

Album displays lesser-known talents, music

By TIM MOONEY

Urgh! A Music War is a two-record compilation of twenty-seven live songs performed by different bands. Found in local record stores under the "assorted artists — new wave" category, this double album combines some of the most impressive new wave talent.

As expected with live tracks, sound consistency is a key problem and the only reason *Urgh!* is not an excellent album. Joan Jett's "Bad Reputation" would be a standout

if it weren't for a hopelessly garbled mixing job. "We Got The Beat" by the Go-Go's and "Homicide" by 999 also suffer unnecessarily from shoddy sound production. Which is really too bad because if the trouble spots were patched up, the result would be a tight, consolidated bunch of songs.

Diversity is the point of *Urgh!* The album displays the multiple branches in which rock music has grown during the past two or three years.

Urgh! showcases the minimalist attacks of The Cramps and Athletico Spizz '80, the quirky, arrhythmic music of XTC and Pere Ubu, and the rock/reggae fusion of Steel Pulse and The Members. The music war suggested by the album title is the interesting and largely successful clashing of the various rock styles.

Several outstanding elements surface after listening to *Urgh!* First and foremost in my mind is, why does Devo mess around with Top 40 junk like "Whip It" and "Working in a Coalmine" when they can play rivet-

ing, downright powerful rock and roll? Their version of "Uncontrollable Urge" stands head and shoulders above the rest of the album in energy, sound, passion—everything. This is how Devo *should* sound, with searing synthesizers, stinging guitars, and a bounding, joyful spontaneity.

Secondly, The Au Pairs are proof positive that an all-girl band can rock with authority. This female sound-alike version of the Gang of Four strikes a knockout punch with "Come Again."

Finally, *Urgh!* is extremely encouraging in a very important way. The cuts of established commercial artists like The Police, 999, and Gary Numan are no more engaging than those of the younger bands, particularly Oingo Boingo, X, and Orchestral Manoeuvres In The Dark.

Better still, the latter three all play totally

different brands of rock while assuming the enthusiasm young bands need. Without trying to sound pretentious, *Urgh!* goes a long way in declaring a spirited, optimistic future for rock music.

Aside from the occasional sound lapses, my only other gripe is "He'd Send In The Army," by the Gang of Four. Here is one of the best live bands in the world (if they don't break up), with awesome in-concert material to choose from. And it's beyond me why they put this, the Gang's most plodding, jerky song, on the album.

While *Urgh!* blows its chance at being a great double-live album, it is nonetheless an extremely encouraging display of rock's lesser-known talent.

Tim Mooney is a staff writer for *The Daily Tar Heel*.

Stephen's

Now thru November 1st
Jazz Stylist Carol Sloane

THEN GET READY
for
Herb & Potato!



(who else would have the nerve to imitate Ethel Merman sleeping with a swarm of killer bees!)

Gary Herb & Johnny Potato
(formerly of "Gotham"!)

eight performances weekly
dinner shows Wed. thru Sat.
late night cocktail shows Thurs. thru Sat.
Sunday brunch with 2 p.m. performance
\$5 cover charge

UNC Student Special!!!
Thursday night late show
Half-price cover with student ID

...after all...

the cafe-lounge open daily from 9 a.m.
entertainment nightly, no cover
All ABC Permits

Stephen's, after all.
café & supper club
the village plaza, elliot road
chapel hill, north carolina 27514
(919) 929-0217

CHAPEL HILL
Plaza 3
ELLIOT RD. AT E. FRANKLIN
3:00 - 5:15
7:30 - 9:45
BARGAIN MATINEES — \$2.00
TILL 6 PM MON.-FRI. ALL SCREENS

BODY HEAT R
2:30 - 4:45
7:00 - 9:15
True Confessions
UNITED ARTISTS R

LAST DAY!
3:10 - 7:15
"Cheech & Chong's Nice Dreams" (R)
"Stir Crazy" (R) - 5:00 - 9:05

CHAPEL HILL
Varsity
121 E. FRANKLIN ST.
3:00 - 5:05
7:10 - 9:15
\$1.00 ADMISSION
— ALL SEATS
— ALL TIMES

STARTS TOMORROW
"Stripes" (R) 3:00 - 5:00
"Escape from New York" (R)
7:00 - 9:00

The Plaza Theatre
late show series
Fri-Sat Oct. 30-31

"Rocky Horror
Picture Show"
(R) - 12:15

"Caligula" (R) - 12:05
Malcolm McDowell

"Body Heat"
(R) - 12:00

All seats - \$2.00

+ You haven't donated
blood yet this year?

ROB GUCCIONE AND PENTHOUSE FILMS INTERNATIONAL
PRESENT
MALCOLM McDOWELL
TERESA ANN SAVOY
HELEN MIRREN
PETER O'TOOLE
CALIGULA
JOHN STEINER, GUIDO MANNARI,
PAOLO BONACELLI, LEOPOLDO TRIESTE,
GIANCARLO BADASSI, MIRELLA D'ANGELO
ADRIANA ASTI
JOHN CIELGUD, NERA
ADAPTED FROM AN ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY BY CLYDE WEAVER
PRODUCED BY ROB GUCCIONE AND FRANCO ROSSILLINI
SCREENPLAY BY TINTO BRASS
EDITED BY THE PRODUCTION
CALIGULA SOUNDTRACK AVAILABLE ON PENTHOUSE RECORDS

CALIGULA

ANALYSIS FILM RELEASING CORPORATION R
A NEW FILM DISTRIBUTION COMPANY

STARTS TOMORROW!
3:10 - 5:20 - 7:30 - 9:40 - 12:05

CHAPEL HILL
Plaza 3
ELLIOT RD. AT E. FRANKLIN

PLITT THEATRES PLITT REDUCED ADMISSION
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT STUDENT UNION

CAROLINA
942-3061
East Franklin Street

BURT LANCASTER in
ATLANTIC CITY
2:30, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30

HELD OVER
3RD BIG WEEK
Bisset & Bergan
in George Cukor's
RICH AND FAMOUS
7:05 - 9:20

THE CAROLINA CLASSIC SERIES
Peter O'Toole & Omar Sharif
LAWRENCE OF ARABIA
Show Daily at 3:00 only

STARTING TOMORROW:
This week's Classic and Special Halloween Weekend Late show

YOUR MIGHTIEST SCREEN THRILL!
THE KING OF KONG
Original Uncut Version
with FAY WRAY, ROBT. ARMSTRONG, BRUCE CABOT

Special Halloween Weekend Late show Double Feature
WOLFEN and **The HOWLING**
Halloween Costume Contest Saturday Night!