow Brazilian Egberto

Hey, poet!

Ezra Whitman

The *York Poetry Series* will be active again this year, with just a few small changes. First, it will be operating from Winters College, and the readings will take place in the Senior Common Room there; and second, they will be incorporating into the programme, several special guest readers from out of town.

Readings will take place, like last year, on alternate Tuesdays at 5 p.m. (times may vary with special guests) and the policy of Open Readings at the end of each session. Anyone wishing to read should leave samples of work in Peter Robinson's mailbox, office S765, Ross Building.

Tentative Schedule

Tuesday, October 7—Andy

Payne, Peter Robinson, Colin Smith.

Tuesday, October 21—SPECIAL GUEST: Jack Unterecker.

Tuesday, November 4—SPECIAL GUEST: Eli Mandel.

Vamp out

The True Story of Dracula—Vlad the Impaler will be screened at 7:30, Oct. 7 in Curtis 'L'. This knockout extravaganza was made by the National Film Board of Romania. It's free—but BYOF (Bring Your Own Fangs).

Oops!

In last week's Trich Sankaran piece the Annual Tyagaraja Festival was incorrectly announced for this month. It will, in fact, take place in March.

Magician of Lublin

screened
October 7, 5:00 p.m.
Curtish Lecture Hall L

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Saturday, October 4 and Sunday,
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For more information, please call
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