

New Wave modes in rockin' mix

By ROB MONATH

Pearl Harbor and the Explosions

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Pearl Harbor and the Explosions expose their listeners to driving New Wave rock on their new, self-titled debut album. While their songs' lyrics have about as much depth as a Bazooka Joe comic, the band's hyped-up music has potential for dedicated New Wavers.

Explosions music resembles a cross between Herbie Hancock funk and the heavy duty, rip it up, grind it out, let's have a volume orgy sound of a band like Aerosmith, all wrapped up in a highly synthesized, off-sounding New Wave context, if you can imagine that.

What results is a high-paced mixture of the two musical modes to which each musician makes a distinct contribution.

On "Get a Grip on Yourself," bassist Hilary Stench (great punk name) keeps the music unpredictable with syncopated bass runs which incorporate both the treble highs and "swampy" lows of his instrument.

up as they sweep in and out of passages on various tangents and return in simple unison.

Lead singer Pearl E. Gates makes a less substantial contribution to the band. On "Drivin'" her flat but rhythmic repetition of the cut's title likens her to a misplaced pulse-setter for some warped pagan chant.

"Shut Up and Dance" marks a return to a more standard, uptempo rock 'n' roll and invites dancing.

And dancing, or some kind of body movement, is the most appropriate way to enjoy practically all of the songs on this album. For the value of the Explosions' music lies in the charged-up mood it sustains, rather than in any kind of appreciation for sheer technical ability or innovation.

Barring a possible captive fascination for the hard-core New Waver, this album



could easily give you a headache from sustained concentration. While playing this album, instead of listening too closely, you'll be much better off yielding to the gut-level, rowdy feelings the Explosions trigger.

Rob Monath is a record critic for **The Daily Tar Heel**.

Records

Guitarist Peter Bilt fills out "Drivin'" with odd, phase-shifted chordal progressions and also tears out a series of griding, distortion-laden leads.

John Stench's drums on "Keep Going" fit the hyper-paranoid mood of the music, shifting back and forth from straight, basic rhythms to off-sounding ones.

The trio, in fact, keeps the music mixed

Weekend Fare

Cinema

Campus

Death In Venice—Luchino Visconti's veiled account of Gustav Mahler's last days. At 8 p.m. today in Carroll Hall. Free with UNC student ID.

Creature From The Black Lagoon—The gruesome gill-man in 3-D. At 7, 9 and 11 p.m. Friday in Carroll Hall. Admission 25 cents.

The Penalty—Lon Chaney Sr. in a bizarre silent gangster story. At 8 p.m. Saturday in Great Hall. Free with UNC student ID.

Eleven Assorted Shorts—Featuring Alain Resnais' *Night And Fog*; Nixon's *Checkers Speech*; Mickey Mouse in *Steamboat Willie* and Charlie Chaplin in *One A.M.* At 8 p.m. Sunday in Carroll Hall. Free with UNC student ID.

Chapel Hill

Varsity—The Jerk. Final shows today at 3:15, 5:15, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. **Cuba** starts Friday. Shows at 2:15, 4:35, 7 and 9:30 p.m.

Varsity Lateshow—Rocky Horror Picture Show at midnight Friday and Saturday.

Carolina White—Kramer vs. Kramer. At 3, 5, 7:05 and 9:15 p.m.

Carolina Blue—Dark Star. Final shows today at 4:55, 7 and 9:05 p.m. **King Of Hearts** starts Friday. Call 942-3651 for times.

Carolina Classics—The Big Sleep. Final show today at 2:15 p.m. **The Searchers** starts Friday. Call 942-3651 for times.

Carolina White Lateshows—The Devils at 11:45 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Carolina Blue Lateshow—Foul Play at 11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Ram I—It's Not The Size That Counts. Final shows at 7 and 9 p.m. **The Last Married Couple In America** starts Friday. Call 967-8284 for times.

Ram II—Mountain Family Robinson. Finals shows today at 7 and 9 p.m. **10** starts Friday. Call 967-8284 for times.

Ram III—Going In Style. At 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. daily. Additional shows at 3:15 and 5:15 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Ram Lateshows—Monty Python And The Holy Grail and **Richard Pryor In Concert** at 11:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Plaza I—The Electric Horseman. At 2:30, 4:50, 7:10 and 9:30 p.m.

