

WRITERS' FAVES

RUSSELL BROWN

ALBUMS

Beatin Hearts, the Builders: More life! Every heart more life!
Music for a New Society, John Cale: Haunting, unique, deceptively-bare music. Years best concert!
High Land Hard Rain, Aztec Camera: Wild-haired boy descends from hills, constructs happy-sad pop, hold the polish.
The Bad Seed, the Birthday Party: Big, Loud Love Songs that shrug obscurantism and here is!
Before Hollywood, the Go-Betweens: Strange but familiar, a lesson in understatement.
A Distant Shore, Tracey Thorne: Soft sad, the image holds. The music for bedtimes.

NZ SINGLES

1. 'Death and the Maiden', Verlaines.
2. 'Flesh', Children's Hour.
3. 'Canned Music', Tall Dwarfs.
4. 'Punch', Spines.
5. 'Fetalmania', Fetus Productions. (Hon. mentions to Mockers, Expendables, Vic Dimisich Band, Car Crash Set, Unrestful Movements.)

NZ TAPES

1. 'Oddities', the Clean.
2. 'Gone Aiwa', Above Ground.
3. 'Gorgonzola', Steve Roach.
4. 'This is Heaven', Paul Luker.
5. 'Weirdcats', Various TV Eye artists.

BEST BAND NAME

BEST HAIRCUT

BEST DRESSED SLEEVES

- Jive Bombers
- Mark Brooks, White Boys
- 'Yellow Read Aloud', Marie and the Atom.
- 'Grow Up', Ballon D'essai.
- 'Canned Music', Tall Dwarfs.
- 'Equinox', Axemen (tape).
- 'Be My Friend', Sneaky Feelings.

WORST SLEEVE

- 'Strange Faces at the Oasis' Legionnaires.

KERRY BUCHANAN

TOP SOUNDS FOR 83

'Planet Rock'/'Searching for the Perfect Beat', Afrika Bambatta and the Sonic Soul Force/Arthur Baker 12": From New York to Otahuhu, the sound of the bop and soaring sales of white gloves.
 'Confusion', New Order/Arthur Baker 12": New Order go to the Funhouse and come out Bakerised.

'Last Night A DJ Saved My Life', Indeeep 12": Witty and sexy, a true dance delight.
 1999, Prince: Soundtrack for the coming apocalypse.
Smell of Female, Cramps: Includes the theme to Meyer's 'Faster Pussycat, Kill Kill'. Essential sleaze.

TOP FILMS

- *One from the Heart*, Coppola.
- *King of Comedy*, Scorsese.
- *ET*, Spielberg.
- *The Thing*, Carpenter.
- *Mad Max II*, Miller.

ALISTER CAIN

ALBUMS

The Crossing, Big Country: Guitars played with intelligence, grace and subtlety.
Porcupine, Echo and the Bunnymen: To everyone who said "It's only good for the first two songs," bollocks!
Seance, the Church: Not a complete album I listen to it more than most, if only for 'It's No Reason'.
Power, Corruption & Lies, New Order: Surprise - fine lyrics and haunting melodies.
The Bad Seed, the Birthday Party: Touching love songs. Imagine if Cave teamed up with Jordan Luck!

NZ SINGLES

1. 'Death and the Maiden', Verlaines.
2. 'Stars in My Eyes', Screaming Meemees.
3. 'All I Can Do', Dance Exponents.
4. 'Cleopatra'/'After the Rain', Mockers.
5. 'Be My Friend'/'Amnesia', Sneaky Feelings.

FOOTY PLAYERS

Robbie Deans: Walks on water.
 Stephen Pokere: Bliss on legs.
 Dave Loveridge: Trapper, the old master.
 Jock Hobbs: The next Mourie.
 Victor Simpson: Wayward genius.

BEST MUSICAL EVENT

- Christchurch War of the Bands.

WORST MUSICAL EVENTS

- National Shazam Battle of the Bands.
- NZ Music Awards.

