

ARTS and CULTURE

DISCUSSIONS

by Greg Hall

Who says the record industry is not Big Business? Look at the success of the album **Saturday Night Fever** if you need proof. RSO Records claims that not only is it their company's biggest profit-making commodity, but, with 13 million copies sold worldwide, it is also the top-grossing album in recorded history. They say that, dollar for dollar, the soundtrack from the movie of the same name has outsold Fleetwood Mac's **Rumours**, Peter Frampton's **Comes Alive**, Stevie Wonder's **Songs in the Key of Life**, The Eagles' **Hotel California**, and Carol King's **Tapestry**.

Not only this, RSO might have to supply its own competition to knock SNF out of the top spot on the sales charts. Last week the company released the soundtrack to the soon-to-be-released film version of the hit Broadway show **Grease**. The 50's nostalgia musical again sports John Travolta in the lead, coupled with Olivia Newton-John. There is already a hit single by this duo at the top of the charts.

In June or July, the RSO soundtrack of the forthcoming film, **Sgt. Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band** is scheduled to hit the record shops. This album again features the phenomenal Bee Gees, along with such lesser(?) names as Peter Frampton. Both new soundtracks are again (as with SNF) two-record extravaganzas listing for \$12.98. A new Bee Gees studio album is in the can and set for August

release--advance reports from Billboard indicate another long string of radio monopoly is in store for AM radio addicts.

Columbia Records is gearing up its publicity department for the forthcoming release of new albums by **Boston** and **Bruce Springsteen** (rumored to be a two record set--WIOQ FM in Philadelphia is now playing a pair of new songs. Also rumored for the album is a cover version of the Springsteen/Pattie Smith collaboration "Because the Night"). The albums should hit around June 1st. Springsteen is scheduled to appear at the Spectrum over Memorial Day weekend.

Will Gregg Allman appear at Capitol Campus for the Spring Concert? Probably not, too many problems with security...details when and if they develop.

The Band's feature-length film **The Last Waltz** opens in major cities this month. Advance reviews agree with those of the three-record soundtrack--a great rock document filled with outstanding music and rare treats from guests like Dylan, Neil Young, Joni Mitchell, and Van Morrison. Although the Band will no longer tour, they have in the works a new Band album, plus new solo projects.

The new **Moody Blues** album, "Octave" will be released by London Records the first week of June. Also in June a solo album from ex-Doobie Brother Tom Johnston, who will revert back to

the sound of the old Doobies albums...A Neil Young album of new material will hit May 15th...Also due in the next couple months are albums from the Rolling Stones, and a two-record Graham Parker live set (3 sides live, the 4th will be a 12 inch 45)...Coming yet this month is a new Bob Seger album, and Hall and Oates' **Live ...Steve Martin's** skit and song **King Tut**, from a recent Saturday Night Live Show, has been recorded as a single.

Eddie Money (Columbia)

Eddie Money has two key ingredients going for him; Columbia's "New Artist" program (see what they did for Boston, Springsteen, and Karla Bonoff), and equally powerful Bill "Filmore" Graham as a personal manager. Breaking this album to the public was Columbia's job; they made a hit single out of "Baby Hold On". Graham's job is obvious; to get Eddie Money, an ex-cop, into the performing spotlight and keep him there as long as possible, and to get him established as one who sells lots of records. With the double-barreled protection like these

two forces behind someone trying to make it, the chances of a positive public acceptance are fairly biased in one direction.

Unfortunately, Money's music on this debut album doesn't hold up under repeated listenings. Hundreds have done better at what Money attempts to do, and hundreds have done it worse. The album suffers from same-ness, and a particular kind of automated monotony that almost forces the listener to tap his foot in Pavlovian response.

SHORT CUTS

British Lions (RSO Records)

British Lions is four Mott (the Hoople) veterans with a new lead vocalist/guitarist John Fletcher. Apparently wanting a change from the narrow Mott identity and image, the five changed the name to protect the innocent (Mr. Fletcher), however, the sound remains the same--dense, soupy, pseudo-heavy, and turgid.

City to City-Gerry Rafferty (United Artists Records)

Dates And Places

MUSIC AND DANCE

May 18-21 "The Merry Wives of Windsor" by Nicolai, presented by Hbg. Civic Opera Association--Lehrman Aud., HACC

May 16 "Danceteller" dance troupe at Capitol Campus Aud. Free, 12 noon.

May 11 Albee's drama "A Delicate Balance" at performing Arts Workshop Theatre, 49 Market St., Lancaster.

May 12 Film "Seven Percent Solution" at Life-Sciences Theatre, York College, 8 p.m. 50 cents.

May 16 "Sound of Music" opens at Fulton Opera House, Lancaster, 8 p.m.

May 13 Live bluegrass, featuring 'First Generation' and 'Hen House', at Guernsey Pavillion, Rt. 30 East, Lancaster, 8 p.m.

