



ERIC ANDERSEN — In some circles it is hip to dismiss Eric Andersen as a pale copy of the early Dylan. This is a shallow view. It is in the same petty quibbling vein as to say that the Fugs were influenced by Lenny Bruce, or that Winnie-the-Pooh influenced Smokey the Bear. It may or may not be true, but so what? In any case Andersen has put out two absolutely phenomenal albums, and his songs speak for themselves. His voice is the most individual of this group and his guitar and harmonica playing, although not the most technically proficient I have heard, are very tasteful.

He put out an early album called "Today is the Highway", when he was still finding himself. His next album, "Bout Changes 'n Things", was superb, but was improved upon when it was recorded at "Bout Changes 'n Things, Take 2", with pianist Paul Harris, bassist Harvey Brooks, and drummer Herb Lovelle augmenting Andersen's guitar and harmonica. Andersen's two classic songs, "Thirsty Boots" and "Violets of Dawn" are found on this album, but some people regard "Hey Babe, Have You Been Cheatin'" and "Close the Door Lightly" just as highly. His contrapuntal harp breaks on "I Shall Go Unbounded" and "Thirsty Boots" are noteworthy, but all harmonica parts are good. Of the twelve selections only "My Land Is A Good Land", with its Pete Seeger approach, seems out of tune with the present.

His next Vanguard album, "More Hits From Tin Can Alley" is equally great. It features a heavier back-up on most songs: strings and horns are present in several places. There is no harmonica but it isn't really missing on the record, with its tight arrangements. (However, Andersen plays harmonica on many of these songs in concert.) Of the songs, "Rollin' Home" uses the same saccato approach as "The Hustler" from the previous album, and "Hello Sun" is a suggestion to "Find someone/make love in the sun and forget about your time". Other outstanding songs are "On the Edge of You", "Broken-hearted Mama", and "Woman is a Prism". His two-part "Tin Can Alley" is an attempt at social protest that succeeds as far as it goes, but social protest is not Andersen's thing — in contrast to the songs of Phil Ochs, for example.

After his switch to Warner-Bros./Seven Arts, he recently released a new album, "Avalanche"; an unfortunate title, because it is definitely a disaster. In it the basic Andersen sound is bastardized by influences from Jimi Hendrix, the Mamas and Papas, and others. On top of this are the two worst cuts Andersen has recorded, "So Hard to Fall", and "For What Was Gained" — both of which are derivative and banal. Of the other cuts, only three are up to his standard. "Good to Be With You" is an earlier groove, with a steel guitar playing discretely over his regular instrumentation; "Foolish Like the Flowers" features an excellent acoustic jazz samba guitar solo by the exemplary Bruce Langhorne. "Thing About It" is a good song ruined by an overbearing arrangement — done with a blues-harp intro and break it could have been great. The absence of harmonica on this record was fatal. I hope Andersen will get back to his basic sound on his next album — he's very good with it.

TIM HARDIN — About a year ago Bobby Darin (God bless 'im) had a couple of hits with two Tim Hardin songs "Lady Came From Baltimore" and "If I Were A Carpenter". These are only two of the many great songs written by Tim Hardin, who is something of a legend in his own time. Although he has recorded only four albums, his songs such as "Reason to Believe" make him probably the most respected underground writer. He has been influenced largely by jazz and blues, but epitomises the personal style of the post-Dylan era. He makes few sorties outside his home state of New York, although he was at Toronto's Riverboat recently.

Hardin sings so well that people who sing his songs usually sing his style of singing them as well. His albums are great, but do not do him justice — the engineering is uniformly poor and arranging almost as bad. His long-awaited Columbia album should not have these faults, and may give him the commercial success and wide respect that he deserves.

JONI MITCHELL — A young blonde from Saskatchewan who took the songwriting world by storm this past year with her Reprise album "Joni Mitchell". Two songs not on the album, "Both Sides Now", and "The Circle Game", are two of the most recorded songs of the year. Miss Mitchell is a complete talent—she writes extraordinary songs, sings them well, exhibits a full and flowing technique on guitar, and painted her own album cover, which is remarkable enough in itself. Her songs are very individual "chronicles" of her thoughts and experiences. Her lyrics are exceptional so that they are poetry lyrics which merit inclusion on the album jacket, although it is a common practice to print them. One song especially, "Cactus Tree" is a miniature song cycle — the equivalent of Dylan's "Tambourine Man", but without a chorus.

By J...

Bob Dylan once wrote one who sings with his race choir". These words of the song-writers, who maintain circles. This article has to exclude the obvious writers because of space are an indicative sample.

CONFEDERATION CENTRE

beyond the fact that it has been designed by an architect but praise that one can get programs offered are usually the one for the next two.

Tonight and tomorrow will see the presentation of "Blue Max". It concerns World War II.

On November 24, from 2:30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall, "Those Magnificent Men" the movie for November.

On November 28, at 8 p.m. Sod, the Clancy Brothers in concert. There is little better get your tickets early is expected.

The Centre Art Gallery is showing a collection of eighty Canadian artists. The exhibition is at the Art Gallery of Ontario, Stanley MacLean. If you use the Gallery's facilities, you may in some day you are around.

RECORDS:

Although I haven't heard among others, Tim Hardin's Stones ("Beggars Banquet" album(s), I hereby present for the top ten pop/rock records.

- 1) "Child is Father to the Tears (Columbia)
- 2) "Music From Big Fish (Columbia)
- 3) "Songs of Leonard Cohen (Columbia)
- 4) "Joni Mitchell" (Reprise)
- 5) "Morning Again" (Reprise)
- 6) "More Hits From Vanguard (Vanguard)
- 7) "The Hangman's Song" (Credible String Band (Elektra)
- 8) "Last Time Around" (Sire)
- 9) "Bookends" — Simon and Garfunkel (Columbia)
- 10) "Their Santanic Majesties" (London)

(* denotes Canadian talent)

THEATRE:

Upcoming in local theatre is the "Cathedral", produced in association with the C.I. SDU. It is directed by Jeremy Bisley and Dave B. Costume Designer: Wendy Kelly and Mary McQuaid. Costumes: Shirley Doyle. Production Co-ordinator: Mary Peter Tersteeg.

The Cast — Thomas Tempter/Knights: Hugh Kerns, Erskine Smith; Jim Hornby, Edward Holmes; Beth; Attendants: Chris MacBeth.

Chorus: Julie Mitchell, MacDonald, Judy Smith, Hughes, Sharlene MacLean, Dyan Francis; Understudy: Peter's Anglican Church.

Students and faculty presented in the cast. The Peter's Anglican Church from Monday, December the exception of the intermissions are at 8:30 p.m. Tickets would be "gratefully".

Another original St. "What In Heaven's Name" preparation for performance by Marlene Wells and Hubert Tersteeg, it has twelve. The SDU Band, provide the accompaniment. Tersteeg. Details of the later date.