

Destined

to be a

19/1/89

classic

of 1989

One of the best album releases during the run-up to Christmas was the debut by Yaz, entitled "Wanted." The record includes the most successful dance hit in the clubs during 1988, "The Only Way Is Up."

This was also No. 1 in the Singles charts for five weeks throughout August, and was the best seller of the year in the Network Chart and No. 2 on the B.B.C. Chart. The follow-up, "Stand Up For Your Love Rights" which was No. 2 in November also appears on the album.

"The Only Way Is Up" with its joyful message and uplifting melody really stands out, together with "Fine Time" a gentle-rolling soul number which proves that Yaz has a versatile voice and performing manner.

This is being released as a single on Monday and already looks set to become one of the classic hits of 1989. It is the type of song that makes the hairs tingle on the back of your neck! The other two songs on side one "Where Has All The Love Gone?" and "Got To Share" are also very strong.

Melody

On the second side Yaz experiments in other fields of music. "Wanted On The Floor" is likely to become a long-term favourite on the dance floors up and down the country. "Something Special" is a jazz number on which she manages to sound like Diana Ross. "Systematic People" is a more straightforward pop tune, while "Turn It Up" has more of a funky rhythm and a good dance melody up front, similar to Heatwave's "Boogie Nights."

January is proving to be a bumper month for new singles. Two to especially watch out for are Steven Dante's "Love Follows" which is one of the best cuts on his debut album, and "Where Is The Love?" the soul classic revived by the imaginative pairing of Will Downing and Mica Paris.

Chart toppers

George Michael dominated the American charts in 1988, having four chart-topping singles, including the No. 1 of the year "Faith." His LP, also called "Faith" was the year's top selling album, bought by six and a half million Americans. He is, therefore, the first artist in nearly 20 years to have the top album and single of the year in the U.S.A.

Best seller

Below is a list of the best selling albums and singles of 1988 in Britain, according to the B.B.C. Cliff Richard's "Mistletoe And Wine" actually overtook

Record Review

Yazz's "The Only Way Is Up" to become the best-seller on Christmas Eve. It is Cliff's second single to become best-seller of its year, emulating "Living Doll" which was the No. 1 hit of 1959. Many thanks to pop expert Robert Richard for pointing out that Kylie Minogue held the No. 2 spot for an amazing 15 weeks in 1988, and the No. 1 spot for five weeks. Her most recent hit, the duet "Especially For You" has finally reached No. 1 in 1989 after spending the whole of December at No. 2.

Albums

(with 1987 positions in brackets)

- 1 (-) Kylie (Kylie Minogue).
- 2 (-) Private Collection (Cliff Richard).
- 3 (-) BAD (Michael Jackson).
- 4 (-) Push (Bros).
- 5 (-) Now 13 (Various).
- 6 (37) Popped In, Souled Out (Wet Wet Wet).
- 7 (-) Tracy Chapman.
- 8 (16) Introducing The Hardline According To Terence Trent D'Arby.
- 9 (6) Tango In The Night (Fleetwood Mac).
- 10 (-) Rattle And Hum (U2).

Singles

1. Mistletoe And Wine (Cliff Richard).
2. The Only Way Is Up (Yazz).
3. I Should Be So Lucky (Kylie Minogue).
4. Especially For You (Kylie Minogue and Jason Donovan).
5. I Think We're Alone Now (Tiffany).
6. Nothing's Gonna Change My Love For You (Glenn Medeiros).
7. A Groovy Kind Of Love (Phil Collins).
8. He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother (Hollies).
9. With A Little Help From My Friends (Wet Wet Wet).
10. Teardrops (Womack and Womack).

Next week the column will be back to normal with the weekly LP Chart, but for an update I can report that "No. 13" was No. 1 for three weeks in December, giving way to Cliff Richard's "Private Collection" for the last two weeks in 1988. It was then top for the first week of 1989 but is no longer eligible as compilations have been excluded from the main listings. The current No. 1 is "The Innocents" by Erasure - one of the best albums of 1988.

Bob Woodhead



Yazz

Reduced
from A3 → A4.