

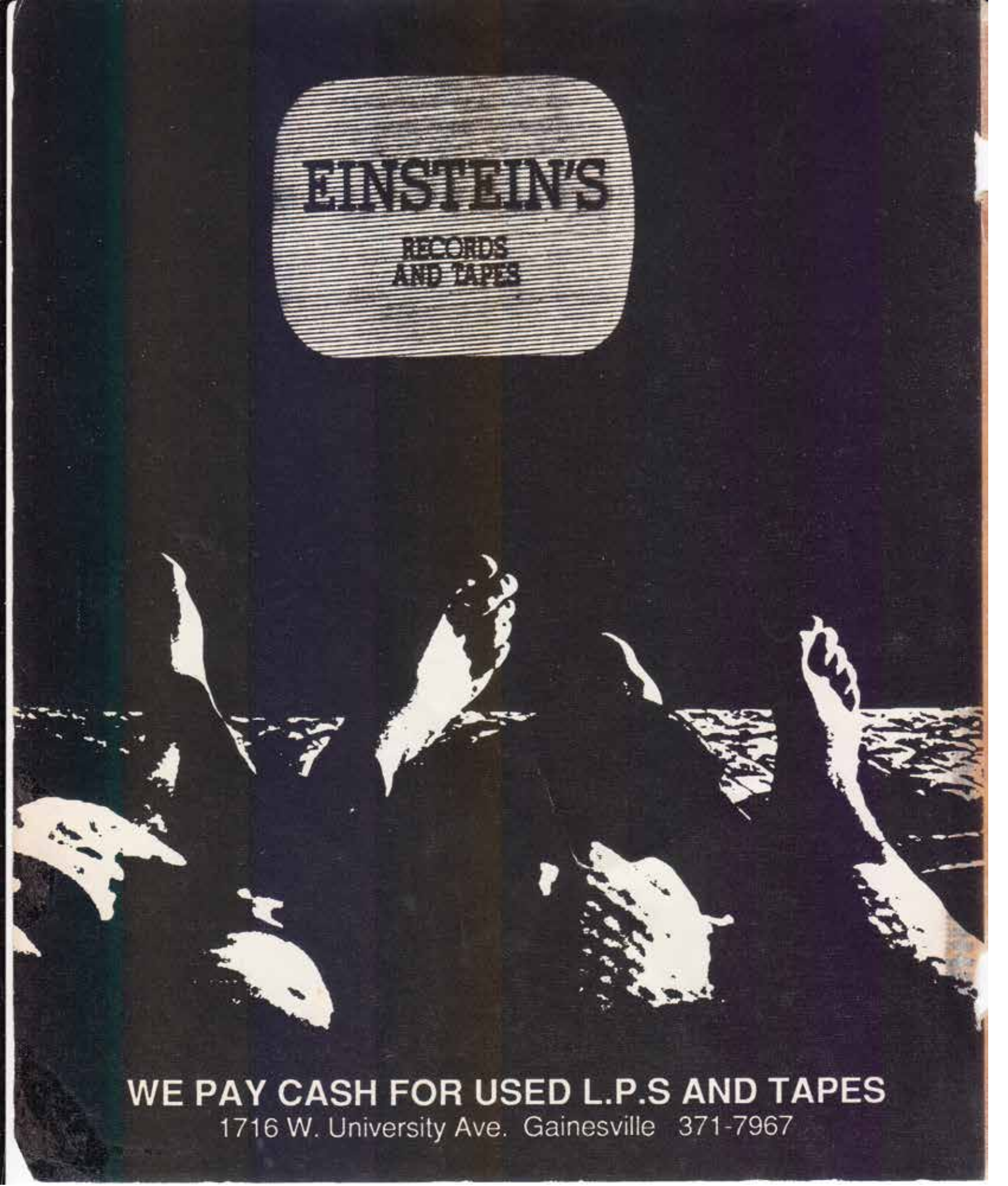
IPSO

FACTO

VOL. 1 NO. 1

\$1.50





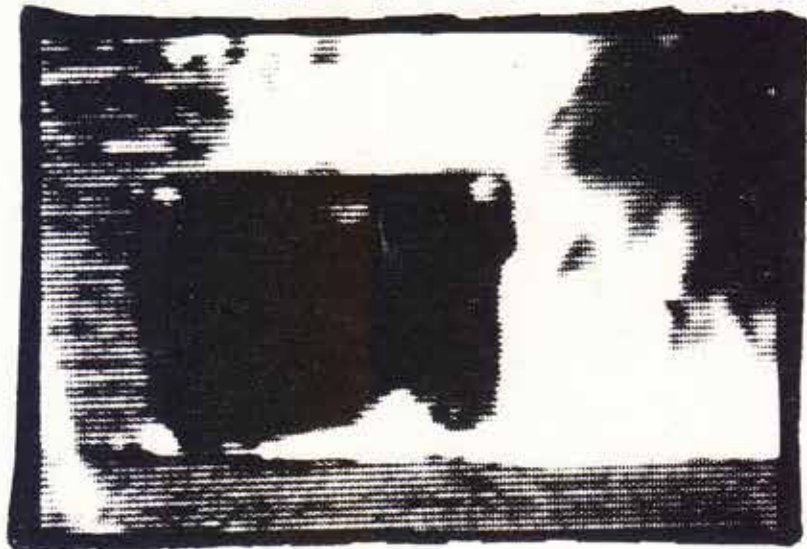
EINSTEIN'S

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C O M M E N T A R Y

THE POWER OF THE MEDIA TO INFLUENCE LIFESTYLE, BELIEFS, PERCEPTIONS, ATTITUDES AND CULTURE IS MORE EVIDENT IN AMERICA THAN ANY OTHER COUNTRY IN THE WORLD. IT IS IN THIS COUNTRY THAT WE'VE ALLOWED THE MEDIA ABSOLUTE CONTROL OF SETTING AGENDAS FOR OUR EVERYDAY BEHAVIOR, THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION. THE MASS MEDIA HAVE CREATED A UNIFIED, HOMEGENEIOUS NATION WHERE MASS CONSUMPTION AND BEHAVIOR HAVE BECOME THE NORM. THERE'S SOMETHING FRIGHTENINGLY WRONG WITH THIS! AS THE MASS MEDIA CONTINUE TO MOLD THE NEW AMERICA INTO A NATION THAT SERVES THE ALMIGHTY CORPORATE DOLLAR, THE SPARK OF INDIVIDUALITY IS SLOWLY DISAPPEARING. THIS TREND IS ESPECIALLY DISTURBING WHEN ONE CONSIDERS THE MEDIA. NO LONGER DO PUBLICATIONS, RADIO AND TV STATIONS AND OTHER FORMS OF MEDIA HAVE ANY UNIQUE QUALITIES. THEY ARE NOW SIMPLY MONEY MACHINES TO SELL PRODUCTS AND MOLD HABITS. THERE'S BIG BUCKS TO BE MADE IN COMMUNICATIONS, BUT WHAT THE MEDIA CORPORATIONS DON'T REALIZE IS THAT MEDIA IS ABOUT COMMUNICATION OF IDEAS, NOT SELLING PRODUCTS. WHEN THERE'S NO LONGER ANY ROOM FOR EXPERIMENTATION, THE MEDIUM DIES.

IPSO FACTO IS A NEW MEDIUM. WE ARE A RESPONSE TO MASS MEDIA AND THE HOMOGENIZATION OF AMERICA. AS WE ALL KNOW, ALTERNATIVE CULTURE EXISTS. IPSO FACTO WILL COVER ALTERNATIVE MUSIC, ART, FASHION, MEDIA AND LIFESTYLE IN A MANNER THAT WILL INFORM AND STIMULATE. WE ARE NOT HERE TO SELL PRODUCTS, WE ARE HERE TO COMMUNICATE IDEAS. AS A NEW PUBLICATION OUR DIRECTION IS STILL NOT CERTAIN. WE NEED IDEAS FROM READERS ABOUT WHAT TO COVER, WHAT NOT TO COVER AND FEEDBACK ON HOW WE'RE DOING. FLORIDA HAS BEEN A CULTURAL WASTELAND FOR TOO LONG. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GET INVOLVED IN IPSO FACT PLEASE CONTACT US. WE NEED CREATIVE IDEAS FROM THROUGHOUT FLORIDA AND THE SOUTH.

SKINNY PUPPY

By John C. Tripp

Skinny Puppy began as an experiment in 1982. The Vancouver duo of Cevin Key and Nivek Ogre had been listening to electronic and industrial music by SPK, Nocturnal Emissions, Psychic TV and others. They were also corresponding with experimental music enthusiasts throughout the world when they started creating their own unique blend of electronic and industrial sounds.

Working in their living room the two made tapes of their music and gave them to friends.

The positive response to them lead to the release of "Back and Forth," a 30 minute, limited edition cassette. From there came a signing to newly formed Nettwerk Records with whom they've released: a mini-lp, "Remission;" two lp's: "Bites," and "Mind-The Perpetual Intercourse"; a 12" dance mix of 'Dig It' and 'The Choke;' and "Stairs and Flowers," a forthcoming mini-lp collaboration with Severed Head's Tom Ellard.

