

# ZIGZAG

**SUPER  
XMAS  
ISSUE!**



MARIANNE FAITHFULL

ABBA  
MO-DETTES  
RICO  
THE FLOWERS  
PATTI SMITH  
GROUP  
DESTROY ALL  
MONSTERS  
DAMNED  
CLASH  
ALBUM PREVIEW

THE JAM



**SPECIAL OFFER  
CLASH L.P  
INSIDE**

# LONDON CALLING

(CONT. FROM PAGE 4)

WITH THE MAN'S LIFE-BEHIND-THE-SCREEN TO WRITE THIS HARD SONG. DEEP-FRIED PIANO AND WHACKING BAASS PROVIDE SUITABLE TOUGH GUY BACKING.

'LOST IN THE SUPERMARKET': MICK JONES SONG WITH A MORE LOW & RESTRAINED VOICE BEWAILING THE ANONYMITY OF ADVERTISING AND NOT LIVING UP TO TV STEREOTYPING (I THINK).

'CLAMPDOWN': HEAVIEST TRACK IN LITERAL SENSE WITH METALLIC PILED RIVER BEAT EMPHASISING MONOTONY OF FACTORY WORK. ULTRA-BRITTLE SHEET METAL GUITARS, ANOTHER CHORUS CLASSIC AND HILARIOUS 'MOVE ON UP' QUOTE AT END.

'GUNS OF BRIXTON': THE SINGER-SONGWRITING DEBUT OF PAUL SIMONON AND TOTALLY CREDITABLE. PERCHED ON BLACK, WATERY GUITARS AND STEADY REGGAE BEAT. BUILDS IN INTENSITY ON A SCENE OF URBAN TERROR - POLICE AT THE DOOR, SUS AND GUNS.

SIDE 3 - 'WRONG 'EM BOYO': KICKS OFF WITH A FEW UP-TEMPO BARS OF GAMBLING CLASSIC 'STAGGERLEE' TILL JOE WAVES HIS ARMS - "NO, NO, START ALL OVER AGAIN" - AND THEY BOMB INTO A SKA-STAX STOMP WITH A TOAST-SLANTED JOE VOCAL AND STEAMING CHORUS.

'DEATH OR GLORY': STRONG FLAG-WAVING CLASH CITY ROCKER.

'KOKA KOLA': 'ARE YOU BEING SERVED' CASH TILL AND 'GOING UP!' INTRO FOR THIS MARKETING-BIG BIZ INFLATION BEAT. ENDS WITH A RAID.

'THE CARD CHEAT': SHOCKED AND SLAYED ME. THE CLASH MEET PHIL SPECTOR! A MILES-HIGH WALL OF BOOMING SOUND, POKEY FANFARE IN MIDDLE AND SAXES LIKE A LNER IN ORGASM. PUMPS BIG AND AMBITIOUS. NEARLY CALLED 'KING OF HELL'.

SIDE 4:  
'LOVERS ROCK': LOOKS AT ABSURDITY OF REGGAE-MONIKER ON SUITABLE SLIGHT BASE. BOSSA NOVA?

'FOUR HORSEMEN': GUTTER-IN-THE-FACE HARD ROCKER WITH JOE'S JERRY LEE JOANNA AND OUCH HOOKS.

'I'M NOT DOWN': WITHOUT A PAUSE AND IN. PREVIEWED AT THE NOTRE DAME GIBS, A STATEMENT OF DEFIANCE - "YOU CAN SHOW ME UP, YOU CAN BLOW ME UP BUT I'M NOT DOWN". STRIDENT DESCENDING RIFF & MANY SMOOTH CHANGES. AND BANG INTO...

'REVOLUTION ROCK': A LONG, BOOTING REGGAE, DUBONIC AND DISTENDED. JOE, THE ONLY WHITE TOASTER AND HIS FUNNY TRUE LIFE LINES. CARGO FOOD?

SLEEVE SAYS IT'S THE LAST TRACK BUT ON THE SATURDAY MICK COME IN WITH A NEW SONG. THEY LEARN IT, LAID IT DOWN AND BY MONDAY NIGHT, 'TRAIN IN VAIN' WAS FINISHED. IT'S THE LAST TRACK AND SCRATCHED IN THE RUN-OUT GROOVE IF YOU LOOK. GLAD THEY GOT IT ON COS IT'S GREAT-IRRESISTABLE PUNCHY GROOVE WITH HARMONICA AND HEARTFELT VOCAL FROM MICK. 'STAND BY ME, OR NOT AT ALL, STAND BY ME, NO WAY...'

