

Record



Corner



Jim Berry

ON THE JAZZ SCENE.....

Following one surprisingly successful album...Herb Alpert and Hugh Masakela... the men with the Latin trumpet and flugelhorn sounds...have returned for an encore.

Many thought Alpert and Masakela were an unlikely combination when they did an album together last year. But to the surprise of many.. the album went over well..and now, the two have cut a live LP.

This one's called "The Main Event, Herb Alpert and Hugh Masakela" on A&M Records.

The album was recorded this year at the Roxy Club. This album is very good in sports. At times, it makes you feel you were almost inside the club watching the two, however, I fear that Herb and Hugh at times go a little too deep into their Latin traditions for many people to appreciate.

Trumpet man Alpert plays with a vigor not present on previous recordings.

The "Best of Lonnie Liston Smith"...now available on RCA Records...would be a good collector's item for his fans.

It takes Lonnie all the way back to songs like "Expansions" and also contains other memorable cuts by this keyboard master, including "Starlight" and "Voodoo Woman."

The word is that Lonnie may have another live album on the market soon.

Bobby "The Genie" Lyle has released a long-awaited album on Capitol Records. It's entitled "The New Warrior."

People are still playing Lyle's debut album of last year which earned him his nickname...And Bobby showed that album was no fluke by releasing another album early this year.

This album makes it three successes in a row for Lyle,

who received a big help from trombonist Wayne Henderson.

Lyle works well with percussionist Harvey Mason and guitarist David T. Walker on "Groove-Ain't No Doubt About It," "Good Inside", and the title tune.

Billy Cobham's latest album "Simplicity of Expression", on Columbia Records may as well have been sides three and four to his previous album, called "Inner Conflict."

Much of the same rhythms and music, as usual, however, Billy amazes with his energy and strength on the drums.

You'll notice quite a difference in the new album in the new Cobham...and the one that played on "Crosswinds" two years ago. The arrangement of his music is much better...which means you can now buy a Billy Cobham album without just listening to Billy beat on the drums.

SOUL SOUNDS
A good new sound from Ashford and Simpson is in town. This one's entitled "Is It Still Good To Ya." Very versatile album...and as usual.. the duo, who are also husband and wife, are very entertaining-even on record.

You will probably be hearing "Ain't It A Shame" or the title cut on the airwaves...And another interesting cut is "Get Up And Do Something."

Rose Royce's new album should do very well. It's called "Rose Royce Strikes Again." The group has undergone tremendous improvement since Norman Whitfield began producing their albums. He's the man responsible for so many of the Temptations hits all those years.

Whitfield was a pioneer of the electronic funk sound... and it is apparent on this album. If you listen closely.

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