

NEW MUSIC

Vital sounds brew underground



Across America and the world, vibrant, vital sounds are brewing underground waiting to be discovered. Some bands are lucky to be signed to scrappy independent labels like Homestead Records or Twin Tone. Others like Seattle's Young Fresh Fellows release music on their own vanity labels and tour, gamely trying to promote their records.

Instead of bemoaning the paucity of good music, the potentially adventurous are encouraged to seek out these sounds. Whereas in the sixties, groundbreaking music could be heard on even top 40 radio, today's adventure has to be actively sought out on the left side of the FM dial and in challenging record stores.

Pere Ubu (Cleveland)
Terminal Tower. An Archival Collection (Twin Tone)

Patrick Low (PL) — For the uninitiated, this collection of non-LP releases is a great introduction to the eccentric and disturbing music of this sorely underrated group. Pere Ubu is the only band that matches XTC and Talking Heads for melodic inventiveness, and they play better guitar, too.

Paul Sturtz (PS) — Jagged, intense art-rock with a healthy sprinkling of fun. A revelation of great things that happened in 1970s Midwest.

Translator (San Francisco)
Evening Of The Harvest (415 Records, Columbia)

PL — An album only brain-damaged acid heads still locked in a Sixties time-warp can listen to without wincing. For everyone else, if these insipid folk-rock melodies don't make you nauseous, the lyrics will.

PS — I like the album cover better than the record. After the opening track, "Standing in Line," a harmonica-charged romper, it's downhill to a homogenized soundscape of nondescript ballads and aimless Moody Blues riffs.

Young Fresh Fellows
Topsy Turvy (Popluma Products)
PL — Four lovable misfits from Seattle, Wa., redefine country, blues, punk and Sixties pop with outrageous verve and goofiness. Main songwriter Scott McCaughey may write mostly for laughs, but he's also capable of tossing out an absolute classic like "The New John Agar" when the mood is right. Topsy Turvy is as irresistible as it is frivolous.

PS — Like falling in love, I played this record non-stop for two weeks trying to permanently absorb the sense of fun, spontaneity and energy that bursts out of songs like "Searching U.S.A." and "Where is Groovy Town?" Distributed by Park Avenue Records, P.O. Box 19479, Seattle, WA 98109.

Salem 66 (Boston)
A Ripping Spin (Homestead)

PL — Judy Grunwald is one of those rare natural singers who can convey passion and sincerity without resorting to any vocal acrobatics. The songs which her gorgeous voice embellishes on this album are equally powerful and unpretentious, performed only with guitars, bass and drums. This is a remarkably fine album

that simply oozes feeling.
Hoodoo Gurus (Australia)
Mars Needs Guitars! (Big Time)
PS — Big boom modern garage. Sometimes their stoneage jungle-rock imagery overwhelms their often transcendent songwriting.

Violent Femmes (Milwaukee)
The Blind Leading The Naked (Slash)
PL — An album that proves more is not always better. With almost four times more musicians on "Blind" than their classic debut, the Femmes have somehow been reduced to a tenth of their former glory. Several tunes here sizzle, notably "Old Mother Reagan," "Heartache" and "No Killing," but elsewhere the band sounds like a bad parody of themselves. Producer Jerry Harrison has committed the unforgivable crime of smoothing out Brian Ritchie's snarling bass into a tepid rumble. But what's even more disappointing is that Gordon Gano doesn't even play one of his wildly chaotic guitar solos. Sometimes you can't even get what you need.

Public Image Limited (England)
Album (Electra)
PL — His Royal Beastliness, John Lydon, has finally found himself the perfect producer in Bill Laswell. Laswell has rounded up for this project some of the most ferocious players in the rock biz to create a wall of fire-breathing sound to envelop Lydon's manic vocals. Side one of the album contains probably the finest PIL songs ever penned. Unfortunately, side two suffers from a touch of monotony. Still it's highly recommended — but not for the faint-hearted.