THAT'S IT THEN. 'LONDON CALLING' SHOULD BE IN YOUR SHOPS DECEMBER 14. WHAT A WAY TO GLIDE INTO THE 80's.

KRIS NEEDS



absurd one  
blah blah blah  
side a in the army  
side b why diddle  
absurd two  
eddie fiction  
side a ufo part two  
side b ufo part one  
absurd three  
forty eight chairs  
side a snap it around  
side b psychic sluts  
absurd six  
the mothmen  
side a does it matter in me  
side b please let go  
absurd four  
gerry and the holograms  
side a gerry and the holograms  
side b increased resistance

new releases

absurd seven ; cairo  
i like bluebeat / versian

absurd ten ; bet lynch's legs  
riders in the sky / high noon

absurd eight ; naafi sandwich  
slice one / slice two

absurd records

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do you know

send 96<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>p  
mail order

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cotton lane  
withington  
manchester 20

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Original Rockers  
Inc Rockers Dub  
Up Warrica Hill  
Gassava Piece Etc  
Copytrack Listing  
of LP



Grel 9

Barrington Levy  
Englishman  
Inc Englishman E  
Copy track Listing  
from LP

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Englishman/The Daughter Them IRE (GRED 28)
2. LINIVAL THOMSON + DIAMONDS + SCORCHER  
One More Chance/Long Time Me No Rub You In A Dance (GRED 24)
3. KEITH HUDSON - Nuh Skin Up/Felt We Felt The Strain (GRED 26)
4. BARRINGTON LEVY + ROMAN STEWART + TRINITY  
Lose Respect/Since Your Gone (GRED 27)
5. CLINT EASTWOOD  
True True Loving/Me Go Deh Already (GRED 25)

\* \* \*  
DISCOS 45s ON OUR COOL ROCKERS LABEL

1. SISTER LOVE - Every Bit Of My Heart/Heartache DUB (NICE 105)
2. ROMAN STEWART + TRINITY - Baby Come Back/It's Lovers Rock (NICE 104)
3. FREDDIE MCKAY/JAH THOMAS  
Sing Little Bird Sing/Can't Get No Love Tonight (NICE 106)

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A HAPPY CHRISTMAS WITH THE STAR RELEASES...

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# THE PLAYBACK

TWO HOURS AGO THE CLASH FINISHED THEIR NEW ALBUM.

THERE I WAS, TRUSSSED FROM HEAD TO FOOT IN GAFFA TAPE SPRAWLED ON THE POOL TABLE WHERE I'D BEEN DUMPED MINUTES BEFORE. A BILLIARD BALL WAS SELLOTAPED IN A VERY DELICATE PLACE.

MEANWHILE MICK JONES, JOE STRUMMER AND PAUL SIMONON WERE GRINNING AND GLOATING. THE WORD CAME THAT THE TRACKS WERE SEQUENCED AND READY FOR THEIR FIRST CONTINUOUS AIRING. IT WAS FIVE IN THE MORNING AND WE'D ALL BEEN THERE OVER 12 HOURS. ALL THE IOPS HAD RUN OUT FOR 'SPACE INVADERS' SO FOOD FIGHTS, WATER FIGHTS, TOILET UTENSILS IN THE TEA AND MUCH POOL PASSED THE TIME UNTIL THIS - THE CROWNING BOREDOM-BEATER.

NOW WE HEARD THAT THE WEEKS OF WORK WERE NOW THAT VINYL HOUR. SO THEY CARRIED ME DOWNSTAIRS TO WESSEX STUDIO ONE, PUT A CRASH HELMET ON ME HEAD AND ROLLED THE TAPES. KNOW WHAT? BY THE TIME 'RUDI CAN'T FAIL' POWERED OUT OF ITS SKA-FACED SHELL ONE SIDE LATER I'D BURST THOSE BONDS HULK-STYLE AND THE LEGS COULD PUMP FREE. FREE TO JOIN THE OTHER BEAT-SOAKED BODIES SMILING WITH PRIDE.