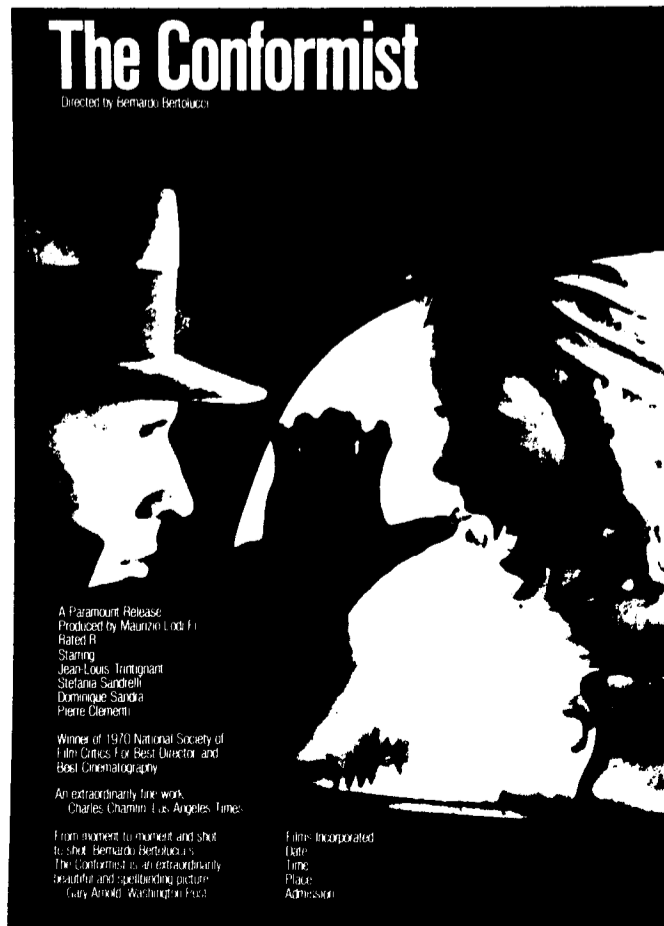
May 20 Spring Concert at Capitol Campus--live music outdoors all day, FREE.

DRAMA AND FILM

May 12-23 Drama "The Chalk Garden" at York Little Theatre, 27 S. Belmont St., York. Info: 854-5715.

May 11-12 Musical "Promises, Promises" at Hbg. Community Theatre, 513 Hurlock St., Hbg. Info: 238-7381.

May 17 Film "The Conformist" at Capitol Campus, see ad on this page for times and places.



The Conformist
Directed by Bernardo Bertolucci

A Paramount Release
Produced by Maurizio Lucchi
Rated R
Starring
Jean-Louis Trintignant
Stefania Sandrelli
Dominique Sanda
Pierre Clémenti

Winner of 1970 National Society of Film Critics, For Best Director and Best Cinematography

An extraordinarily fine work
Charles Champlin, Los Angeles Times

From moment to moment and shot to shot, Bernardo Bertolucci's *The Conformist* is an extraordinarily beautiful and spellbinding picture
Gary Arnold, Washington Post

Film Incorporated
Date
Time
Place
Admission



Phone (717) 652-7714

- New and used stringed instruments
- Lessons in all styles
- Expert repair and supplies
- Bluegrass records and tapes
- Friendly pickin' parlor

MARK SHERMAN'S HOME OF BLUEGRASS
3613 Walnut St. Harrisburg, Penna. 17109

My first impression of Rafferty is that he does not differ much from the latter-day Paul McCartney, in terms of both style and the significance of his musical statement. **City to City** consists of economical, tailor-crafted, non-offensive pop songs. Most of the songs have an abundance of cuteness and melodic hooks, just as most of them sound similar but have just the right amount of changes in coloring, tempo, and presentation.

The majority of the album is pleasant enough to listen to, either one song at a time, or as a whole while you're cleaning up the supper dishes. It does have some high points: a handful of good guitar solos, and one song, "Baker Street", where everything comes together to rise above the rest of the album. This is the cut the record company has chosen as a single, and the song leaps from the radio with its gripping, dirty sax breaks. If the record interests you enough to want to hear Gerry Rafferty at his best, go back a few years and locate the first couple of Stealer's Wheel albums--although hardly classics, they are a treat.

TROPICAL PHOTO WORKSHOP MIAMI BEACH JULY '78

7 DAYS/6 NIGHTS \$465*

Intensive field and workshop training to bring new expertise to your photography techniques. Known professionals provide personal and practical instruction: film and camera, portraits and figure, travel and nature. Photo field trips.

*Single Rate, Double Occupancy. Includes hotel, Modified American Plan, parties. Free, daily film processing provided.

Write for detailed brochure and reservation forms:

PHOTOTOURS, DEPT. 30
7745 S.W. 33 TER., MIAMI, FLA. 33155. PH: (305) 446-5764

Danceteller

Middletown--Danceteller, a professional nine-member modern dance company, will perform at Penn State-Capitol Campus on Tues., May 16 at 12:00 noon in the auditorium.

Danceteller is a Pennsylvania troupe formed by dance and theatre professionals in 1975. Their repertory of dances offers a full spectrum of moods, from the deadly serious to the frivolous, from the elegant to the slapstick.

The company is now in the midst of its third season of presenting major concerts at colleges, universities, museums, and art festivals throughout Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina.

The public is invited to attend.