

FRICK

(Continued from Page 11)

haired saint, cleans with soap and water but its really just white paint."

He does a couple of love songs and one or two stories in rhyme, You have to hear this album to know what im talking about, this is the stuff.

There is not that much real stuff around these days, it dont happen too often in the electric city.

Last week i mentioned Van Morrison and his early album Astral Weeks. The number of the album was left out, ITS Warner Brothers No. 1786...His new album just release didnt make it in time for last weeks column. Its Moondance No WS1835 and is another masterfully done album. Van Morrison.

Yes there is something going on on this side of the ocean too it has to be that way, Memphis, thats in America. They Got Blues There. Its a different kind from the kind that filters up north. Funny kind of up tempo stuff but still blues. Charlie Musselwhite hes tops in the feild of harmonica players. A long time musician who can play and sing the blues so youll wanna get up and walk down the road a while..His record, recently released is *Charles Musselwhite, Memphis Tennessee* On paramount records No Pas 5012. You can bop the blues you can

water melon

(Continued from Page 11)

everybody breathes, whew, they laugh and I got nice funny racist jokes and so forth and so on and slowly people don't even realize that the thing has changed and the next thing, you know, god damn! It's a technique I employ, often in my songs to...

JL: To lead people out into deep water.

MVP: Yeah. We veil ourselves against the atrocity we encounter in everyday life. My continual process is to make us drop that guard and then knock the shit out of you.

JL: Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee.

MVP: Exactly.

JL: Another thing, and this really got to me, toward the end of the movie it felt like you were saying to be "Black" in America burts all the time.

MVP: Well, I can see how it would seem that way to you, but it's like wearing glasses...it hurts, it doesn't hurt...what my statement is, anybody, any black man who's got his shit together is militant. When Gerber (the main character of the film, who starts white and turns black) discovers he's black and black to stay, the only avenue in his pragmatic, his straight anglo-saxon pragmatism (is to be militant)...one of the lines I put in the script, someone says

rock the blues you can hide the blues or you can sing the blues. Runnin Jumpin Cryin in your eyes when you get the blues I wanna touch the sky blues. Blues sometimes is in your feet poundin the pavement lookin for work blues..

There are two kinds of people that i know of, Those who dig Joni Mitchell and those who havent heard her yet., but then again i dont know too many people who dont like her. She is tremendous in every aspect of performance, artistry, song writing and The Perpetuity of the dream. All she really does is sing and play the guitar. She writes all her own songs too. Maybe youve heard some of her work. A lot of other artists have adapted her songs to their own style. Maybe youve heard some of them. Her long-awaited 3rd album is out on Reprise. No. RS 6376..

Ladies Of The Canyon
Joni Mitchell

The Circle Game is on this album, she wrote it a long time ago. The thing about her music is that its really easy to hear the words. That sort of thing isn't done in most of the contemporary music that is available to you.

Her second album was called *CLOUDS* Reprise No RS6341. It contains *Chelsea Morning*, and *Both Sides Now*. I get a funny kind of rushing sometimes in the back of my mind listening to her sing. Theres something that you can remember from some other place, or some other time..Its like life, flowing thru you as you flow thru it..

Her first album, its just called *Joni Mitchell*. Its got real low volume on it. Its got to be quiet when you listen to it, down deep inside where the person that is you stays. The first side is "I came to the city" This side is all about a place that i see every time i forget.. Theres a song about a cab driver and an air port. One of the characters on the first side leaves at the end

of her song. She went west. I think maybe she took a train. The second side is all about, "Out of the city and down to the seaside." Its a collection of songs about that other place. And one or two love songs thrown in here and there..Joni Mitchel just might be the top female voice of the Dream Yourself a better world contest.

JOY OF A TOY

Kevin Ayers
Harvest SKAO 421

He used to be the lead singer with a lamented english group called *The Soft Machine*. They didnt make it too well in the states. This new album, his first solo all of the songs are his compositions and like the name implies, *JOY*. The added attraction of about 20 different musical instruments making their appearance through out the record. There's the usual Piano and a few guitars and the mandatory bass and drums bit he adds some trombones here and some flutes and piccolo here

and recorder and oboe and some hawaian guitar alto melodica and kazoo, it gets a little complicated at times but to me the thing about music is to get the listener involved.

