

Frank Parrish Review

'Gasoline Alley': Stewart Is Fine

Rod Stewart brings us a gathrum of goodies in his second album. It includes a pastoral post card, "Country Comforts," and old Stones' hit, "It's All Over Now," and some Dylan fare, "Only A Hobo." Nicely balancing country, blues and rock influences, Stewart gives all the material a very personal touch.

He lends warmth and understanding to lyrics and makes them believable. He becomes thoroughly involved with each song. Rod Stewart seems to have something in his throat—emotion, pain, congestion—that etches a melody and a mood on the listener's brain. Yet he sings cleanly, purely and the words are never lost in the feeling.

The instrumentation on this LP enhances the intimacy and freshness of the vocals. On the first cut, the title song, we hear a mandolin which if it doesn't take us back to Jim and Jesse, does remind us that the instrument is excellent for lending rhythm and pace to a performance. In "Gasoline Alley," besides evoking the past, Stewart assures us you can truly go home again. For after all, he whimsically intones, he is going back "...to where I started from."

The second cut, an all stops-out romp through "It's All Over Now" is imaginatively arranged and performed in madcap fashion. A honky-tonk piano sets tempo, aided by Ron Woods' inventive bottleneck guitar work. Despite the distance between studio and purchasable platter, we sense the ongoing lark during this set. A Stewart friend, "of no fixed abode," literally blows the whistle on this number.

The hobo's rag and stick are splendidly recreated in "Only a Hobo." Woods and Stewart deepen the lament with atmospheric fretting on acoustic guitars. They complement each other superbly. The hobo's memory held a song. Now, "one more is gone/leaving nobody to carry it on." Stewart's sensitive vocal, supported by violins bowed in the Opry manner, captures a sense of loss. It is not Tennyson's "In Memorium" but will suffice in the world of records.

Side 2 is more reflective than Side 1 but does contain an authentic rocker, "Cut Across Shorty." Wherein, we meet a nonpareil rake who never fails to connect with the ladies. The piano dominates this tunes and it is obtrusive and off-hand enough to touch the heart of a Jerry Lee Lewis.

"Jo's Lament," though it appears to be located at or near Nashville, is only part of the comfortable context for Stewart's music. Mac Davis drums out pleasantly steady riffs while the Woods-Stewart tandem coaxes forth simple configurations on guitars. Over the finely shaded music, we hear about the despair resulting from unrequited love.

"Lady Day," another tale of unrealized love, is made especially poignant by Rod Stewart's anguished vocalizing. Written and sung by Stewart, it achieves melancholy without preposterous sentimentalizing. He pours his heart out without wearing it on his sleeve afterwards. "Sometimes I get scared when I remember too much," he moans.

He remembers just enough in another of his own songs, "Country Comforts." The aging process has slowed perceptibly so that 84-year-old Granma looks ill-suited for spade-fuls of dirt. And progress does not invariably produce happiness or delusions of happiness. Farmer Grayson obstinately refuses to swap a horse for a tractor. Bygone days are not really gone if you cling tenaciously to them, the song seems to suggest.

"Gasoline Alley" demonstrates admirably that records need not be wholly dehumanized either. Masters, looped tapes, overdubbing (used in this LP) and other complexities of the modern studio still don't ensure man's mastery by machines and their operators.

Rod Stewart produced this album and obviously did not lose himself in the wonder of studio techniques. The acoustic guitars, mandolin, violins, etc. sound as if they are in the next room. "Gasoline Alley" is an invaluable record. It bridges, as nearly as vinyl can, the gap between audience and performer.

Union Free Flicks

TONIGHT: HIGH NOON. A western classic with Gary Cooper, Grace Kelly, and Otto Kruger. Won three Academy Awards...

SATURDAY: COOL HAND LUKE. Paul Newman and George Kennedy in a hard-hitting story of a chain gang...

SUNDAY: THE 400 BLOWS. Francois Truffaut's poetic and historical masterpiece.



Havens Here Saturday

More than 4,000 tickets have already been sold for the double concert scheduled for Carmichael Auditorium tonight. Richie Havens will be featured, and Ten Wheel Drive will provide a

back-up performance. The concert will begin at 8 p.m. Union officials estimate the first fall concert will attract a capacity crowd of 7,000.

