

**UPANGYBOTTOMS** (*yu pang ee bot' em es*)

n. 1. TED, TODD and JOHN, loud, boisterous, hedonistic musicians who dig Chicks, Cheese and Beer. 2. High Energy Power Pop Trio prone to producing Clam Dancing and Split Bologna Boogying.

**Upangybottoms' album is good but not great**

The Upangybottoms  
Upangymania  
Fuzzy Tongue Productions

review by Christopher J. Cook

The Upangybottoms have been cruising around the Edmonton hall party scene for around a year now, in the process gaining a small but loyal cult following. Now it seems that someone has forked over the bucks for them to slap together their first album, and Upangymania is the result. The album is produced by the band, and that's unfortunate because none of them had any previous practical experience in the studio. Perhaps this album will generate enough attention to entice a producer (David Ogilvie, perhaps?) into lending a hand on their next effort.

After seeing the band perform in various places around the city a half-dozen times and being impressed with their raunchy, fun-loving style, I was really looking forward to hearing this album. After all, these were the guys that I had seen blow the likes of Jody Tea and Jr. Gone Wild right out of the water. They had recently performed a great set while opening for the Hoodoo Gurus (probably the highlight of their illustrious career). Hey, this was gonna be the album of the century!

Well, not quite. First off, the guitar sounds wimpy, and thus much of their performance energy is lost. A knowledgeable producer

would immediately fix this glitch with a quick clockwise turning motion on a mixer knob labelled "volume". Enough said. Secondly, I don't know whether to criticize or praise the band for the omission of a few songs from this album. Their performance sound is very Ramonesian, and they do a great cover of "Blitzkrieg Pop." It's not here.

Undoubtedly the most popular songs at their gigs have been "Twist" and "Way Out" of Flintstones fame. They're not here, either. Okay, I guess I can see things from their point of view. They don't want to be known as "those guys that play those Fred and Barney songs", and putting them on the album would distract the listener's attention from their own compositions. I still would have put on the Ramones tune, though. In order to attract the attention of some bigwig producer, they're gonna have to sell more than 500 records, and a cover or two sure wouldn't have hurt in this regard.

Their own tunes are good, however, and I think I've been overly critical thus far. It's still a good album. In particular, "Cheryl My Friend" (with the classic line "I love you every day/ between nine and ten") and "Egyptian Holiday" (an Upangyized version of Steve Martin's "King Tut") highlight this enthusiastically performed disc. If the songwriting calibre stays high or improves and a good producer is hired, watch out for the next album from Edmonton's hippest party band to be fantastic.

**Children of War tell tales of horror**

Children of War  
National Film Board

review by Lutful Kabir Khan

If a rude awakening to the plight of children caught up in war and civil strife is what the NFB film *Children of War* was designed to deliver, then it does so very effectively.

In this fast paced short documentary, young Montreal director Premika Ratnam has created a montage of lands ravaged by war, civil strife, military oppression, corruption, poverty and gross social injustice through the intimate interviews from firsthand victims of these tragedies.

The victims are participants in the International Youth for Peace and Justice group "Freedom Tour" organized mostly by humanitarian church groups.

In the film a young girl from El Salvador describes the day she woke up to find the bullet-riddled bodies of her neighbours on her doorstep.

"Everyday I wake up to the sound of sirens, riot police cars, burning factories and shops — I really have not known what you mean by peace," says a boy from Belfast, Northern Ireland.

A Guatemalan boy describes how his

uncle and cousin were kidnapped and tortured and eventually killed by the army.

"They killed more than 300,000 of my countrymen and mine is a very small country," says a boy from Timor, an island nation annexed by Indonesia.

The audience within the film is mesmerized by these tales of horror from everyday life of about 200 million children around the world.

The film wasn't supposed to go into the how and why's of these atrocious situations but it unwittingly takes a wrong stand by insinuating that for most of the participants going back to their homeland means inevitable torture, captivity or even death. It also emphasizes that the ones that got away and emigrated to "free" lands are the lucky ones.

While peace groups, human rights groups and internationalists have a gem of a public awareness tool in this documentary, so do the groups pointing to the utter uselessness of trying to relocate these millions of "children of war."

Hopefully the message of the film will be interpreted as a call for worldwide awareness to the plight of the younger generation caught up in someone else's war and pave the way to a global understanding of the effects of these tragedies on the future generations.

**Rocky Horror!**



The Rocky Horror Picture Show brought out all sorts of strange creatures from out of the woodwork for the costume contest on Halloween.

**WRITING COMPETENCE PETITIONS: NOTICE TO STUDENTS**

This notice is intended for students who have not met the University's writing competence requirement and whose deadline for meeting that requirement occurs January 1, 1988. Students who do not pass the writing competence test by their deadline will have their registrations cancelled prior to the start of classes unless granted an extension by the GFC Writing Competence Petitions Committee (WCPC).

If your deadline is January 1, 1988 and you plan to register in the Winter term or in a subsequent session, you may petition the WCPC in November provided that you are currently registered and have written the writing competence test at least once.

Students are urged to seek advice on preparing their writing competence petitions. Such advice can be sought from the Student Ombudsmen, Room 278, Students' Union Building (432-4689). The Student Adviser's Office (300 Athabasca Hall) is offering information seminars on preparing petitions; call 432-4145 for dates and times or for an information pamphlet.

The regulations and procedures used by the GFC Writing Competence Petitions Committee are available in either of the above-noted offices.

Petitions must be received in the University Secretariat, 2-5 University Hall, by Thursday, November 5, 1987, 4:30 p.m.

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