

arts & leisure

Television, Radio, Advice, Music

Summer Music

Donna's Latest LP Isn't Very Hot

She Works Hard For The Money
Donna Summer
Mercury

Ironically, the woman who bears the name of the season doesn't sound very good on her latest LP, produced by Michael Omartian.

Last year, I complained that Quincy Jones didn't give Donna as much creative say as she needed on "Donna Summer."

No such problem this time. Summer writes or co-writes everything on "She Works Hard For The Money," including the easy-to-become-bored-of title track that the McMusic stations are playing to death.

Though the woman obviously CAN write good music, as we witnessed on what I consider still her best album to date, the platinum "Bad Girls" from 1979, she does a very undistinguished job this time around.

In fact, this album is making Quincy Jones look better and better every time I hear it even though I thought and still feel the chemistry between Donna and Quincy was not there.

Guest musicians on "She Works Hard" include Ray Parker Jr. on guitar on "Woman" and Musical Youth as vocalists on "Unconditional Love."

They do hardly enough to rescue this release from mediocrity, however.

-- Allen Johnson

"Killer On The Rampage"
Eddy Grant
Portrait

Eddy Grant's "Killer On The Rampage," a product of his own Blue Wave studio, has something for all types of black music lovers.

The album includes not only the rock reggae hit "Electric Avenue," but it also has tunes such as Grant's roots (pure) reggae song "War Party."

Grant, a Guyana, South America, native who established himself as an artist in London by playing, producing and marketing his own songs, and who eventually moved his studio to the Caribbean, has brought his soul, reggae and rock sounds to America.

The self-made, do-it-yourself artist has also produced videos for "Electric Avenue" and "I Don't Wanna Dance."

"I like the artistic side of doing videos," Grant says in a June *Musician* interview. "I know that videos will be the thing for the future, that all records will have to have a video identity."

One big plus for Grant's album and his music is that he is able to produce such soft reggae tunes as "Too Young To Fall" and to play songs like the African-influenced "Another Revolution."

Grant's music and this album aren't for reggae music lovers only.

-- Ruthell Howard

Jeffrey Osborne
"Stay With Me Tonight"
A&M

With the masculine, sexy voice that built LTD into one of the top rhythm and blues recording acts of the 70s, Jeffrey Osborne -- as many artists have recently -- branched out as a soloist and hasn't missed a beat.

Osborne's latest LP, "Stay With Me Tonight," features ballads that make LTD fans remember the group's unique love songs, including "We're Going

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A Face Only A Mother Could Love

No, what you're looking at is not the latest off-beat musical star, but the *The film stars Ken Marshall, Lysetta Anthony, Freddie Jones and Beast, a not-too-good-looking villain in "Krull," a Columbia Pictures* *Francesca Annis.* fantasy adventure that opens in theaters nationally on Friday, July 29.

Ask Yolonda

Busy-Body Mother-In-Law Causing Trouble

By YOLONDA GAYLES
Syndicated Columnist

Dear Yolonda: I have a great problem: a busy-body mother-in-law.

My husband has no time for me and the children. We're always alone. He visits his mother after work seven days a week, often staying until 11:00 or 12 p.m. His mother even cooks for him. If my kids are over there, she'll cook for them, but she never offers me a morsel.

My husband and I never do anything together, except visit his family, and, of course, his mother is always there. He simply doesn't realize that his family should come first.

I've tried to talk with my mother-in-law about his problem. She tells me that I have a lot to pray about. She doesn't seem to realize that she is the problem, and therefore should be the one who prays.

Now summer has come



Y. Gayles

and we are planning a vacation. My mother-in-law is planning to come along. The funny thing is, I never knew anything about the trip. They planned it. And, if I want to come along, fine; if not, so what?

I've tried leaving my husband, but the separation didn't seem to phase him one way or the other.

My mother-in-law claims to be a Christian, but she's not. She's a witch. I would like to have another child, but I'm afraid I would end up raising that one by myself, too. My husband won't turn his mother loose.