Having recently completed a 51 date tour of Europe and the U.S. the band is now recording a third lp as well as preparing for a mini tour of the south which will include Florida.

The following are excerpts and commentary on various topics discussed in a recent telephone interview with Cevin Key.

THEIR MUSIC

"It's always been somewhat of an experiment in the sense that we're not trying to invade some kind of market. We're not trying to write a hit single. We're more or less experimenting for our own satisfaction.

I don't really think that our music is down. I think it's sort of like knowing there are alot of downers. It's like a demented down side up, it's not really down, it's somewhere in the middle."

Skinny Puppy's music may not be depressing but it is introspective. Using incredibly complex rhythm arrangements and layered harmony, their sounds emanate a surrealist aural vision that can be interpreted in any number of ways.

While their earlier releases tend to be more structured and dance oriented, "Mind-T.P.I." shows a brilliant use of electronics and sound manipulation that can only be appreciated after repeated listening.

RECORDING

"We used a completely different process of recording for each lp. For "Bites" we were using a 24 track studio, which was very expensive so we'd work out an idea at home, go into the studio and we'd have six hours to completely record every bit of music and vocals that were going to be on the record.

With "Mind-TPI" we had a 16 track studio at home and we recorded two thirds of the lp there. This gave us alot more time to work on the basics.

This new lp is half and half. We're using the spontaneity of our earlier recordings but we have more time to work on ideas. There's some pretty weird stuff coming up."

The increased sophistication of their recording technique is apparant on "Mind-T.P.I."

Whereas "Remission" and "Bites" employed simpler, more straightforward melody and structure, "Mind-T.P.I." utilizes layer upon layer of everchanging sounds.

DOING IT LIVE

"We have a very theatrical live show. Our singer (Nivek Ogre) is exploring the very insane side of live performance. He's very painful within himself. He's a maniac and will not refrain from doing things that normal people wouldn't. He's like a modern day Iggy Pop meets Alice Cooper."

Skinny Puppy made it as close as Alabama on their last tour with Severed Heads. Their use of stage performance and ambient video make the Skinny Puppy concert one that shouldn't be missed. Their upcoming tour should include Tampa and Miami.

DRUGS

"Drugs might give you a different view of things but it doesn't mean it's better. It's like watching a good movie. I'm sure there are lots of good movies but I prefer good surrealist ones. It really doesn't require drugs to write music. We're looking for something different and we're weird enough not to need drugs for inspiration."

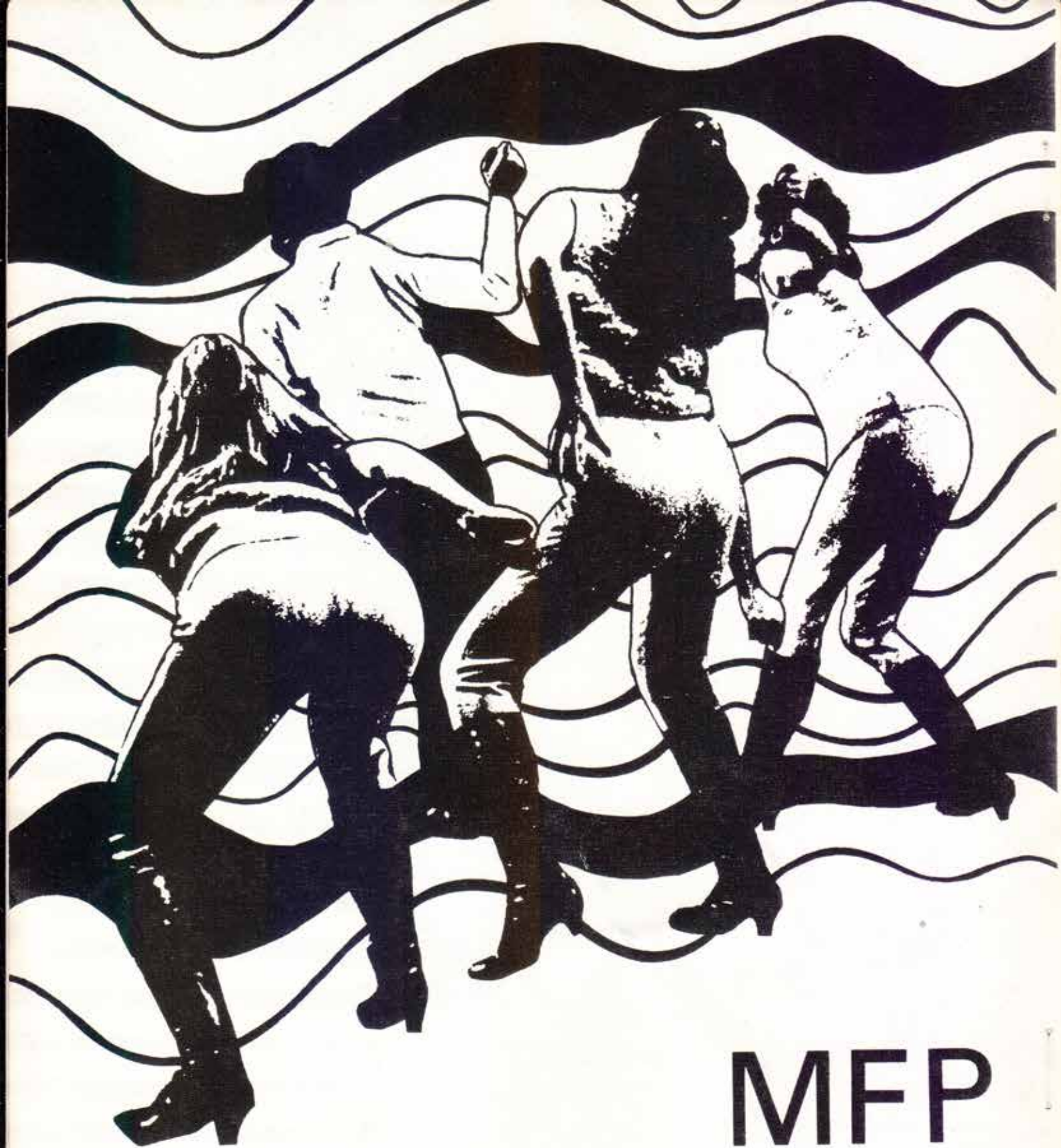
VIDEO

"We have three videos. One's really an official video and two are done by a friend. We also have a video for 'Dig It,' which is presenting a graveyard look, even though we're not into being death oriented though at one time we were.

Now it's more or less exploring what's inside and what's

manipulating one's moods. It's more internal than external as far as death goes."

