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record review ratings

EXCELLENT ★★★★★ VERY GOOD ★★★★ GOOD ★★★ FAIR ★★ POOR ★

with Pamela Littlejohn

Kool and the Gang

(SOMETHING SPECIAL) Steppin' Out, Good Time Tonight, Take My Heart, Be My Lady, Get down on It, Pass It On, Stand Up and Sing, No Show.

Delite, DRS 8502

Rating — ★ ★ ★

One of the outstanding tunes on this session is "Take My Heart," which is enough in itself to pull the album up in the ratings. The music is excellent, although the lyrics sometimes leave a lot to be desired. All in all, this is listenable, danceable music, and a must for Kool fans.

Perry & Sanlin

(WE'RE THE WINNERS) Wait 'Til Next Time, Special to Me, Shake Down, Just Like Magic, We're the Winners, Stay, Show Stoppers, Love is Like A. Statue.

Capitol ST 12180

Rating — ★ ★ ★ ★

This little group started as the Montclairs, under which name they cut their first release. Although the album made the charts, the sales left something to be desired. They toured extensively with Buddy Miles, The Chi - Lites, The Miracles and Ohio Players. Perry and Sanlin are self - taught instrumentalists, and it is obvious from this release that they have got it all together. This is a good album

Isaac Hayes

(LIFETIME THINGS) I'm Gonna Make You Love Me, Three Times a Lady, Fugitive, Lifetime Things, Summer, I'm So Proud.

Polydor PD 1 - 6329

Rating — ★ ★ ½

According to the Dawn panel, this album is not anything like Isaac has produced in the past. It has a quality that sounds like almost an imitation of the Hayes sound. It is obviously a studio production, with the mixing board the integral part of the whole. Isaac is capable of better.

Orchid

(SURPRISE SURPRISE) Mighty Fine, If This World Could Love, Let Yourself Go, Surprise, Surprise, Love Is Just What You Make It, Got to Keep on Movin', Thank You My Love, Dance Party Jame.

Rating — ★ ★ ★ ★

There is a great variety of music represented on this album, with something for everyone — a decided plus in the estimation of the Dawn panel. Some of the tunes have a very definite sound as popularized by the Doobie Bros. This is a fairly new operation, and if this high standard continues — it will be a force to be reckoned with in the recording industry.

The Isley Bros.

(INSIDE YOU; Inside You, Baby Hold On, Don't Hold Back, Your Love, Quiet Love, Love Merry - Go - Round, Welcome Back Into My Heart, Love Zone.

T - Neck FZ 37533

Rating — ★ ★ ½

This is in the same mold as all of the other efforts of the Isley's — nothing new in other words.

When the Dawn panel listened to this album, one of the comments was: "Sounds as though they just reached into the tape and picked out some tunes to include on the album." In other words, if you are really into the Isleys, this is a notable addition to your collection. If you want innocuous music to listen or dance to — then this might fill the bill.

Mary Wells

(IN AND OUT OF LOVE) These Arms, Will You Share My Love, You Make Me Feel So Good Inside, Spend the Night With Me, Let's Mix It Up, I'm Changing My Ways, I'm Not the One (in love with you), Indian Giver, Gigolo.

Epic ARE - 37540

Rating — ★ ★ ★

It's welcome back for Mary, who is back on the scene and with a new label, although Motown sound which rocketed her to fame in the 70s, is still in evidence. of her early efforts, "When Love Has Joined Us Together" went platinum, and Mary suddenly decided to devote her time to her family, and for the past few years, that is exactly what she has done. She's back now, and the first effort is an auspicious one. She's still got it.

Freddie Hubbard

(SPLASH) Mystic Lady, I'm Yours, Touchdown, You're Gonna Lose Me, Sister Stine, Jarri.

Fantasy F&610

Rating — ★ ★ ★ ★

The panel started listening to this album, and when they got to the tune "Touchdown," they almost got carried away. Freddie has the quality to appeal to both dyed - in - the - wool jazz fans, and those interested in the modern - fusion sound. Actually, Freddie is playing the same sort of music he always has, but the background is different which changes the entire thing around. This time it works. This is an excellent album and should rise near the top of the charts.

Charles Lloyd

Autumn in New York: Autumn in New York, As Time Goes By, Wait Till You See Her, Nancy, Naima, Stella By Starlight, But Beautiful, Pensativa.

Destiny DLA-10003

Rating — ½

Sounds rather strange to hear Lloyd, who gained fame as an avant garde saxophonist, playing cocktail-type music, with a mellow background. It is reminiscent of the types of things other jazz artists have gone into. That is, playing their own thing, while keeping a modern-sound background. This album is merely pleasant — it could be more.

Take Five

BOYB, You Gotta Walk Through To Get It, The Oop Oop Song, Good Time Music, Join Us, Join Us, The Word Is Out, What If I Walked Out On You, Reaching Out For Love.

Destiny: DLA 1002B

Rating —

When this one was played for the Dawn panel, they talked over it, which is a good indication that the listening span waned. However, one of the cuts brought them back to life, BYOB (Bring Your Own Body) which was generally accorded the saviour of the album. It was called "cute."