

I Jah Man

Also known as Levi I-Jahman, born Trevor Sutherland, in Kingston, 1946. Has been singing since 1962 and came to England in 1963. Has worked with Carl Simmonds and Rico Rodriguez on various sessions. An uncompromising cult figure. His one Island album, *Haile I Hymn*, was recorded in 1978.

Zap Pow

Six-piece band formed in 1970 by David Madden and Dwight Pickney. Regarded highly as the most experimental band in Jamaica, best known for their 1972 recording, 'This Is Reggae Music'. Well ahead of their time, which reflects in their relatively small sales. Steel Pulse paid tribute to Pickney in their song 'Rock Against Racism'.
Titles available: Zap Pow.



Steel Pulse

Steel Pulse

Arguably the best of the British reggae bands. Their hometown is the ghetto area of Handsworth, Birmingham. The sound is rootsy, but of necessity reflects the members' more sophisticated urban origins. True black, British music. Their debut Island album, *Handsworth Revolution*, broke new ground in ethnic music, and includes the classic 'Ku Klux Klan'. The follow-up, *Tribute To The Martyrs*, was even stronger. Both can, and should be, purchased here. A third LP, *Caught You*, has yet to emerge.

Best Of

Two intelligent compilations,

This Is Reggae Vols I and II, are available here and both are worth having. A well-chosen cross-section of Island's reggae catalogue, including the likes of Junior Murvin ('Police And Thieves'), Max Romeo, Justin Hines and Lee Perry.

Black Uhuru

Michael Rose, Derek Simpson and Puma Jones are showing new directions for reggae, bringing a fresh approach to the rhythm, assisted by the giant presences of Robbie Shakespeare and Sly Dunbar. Watch for them.

Titles available: *Sinsemilla*. A new album, *Red*, has been recently released overseas.



Jamaican Peace Concert, Kingston, April 1978. Left People's National Party leader Michael Manley, right Jamaican Labour Party leader Edward Seaga.

'BOB MARLEY' CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

near the glory of the earlier *Live!* However, both these albums remain precious reminders of what an exciting stage performer Marley was. His 1979 Western Springs concert gave Aucklanders the privilege of seeing a genius at work. Marley picked them up by the scruff of the neck, opened his heart and mind to them, and made them dance till they could dance no more. Another treasured memory.

Survival laid it on the line. The black man's struggle was chronicled with passion and anger. He was reminded of the suffering of those who had gone before, and of his duty to his heritage. The message was 'Wake Up And Live':

Flee from hate, mischief and jealousy,

Don't bury your thoughts,

Put your vision to reality, Yeah!

'Ambush' related directly to the 1976 assassination attempt, when gunmen entered Marley's home, wounding Bob, Rita and manager Don Taylor. After that incident, Marley called more than ever on his faith to sustain him. But he was already a dying man.

Cancer was diagnosed as far back as 1977. The secret was closely guarded, until Marley finally entered a German clinic earlier this year, hoping for a miracle cure for what had already been deemed terminal.

His last album, *Uprising*, didn't match the fire of its predecessor. Its best moments provide pointers to his approaching end, pouring his heart out for what he knew might be the last time:

Why do you look so sad and forsaken,

Don't you know when one door is closed

Don't you know many more are open.

(*Coming In From The Cold*)

So old man river don't cry for me,

I have got a running stream of love you see.

Cause just like the tree planted by the river of water,

That bringeth forth fruits in due season,

Everything in life got its purpose,

Find its reason in every season.

(*Forever Loving Jah*)

His closing song was the most poignant. Alone with an acoustic guitar, Marley delivered 'Redemption Song', a plea to his brethren to carry on the struggle:

Emancipate yourselves from mental slavery,

None but ourselves can free our minds.

How long shall they kill our prophets

While we stand aside and look.

Some say it's just a part of it,

We've got to fulfil the book.

Won't you help to sing these songs of freedom ...