continued on page 27



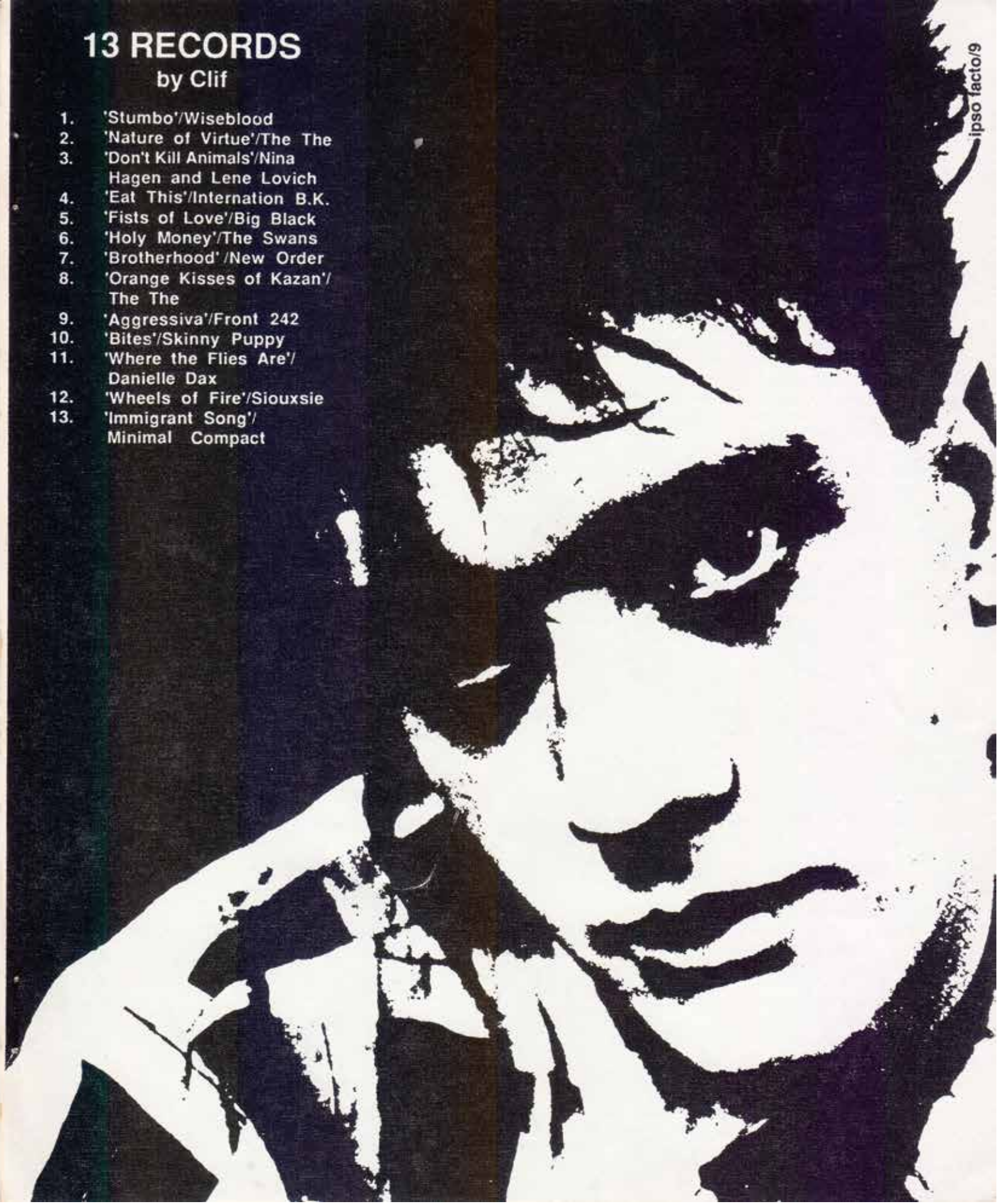
MFP

5400 SE Hawthorne Road, Gainesville 373-4128

13 RECORDS

by Clif

1. 'Stumbo'/Wiseblood
2. 'Nature of Virtue'/The The
3. 'Don't Kill Animals'/Nina Hagen and Lene Lovich
4. 'Eat This'/Internation B.K.
5. 'Fists of Love'/Big Black
6. 'Holy Money'/The Swans
7. 'Brotherhood'/New Order
8. 'Orange Kisses of Kazan'/The The
9. 'Aggressiva'/Front 242
10. 'Bites'/Skinny Puppy
11. 'Where the Flies Are'/Danielle Dax
12. 'Wheels of Fire'/Siouxsie
13. 'Immigrant Song'/Minimal Compact



Visual Track

On *Blue Velvet*

By Chuck Conner

Blue Velvet, aside from being a remarkable film in its own right, is accomplishing something that few films do. It is establishing a precedent for our society. This film is priming American audiences for things to come. It is modifying our viewing tolerances; for *Blue Velvet* touches on subject matter that most people dare not think of. The film deals directly with the topic of sado-masochism, and by doing so, is setting the stage for what future films may contain.

Director David Lynch has taken his chances by breaching a social taboo with *Blue Velvet*. He risked the potential for commercial success in order to deal with a subject that he considered worthy. His gamble payed off in most respects. Although the film was not a box-office smash, it did more than break even. Other directors will now be more willing to deal with the concepts of sado-masochism and related subjects since Lynch has open the Pandora's Box.

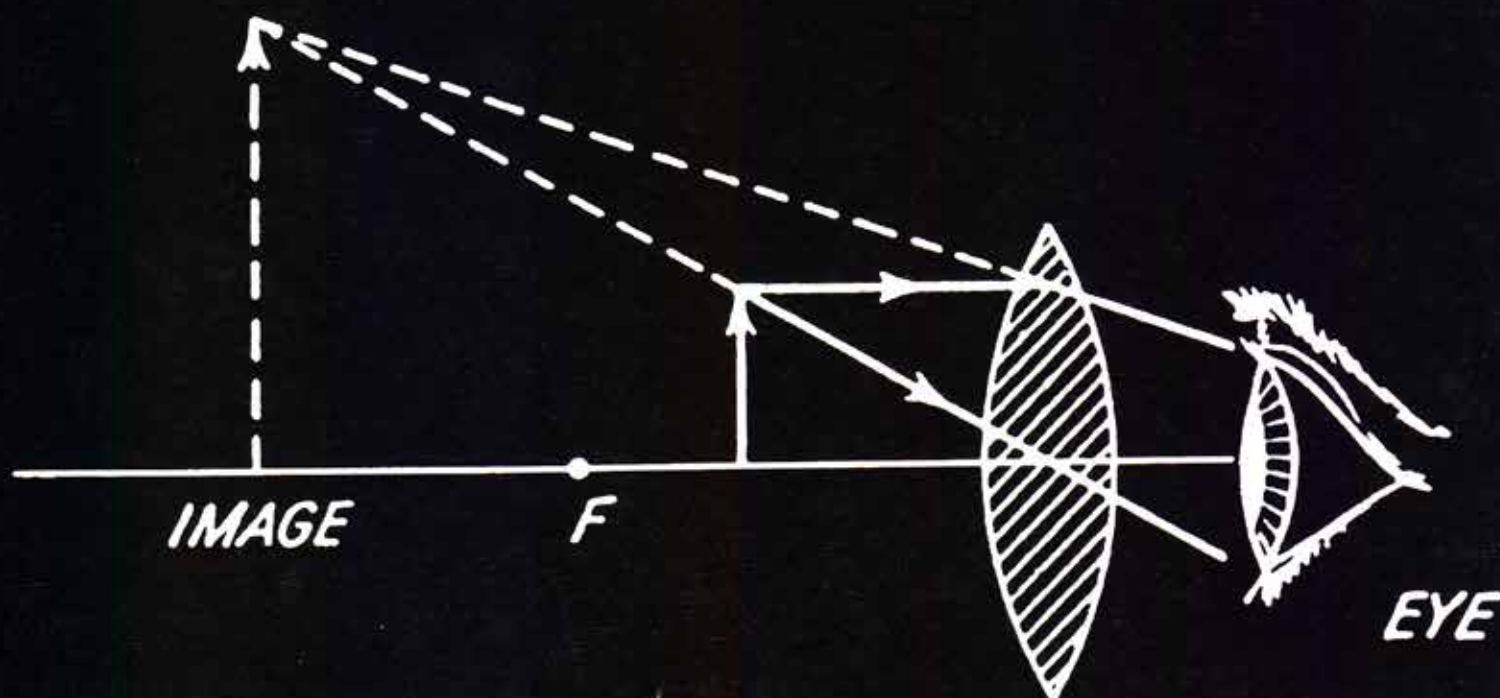
In 1971, Stanley Kubrick took the same type of risk when he released *A Clockwork Orange*. With its graphic depiction of sex-related violence, this film opened the door for the now popular genre of "psycho-killer horror" films. *Last house on the Left*, *Halloween* and *Friday the 13th* are just a few examples of the offspring of *A Clockwork Orange*.

Blue Velvet is going to be the film that is remembered as the door opener for a new genre of sex related films. These films will investigate the various sexual perversions produced by our present society. Although *Blue Velvet* has repulsed a sizeable group of people with its depiction of sexual abuse, this film is only the beginning of a new genre.



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23 envelope

Vaughan Oliver doesn't mind his artwork being mass produced as record sleeves. In fact, he likes the idea of thousands of people seeing his creations. "When something is mass produced, more people can see and appreciate it. It doesn't necessarily degrade the work, it only increases its potential audience," said Oliver from 4AD Record's London office.

Oliver is not an artist in the traditional sense. He doesn't create canvases to be hung on museum walls, only to be viewed by a small elite. He and partner and longtime friend Nigel Grierson comprise 23 Envelope, the highly regarded in-house design firm of 4AD Records.

The two have been with 4AD since 1981 when the highly idealistic label was just forming. It is their collaboration that has formed a strong visual image for 4AD. Their designs reflect the abstract, ambient sound of most of the artists on the label.

Designing for groups like the Cocteau Twins, Modern English, This Mortal Coil, and X-Mal Deutschland 23 Envelope has demonstrated that musical and visual images can go hand in hand. "We always consider a band's music when we design," said Oliver. "It's very much a collaborative effort. We usually sit down and talk with the band about the kind of images they want to evoke. For example, with the Cocteau Twins, we created a very abstract, kind of dreamy image because that is what their music's like. It all depends on the mood that's being created," he said.

Creating a marketable image for a band, while retaining one's artistic integrity is often a difficult, if not impossible task. Oliver cited X-Mal Deutschland who have recently signed to Polydor Records. "Now that their on a larger label, they need a more commercial image," he said. "If you look at their albums on 4AD and compare them to the Polydor one you'll see a new image that doesn't represent their music at all. It's just there to sell records," said Oliver.

Oliver realizes that records are made to be sold and that often times it is the cover that will sell the product. He is fortunate enough to be with a label that emphasizes artistic creativity over marketability, a philosophy that is reflected both in the music and the design of 4AD's records. "4AD offers total artistic freedom, something the majors would never consider," he said.

While 4AD has grown to become an influential independent label, the appreciation and interest in 23 Envelope's work has also increased. Not only do their designs make beautiful album covers, they are equally appealing as separate works of art.

Bootleggers were one group that understood the dual attraction of 23 Envelope's designs. They'd been selling promo posters to a demanding market when 23 Envelope caught on to the scheme. The designers then released an official set of 15 posters representing their work for 4AD over a three year period.

