

# Records

**Phil Broadhurst, Andy Brown, Frank Gibson Jr**  
*Iris*  
*Ode*

Last month in these pages I moaned about the poor New Zealand production marring an

otherwise excellent jazz trio album. Now, thankfully, I can counter that complaint with praise. *Iris* is clearly and accurately recorded. More importantly though, the music itself is a delight.

Pianist Broadhurst is the co-leader of, and principal writer for, the quartet Sustenance. Playing in that context, alongside saxophonist Colin Hemmingsen, I sometimes found the music overly polite, as if flowing more from

the head than the heart. In this trio setting however, Broadhurst's intelligence and emotion are beautifully integrated. His considerable craft and obvious feeling for the music fairly shine.

Abandoning his own compositions for a change, Broadhurst has made a superb selection from six prominent jazz writers and two of popular song. While most pieces are well known (but not yet over-recorded), the renditions here are both sympathetic and refreshing. His explorations of say, Bill Evans' 'Peri's Scope' and Wayne Shorter's title number display great affinity for their work.

But this isn't just a piano record. It's a trio. And while Frank and Andy may seem to appear on three out of every four New Zealand jazz releases, that's simply because they're the best. Exceptionally good in fact. Now some people have been heard to complain about over-exposure of this rhythm section. Well I've been enjoying it for years and they just seem to keep getting better. Excit-

ing, invigorating, so complementary, they remain one of my very favourite units. They certainly deserve the democratic billing with Broadhurst.

There's no nationalistic reason for suggesting you investigate *Iris* — Broadhurst, Brown and Gibson are beyond that. The reason is simply that it's a lovely record.  
**Peter Thomson**

gods, but there's nothing divine happening here. Sounds very much like the Cars, but going downhill.

**Daryl Hall**  
*Dreamtime (RCA 7")*

Hey Daryl baby, this is just great. Love the Bay City Roller bits, wonderful. You've sure got your finger on the pop pulse, so to speak.

**Stevie Winwood**  
*Higher Love (Island 12")*

A white reggae lilt aiming for that summer hit, it's going to be real big. It's sort of like a *Miami Vice* episode, but without the drugs.

**I'm Talking**  
*Holy Word (Regular 12")*

Much better than previous releases, reminds me of late-70s disco, with the Chic guitar and the cascading strings working in and out of the beat. One of the best new dance tracks released.

**Lovebug Starski**  
*Amityville (The House on the Hill) (Epic 12")*

The Lovebug shows us around Amityville where we meet the

usual crew of Drak, Frank, the Mummy and also Mr Spock and Capt Kirk. Real fun rap disc that should find pop favour. Rhymed in the old style but the rhythm is tough enough.

**Billy Bragg**  
*Levi Stubbs's Tears (Chrysalis 12")*

Four tracks from the British Woody Guthrie, with a sensational cover of the Four Tops' version of 'Walk Away Renee'. Modern folk songs about personal despair and political hope, the live in East Berlin GDR version of 'Between the Wars' is powerful. But it's the cover of Dick Gaughan's 'Think Again' that hits the hardest. Those of you who are anti-Soviet better keep away.

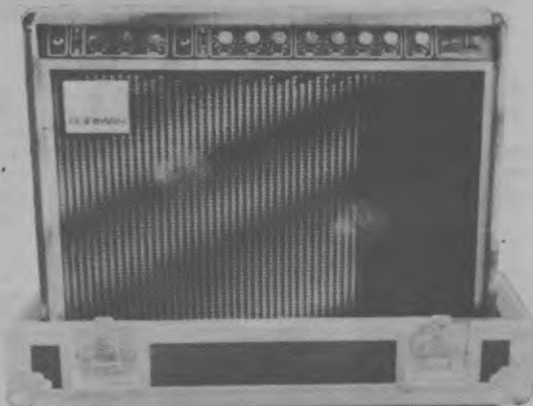
**Junior C Reaction**  
*Better Must Come (Chrysalis 12")*

This is truly massive, political reggae with an electro feel. Love the quotes from Lee Dorsey's 'Working in a Coal Mine' and Ray Charles' 'Hallelujah, I Just Love Her So', and the toasting is neat. Great for dancing.

**Kerry Buchanan**

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**Dhar Braxton**  
*Jump Back (Island 12")*

Big dance hit overseas and heavy on the backbeat, with nice cowbell breaks to keep it interesting. Check out the old-time Millie Jackson rap on the flip, it's cool.

**Talking Heads**  
*Wild Wildlife (EMI 7")*

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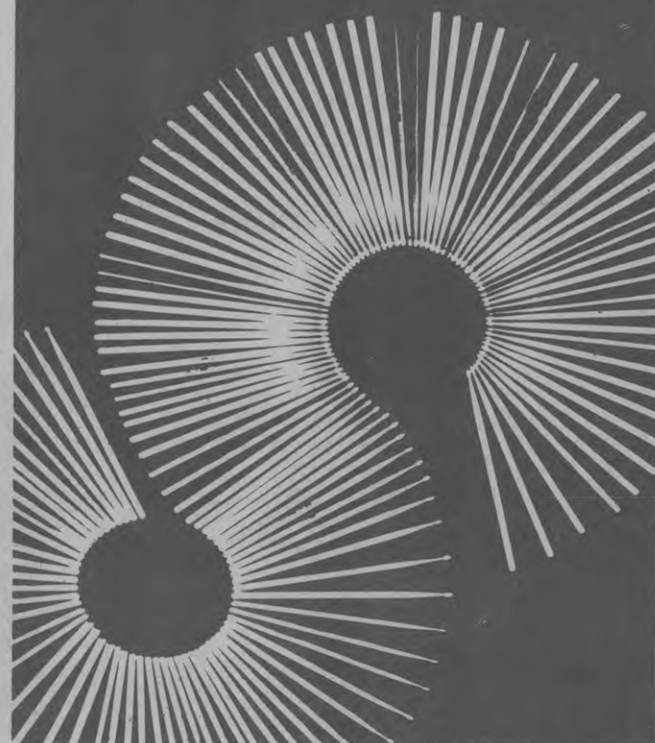
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