

teamed with those of the remainder of the band, rhythm section Faye Hunter and Sarah Romweber. That's what makes the Easter-Hunter composition 'Ring True' the best thing on the record, well, that and a great chorus. The other standouts are 'Easy Does', a buoyant pop song with chiming electric piano, and 'Blue Line'.

But *bits* of almost every song are good and *Cypress* is a singularly friendly record that sounds like it was fun to make. Let's Active won't drag you in the door but once you're in the room there's no reason not to stay there.

**Russell Brown**  
**Jesse Johnson's Revue**  
**A&M**

The Clown Prince of Funk met a pauper one day when he was strutting his stuff down in downtown Minneapolis. "I could do that," said the pauper, whose name was Jesse. The Prince just dribbled in reply: "Be my friend," for most of his friends were too tired to come out with the Prince, and some of them couldn't walk as well as they used to.

Jesse Johnson (Gemini) got on a Greyhound bus at Rock Hound, Illinois, one summer and wound up second-hand man to Morris Day and the Time. And of course they're the guys that played bad while Prince was acting mad and bad in *Purple Rain*.

Jesse, who got yelled at a lot in 'Jungle Love', and co-wrote the song, eventually decided to call it a day and clock up some time as a Rock Star. Then Jesse (a Gemini, he likes girls who are sexy, loving but can stand on their own two feet) while waiting to be a Star, produced two songs for Janet Jackson, co-wrote 'Strawberry

Shortcake' for Sheila E and played guitar for Shalamar on 'Dead Giveaway'.

His first solo album, made early this year, features one Time keyboardist and four others who look like misshapen David Grant dolls. The Revue is nude but not rude. This is Prince by numbers, no controversy, guitar flights with kid doves. No perverse sex, no incomprehensible ramblings, no stained sheets of sound, or deranged arrangements. This is clone (the) funk, and whatever Jesse Johnson (a Gemini) says, being friends with 'the Mental Mentor' is no license to sound like him.

Nevertheless, I (an Aries) like this album and so does my doggy-woggy (a Cancer). We were only being mean so we could slip in some puns we thought up. We give it six woofs and hope to see



Jesse Johnson

Jesse Johnson's Revue back again next year. Goodnight.  
**Peter Grace**

**The Sweet**  
**Sweet 16**  
**Starcall**

Boy, the Sweet. I remember badgering my Dad into handing over the money for a record that, as my tastes stood in Standard Four, seemed pretty close to heaven; the Sweet on one side and Slade on the other. When I got it home I realised it was one of those Dutch soundalike things and was most downcast. But you could hear all the songs on the radio anyway, and you sort of got used to the funny accents ...

The Sweet were a Mickie Most production and one of his more successful; they had a string of hit singles in the early 70s. They looked ridiculous and, frankly, they were as deep as the kitschen sink. But the songs on side one of this compilation bristle with an up-frontness that's almost impossible to resist. Much of it's due to the production — huge but acoustic-sounding rhythm section with guitar and vocals sprayed all over it — and its relentless brightness. The sound changes from sheer bubblegum like 'Poppa Joe' to fantastical raunch like 'Blockbuster', but the economy and energy runs right through. Side two is drawn from their later phase, when the hit singles were fewer; accordingly, the stuff that did succeed got recycled in the hope of a repeat and you get the 'Fox On the Run' vocal harmony on three other songs. Apart from that song and the raucous 'Action', the side gives a glimpse of what the Sweet's albums must have been like. Less than tasty.

These days it's safe to sit back and rationalise why you liked 70s crap-pop — the amazing production on BCR's 'Rock 'n' Roll Love Letter', Noddy Holder's voice, the altogether classier raunch of most of Abba's singles. Perhaps much of today's white dreck will be regarded in the same way in 10 years' time. But I dunno — the successive Duran singles and their whatevermixes are closer to pomp rock than anything else, and *nobody* really loves pomp rock. This record makes me smile and tap my feet. I do not think Go West will ever do this to me.

**Russell Brown**

# MODELS



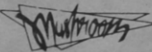
OUT OF MIND OUT OF SIGHT

DUE SOON ON ALBUM AND TAPE

ALSO AVAILABLE

"BARBADOS" ON 7" AND 12"(REMIX)

"OUT OF MIND  
OUT OF SIGHT" ON 7" AND 12"(REMIX)



# PEKING MAN

'ROOM THAT ECHOS'  
NEW SINGLE & 12" AVAILABLE NOVEMBER



- 26 Devo, Knack, Mi-Sex, Wellington Special.

30 Sweetwaters issue programme; John Martyn, Elvis Costello, Renee Geyer, No Nukes, Squeeze, NZ Band profiles, Split Enz, Toy Love, Hello Sailor Citizen Band, Th' Dudes, Street Talk.

31 Sweetwaters, Swingers, Mi-Sex.

32 Police & Split Enz interviews, Sharon O'Neill.

34 Tom Petty & Street Talk interviews, Mi-Sex, Virgin supplement, Whizz Kids & Pop Mechanix bandfiles.

35 'Quadrophonia', Bob Geldof & Kevin Stanton interviews, Newz & Flight X7 bandfiles.