Released in April of last year, the set features designs spanning the history of 4AD Records: The Cocteau Twin's 'Treasure' and 'Sunburst and Snowblind', This Mortal Coil's 'It'll End In Tears', Modern English's 'Richochet Days', Colourbox's 'The Moon Is Blue', and the Richenel single 'L'esclave Endormi' are included.

The collection was so popular that another one is about to be offered. A set of twelve postcards featuring their designs including is also available.

Oliver's and Grierson's designs are also being displayed in various exhibits throughout London and in Tokyo.

Record sleeve covers aren't all that the two have done though. Grierson, a graduate of the Royal College of Art has studied film extensively and recently completed his first film, "Maelstrom." Also nearing completion is a video project for 4AD that will represent each of the label's artists. "The transition from still images to moving ones isn't that difficult with

Nigel's experience in film," said Oliver. "We're still approaching it with the same concepts, it will only become more complex," he said.

Oliver, who studied graphic design at Newcastle-Upon-Tyne Polytechnic (Grierson as well) under Terry Dowling works in-house at 4AD. While Grierson handles photography for most designs, Oliver works on treating them in their final stages. "Nigel and I will come up with a concept and he will take some photos," said Oliver. "After that I will give them the effect we decided upon. It's a very productive collaboration," he said.

Oliver enjoys working on abstract designs such as those for the Cocteau Twins and This Mortal Coil. "Our design philosophy is selected in our work," he said. "We like to work with different materials and create abstract imagery," he said.

To attain a desired effect a number of techniques are used. Camera filters, lenses and gels are utilized as well as an array of materials. "For The Cocteau Twins' 'Head Over Heels' album we used various material to concoct a kind of montage, there were fishes' tails and various other bits and bobs," Grierson told a London publication.

The end result is an image that creates a mood reflecting the music it represents. One can look at a 23 Envelope design and immediately get a feeling for what the music will sound like. This is a quality that Oliver says they try to reach with their work. "We are creating an inner feeling, that will hopefully be a visual accompaniment to the music. It's also good if the design can be absorbed as a separate work. That is what we try to do," he said.

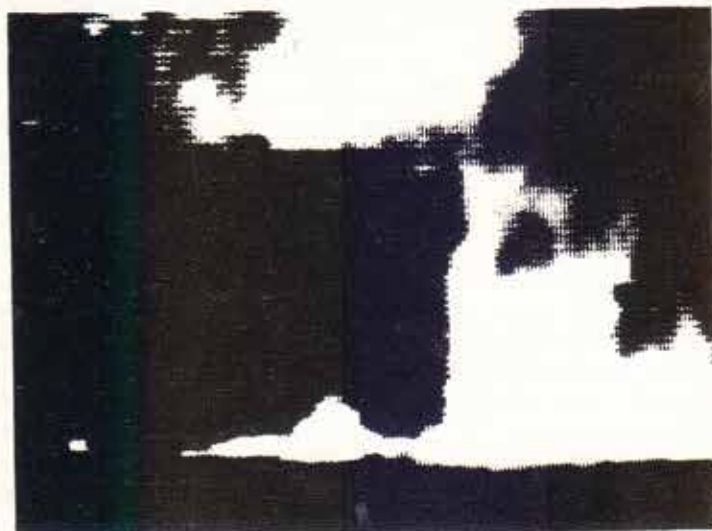
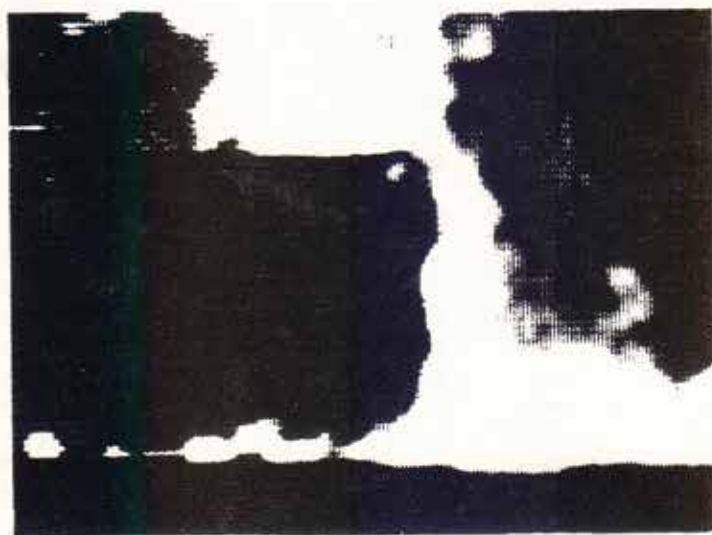
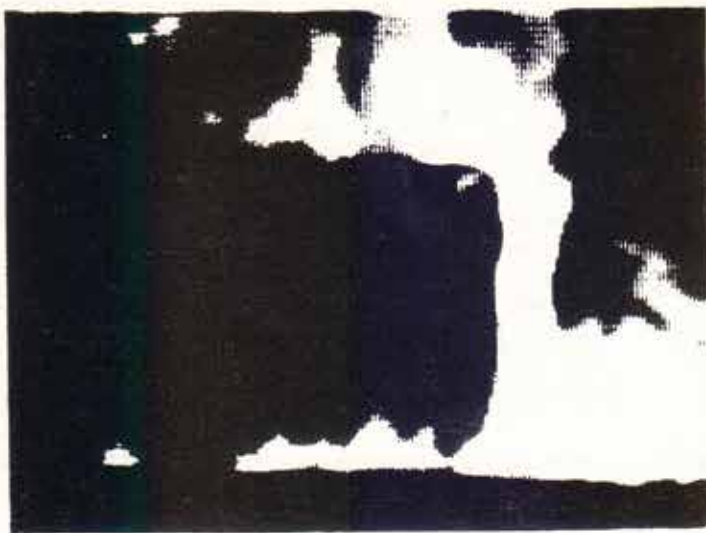
Oliver seemed surprised that someone would be calling all the way from Florida to talk about 23 Envelope but was glad that their work is being appreciated. "If our work were in some museum here in London, you'd probably never see it. We want it to be seen," he said. Those interested may write 23 Envelope at: 17-19 Alma Road, London SW18.

CATHODE RAY

Do you watch commercial Television or do you just see it? While you sit in front of the cathode ray tube, images form automatically before your eyes... odds are that your mind is not having to work very hard to understand what is happening on the screen. Your response to the imagery becomes passive and preprogrammed. Nothing new on TV, so no new reaction is required on your part. A very safe situation, but is safe what our society needs?

The original idea of "entertainment for the masses" has transformed into "advertising for the masses". The commercial aspect of Television has brought the medium to an intellectual standstill. A lot of people don't appreciate mundane commercial programming, so now we have Public Television (and in major cities, Public Access Cable). Public Television is great stuff - in fact, it's the only channel I will consider watching at all. But because of having to operate within governmental boundaries, Public Television has its limitations.

O.K., so what's the point? The point is it is time to do something about Television, because as it is, TV is corroding away our minds. If it is not corrosion, it is nothing short of oxidation. If there can be alternative music and literature, why can't we create alternative Television? Innovative programming, with less emphasis on commercial sponsorship is a good place to start. All that is needed is a die-hard group of artists and professionals that want to realize this goal and don't care if they make that extra \$5 million in profits. Step one... Turn off your TV set and start thinking. The rest will follow.

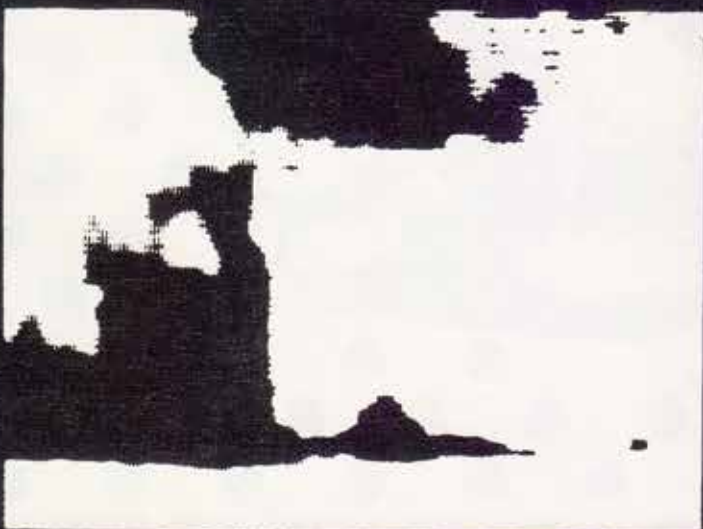
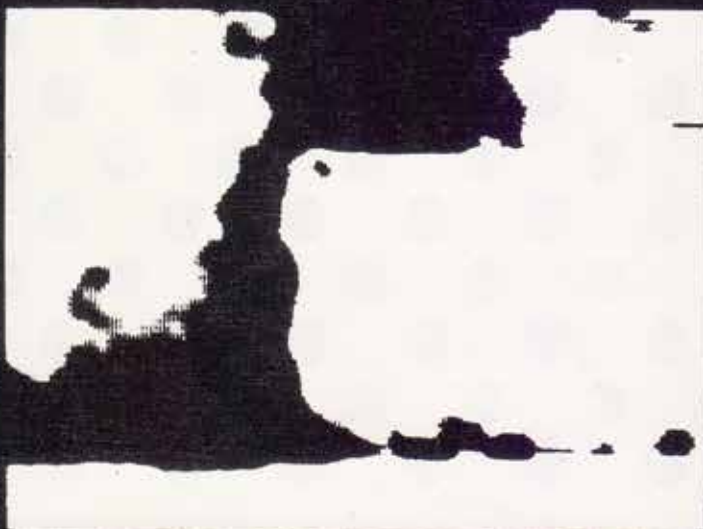
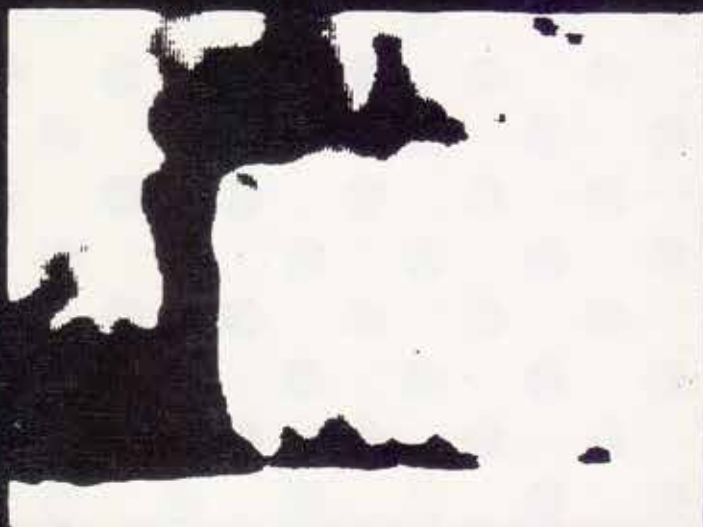