Plaza II—The Rose. At 2:15, 4:45, 7:20 and 9:50 p.m.

Plaza III—Cinderella. Final shows today at 2:45, 4:45, 6:45 and 8:45 p.m. **Hero At Large** starts Friday. Call 967-4737 for times.

Duke

Notorious—With Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman. At 7 and 9:30 p.m. today in the Bio. Sci. Auditorium on the Duke University campus. Admission \$1.50.

O Dad, Poor Dad—At 7 p.m. Friday in the Bio. Sci. Auditorium on the Duke's campus. Admission \$1.50.

Real Life—With Albert Brooks. At 9:30 p.m. and midnight Friday in the Bio. Sci. Auditorium on the Duke University campus. Admission \$1.50.

Magic—At 7 and 9 p.m. Sunday in Page Auditorium on Duke University's west campus. Admission \$1.50.

Television

Today

College Basketball—UNC vs. Maryland. At 8 p.m. on Channel 11.

Free To Choose—With Milton Friedman. At 8 p.m. on Channel 4.

A Special Valentine With The Family Circus—Animated special. At 8 p.m. on Channel 28.

Friday

Lucy Moves To NBC With Lucille Ball, Johnny Carson, Bob Hope, and Gene Kelly. At 8 p.m. on Channel 28.

Saturday

Saturday Night Live—Host Chevy Chase. At 11:30 p.m. on Channel 28.

Hang 'em High—With Clint Eastwood. At 11:30 p.m. on Channel 2.

The Hospital—With George C. Scott and Diana Rigg. At 11:30 p.m. on Channel 11.

Shock Theatre—Dracula vs. Frankenstein. At 11:30 p.m. on Channel 8.

The Creature Walks Among Us—At 12:30 a.m. on Channel 5.

Radio

Inside Track—Gary Ruman's *The Pleasure Principle*. At 11 p.m. today on WXYC-FM 89.3.

Classic Album Feature—Bruce Springsteen's *Born To Run*. At 11 p.m. Friday on WXYC-FM 89.3.

In Focus—Featured artists are: Neil Young tonight and Little Feat Friday. Aired from 6-11 p.m. each day on WDBS-FM 107.

Theater

The Gin Game—UNC Playmakers Repertory Theatre presents D.L. Coburn's Pulitzer Prize-winning play at 8 p.m. today through Saturday with final performances at 2 and 8 p.m. Sunday in Playmakers Theatre. Call 933-1121 for reservations.

Dylan—The Raleigh Little Theatre presents this play based on the life of poet Dylan Thomas at 8 p.m. today through Saturday with the final performance at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Little Theatre in Raleigh. Call 821-3111 for reservations.

Dance

The Washington Ballet—At 8 p.m. Saturday in Memorial Hall.

Music

Faculty Brass Quintet—At 4 p.m. Sunday in Hill Hall Auditorium.

Chapel Hill Concert Series—Ransom Wilson, flute and Nancy Allen, harp. At 8 p.m. Sunday in Memorial Hall.

Guest and Faculty Recital—Vantan Menugian, violin and John Ruggero, piano. At 8:15 p.m. today in the East Duke Music Room on the Duke University Campus.

Planetarium

The Planet Seekers—A science fiction show about aliens scrutinizing the planets in our solar system. At 8 p.m. today and Friday; at 1, 3 and 8 p.m. Saturday; and at 2, 3 and 8 p.m. Sunday.

Gallery

Ackland Art Museum—Recent Art From Chicago today through March 9.

Morehead Planetarium Gallery—Photograph Images of the Seventies by Ron Kovacs through Feb. 29.

Horace Williams House—Works by 30 area sculptors today through Feb. 29.

Nite Life

Cat's Cradle—Bluegrass Experience today. The Fabulous Knobs Friday and Saturday.

The Station—New Red Elephant Jazz Band Friday. The Hot Club Saturday. Dennis Humphries Sunday.

Sports

Women's Swimming—UNC vs. N.C. State at 7:30 p.m. today in Bowman Gray Pool.

Women's Indoor Track—UNC vs. St. Augustine at 1 p.m. in the New Tin Can.

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