

20/6/85

# Record Review

Bob Woodhead

Gerry Marsden has made history by becoming the first person to re-record their No. 1 hit and take it to the top a second time. Gerry and the Crowd's "You'll Never Walk Alone" is also the third charity No. 1 of 1985 so far.

Britain's best-selling single since Band Aid's Christmas hit has been Paul Hardcastle's five-week chart-topper "19" and to cash in on its success he has re-released the infectious, instrumental track "Rain Forest," which should have charted much higher than No. 41 last time out, in October 1984.

In America, Tears For Fears have been enjoying the No. 1 they so narrowly missed out on here, with "Everybody Wants To Rule The World." Their follow up "Head Over Heels" is out this week. Heading for the U.S. Top 30 and newly released in this country is "Getcha Back" by the Beach Boys, and this is surely their strongest song since "Lady Linda" in 1979. The only black mark against it is its similarity to an old Four Seasons' number called "Alone," although that song was taken at a much

faster tempo.

On Monday, Dead Or Alive issued their third cut from "Youthquake," and in my opinion it is the best track on the album, entitled "In Too Deep." Paul Young follows-up "Every Time You Go Away" with his strongest single for 18 months, called "Tomb Of Memories," a self-penned song. Roy Orbison, whose last hit was "Penny Arcade" way back in 1969, has been signed-up by ZTT (famous for the Frankies) of all people, and he is chartbound with "Wild Hearts," on which he gives a good vocal performance on what is, sadly, a second-rate song.

News from CBS is Marvin Gaye's final album called "Dream Of A Lifetime." It is made up of tracks recorded just before his untimely death last year, and some older recordings. Although it is not his best LP it is a must for any fan, as it is oozing with his rich, soulful style from start to finish.

The opening track "Sanctified Lady" (also out on a 45) has an electronic, 80s feel to it, taking over from where "Sexual Healing" left off. Next up are two tracks you won't be hearing on the radio, called "Savage In The Sack" and "Masochistic Beauty," but "It's Madness" takes the mood from risqué to melancholy. It is a ballad performed in the same style as his classic "What's Going On."

On Side 2, "Symphony" is a similar type of song, but with a stronger back-beat. There is an eight-minute cut called "Life's Opera," made up of several different rhythms and tunes, and the closing title-track is also a soulful ballad that is lyrically strong but melodically disappointing.

### LP chart

1. Boys And Girls (Bryan Ferry).
2. Out Now (Various).
3. Now Dance (Various).
4. Brothers In Arms (Dire Straits).
5. Born In The USA (Bruce Springsteen).
6. Our Favourite Shop (Style Council).
7. Best Of The 20th Century Boy (Marc Bolan and T. Rex).
8. No Jacket Required (Phil Collins).
9. Songs From The Big Chair (Tears For Fears).
10. Hits 2 (Various).

# Record Review

27/6/85

Some months ago I mentioned that the B.B.C. was planning to bring forward the release of the pop-charts from Tuesdays to Sundays, so that the "Top 40 Show" will be just as current as the Independent Radio Chart Show.

The latest news is that the change should take place at the end of August. In consequence "Top of the Pops" is likely to be shown two days earlier, on Tuesdays. ITV are discussing the possibility of transmitting a rival chart-show on that day also... where will the battle end?

Jay Aston has left Bucks Fizz and the group is in the process of choosing a new girl singer. Meanwhile, they have a new single out, entitled "You And Your Heart So Blue." Jay certainly seemed to be the most gifted of the four, and it will be no surprise if in future she enjoys greater success than the group.

The Style Council release a new 45 tomorrow, called

"Come To Milton Keynes," while Dire Straits are issuing the title track to their album "Brothers In Arms" as a single.

Light Of The World, who were one of the pioneer groups of the 1980 British-funk movement, have remixed one of their minor hits of that year now titled "London Town '85," which deserves to fare better this time.

O.M.D. have released a new album, entitled "Crush" (on Virgin), and if you liked their recent hit "So In Love," you will enjoy the other tracks. These days their music is less technical and less serious, but it still has great appeal.

The Beach Boys are back with their first new L.P. for five years, with the highly imaginative title of "The Beach Boys!" Fortunately though, the musical content goes deeper. It is produced by Steve Levine (of Culture Club fame), so it comes as no surprise to find a Boy George/Roy Hay composi-

tion called "Passing Friend." There is also a Stevie Wonder song entitled "I Do Love You," which features his harmonica-playing.

The new single "Getcha Back" is included, and it is certainly the best summer sound of '85 so far, so if the right weather arrives then perhaps it will be a hit!

Virgin Records have bought the rights to a Stylistics' album released in the U.S.A. last year, and you can now find "Some Things Never Change" in the shops here. The sweet-soul outfit from Philadelphia will keep their fans of the Seventies happy with this package, and they have also experimented with a more up-to-date sound on some tracks. The recent single "Give A Little For Love," which is very much the Stylistics of old, can be heard on the L.P., and Russell Thompkins Jr's falsetto vocals still sound as good as they did ten years ago.

Bob Woodhead