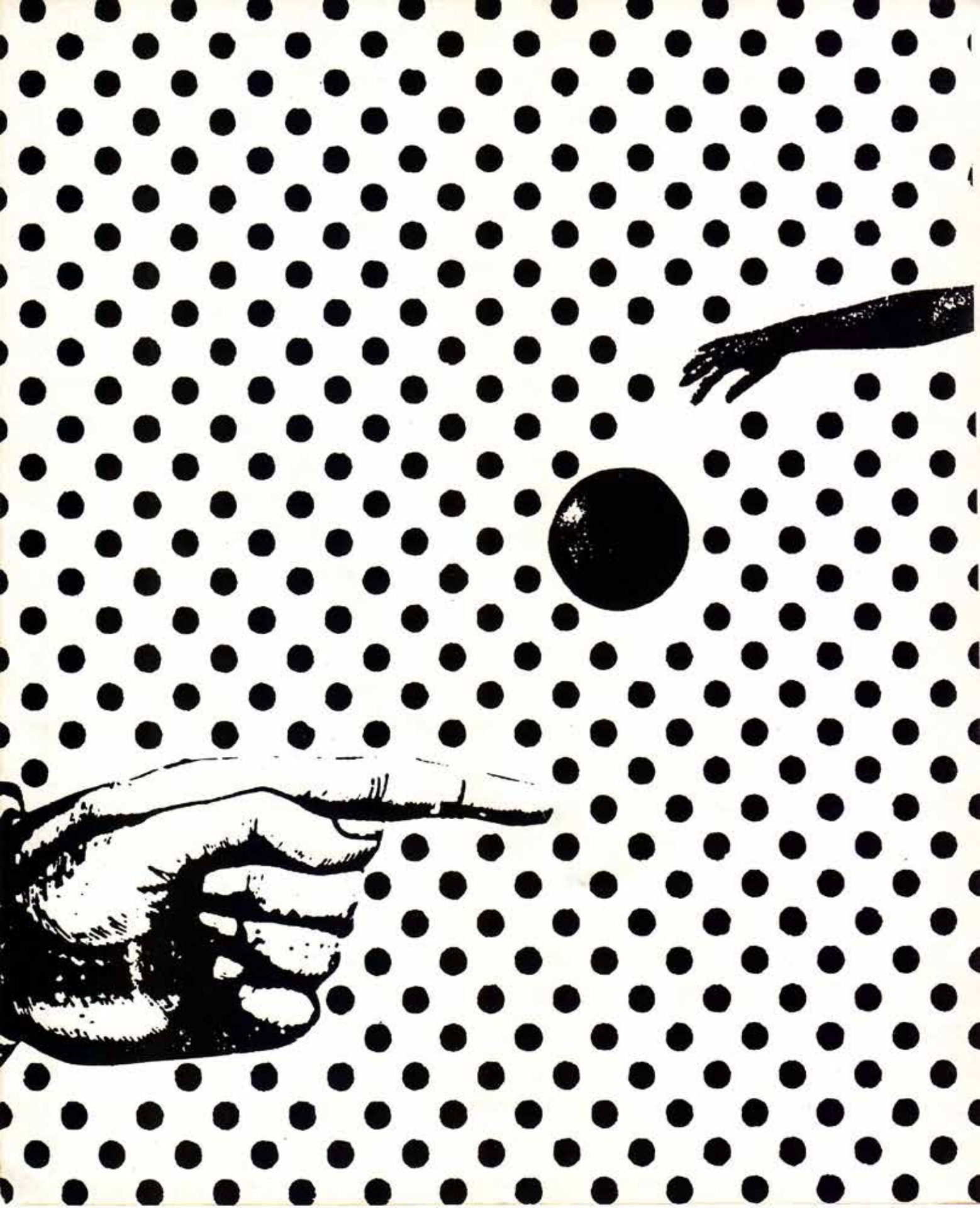
CATHODE RAY

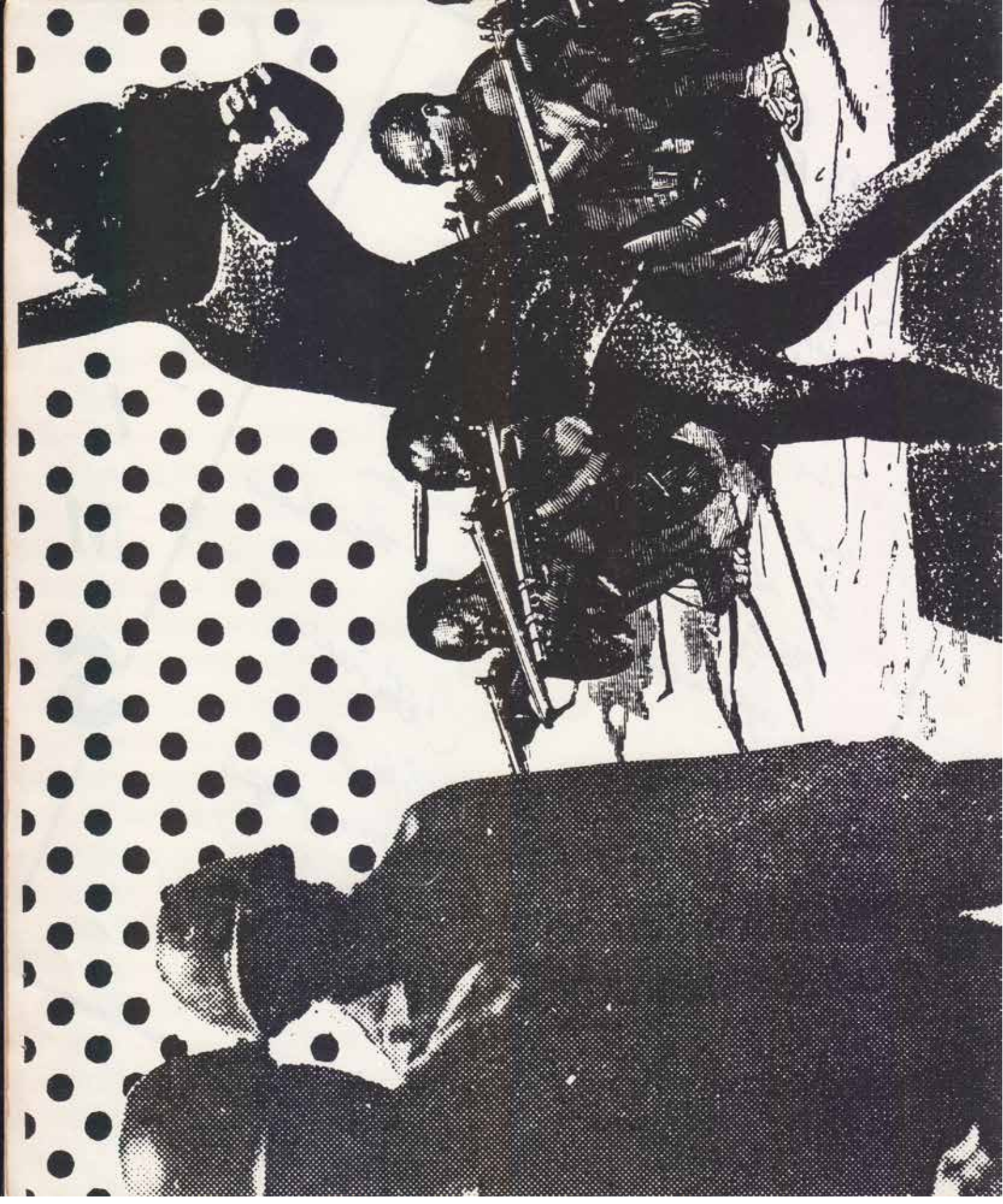
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F-a-s-h-i-o-n