Fine Young Cannibals (England)
Fine Young Cannibals (IRS)
PL — With this amazing album, Fine Young Cannibals have created a totally new hybrid sound that combines techno-pop, soul and jazz. Yet their approach is so obvious you wonder why nobody ever thought of it before. The melodies here are so juicy you'll still taste them long after the turntable shuts off.
PS — Silky, soulful, propulsive pop featuring one of our era's more distinctive voices, a black Englishman aptly named Roland Gift who has teamed with two English Beat alumni. An outstanding if sometimes homogeneous debut.

Celibate Rifles (Australia)
Quintessentially Yours (What Goes On, Dutch East India)
PS — A raveup of a record — listening to this might inspire thousands of Americans to buy one-way tickets to Sydney. The Stooges and Radio Birdman taken to the nth degree.

Sonics (Seattle)
Full Force Compilation (Etiquette)
PS — Music for spastic dancing in public and private. Gerry Roslie and his buddies started playing in high school in about 1963 and within two years were the pre-eminent garage band in the Northwest. If you thought the Kinsmen's "Louie, Louie" was crude, you won't believe the Sonics' ferocious version. One gets to wondering how they were doing this while the Beatles were playing "She Loves You." The Sonics knew three chords but they did them better than anyone before them or since.

By Patrick Low and Paul Sturtz

It's PARTY time!

the WEEKEND WONDER

at THE PIZZA ANSWER!!
1432 Orchard • Eugene



ONLY \$8.50
Large 16" Canadian Bacon & Pineapple Pizza with Thick Crust

Plus 2 FREE 32 OZ. POPS

With coupon thru June 9, 1986 • (One coupon per pizza)

name _____

phone _____

687-8600 • 1432 Orchard, Eugene

Coke, Diet Coke or Sprite
NOW OPEN FOR LUNCH

EMU CULTURAL FORUM PROUDLY PRESENTS

THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL

Willamette Valley



A CULTURAL CELEBRATION

OF HERITAGE MUSIC

FOLK FESTIVAL

MAY 16-17-18 TH

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON 1986

FRIDAY 16	SATURDAY 17	SUNDAY 18
2:00 BAG PIPERS	12:00 TRACY MOORE	11:00 TBA
2:45 LARRY ROVEN	12:30 J. CRISTIAN MILLER	11:45 TBA
3:15 TOM MCCREESH	1:00 JAMES KUNZI	12:45 CASSANDRA CONOLLY
3:45 O'CAROLANS CONSORT	1:30 EAGLE PARK SLIM	1:15 SAM RAINY
4:15 BODEN AND ZANETTO	2:00 JOHN SIRCUS	1:30 HERSHEL BLOOM
5:15 BREAK	3:00 SHUMBA	2:00 UTAH PHILLIPS
6:00 LIV WITH THE BOYS	4:00 BREAK	3:15 THRESHOLD
7:00 SANDUNGA	5:00 BALKENTONES	4:15 TBA
8:30 RITMO-TROPICAL	5:30 WATERMELON SLIM	4:45 SKINNER CITY CLOGGERS
	6:30 THE HACKERS	5:15 BREAK
	7:30 NEVILLE BROTHERS	6:15 GOOD-N-COUNTRY
		7:00 SKYLINE DRIFTERS
		8:30 OBO ADDY

FREE ADMISSION

EAST LAWN EMU

*In case of rain, the festival will be held in the EMU Dwell room.

Coupons in the Emerald save you money.
Check every page, every day. It pays.

BAMBOO PAVILION
CHINESE RESTAURANT
省時快捷 經濟實惠

Oriental Buffet Lunch
Downstairs
& Try Our Dinner
Upstairs

Hours: Downstairs
M-Th 11:00 - 7:00; F-Sa 11:00 - 4:30
Closed Sundays

Hours: Upstairs
Su-Th 4:30 - 10:00
F-Sa 5:00 - 10:30

1275 Alder Street • 683-8886

VESPAS NOW!

ARE AT
Howard's

No money down
O.A.C. easy low cost
financing available

Similar to model shown

Howard's
1999 Main St. In Springfield
747-9354

OPEN:
9-6 Mon - Fri
9-5 Saturday