

# HARDWARE

## RANE RC24T PAQRAT

The RC24 PAQRAT is a revolutionary new device from Rane that allows a 16-bit Modular Digital Multitrack audio recorder to record and playback digital audio signals with up to 24 bits of resolution. Because it is very difficult to store digital audio signals with greater than 16-bit resolution the extra bits created by your 20-bit analog/digital converter (or other digital equipment) are thrown away. The PAQRAT allows you to keep those bits and get the most from your 20-bit investment. The RC24AT interfaces to the Tascam DA-88 or anything compatible with the DA-88's TDIF interface. Operation of the PAQRAT is straightforward and other features include selectable 16-bit dither on AES/EBU output and affordable 20-bit (up to 24-bit) mastering or archiving. These units retail for \$2,542.50 + GST (RC24T) and \$2,812.50 + GST (RC24A). Available from Audio & Video Wholesalers, ph (07) 847 3414.

## PEAVEY Q 215

The Peavy Q 215 is a dual 15-band graphic equalizer designed specifically for sound reinforcement applications such as house and club-band PA systems. The Q 215 offers stereo EQing of the main PA or dual-channel monitor equalization.

Features: 2/3-octave, dual 15-band equalization, +/- 12 dB cut or boost, constant Q filters on standard ISO centers, 20Hz to 20kHz band width. Retail \$695. Available from Australis Music Group, ph (09) 837 3230.

## PEAVEY MDJ 1150 & 2150 DJ SPEAKERS

MDJ 1150 — Features: One 15" woofer with protective circular speaker grille, 4" X 10-1/2" mid-range super horn and dual piezo-electric high-frequency horn, frequency response 70Hz to 20kHz, dual 1/4" phone jacks. Retail \$695.

MDJ 2150 — Dual 15" woofer with protective circular speaker grille, 4" X 10-1/2" mid-range super horn and dual piezo-electric high-frequency horn, frequency response 50Hz to 20kHz, dual 1/4" phone jacks, power handling: 250 watts continuous; 500 watts programme. Retail \$1095. Available from Australis Music Group, ph (09) 837 3230.



# singles

Been a while and, although there's not a lot to catch up on, the leading three platters show the art of cooking emotions into three/four minute tidbits hasn't disappeared. First up, **Portishead** were one of the finds of last year with their gorgeous, moody blues and electric undercurrent and that's exactly 'Glory Box' (Go Beat), and it's three deliciously seductive re-mixes.

More newcomers, and **Gene** are equally impressive in their own field. Their third single a triple A-side 'Sleep Well Tonight'/'Sick, Sober and Sorry'/'Her Fifteen Years' (Polydor), confirms vocalist Martin Rossiter and the bands ambition and ability to fill the Smiths long vacant shoes. If these three evocative tunefully wrought pieces of angst pathos and humour are anything to go by then Morrissey can retire under his bus. Try

'Her Fifteen Years' as an unbelievable slice of melancholy.

Years in the making and almost up to expectations is the **Stone Roses** *Second Coming*, with the single 'Love Spreads' (Geffen). It's a patient classic, with **John Squire** opening fire with hard rock 70s slide guitar riffery and Brown boasting about messiahs and sisters. The whole thing bounces along with the sure hand of professionals.

REM lift their second single from *Monster* in the shape of the two dimensional 'Bang and Blame' (Warners). Stipe simmers in the verses, then erupts into a chorus of sex and accusation. Three live tracks add to the attraction.

Next up is **Robbie Robertson's** Red Road Ensemble's 'Mahk Jchl' (Capitol). It's a delightful, heart stoppingly haunting, tradi-

tional Indian ballad. Magical.

It's been around a while, but don't underestimate or miss **Hootie and the Blowfish's** 'Hold My Hand'/'Running From An Angel' (Atlantic). It has a big beefy, gospel presence with a ridiculously uplifting chorus that kicks 'authentic' posers like Counting Crow shit into the nearest bayou.

In the final bracket, and **Shane MacGowan** lifts the ironically titled 'The Woman's Got Me Drinking' (ZTT) from his solo album. It's solid 'Gloria' inspired rock 'n' roll, but the traditional 'Roddy McCorley' and 'Minstrel Boy' get closer to his bedraggled magnificence. Last up, Australians the **Cruel Sea** continue on their trail through the swamps and bayous of R&B in the big, mean, growling 'Better Get A Lawyer'.

GEORGE KAY

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