V-i-c-t-i-m-s

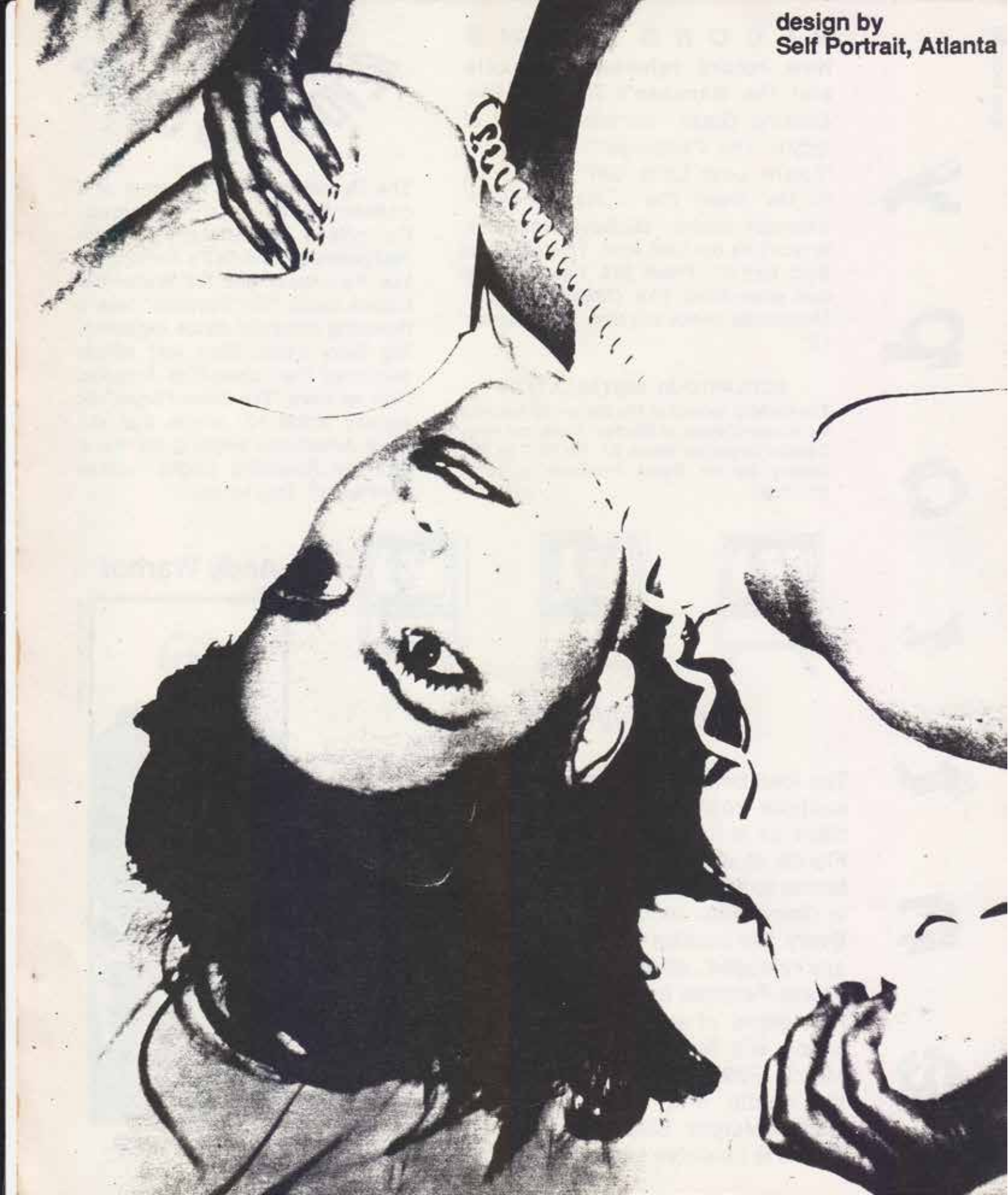
Dealing,

Dinner is in the oven...
Give my regrets to George
and Samantha as I won't
be able to attend tonight's
party. I couldn't get an
appointment with my hairdresser.

Love,
Catherine

P.S.— I would like to be
buried in my purple
satin. You can pick
it up at the cleaners on
Monday.

design by
Self Portrait, Atlanta



RECORD NEWS

New record releases: **Siouxsie and the Banshees** *Through The Looking Glass* contains covers of Iggy's 'The Passenger', The Door's 'You're Lost Little Girl' and 'Trust In Me' from *The Jungle Book* amongst others. **Michael Jackson's** lp won't be out until April. That's just too **Bad**, isn't it? **Front 242** has a new lp due soon titled *The Official Version*. Meanwhile check out their 'Interception' 12".

SCULPTURAL INSTALLATION

The Gallery, located at The Bar will be featuring the sculptural works of Stephen Jones and Peter Caroline beginning March 27. For info. on The Gallery contact David Pieribone at (904) 371-7830.



ARTWORKS

The idea behind Art Works is not unique-collect multiple copies of original art and compile them as a magazine-but former University of Florida student Stephen Peacock is taking this format to an extreme. Peacock began Art Works in Gainesville, moving it to New York in 1985. Every two months 100 copies of the magazine are released, selling for 20 dollars. With Art Works Peacock has succeeded in developing a new genre of art as well as opening a studio which will feature upcoming artists. From March 5-29 A No-Theme Show will premiere the studio with works by Howard Finster, Robbin Murphy, Stephen Dwyer and others. Art Works is available locally at Goering's Books.



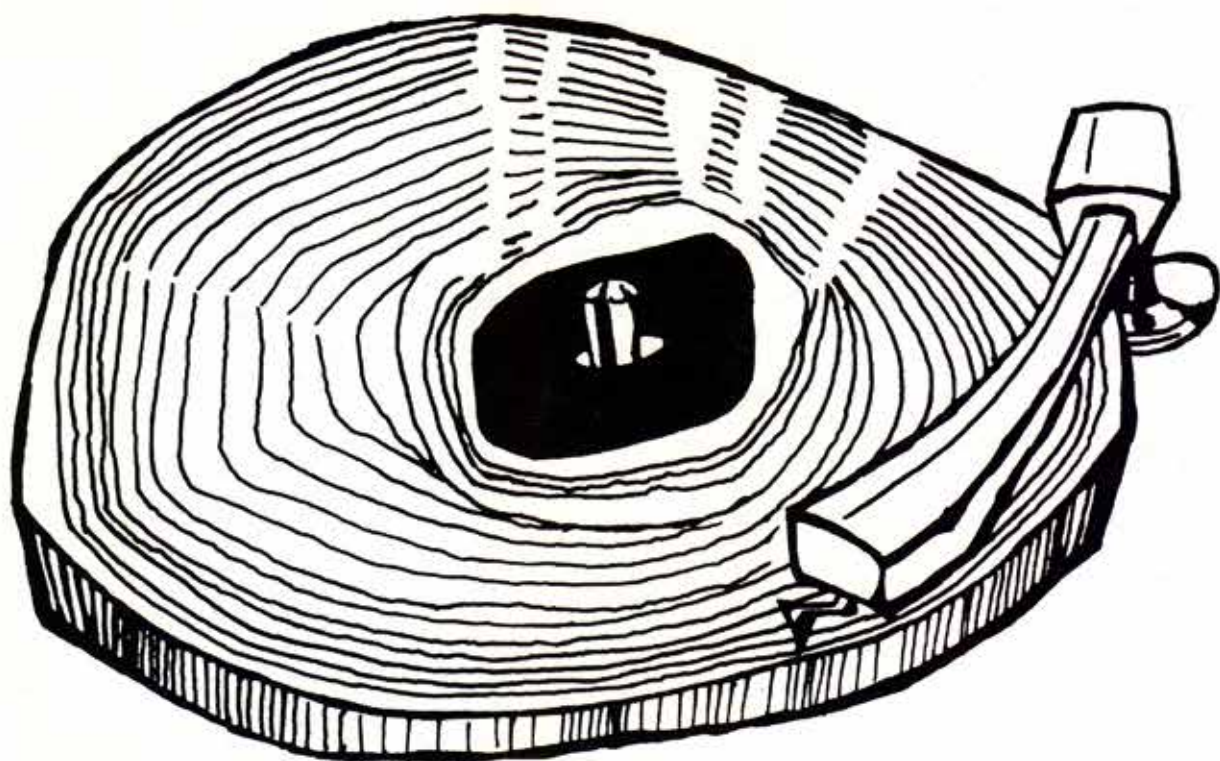
The Revolting Cocks are more of a collaboration than a group. Comprised of Ministry's Alain Jourgensen, Front 242's Richard 23, Luc Van Acker and Bill Rieflin the Cock's debut "No Devotion" was a thrashing industrial dance explosion. Big Sexy Land, their first album continued their assault of America. Now we have "You Often Forget," an equally lethal 12" single that will have Americans begging for more. Will the Revolting Cocks release another lp? Stay tuned...

