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Bond movie music sung with style

Newly released on the big-screen is the latest James Bond adventure "Licence to Kill" starring Timothy Dalton.

The theme song from the movie "Licence to Kill" is sung by veteran soul-songstress Gladys Knight who performs the strong ballad with all her old style and enthusiasm. The track has been composed, arranged and produced by another legend in this field, Narada Michael Walden, and not surprisingly it is racing up the charts.

The album of the week is another compilation of hits recorded by the late Roy Orbison, entitled "The Singles Collection,

1965-1973". "The Legendary Roy Orbison" released shortly before his death at the end of 1988, features the main body of his hits recorded for the London Monument label between 1960 and 1965, but this new collection features his best work for the M.G.M. label between 1965 and 1973.

The change of label proved to be something of a disaster for Roy's career, as Colin Escott's interesting sleeve-notes will explain. The move resulted in the break-up of a winning team of writers, producers and musicians who had worked with him, and there was considerable disharmony in the M.G.M. set-up.

Furthermore, Roy suffered considerable per-

sonal tragedy during this period when his wife was killed in a motorcycle accident in 1966 and two of his three sons died in a house fire in 1968. Changes in musical fashion also contributed to his down-turn in popularity.

Nostalgia

Despite all the adversity, this double-album makes really interesting and enjoyable listening, and the songs sound better now with all the yearning for 1960s nostalgia, than they did during the psychedelic rock era of 20 years ago. For example "Ride Away" the bright and breezy opener for M.G.M. is a memorable pop song. "Breakin' Up Is Breakin' My Heart" is

oozing with melody, and "Cry Softly Lonely One" has a really catchy tune in the style of "Only The Lonely."

"She" is a pleasant mid-tempo affair with a superb vocal performance covering his entire, remarkable vocal range, while "Born To Be Loved By You" has an interesting arrangement, attempting to move with the musical fashions.

Roy enjoyed a few major hits during this period. "Too Soon To Know", the Don Gibson ballad that reached No. 3 in 1966, and the bouncy, little novelty song "Penny Arcade" which was his last chart hit (in 1969) for 20 years.

The second record of this double-album set, featuring his work of the

early 1970s, really shows a dramatic decline in Roy Orbison's music that is both interesting and sad to listen to.

LP CHART

- 1 Flowers In The Dirt (Paul McCartney)
- 2 Ten Good Reasons (Jason Donovan)
- 3 Raw Like Sushi (Neneh Cherry)
- 4 Club Classics, Vol One (Soul II Soul)
- 5 The Miracle (Queen)
- 6 Past Present (Clannad)
- 7 Watermark (Enya)
- 8 Appetite For Destruction (Guns 'n' Roses)
- 9 The Other Side of the Mirror (Stevie Nicks)
- 10 Don't Be Cruel (Bobby Brown).

Bob Woodhead



Gladys Knight