

Just Pics



PAUL HARDCASTLE is one of the new breed of British recording artists — the studio technicians. After experimenting with a number of group formats from 1981, Hardcastle signed to Chrysalis last year and his second solo single, '19', struck a chord with UK record buyers. The song, a sophisticated three-minute construction, is an anti-war record, the title inspired by a TV documentary Hardcastle saw which explained that the average age of combat soldiers in Vietnam was 19 years. In World War 2 it was 26.

Madness had 'Michael Caine', Bananarama had 'Waiting For Robert De Niro'...and now PREFAB SPROUT have a whole album entitled 'Steve McQueen'. The album, soon to be released in this country, is the group's second, a somewhat jazzy follow-up to 'Swoon'.



French singer Anne Pigalle is the most recent signing to the Zang Tumb Tuum label; acoustic and

eclectic, she seems set to break their habit of exhaustively produced synthesiser bands. But

not their habit of exhaustive hype, eh? Bonjour, et merci.



In the big, boomy world of dance pop, the name of NILE RODGERS booms louder than most. As a member of Chic, he anticipated many of today's dance sounds and styles and among his credits as a producer are Bowie's massive 'Let's Dance' and the Durans' 'Wild Boys'. His first solo album was the

exquisitely titled 'Land of the Good Groove' and now he has a new one, 'B-Movie Matinee' — the title is inspired by Rodgers' love for trashy movies. Although nothing official has been said, word is that Chic is no more, with both Rodgers and co-founder Bernard Edwards involved in production for others.

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