A unique talent is gone, a great voice is silent. Bob Marley joins the list of people cruelly taken by untimely death. All of them leave us wondering what they would have achieved had they lived longer. A negative thought.

Bob Marley was a great achiever in his 36 years, a black man getting ahead in a white man's world, encouraging others to do the same. In his words, he gave hope and inspiration. In his music, he gave happiness.

Marley was asked once if believed he would go to heaven when he died. He said no, and was asked why:

"Cos if when I dead I go to heaven, then where was I before I am? If heaven's the right place where I was before I am, then I should have stayed there."

Peace to a truly remarkable brother.

Duncan Campbell



Winston Rodney

Burning Spear

Born Winston Rodney, in the St Ann's parish, also Marley's birthplace. The name is that given to prophet Marcus Garvey, whose memory Rodney is dedicated to preserving. Started in 1968 as a trio, with Rupert Hines and Delroy Wilmington, but later went solo. Lyrical, meditative roots reggae at its best. Only *Dry and Heavy*, Spear's first solo studio album, is listed in the catalogue. However, copies of *Man In The Hills* and the excellent *Live* album (backing by British band Aswad and some JA session men) do turn up here and there.

Inner Circle

A trio formed in 1968, comprising Jacob Miller, Ian Lewis and Roger Lewis. They were frequently accused of being middle-of-the-road, largely because they gigged mostly around the hotel circuit. A crossover disco sound, their name has become better known since Miller's death in a car crash.

Titles available: *Everything Is Great*.

IMPORTS

Arriving in NZ in six to eight weeks is several thousand Island reggae imports from the UK. None of the 40 titles have been previously released in Australia or New Zealand.

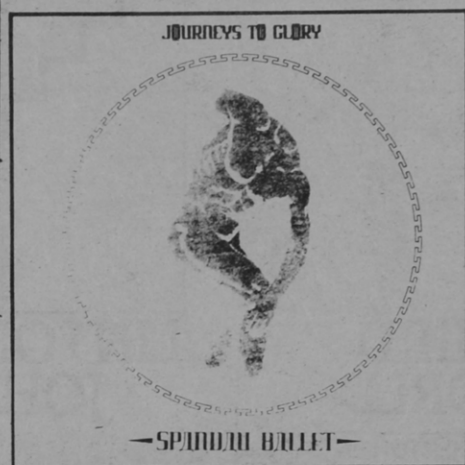
Artists include Aswad, Max Romeo and the Upsetters, Dillinger, Judy Mowatt, Michael Prophet, Lee Scratch Perry, the Melodians, Yabby U, Tony Tuff, Jacob Miller, and Pablo Moses. Early ska compilations and unreleased albums by Inner Circle, Burning Spear and Bunny Wailer will also be imported.

To get in first keep an eye on *Rip It Up* and your local record store.

SPINDU BULLET



Chrysalis



Island

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said
it
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ISLAND

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U2

Boy

Island

U2 are from Dublin, breeding ground of the Boomtown Rats. Although they have existed since the primeval days of punk, it took them until last year to secure release of their debut, *Boy*.

Produced by Steve Lillywhite (of XTC fame), *Boy* is above all intense. It combines melody and harmony with the semi-metal fervour favoured by the Skids. On the opener, 'I Will Follow', the voice of Bono Vox twists up to a full-paced chant over reverberating guitars and crashing drums. Through the whole of Side One, they don't let up. 'An Cat Dubh', 'Twilight' and especially 'Out of Control' all ooze the excitement lacking in many of Britain's elite.

As the cover and title suggest, *Boy* is concerned with the problems of growing up. 'Stories for Boys' deals with the same area touched on by 'Twilight' and 'I Will Follow'.

A boy tries hard to be a man, His mother takes him by his hand,

If he stops to think he starts to cry,

Oh, Why?

Only on 'The Ocean' does the music reflect the lyrical depression. Short and sombre, it's mood parallels Joy Division.

U2, with their mixture of old wave skills and new wave ideals, have made a record for the masses. A stunning debut. Mark Phillips