No name please. Everyone here would know me.

Dear No Name: You say your mother-in-law's a Christian. Approach her from that angle. Somewhere in the Bible it says, "Husbands cling to your wife." Don't ask me where. But I've heard many ministers say it.

Still, I'd miss the point if I didn't tell you this: Your problem is not your mother-in-law. Your problem is between you and your husband.

You've got to make him see that he, too, must work toward a good marriage.

Try this approach: You say you have children. If one of them is a son, ask him if he'd expect Junior to stay home with you after he has his own family.

Hopefully, your husband will give you the right answer, and that's your opportunity to drive home your point.

Learning And Fun

Dear Yolonda: You're very opinionated, so I'm giving you another chance to give your opinion.

I read your column about the problem with our children's academic skills. I agree that something has to be done to make them improve, but what can we do? Kids are turned off by school, and I believe it's the school system's fault.

T.R. In Madison

Dear T.R.: Unhappily, kids are turned off by school, but that's because they view everything that happens in school as work. We, as concerned adults and parents, can do much to change that view. We can show them how enlightening and fun learning really is. But we have to understand that first.

By the way, I got that answer from a teacher. They tend to be opinionated, too.

Got a problem or gripe? For a personal reply, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Yolonda Gayles, Box 19112, Chicago, Ill. 60619.



'Anything Goes' Stars

Stefanie Jo Lynch on the left and Larry Leon Hamlin on the right will star in the Old Town Dinner Theatre's production of Cole Porter's "Anything Goes." Natives of Winston-Salem, Miss Lynch will play the role of an angel while Hamlin will play the character, Moonface. The play opens on Friday, July 29, with a 7:15 p.m. dinner and a performance at 8:15 p.m. Performances will run every Friday, Saturday and Sunday through Sept. 4.

Musical Notes

Choristers To Perform Thursday

Urban Arts of the Arts Council Inc. will present the Twin City Choristers in a concert of religious and secular works on Sunday, July 31, at 6 p.m. The program will be held in the Mountcastle Forum at Winston Square on 226 North Marshall Street. There is no admission charge and the public is invited to attend.

The Twin City Choristers is an all-male choral group that was organized in September 1957 under the direction of Dr. Permillia Flack Dunston. Dr. A.L. Cromwell served as the first president of the group and Alton Harrington was business manager and treasurer.

The group flourished from 1957 until 1959, when Dr. Dunston left Winston-Salem to live in another city. The group continued to perform under various directors, but only sporadically, and eventually, in the latter part of 1960, reluctantly disbanded.

Its members, however, remained in close contact with each other and the dream of one day reorganizing continued. On May 13, 1980, the Choristers realized a dream of nearly 20 years: the group was reorganized with 10 of its original members.

And its director was none other than Dr. Dunston, who had recently returned to Winston-Salem. W.J. Boulware was elected its president and Joe Livingston its business manager and treasurer.

All three continue to serve in their respective

capacities.

Since reorganization, the Choristers have experienced phenomenal growth and popularity. The group now numbers 35, including the director and accompanist. The members of the group span a wide spectrum of vocations, from doctor to house painter. The church affiliations are also as widespread, encompassing Baptists, AME Zion members and a host of others. The one common strain indigenous to all members is their love and appreciation of music, from Bach to Leonard DePaur.

The Choristers' membership is open to "all men who have a desire to sing for personal enjoyment and musical achievement." The group rehearses weekly on Tuesdays at Wentz Memorial Church of Christ at 7:00 p.m. Persons interested in becoming a part of the group are encouraged to contact any member.

Eddie Speechless?

Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five's concert at L.A.'s Sports Arena was the place to be. Eddie Murphy, members of The Time, Switch, Ozone and Dynasty, and Richard Dimples Fields all mingled with Flash and the Five during a pre-show party at the Hollywood restaurant Carlos and Charles. Then, during the concert itself, Eddie Murphy climbed up

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