Salesman Arrested On Franklin St.

A man identified as Edward V. Smith of Lexington was charged by Chapel Hill police Thursday with soliciting without a permit after he allegedly sold a hash pipe on Franklin Street.

Police Chief W.D. Blake said Thursday Smith had been selling flowers at the corner of Franklin and Henderson streets

and had been giving pipes to his customers.

Blake said Smith had a permit to sell flowers.

The arrest was made, Blake said, after Smith allegedly sold a pipe to a private citizen.

'Carolina Quarterly' Judged One Of Best

UNC New Bureau

"The Carolina Quarterly" is one of the best little magazines in the country, according to a study by Dr. Charles Allen of California.

Allen favorably compares the Quarterly to "The Chicago Review" and "The Harvard Advocate."

Quarterly editor George Wolfe agrees. "I think primarily what makes us unique is that we can combine a very good reputation in the world of small literary magazines with our ability to pay contributors at the rate of \$5 per page," Wolfe said. "We take this reputation and money and provide it for young writers."

"Most magazines with national reputations, like "Esquire" and "Playboy," tend to steer away from experimental writing and young writing," he explained. "Big magazines like to publish 'name-brand' merchandise."

"The Carolina Quarterly" is published by nine graduate students at the University of North Carolina here, but its short stories and poems are read far beyond Chapel Hill and North Carolina.

"We are interestd in experimental writing—stories and poetry which tend to break away from the traditional style we all learned in high school and college," Wolfe continued. "Each story needn't have a beginning, middle and end with a 'he said' or 'she said' at the end of each sentence."

"We want material that's perhaps a little unusual and often, young writers tend to write this way because they are in

the process of rejecting alot of values, some of which are literary values," Wolfe said.

Many of these literary values ought to be rejected, according to Wolfe. "This is what keeps the literary scene fluid and changing," he said.

The Quarterly and the N. C. Arts Council is sponsoring a fiction contest to give young writers an opportunity to publish, according to Wolfe. The Arts Council donated \$300 for the contest.

First prize is \$150, second is \$75 and third is \$50.

It is open to anyone under 30 who has never published a book length manuscript. Manuscripts may vary in length from one sentence to 6,000 words, Wolfe explained. The Quarterly, with offices in Suite B of the Carolina Union, is now accepting manuscripts. Deadline is March 1, 1971.

The first issue of the 1970-71 Quarterly is now on sale on campus, at the Bull's Head Book Store and at the Intimate Bookshop.

"Circulation usually averages between 1,100 and 1,300 but this time we've optimistically printed 1,800," Wolfe said with a grin. Many copies are sent to libraries and publishing houses out-of-state, a fact which bothers the 28 year old editor.

"I wish more North Carolinians would read the Quarterly," Wolfe said. "Most people in the state know very little about the magazine."

Campus Calendar

Rush teas for Angel Flight will take place Sunday and Monday from 8 to 9:30 p.m. in the lounge of the AFROT building behind Manning Hall. Refreshments will be served. Sunday dress.

Try-outs for the Carolina Playmaker production of "The Night Thoreau Spent In Jail" will begin Friday, Sept. 18 and continue through Saturday, Sept. 19.

The Chapel Hill Day Care Center's community day school for people under six is sponsoring a Walt Disney flick tonight at the New Establishment at 7, 9, and 11 p.m. Donations will be accepted.

The UNC chapter of Students for a Democratic Society meets today at 4 p.m. in the Frank Porter Graham Lounge of the Carolina Union.

The Campus Crusade for Christ will have an open house at 206 McCauley St. after the football game Saturday. Everyone is invited.

UNC Boat Club members and students interested in joining should call Craig Benede at 929-4501.

Items for the Campus Calendar must be turned in at the DTH office 36 hours before their publication.

SAVE TIME, SAVE MONEY AND AVOID LONG LINES!

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The Intimate Bookshop

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- REFERENCE WORKS, dictionaries of all sorts, course outlines, and translations.
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119 EAST FRANKLIN ST., (NEXT TO THE VARSITY THEATRE)—OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL 10 P.M.

And Remember...
The Intimate will
Be open every
Night until
10 o'clock.
Open Sunday,
too, from
2 p.m. to 10 p.m.