Records

Mask of Smiles (EMI)

The ex-lead singer with the mid-70s power-pop group the Babys comes forth with his third solo effort. His '84 hit 'Missing You' brought attention to this man from both the critics and public alike. both the critics and public alike but unfortunately this selection of tracks does little to justify longevity in the eye of the public. Make no mistake, Waite still possesses a unique voice, but this album does not really cut it. The single 'Every Step Of the Way', the Smokey Robinson number 'Ain't That Peculiar' and the pedestrian but melodic 'Welcome To Paradise' are passable but the overall results are too calculated to satisfy.

ive

A.R.T.E.M.I.S. (Axmin Real Time Electric Music Image Show — A Celebration of the New

Moon) Robert McDougall Gallery, September 15

This was the second multi media event in Christchurch within the month — phewie, it's spring fever time down South! Earlier in

the month the *Lines Of Thought* performance at the Free Theatre had been inspiring — the Good-night Kiwi would never be the same, and the event had shown how successful the mixing of theatre, slides, lightshows, music and sculpture could be.

Now for the Axmin and friends I had gone intending to pop in to see what was going on and then slink off home to watch RWP. Instead I stayed for two hours and had great difficulty leaving 'cos it

was so good.
The Axmin created a big sound in the gallery foyer — something it had probably never heard resounding around in it since it was built. I found the sound level good and I sat back, relaxed and enjoyed watching the slide show and grooving to the big beat held down by Stu Kawowski (who looked a bit like Captain Trips as the lights reflected off his round glasses). Above him, slides appeared for the right amount of time to implant on your consciousness scenes from everyday life as an Axmin in New Zealand or as a tourist in America (Stu is a very good photographer I think to myself). Unfortunately I missed the Axmin Super-8 film on How To Screenprint but I caught the films of Lisa and Lawrence Lens; Lisa's scratch 'n' paint Super-8 was great and Lawrence's "Rock-Doc" on ChCh bands the Connoisseurs, Scorched Earth Policy and the McGoohans was both visually great and amusing. Steve

McCabe's starring role in the film How To Brew Coffee Wine was also great, with a very funny scene of Steve sitting stripped to the waist with Xmas tinsel wrapped around him, chain smoking and slugging

back the evil brew.

An added bonus Lawrence's spontaneous lightshow. I think he was trying to make another film (they never stop, this lot) and by moving lights he created a great

lightshow in the foyer.
What more can I say!? I left, walking past the dazed gallery su-pervisor, past the huge Alsation waiting for its owner and out down the alleyway into a starlit ChCh night — and, gee, I felt inspired! Hamish Kilgour

Singles Bar

Grace Jones Slave to the Rhythm (Manhattan) 12

Ms Jones appears on the cover screaming, broken glass flying. But the grooves on this 12" aren't designed to be bone-crunching, there's more to rhythm than a big bang. Trevor Horn traps Grace in a subtle mix of Chic rhythm guitar, understated Go-Go drums and cascades of violins. A great record and I can't wait for the album.

This Is England (CBS) 12"

Well I wasn't expecting 'Garageland' or even 'London's

Calling, but this is just terrible. Sort of like one of those tracks on Sandinista you never got around to playing. Joe Strummer and co. attempts at social commentary make Peter and the Test Tube Basound like Dylan and the whole thing is wrapped around se-cond hand rhythms and a football supporters' chant. I think the

Talking Heads Road To Nowhere (EMI) 12"

Byrne has a nice line on nihilism with this jivy little march tune. The choir at the beginning is a nice touch, leading into a great bass and drum rhythm. A rousing an-them that even Sam Beckett would be proud of.
Ready For the World

Oh Sheila (MCA) 12"
First time I heard this on the radio I thought it was Prince and you will too. But no, it's a band with a name that only Americans could ever think of, and a riff lifted off Prince's Controversy album. This has already been number one in the US and is bound to be big down here. Expect to get sick of hearing it by Christmas.

Pop Life (Warner Bros) 12"

A fairly bitter survey of Prince's private world, more psychedelic angst with a beat. Not that I don't like it, but I preferred Prince in simpler, sexier times. All of his 12"s are worth buying for the flip — here we have a "fresh" dance mix of 'Smile', with lots of rhythmic The Damned Is It A Dream (MCA)

Host sight of the boys after 'New Rose' (those many years ago!) but others still love them. Troy thinks this is "accessible but essential. Is It A Dream' is lightweight pop, but the live version of 'Street Of Dreams' is a powerful, dark *Black* Album-type anthem" and he should know.

Red Box Lean On Me (Sire) 12"

The 80s equivalent of bubble-gum music seems to be young men looking meaningful and saying nothing. In this case, Red Box want us to say "ah-li-ayo" a lot. By the way, I heard this six times on one radio station — the DJ thought it was brilliant.

Take On Me (Warner Bros)

Number one in the US and destined to be huge and gee whizz it's real cute too. It's amazing how these boys have such high voices
— it must be some form of

Kerry Buchanan

etters

Post to 'RIU' Letters, PO Box 5689, Auckland 1.

The Objectionable Objection I am thrilled the station manager of 1ZM promises not to object to any plans I may have to

RIU). I may hold him to that one day. In the meantime perhaps Chris Bray can explain why his masters in the Broadcasting Corporation have objected to Campus Radio's broadcast application for next year. Not satisfied with plot-ting an underhand takeover of commercial radio, it seems our state-run broadcasters also seek to smother student stations. The students' only crime is success. Following a fundamental public broadcasting principle, they have identified audiences not being catered for and sought to provide them with a conjust of purifical. them with a service. If our "real" public broadcasters strenuously avoid this responsibility how dare they complain when someone else attempts it. The hypocrisy is staggering and also objectionable.

set up a radio station (Letters, Oct

Mark Everton Auckland

Pished Off ...

Why can't you fellows put a de-cent front page to your paper so I know which is the front and which way up it's meant to be. Also the paper seems to be turning into a liquor publication journal. There seems to be more information on how to get pissed the expensive way than about rock music, which is why I subscribed to this publication in the first place. Clean it up before you outsell Purex toilet

Tony Markotich Moerewa

Nah, it makes lousy toilet paper RB

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