Andy Warhol



PHOTO: ADRIAN BOOT

1930 - 1987



Vinyl Fever

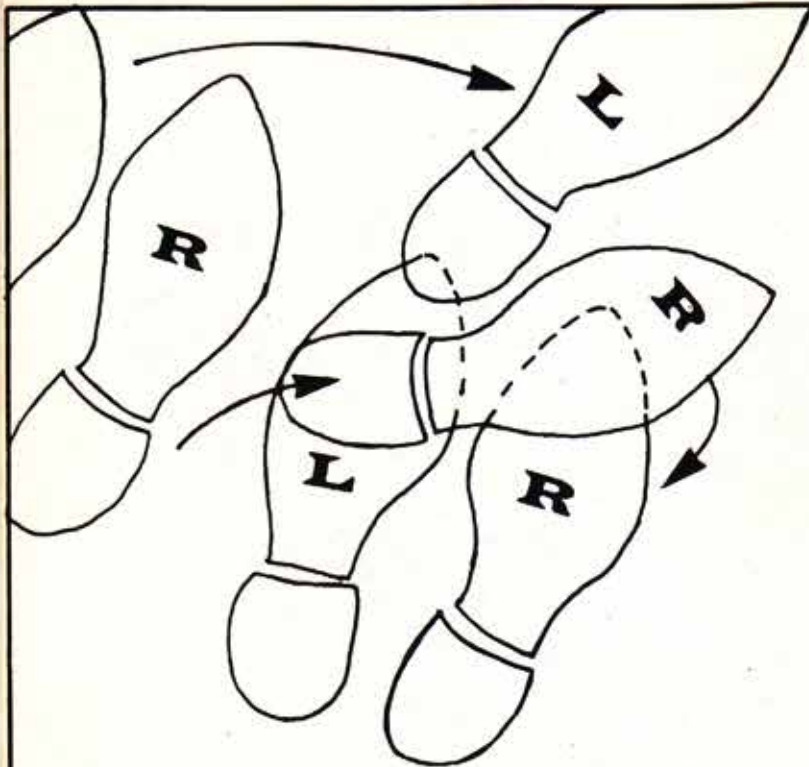
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ALBUMS

Big Black - *Racer X* (Homestead). Guitars and a big beat never sounded better together. Big Black grind their guitars on an axle of noise while the drums just keep getting louder. Ugly Americans fear not, this one'll put us back on the map.

Clan of Xymox - *Medussa* (4AD). Hauntingly morose and sublime at the same time, *Medussa* is inspiring both on the dance-floor and in the bedroom. Filled with sparse, orchestral textures and moody arrangements, it continues Clan of Xymox's journey into the darker soundscapes.

Coil - *Horse Rotorvator* (Force and Form). Coil's cover of "Tainted Love" was demented enough to induce sudden emotional trauma with its despairing gloom-doom tone. *Horse Rotorvator* continues the depressing melodrama, except this time it lasts an entire album. For the sadist in all of us.

Half Pint - *Greetings* (Jetstar/EMI). The second album by one of the newest and best British reggae singers. With all songs written by Half Pint and drum and bass powered by Sly and Robbie this lp jams with upbeat optimism. Turn it up, brother.

Harold Budd/Elizabeth Fraser/Robin Guthrie/Simon Raymonde - *The Moon and the Melodies* (4AD). Perhaps one the best collaborative efforts of 1986, this dreamy, translucent lp features some of today's finest "new age" (I hate the term but it fits) musicians. Definite Cocteau Twin similarity though not as layered, thanks to Budd's minimalist approach.

Mantronix - *Music Madness* (Sleeping Bag). This electronic duo create a perfect blend of hi-tech funk and hip-hop using a variety of computer sampled sounds mixed with hard beats. A crucial new direction for black music.

The Royal Family and the Poor - *We Love the Moon* (Factory). The Royal Family and the Poor were a living room studio project that existed in 1984. They sing against oppression of all types and speak of social undercurrents that will slowly change society. Interesting concept and unique use of drum machines, voice effects and synth.

Skinny Puppy - *Mind- The Perpetual Intercourse* (Nettwerk). Skinny Puppy's ambient, post-industrial experimentation reaches new heights. A visionary, traumatic soundscape of dementia. Nivek Ogre's horrific vocals reflect the repulsion one finds with modern society. Contains 'Dig it' currently a fave on dance floors.

Test Department - *The Unacceptable Face of Freedom* (Some Bizarre). The fold-out crucifix packaging of this album alone is worth the money but it's the crashing sounds inside that make *The Unacceptable Face of Freedom* so wonderfully terrifying. Music that will scare the neighbors and tighten anyone's sphincter.

SINGLES

Chris & Cosey - *Take Five* (Nettwerk). Former Psychic TVites goe pop with a Depeche Mode meets Section 25 combo. Cute and hypnotic, this innocuous ep is a step forward for synth-pop but not for much else.

Karen Finley - *Tales of Taboo* (Pow Wow Wow Int'l.). Decadent sexist trash or profound social commentary? One wonders after seeing the impish reaction it evokes. Either way, a nasty porno-disco anthem that won't please the PMRC. Karen Finley takes sexism to an extreme, only to offend everyone but herself. *Tales of Taboo* is both humorous and horrifying. It doesn't take long for one to become insensitive to it though, which does more harm than good for anti-sexism.

Front 242 - *Interception* (Wax Trax!). Two songs ('Aggressiva,' 'Quite Unusual') that smooth out the meaning of industrial music without losing an edge. Like their counterparts in this genre, Front 242 put out a nasty beat, dark vocals and great effects with explosive results.

International B.K. - *Eat This* (unknown). International B.K. sound alot like Keith LeBlanc on this massive, repetitive beat-box chant. Take this song to the dance floor and let your feet do the rest.

Legendary Pink Dots - *Curious Guy* (Play It Again Sam). Edward KaSpell's tortured, psychedelic vocals highlight this sentimental suffocation. *Curious Guy's* a sweet and seductive dance song, while side two is a hallucinogenic flashback.

Minimal Compact - *Immigrant's Song* (Crammed Discs). This is one of Led Zep's best songs and to see anyone cover it is bound to be a letdown. Minimal Compact give *Immigrant's Song* the justice it deserves. A flavorful mix of far-eastern influences, a heavy beat and straight forward execution give it an eighties edge. Other two songs aren't bad either.

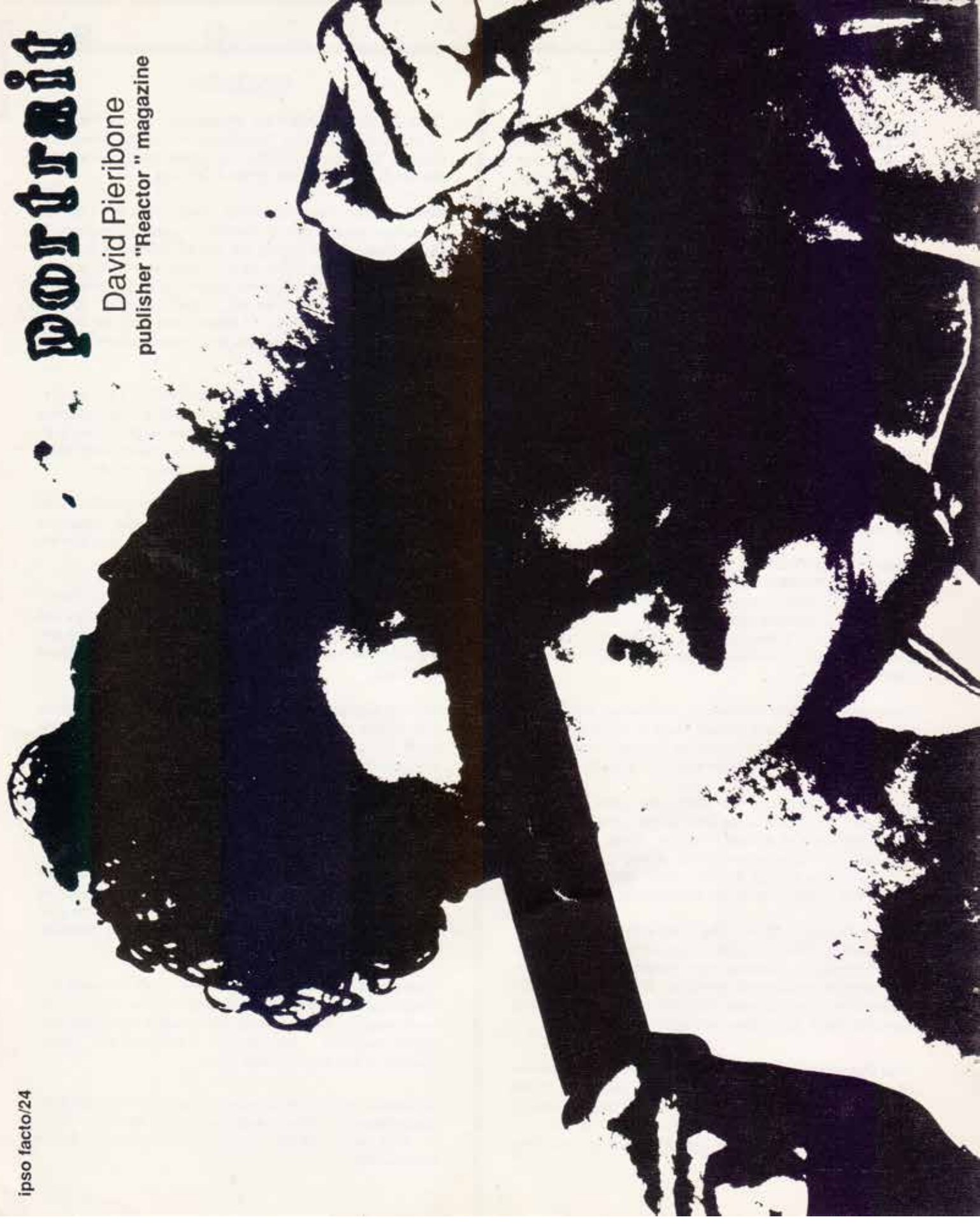
Three Angry Poles - *Motorcycle Maniac* (Wax Trax!). Ohhhhhh baaaaby, faster faster, faster faster. Luc Van Acker and company hit the right buttons on this screeching cycle burner. Rapid fire beats and a whiney voice give *Motorcycle Maniac* gas and side two's songs add the depth to this fun ep.

