

LimROCK



**Absolute
Beginners
one and all**



Patsy Kensit.



David Bowie.



Sade.

50's revival on the way?

By SHANE FOLEY

ABSOLUTE Beginners – well, the pre-release publicity has certainly been very vigorous, to say the least and in all the reviews I have read about it the views of the different critics have come fast and furious – some say “riotously colourful” and “best musical for years” – others say “the most amateur and monomementous flop ever”.

Well, basically as all I have seen so far are clips from it, my lips are sealed. But something I can review is the soundtrack of the movie.

When picking up the record and looking at the nice sprinkling of stars it had to offer I thought it would be a handy task. In truth I think it was.

Evergreen

The evergreen Mr. Bowie opens the album with the title track. This version is slightly different to the much played single, but it is so good!

Next up is Sade with a real 50's club song called “Killer Blow”. Not so much of a departure from her usual style but this track features some great bass work.

“Have You Ever Had It



Blue” is track three. This is the great new single from the album and is performed by The Style Council. Again this track is slightly different than the single.

Track four is a much simpler song called “Quiet Life”. It is sung by Ray Davies of The Kinks fame – the man with the instantly recognisable voice.

Frenetic

Track five is an instrumental called “Va Va

Voom”. As I listened to this I could visualise a set full of frenetic dancers tearing around the place like mad. This concluded side one – not bad so far, don't you think.

Side two opens as the first did with David Bowie (the only artist with two songs on the album) and a song called “That's Motivation”. This track is much more the 50's mega-musical style compared to the song “Absolute Beginners”. About this time I wondered what was I doing

listening to a record with what I would call a jazz feel to it and with such an old style. No answer to that one – the album continued.

The next song was written and performed by Patsy Kensit's (one of the stars of the film) band, Eighth Wonder, and she really proves that she's not just a pretty face.

Tension

The rest of the album is much in the same vein as before with the songs being performed by Working Week, Slim Gilliard and Jerry Dammers, ex Specials, whose instrumental “Riot City”, which is the last track on the album, exudes the tension that its name suggests.

There were a lot of shocking brass arrangements and chords flying about creating a certain tension and for this reason I think that some of the music would have made a lot more sense with pictures – “Riot City” for instance.

This album should appeal to a lot of different people for a lot of different reasons but personally I like it because it was a good album and very different to anything I had ever listened to before. On the performance of the record I will definitely go to see the movie. Available from “Golden Discs”.

Bitz n' Scrapz

★ IT SEEMS that Queen have just escaped being flung out of their union in England over a series of concerts which they played in South Africa's Sun City entertainment complex recently. That would have effectively meant they would have found it very hard to continue as a gigging band. Thankfully they were not thrown out and now they can continue entertaining people as they were meant to, like their performance at “Live Aid” (stole the show – didn't they). Pity music is being stifled by politics – just like sport. But having said that who could possibly support Apartheid in South Africa.

★ THE GROUP that broke on the scene with “To Cut A Long Story Short” and later brought us such gems as “I'll Fly For You”, “Communication” and “Gold” are ready for their comeback. Spandau Ballet who, for so long, have been in dispute with their record company now seem to have it all worked out and with the emergence of groups like A-ha and The Pet Shop Boys they would, I think, want to get a move on as they've a lot of fans to win back.

★ I AM personally glad to hear that my favourite David Bowie track is about to be re-released. Yes, “Heroes” will soon again be out on a single, but this time it will not be by Mr. Bowie but by a collection of stars including Bronski Beat, The Kinks and Suzi Quatro. The stars have come together to record the song for a children's charity. But having professed happiness to hear that it will be released I hope they don't murder it.

★ SIGUE SIGUE Sputnik – will they and do they ever want to avoid controversy. The latest in a long line of events is the promotion of their new single “21st Century Boy”. Apparently lead singer Martin Degville appears nailed to a cross with blood streaming from his hands on the promo. posters for the single. Naturally this has not gone down at all well and with Mr. Degville looking more and more like a grotesque feather duster every day the thoughts of seeing him nailed to a cross can only make for a most interesting, even hilarious, sight. Their record company are said to be a bit upset with the lads!

Limerick Leader AND GOLDEN DISCS

TOP 20

Golden Discs Positions	English Positions
1 (6) CLIFF & THE YOUNG ONES	Living Doll (1) 1
2 (3) SAM COOKE	Wonderful World (2) 3
3 (-) REAL THING	You To Me Are Everything (5) 6
4 (2) TUESDAY BLUE	Tunnel Vision (-) -
5 (5) GEORGE MICHAEL	A Different Corner (4) 2
6 (4) SAMANTHA FOX	Touch Me (3) 4
7 (14) QUEEN	A Kind Of Magic (7) 7
8 (7) FALCO	Rock Me Amadeus (10) 5
9 (13) ART OF NOISE	Peter Gunn (9) 8
10 (-) THE BANGLES	Manic Monday (12) 20
11 (-) STYLE COUNCIL	Have You Ever Had It Blue (27) 14
12 (-) MELISSA MANCHESTER & AL JARREAU	Music Of Goodbye (-) -
13 (-) SIMPLE MINDS	All The Things She Said (-) 15
14 (8) PET SHOP BOYS	Love Comes Quickly (19) 21
15 (-) PRINCE	Kiss (15) 26
16 (-) BIG AUDIO DYNAMITE	E=MC² (28) 11
17 (11) BLOW MONKEYS	Digging Your Scene (18) 24
18 (-) HIPSWAY	Honey Thief (32) 34
19 (1) DAVID BOWIE	Absolute Beginners (8) 15
20 (-) A-HA	Train Of Thought (23) 9

Last week's positions appear in brackets.

12 Inch Singles TOP 10

1 (1) TUESDAY BLUE	Tunnel Vision
2 (-) NEW ORDER	Shellshock
3 (5) CLIFF & THE YOUNG ONES	Living Doll
4 (-) GEORGE MICHAEL	A Different Corner
5 (2) DAVID BOWIE	Absolute Beginners
6 (-) SIMPLE MINDS	All The Things She Said
7 (6) PRINCE	Kiss
8 (-) BLUE IN HEAVEN	I Just Wanna
9 (10) SUZANNE VEGA	Marlene On The Wall
10 (-) LONNIE HILL	Galveston Boy

Achromon live!

THIS local four-piece outfit will be playing this Friday night's late-night gig at the Savoy. They seem to have a nice few things happening for them with three demo tapes recorded to date and following this gig they are returning to studio to do a fourth. They have received national airplay on RTE 2 and have supported The Blades during Rag Week '85.

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