

By Jim Berry



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DISCO TRACKS...

Shortly after Star Wars became a hit at movie theatres all over the country...it seemed that a week wouldn't go by unless someone was making a "Theme From Star Wars" LP. Now it appears the same thing is happening with "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

The newest...and so far the best, is a disco version by Gene Page, on Arista Records. It's available on an album, and also on a 12-inch disc with two versions...one six minutes, the other three and a half minutes long. If you like it...I would suggest only the disc.

Speaking of discodiscs...T-Connection's "On Fire" is now available that way on T.K. Disco Records. This version is seven and a half minutes long. Some record stores are promoting the album...but again...I would settle for just the one cut.

Also on T.K. Disco Records...more of George McCrae's "Kiss Me, the Way I Like It." It was sold out in town for a while...now back in stock. A lot of record fans apparently think more of the song than I do.

Too bad for George long-playing 45's weren't so popular when he made "Rock Me" or "I Get Lifted." He would have sold a million.

Chic's ever-popular "Dance, Dance, Dance" is also back on the discodisc...for eight and a half minutes...you feel like you get your money's worth. The Chic album is also good, too. Both are on Atlantic Records.

The THP Orchestra has released a different sounding disco cut called "Two Hot For Love"...the feature song on

their new LP of the same name.

The album is on Butterfly Records.

One more word about discodiscs...I wouldn't recommend getting Odyssey's "Native New Yorker" that way...it's only five and a half minutes...only slightly longer than what it is on their album.

It's cases like that you have to be on the lookout for...sometimes discodiscs aren't as good a buy as they seem.

More German soul comes our way from an album that was recorded in Munich...by Claudja Barry. Surprisingly though, the title tune, "Take Me In Your Arms," is a song written by Holland-Dozier-Holland.

The album, on Salsoul Records, is a good follow-up effort by Claudja after her "Sweet Dynamite" Lp, on which she showed a lot of promise.

Other highlights on this album are "Dancin' Fever" and "Sexy Talking Lover."

Kool and the Gang's counterparts...the Kay Gees...have just the album for couples who want some music to hustle by.

Their newest is KILLO-WATT...which features some simple, but danceable songs like "Space Disco" and "Cheek to Cheek."

This group was started by Kool's little brother...and although some of the faces have changed...The music hasn't.

A pretty, bright new face on the soul music scene is Linda Clifford. You've probably heard her version of Lou Rawls' "From Now On"

Now you can hear more of her on her new album on Curtom Records...called LIN-DA.

ABC Records Grab Grammy Nominations

ABC Records and Word Records, both of the American Broadcasting Companies, Inc., are among the top contenders in the 20th Annual Grammy Awards, to be held in Los Angeles, February 23.

ABC Records has 14 nominations in general and technical fields, while Word Records has five in the gospel and inspirational fields. The awards are presented by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS).

Those nominated from ABC Records are "Aja," Steely Dan, for Album of the Year; Stephen Bishop, Best New Artist of the Year, for "On and On"; Stephen Bishop, Best

Pop Vocal Performance Male; "Aja," Steely Dan, Best Pop Vocal Performance by a Duo, Group or Chorus; "It's Just a Matter of Time," B.B. King, Best R&B Vocal Performance Male; "Ask Rufus," Rufus, featuring Chaka Kahn, Best R&B Vocal Performance by a Duo, Group or Chorus; "After the Lovin'," Barbara Mandrell, Best Country Vocal Performance Female; "Y'All

Come Back Saloon," Oak Ridge Boys, Best Country Performance by a Duo or Group; "Your Arms Too Short to Box With God," Best Cast Album; "Free As The Wind" (The Crusaders, Best Instrumental Arrangement); "Aja," Best

Engineered Recording (non-Classical); "Afro Blue Impression," John Coltran, Best Jazz Instrumental Performance Solo; "Your Arms Too Short to Box With God," Best Inspirational Performance; and "God Is Not Dead," Mighty Cloud of Joy, Best Gospel Performance, Contemporary.

Word nominees are "Adam Again," Michael Omartin, and "Mirror," Evie Tornquist, Best Gospel Performance, Contemporary Inspirational; "Home Where I Belong," B.J. Thomas; "How Great Thou Art," Ray Price; "Tell All The World About Love," Carol Lawrence, all nominated for Best Inspirational Performance.

Word Records and its associated labels are a part of Word, Inc., a diversified religious communications company based in Waco, Texas. Both Word, Inc., and ABC Records are subsidiaries of American Broadcasting Companies, Inc.

Gore To Party With Sha Na Na

Lesley Gore, who was one of the youngest of the teen stars with her first hit, "It's My Party And I'll Cry If I Want To," stops by to party with Sha Na Na, Valentine's night at 8:30 p.m. on WBTV, Channel 3.

Lesley became a star when she was only 16 years old, and went on to have a long career with such memorable songs as "Sunshine, Lollipops and Rainbows," "She's A Fool," "That's The Way Boys Are," and "California Nights."

When Lesley manages to break away from Sha Na Na, it will be to sing one of her biggest hits, "You Don't Own

Me."

The hilarious half hour will be highlighted by such songs as "At The Top," "Up On The Roof," "Purple People Eater," and "Lovers Never Say Goodbye."

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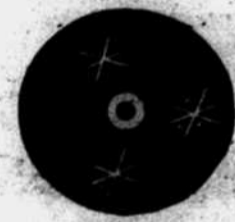
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