Trisomie 21 - *Joh'Burg* (Play It Again Sam). Powerful and infectious synth music with an international flare. Their fourth record it swoons along with smooth harmonies and catchy melodies. Inspirational, intelligent and crafty, Trisomie 21 are worth looking into.

All reviews reflect the opinion of the writer and not Ipso Facto Magazine. Record submissions are welcome. Send to: Ipso Facto, 720 NE 4th Ave. Gainesville, FL 32601 attention Music Editor.

Portrait

David Pieribone
publisher "Reactor" magazine





Florida Bicycle Advocacy



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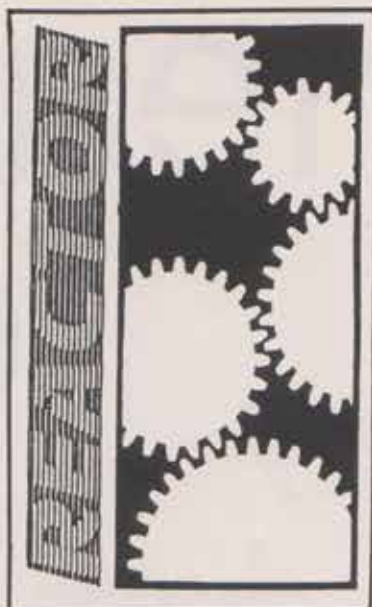
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PHONE NUMBER

ANIMAL LIBERATION



In 1985 Dan Mathews of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) hooked up with Ministry's Alain Jourgensen. Both were concerned about inhumane treatment of animals and began work on "Animal Liberation," the forthcoming Wax Trax! Records compilation to benefit PETA. "Animal Liberation" is a nine track lp featuring Nina Hagen and Lene Lovich, Colourfield, Shriekback, Chris & Cosey, Captain Sensible, Luc Van Acker, Attrition and Howard Jones. All of these artist are joining together to communicate one single message: "Animals are not ours to eat, wear, or experiment on." Interspersed between music tracks are action segments of actual dialogue from animal experimenters and meat farmers and alerts from TV and radio commentators. PETA will use artists' royalties from "Animal Liberation" to continue their fight for animal rights. Founded in 1980, the Washington based organization has risen to the forefront of the movement, having caused enough public pressure to close some of the nation's most horrible animal labs. "Animal Liberation" will be available in March. For more info. on PETA write: People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Box 42516 Washington, D.C. 20015.



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SKINNY PUPPY

continued from page 7

OTHER GROUPS

"Ministry changes their sound every album. Alan Jourgensen is working with Adrian Sherwood now and that's great for what it's worth. It's really well produced. The work he does with Sherwood and Keith LaBlanc is quite good but it'd be interesting to see what he does next.

You can only experiment with a disco beat so much and LaBlanc's gone to the natural progression which is the beat box funk beat, which is one of the most infectious beats. You can come home and you can't get that beat out of your head and it's eventually just in there and you become programmed to accept it."

Though Skinny Puppy have a distinct, unique sound one can't help categorizing them with other "post-industrial" groups like Front 242, Ministry, and The Revolting Cocks.

SEVERED HEADS

"At the beginning we exchanged music with them and we exchanged letters. Tom Ellard was in England at one point and he was returning to Australia and we said, "why don't you stop here on the way back to Australia and maybe we can arrange a date for you at a club here. The next thing we know Tom is in Vancouver and we decided to do a collaboration which turned out to be a song of the "Bites" album called 'Assimilate.'

At the time that he came to Vancouver Nettwerk was doing fine and was very interested in Severed Heads and presented a deal.

It was a natural progression for two Nettwerk artists to tour together (on their last tour). We also decided to do another phase of our experimental collaboration which is the new single called "Chainsaw." It turned out really good.

Tom likes to spend a long time recording his albums. He spends a year recording an album which is good because he owns all his equipment."

If there's any other group that could be compared to Skinny Puppy it would be Severed Heads. The reasons are apparent. Both bands are enjoying some success; Skinny Puppy with 'Dig It' and Severed Heads with '22 Deadly Diseases.'

OTHER COLLABORATIONS

"I just did a collaboration with Edward Kaspell, the lead singer for the Legendary Pink Dots called "The Tear Garden." He was over here six months ago and we did four songs together. They don't really represent either of the bands, it's very neutral. I like that alot, it's very electronic and psychedelic; a definite mixture between the two."

It's doubtful that you'll ever here a Skinny Puppy song on the radio in Florida (the exception, of course, is non-commercial radio) but some clubs are programming their music.

It takes an adventurous listener to open up to any group they've never heard before (or have only heard a little of) but Skinny Puppy is worth a chance.

2 headed cow

By Stuart Patterson

NECESSARY CONNECTION

Nobody knows what chain of events led up to the seemingly necessary connection of Baby's two heads. There are no nuclear waste sights on the outskirts of Chiefland; it is unlikely that either of Baby's parents ever took LSD; and there have been no recent UFO sightings reported around the Webster farm where Baby was born in January.

According to Gaye Webster, farmer's wife and beautician, "there's a lot of phenomena that we can't explain on this farm, but I attribute none of that to extraterrestrial activity."

The deformation could be due to a screw-up in the mother's womb during pregnancy or, as most agree, it might be genetic.

Johnny Webster, owner of the farm said, "at first I thought maybe it tried to be twins, but a vet teacher from Chiefland High said it was probably genetic."

When I first visited the Webster farm, Baby was only a week old, with several complications. Her two center eyes had been severely wounded and were vulnerable to infection; she had multiple abrasions on her hide; and her delicate neck was unable to support the weight of an extra head.

The Webster's, however, were determined to give Baby every opportunity to live.

CHIEFLAND HUMANE SOCIETY

The family was very innovative in the way they cared for Baby. Johnny and his son Michael rigged up a burlap sling so that Baby could stand up. Even the dogs on the farm pitched in and insured that Baby was well protected through the night.

But most of the attention still comes from Denese, the Webster's niece. If it were not for this person's devoted, humane efforts Baby wouldn't be alive today.

Denese has given almost all of her time to the calf, and believes that Baby knows her, "she's pretty special, I think she knows me."

Denese offers a demonstration, "watch when I call her name, she raises her ear up...Baby? (Baby lifts one of her ears up on cue and salivates profusely.)

"We've been feeding her mother's milk," Denese says as she demonstrates. "I also add baby cereal and a few raw eggs."

Baby is fed with an enormous bottle and an equally impressive nipple. As she sucks with one mouth, the other moves in unison. Both tongues slurp at the same time; this is because Baby has only one brain.

SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST

In fact, everything behind Baby's ears is perfectly normal; everything in front of them is duplicated. She has four eyes and two complete muzzles--all controlled with one brain.

It's not easy for Baby, but with the Webster's help she may very well live. She might stand a better chance of survival than the rest of the cows on the farm. As Denese said, "Baby's a fighter, she wants to live."

HOW NOW?

I just got off the phone with Johnny Webster. It's been over a month and Baby is still alive. Her two center eyes are clearing up, and she has almost gained enough strenght to stand up on her own. I told Johnny that Baby had a better chance of survival than the rest of the cows on the farm. He politely, in a restrained voice, replied, "yes".

According to Darwin, creatures that survive are "favored by reason of slight advantageous variations." One could hardly call an additional head "slight," but for Baby two heads are better than one. Of the 27 head of cattle on the Webster farm, Baby's two are the least likely to end up between a sesame seed bun.



services

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Contributions and ideas are welcome. If you are a writer or artist or if you have any interesting story ideas please contact us.

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