

Earwax:

'Mingus' more intriguing than sustaining

JONI MITCHELL:
"Mingus"
(Asylum) 3 Stars.

A record that's more intriguing than sustaining. Mitchell's arty pretensions are reinforced by her collaboration and emulation of the late jazz giant Charles Mingus, but there's another aspect to the affair. Mingus' rough sense of humor seems to have sharpened Mitchell's wit, as well, and for all its pretensions this is easily her best record since "Hejira." The lyrics to "Goodbye Pork Pie Hat" actually fit that jazz classic, which is testament to Mitchell's verbal genius, and even though most of the music is more synthetic and learned than deeply felt, it never swerves from the listenable.

NILS LOFGREN:
"Nils"
(A&M) 4 Stars

Surprisingly strong comeback from a rocker whom many of us had already written off. Compared to the sloppiness of his other recent records, "Nils" is nothing less than a revelation. "No Mercy," the opener, might almost be a parable of Lofgren's career, and the other originals are almost as strong. Partly, that's thanks to producer Bob Ezrin, who has balanced his own taste

for cleaned up rock licks with Lofgren's zest for the raw edge. And then there's Randy Newman's "Baltimore," too portentous by half in most readings, which here becomes the perfect salutation from a wastrel native to his homeland.

ELLEN SHIPLEY
"Ellen Shipley"
(New York International) 4 Stars.

Shipley is an excellent writer, and for once, with a women writer-performer, that doesn't mean that she owes her principal artistic debt to country or folk music. Instead, she's steeped in the rock and roll of the early Sixties, when the girl groups reigned supreme, with ample influence from recent rockers like Elvis Costello (listen to "I Surrender") and Bruce Springsteen (try the statement-of-purpose ballad "Heroes of Yesterday"). This set isn't so swell on Side Two, where Shipley tries to branch out (why a Ronstadt-ballad, "Last Tears" at all?), but the consistency of both writing and performance, and the imaginative arrangements and production from Ralph Shuckett and Ed Sprigg make it one of the year's more impressive debuts.



Joni Mitchell

"Americathon: Original Soundtrack"
(Lorimar) 2 Stars

Zane Buzby's Vietnamese "puke rocker" routine is one of the funniest rock parodies I've ever seen — but that doesn't mean you want to listen to it. Despite capable performances by Nick Lowe, Eddie Money and Elvis Costello (who offers a previously unreleased track, "Crawling to the U.S.A."), this is pretty inconsequential stuff.

MAXINE NIGHTINGALE:
"Lead Me On"
(Windsong) 2 Stars

The title track is one of late

summer's more bouncy disco hits, but the surroundings are mostly filler.

"More American Graffiti: Original Soundtrack"
(MCA) 3 Stars.

This isn't as good as the original either, but it does have a few

choice hits: "Pipeline," the indispensable surf instrumental, the punk rock anthem "96 Tears" and a sprinkling of Motown. But you gotta put up with Country Joe and the Fish to get it.

(Records are rated from one star to five in ascending order of quality.)

Copyright 1979 by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Films turn 'Big Apple' into ham

New York City is making a come-back as a motion picture set.

Marking the greatest back-to-back film program ever planned in New York City, producer Robert Stigwood ("Saturday Night Fever," "Grease" and "Jesus Christ Superstar," among others) has said he'll produce four major films here in the next 18 months.

The four films, which will carry an overall budget in excess of \$25 million, include "Times Square," a youth-oriented drama with an emphasis on music; "The Fan," starring Lauren Bacall, based on Bob Randall's best-selling suspense thriller set against the background of the Broadway theatrical world; "Angel," set in the barrios of East Harlem, with direction and choreography by Patricia Birch ("Grease"); and "Stayin' Alive," a romantic drama.

Mayor Ed Koch paid tribute to Stigwood by saying, "I salute Robert Stigwood for his good judgment in continuing the use of New York City as the greatest movie set in the world. This is another example of the expanding revival of movie-making in New York City.

"In 1978, there were a record 79 feature films and made-for-TV movies produced in The Big Apple, and 1979 promises to be even better. New York City is truly a 'star' among movie-making cities."

(NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.)

REAL ESTATE COURSES

SALESMEN'S COURSE I
\$135

BROKER'S COURSE
\$145

COURSE CERTIFIED BY La. Real Estate Comm.

3 DAY LICENSING LAW COURSE FOR SALESMEN and BROKERS
\$125

La's Largest Private Real Estate School

(504) 292-2920

BOB BROOKS
School of Real Estate
6721 Paces Lane
Baton Rouge, La.

Delmont Pastries

WEEKEND SPECIAL
FRI.-SAT.-Sun.

DOBASCH MOCHA, AMBROSIA OR CHEESE CAKE SLICES each 59¢

German Apple Strudel 49¢
4550 WINDBOURNE
355-7111 OR 357-8509

SATURDAY
11 AM TILL 3 PM

See Jenn-Air's amazing Grill-Range in action!

YES THAT'S RIGHT A LIVE DEMONSTRATION

TARGET
SALES & SERVICE

10066 SO. CHOCTAW DR. 923-3043

TARGET ONE OF THE NATION'S LARGEST JENN-AIR DEALERS

JENN-AIR
Demonstration Hours
SATURDAY
11 AM TILL 3 PM