There was an album floating around about a year ago, the only reason i asked was it had a round record jacket. It was the *Small Faces* first record. it was something that again was new in the ears of a tired audience. They sing sometimes songs of the little people that inhabit the countryside. Their new album is out on Warner Brothers, *The First Step* No WS 1851. Traditional English Funk??? i think not, more like the stuff they play thru the Muzak system on the distance energy exchange machine. The *Small Faces*, from across the sea.

Some folks have been speaking in the Tone lately. Bob Dylan and Roy Harper being mentioned in the same breath. The thing is here in the USA Bob Dylan is a national hero but Roy Harper.....Well, he's spoken of in places in england, where he lives. He's been around for a whole bunch of years doin the studio musician for the industry thing. Polish your stone till it shines. I read a lot of poetry and Roy Harpers thought-dreams are recorded in the lyrics of his songs. All the words are printed on the inside of the album cover if you like to read. Sometimes you can see pictures by just reading words. He plays guitar and sings the songs and is masterful of both arts.

jeans got their Lindsay's and we saw it. They were hittin' WHITE kids, man! It's great on-the-job training.

JL: You learn how to survive.

MVP: That's right. It's like, now, they're saying "Do you know they are using dope?" Hell, man, they were trying to put us on dope at the high school, at the grade school, that's twenty five, thirty years ago. Black kids have been sliding down steps, dead, for years. "Just niggers didn't want to work". What's the surprise about that?

JL: Are you living in New York now?

MVP: Paris. I mean I came over here as the French delegate to the San Francisco Film Festival. That's how we broke it. I go on the radio and the cat says "The great American director.." and I say "Hey! Show your road, baby! I may be an American and I may be a director, but I'm not an American director. I'm over here, not because of you but inspite of you!"

JL: Do you think "white" rock generates awareness among white kids?

MVP: Probably indirectly. I don't give a fuck how they do it as long as they're leading them out there in the water. Then somebody slams the exit!"

JL: Then you gotta swim.

MVP: You gotta swim. And pull the shore out from under them! I mean, you go out now, and maybe you can't get a cab because of your long hair. But with me, they drive right over my toes. Man, that keeps your ass radicalized!



"Don't be in such a rush! Don't be so militant!! and Gerber says "I'm not militant, I'm white. It's different." People get startled at me...when I asked for artistic things and demand them, I'm militant, Well, Hey! Rap said he wasn't militant about his liberty, he was fanatic. And I agree. I was in Malibu the other day with this girl, beautiful thighs, man, and we were walking down the beach and the chick was coming on to me and she was saying "Let's look at the sea shells". I said, "Baby, that's another war. This is the time not for black writers but for black fighters. Sea shells are groovy but I can't get into that. That's beautiful, but all those kids who've never seen the water, I want them to have a chance, so I'm not into sea shells for the moment, even though I can see the beauty.

JL: What do you think about the militant white groups.

MVP: I haven't addressed myself to that question. I'm only one person right now.

JL: Like in that song in the film with the refrain "Could this be America".

MVP: Yeah, "Love, that's

America"...

JL: I was bearing overtones of Dylan, "115th Dream...I believe it's called America/I said as we bit land/I took a deep breath/I fell down I could not stand."

MVP: I don't even know the song. I know very little American music at all. I'm sure a head in the right place is a head in the right place. But this is typical, discussing Dylan and how some people are well disposed toward "Nashville Skyline", it is an option open to a white person, at any time, to step back into the fold or any segment of the fold, which is not an option open to a black person. The exit is already closed to him, so he might as well stand and fight. But a white person, he can shave off his beard and cut his hair and walk the line. And sit in the corporation day after tomorrow.

JL: Apart from the reality of the moment, do you think races are ultimately different?

MVP: A certain aspect of capitalism is commercial fodder. Well this commercial fodder is easier to justify if you say 'the people with dark skin...' etc.

Now American business, with automation, wishes the whole thing would float away. But the monster they've created has come back to haunt them. The big studio executive wouldn't care if his 11 year old daughter gave me head just as long as he could make a profit off of it. "Well now dear, that didn't hurt too much, and so on".

JL: How do you feel about Chicago?

MVP: These questions don't have any validity as far as I'm concerned. How dare anybody say "Oh, how did this happen, or Rap Brown's car exploded!" What the fuck do you think we're in? This is where it's at. Ouch is ouch. It's like trying to take a hill, and soldiers all around you and a guy drops dead and you say "Jesus, you know they're using real bullets?" What do you think they're using?

JL: People are waking up.

MVP: One thing though that was very pleasant about Chicago was "Now, you must have done something to that policeman. He wouldn't just walk up and hit you." Mmm? ALL these clean