MOST PROMISING

- Christchurch's Triffids

TIPS FOR 84

- Dance Exponents take over world.
- Triffids take over NZ.
- Canterbury retain Ranfurly Shield.
- Gluepot sells Steinies (!).

MURRAY CAMMICK

ALBUMS

Nona, Nona Hendryx: A mature, perfect statement from an eighties' woman.
Forever, For Always, For Love, Luther Vandross: The modern Sam Cooke - sweet sentiments, tough funk.
Tell Mr Bland, Bobby Bland: A return to fine old-fashioned form.

DANCE

- 'Soweto', Malcolm McLaren: Different riddums made relevant. Fabulous video.
- 'Music'/'Don't Ya Wanna Ride', D Train: "This train is so exciting" - machine soul adventures.
- 'Land of the Good Groove', Nile Rodgers: The Chic magic exposed.
- 'Long Hot Summer', Style Council: White R&B has never bettered this. Best Imagination song so far - complete with lousy dub.
- 'Young Guns (Go, For It)', Wham! Despite exploitative marketing, these guys have got the notion though they live across the ocean.

DUNCAN CAMPBELL

FAVOURITE SOUNDS

Love Is An Earthly Thing, Michael Prophet: Sweet and almost unbearably soulful Rastafari bedtime music.
Check It! Mutabaruka: Hot and angry declarations from JA's newest dub poet.
Inchpinchers, Wailing Souls: Jamaica's toughest vocal quartet delivers both wit and wisdom in inimitable style.
Earth, Misty in Roots: British reggae at its best, at least until the next Aswad LP.
Staggering Heights, Singers and Players: Taking reggae another step into the future, with an all-start cast.

OUTRAGE OF THE YEAR

- None of the above albums can be bought in your record store.

CASUALTIES

- Michael Smith
- Prince Far I.

GIGS

- Hunters and Collectors, Gluepot.
- Toots and the Maytals, Mainstreet.

VIDEO

- 'Soweto' Malcolm McLaren.

ANTI-CLIMAX

- FM Radio

MARK EVERTON

ALBUMS

Speaking in Tongues, Talking Heads: "If someone asks this is where I'll be, where I'll be."

Call of the West

Wall of Voodoo: American psychotics wrench one straight from the heartland.
Big Sideways, Big Sideways Band: Talent and commitment. A constant inspiration.
The Fireman's Curse, Hunters and Collectors: The Outback lives and breeds and screams and dies. All on vinyl.
Punch the Clock, Elvis Costello: Another master stroke.

EP OF THE YEAR

Payload, Hunters and Collectors: Didn't quite blow up the Campus Radio transmitter but gave it a dman good fright.

SONGS

- 'I'll Be Around' Spinners and 'Try A Little Tenderness' Aretha (both rediscovered).
- 'This Must Be the Place', Talking Heads.
- 'Never Stop', Echo and the Bunnymen.
- 'Pinpoint', Miltown Stowaways.
- 'Ode to Boy', Yazoo.
- 'Billie Jean'/'Beat It', Michael Jackson.
- 'Death and the Maiden', Verlaines.

LIVE

Hunters and Collectors, Big Sideways, Miltown Stowaways, Jive Bombers.

COUNTRY

Australia: A great year. Hunters and Collectors, Birthday Party, Laughing Clowns, Go-Betweens. Where's it all coming from?

GEORGE KAY

ALBUMS

Sin of Pride, the Undertones: Quite simply the best-looking ex-band around, winners of the 'Let's Break Up Before We Make Any Money' award.
Punch the Clock, Elvis Costello: Tony Bennett's right hand man and nice guy of the year (again).
Speaking in Tongues, Talking Heads: Funking in music and still looking gaunt in shades.

Before Hollywood, Go-Betweens: And before fame - let's hope they're this good after their 12th platinum.

Miami, the Gun Club: Geoffrey Lee Pierce: "You play that again and you're fired."

SINGLES

- 'Long Hot Summer', Style Council.
- 'Modern Love', David Bowie.
- 'Blue Monday', New Order.
- 'Nobody's Diary', Yazoo.
- 'New Year's Day', U2 (club or albums versions only).

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