BACKGROUND: 'LONDON CALLING' TOOK HALF THE TIME TO MAKE TWICE THE VINYL OF 'GIVE 'EM ENOUGH ROPE'. IN THE PRODUCER'S CHAIR, BUT MORE OFTEN THE FLOOR, WAS GUY STEVENS. THE MAN WHO BROUGHT MOTT THE HOOPLE INTO THE WORLD AND PRODUCED THE ORIGINAL CLASH DEMOS. HE ACTED AS A KIND OF MANIC CATALYST TO FIRE THE LATENT NEW ENERGY SURGING THRU THE CLASH LAST SUMMER: THE MOOD IN THE MAKING WAS UP FROM THE OUTSET. BY THE TIME THEY LEFT FOR THE 'TAKE THE FIFTH' US TOUR 20 TRACKS WERE DOWN AND ALMOST READY FOR MIXING. BACK FROM THE TOUR, INTO WESSEX FOR A FEW DAYS AND THAT'S WHERE WE CAME IN...

'LONDON CALLING' IS THE MOST DANCEABLE CLASH ALBUM YET. IT SHOWS THEM BRANCHING INTO A WILD VARIETY OF STYLES. IF YOU HOLD THEM TO THEIR PAST YOU'RE STRAPPING ON A STRAITJACKET (BUT YOU PROBABLY WILL). THIS LP IS A GAMUT OF STYLES STREAMLINED INTO A NEW CLASH DIRECTION, WHICH HAS BEEN BUDDING MORE AND MORE SINCE THEY EXPLODED INTO THE WORLD: VITAL, EXCITING ELEMENTS FROM WHAT'S GREAT, CLASHIFIED AND CONCENTRATED INTO AN OPTIMISTIC, POSITIVE RECORD. MORE INSTRUMENTS: KEYBOARDS, SAX, BRASS ON MANY TRACKS. GREATER REGGAE ASSIMILATION, MORE DYNAMICS AND A SEVERE INJECTION OF CLASSIC WILD ROCK 'N' ROLL SHIVERS, PARTICULARLY ON A GREAT VERSION OF VINCE TAYLOR'S 'BRAND NEW CADILLAC'.

THE TRACKS: 'LONDON CALLING': HALF THE 12" SINGLE (WITH 'ARMAGIDEON TIME', A HEAVY REGGAE - ORIGINAL BY WILUE WILLIAMS ON STUDIO ONE - GREAT ELECTRIC SITAR-GUITAR!) THE LP OPENER IS A DARK WARNING FROM JOE OF A NUCLEAR NIGHTMARE, WITH SHRILL, MENACING GUITARS, COUNTER-VOCALS AND STAMPING BEAT. GOOD START. 'BRAND NEW CADILLAC' - STINGING AND SOAKED IN SINISTER GENE VINCENT INTENSITY. 'JIMMY JAZZ' - POLICE-BUST BAR SONG WITH CLINKING GLASSES, LAZY JAZZ BEAT AND SCAT SINGING FROM JOE. REAL SORT OF TOM WAITS JOB (SEE WHAT I MEAN ABOUT DIFFERENT!) 'HATEFUL' - BACK INTO TOP GEAR - DRUMMING TIGHT AS A COILED SPRING, BOISTEROUS MICK CHORUS AND A KILLER LIVE. TYPICAL OF THE HONED-DOWN BUT EXPLODING SOUND. 'RUDI CAN'T FAIL' - NEITHER WOULD THIS AS A SINGLE. AS ON MANY TRACKS THE CLASH STEAM THROUGH CHANGES WITH RECKLESS ABANDON, SHARP AS A NEEDLE. THIS COMBINES CARNIVAL AND KILLER CHORUS AND IS PRETTY GLORIOUS. END OF SIDE ONE. 'SPANISH BOMBS' - A LIGHTER FEEL WITH ACOUSTIC GUITARS BUT STILL FAST & CATCHY. 'RIGHT PROFILE' - CAME ABOUT WHEN GUY WAS RAVING ABOUT HOLLYWOOD HELL-RAISER MONTGOMERY CLIFT. HE LEANT JOE A BIOGRAPHY BOOK AND JOE WAS BOWLED OVER

(CONT. PAGE 6)



PICS-ROBERT MATHAU

**IN THE STATES**

**SEE INSIDE BACK COVER FOR  
AMAZING CLASH OFFER!**