38 Howard Devoto, Tim Finn interviews.

39 XTC, Lip Service, Motels.

40 Martha Davis, David Byrne, Dave McCartney, Doors, Bruce Springsteen, Hammond Gamble.

41 Coup D'Etat, Flowers (Icehouse), John Lennon, Clash, Elton John.

42 Clash interview, Cold Chisel, INXS, Tigers, Jo Jo Zep, Borich/Tilders.

44 Adam Ant, Associates & Police interviews, Stevie Wonder.

48 Cold Chisel, Blams, Wgtn Zone.

49 Angels, Beat, Lemmy Motorhead, Desmond Dekker, Heavy Metal Guide.

50 Swingers, U2, Psychedelic Furs, the Clean.

51 Newmatics, Cramps, Stray Cats, UB40, Blind Date & Gordons interviews.

52 Echo and the Bunnymen, Danise Mascabre, Penknife Glides, Mockers, Valentinos, Jimmy & the Boys.

54 Dave McCartney & Pink Flamingos.
- Go-Gos interview, Sunnyboys, INXS.

56 Teardrop Explodes, DD Smash, Mick Jones Part 2, Neighbours, Richard Burgess.

57 Clean, Pretenders, South Island bands, Joan Armatrading, Mental As Anything, Chaz Jankel.

58 Blams, Teardrops, Hall & Oates, Bill Wyman, Kottke/Redbone interviews.

59 Human League, Men At Work, Chills, Tim Finn, Motels, Elvis Costello live, Furthe EP.

61 Graham Brazier & Harry Lyon, Fall, Jim Carrol, Daggy & the Dickheads, Hip Singles, Dropbears.

63 Simple Minds' Jim Kerr interviewed, Split Enz Part 2, Renee Geyer, Nocturnal Projections, Willie Dayson Blues Band, Hunters & Collectors.

65 Yazoo (Alison Moyet interview), Joe Cocker, Zoo (ex Pop Mechanix), Guriz, Jo Jo Zep.

68 Herbs, Culture Club, Bauhaus, Kiwi Animal, No Tag, Sharon O'Neill, Thompson Twins, ChCh Special (Wastrels, Flying Nun, Bill Dreen, etc.).

69 Joni Mitchell, Dance Exponents, Who, Neighbours, Dire Straits, Talk Talk, Miltown Stowaways, Blond Comedy.

73 Wham, Dead Kennedys, Coconut Rough, Angels, Marginal Era, Grammar Boys, Fishschool, John Cale, Studio profile.

74 Malcolm McLaren, Heaven 17, Joan Armatrading, Sharon O'Neill, Children's Hour.

75 Tim Finn, John Cale, Jonathan Richman, Hammond Gamble, Dick Driver.
- 80 Police, Paul Young, Motown feature, John Peel Wastrels, Bryan Adams, Big Chill.

81 Smiths, Mockers, Def Leppard, Violent Femmes, Miltown Stowaways, Chills, Doublehappys, Marvin Gaye, Alfred Hitchcock.

82 Billy Idol, Pamela Stephenson, Four Tops, Temptations, Verlaines, Uriah Heep.

83 Elvis Costello, Thompson Twins, Netherworld Dancing Toys, Mockers, Paul Morley.

84 Style Council (Paul Weller interview), Echo & the Bunnymen, Midnight Oil, Kiwi Animal, Sneaky Feelings, Depeche Mode.

85 Mockers, Special AKA, Motorhead, Icehouse, Great Unwashed, Coconut Rough, Neil Finn, Fixx.

87 DD Smash, U2, Bill Dreen Pt 1, Nick Cave, Stevie Ray Vaughan.

88 Herbs, Talking Heads, Aztec Camera, Narcs, Car Crash Set, Axemen, SPK.

89 Frankie Goes To Hollywood, Beatles, Deep Purple, ZZ Top, Twisted Sister, Aotea Riot, Eurogliders, Rip, Say Yes To
- Apes, Look Blue Go Purple.

90 Lou Reed, Go-Between, Paul Hewson, Topp Twins.

91 Neil Young, Giorgio Moroder, Waterboys, David Puttnam, Freudian Slips, Electric Pandas.

92 Hunters and Collectors, Lloyd Cole, Pelicans, Peter Garrett: Left Right & Centre, Economic Wizards.

93 Dance Exponents, Huey Lewis, Robert Palmer (Power Station), Peking Man, Circus Block 4, This Kind Of Punishment.

94 New Order interview, Iron Maiden, Stranglers, Johnny's, Michael Winslow, Plans For A Building.

95 Chills, Killing Joke, Dazz Band, Expendables, Jason & the Scorchers, Last Man Down.

96 Netherworld Dancing Toys, China Crisis, Robert Plant, Doublehappys, Kiwi Animal, Nils Lofgren.

97 Bryan Ferry, Dynamic Hepnotics, Men At Work, Bats, Shriekback.

## BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE

Circle the numbers of the issues you require and post to *Rip It Up* Back Issues, PO Box 5689, Auckland 1. Send 60 cents each. If purchasing only one *Rip It Up* send \$1.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

enclosed \$

# 中華人民共和國

= LATEST RELEASES =



Available from:  
Strangely Normal  
160 Hobson St Auckland  
ph 778-681 Open 11-3

## MAIL ORDER COUPON:

	S	M	L	XL
Shirts				
Vests				
T/Shirts				

34	36	38	40	42	44
----	----	----	----	----	----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

We Wholesale!

B/CARD ☐ USA ☐ CHQ ☐  
MONEY ORDER ☐ please V  
CARD NO: \_\_\_\_\_  
EXPIRY DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL SENT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Send to: Best Vests,  
P.O.Box 39110,  
Auckland West.