

# GO

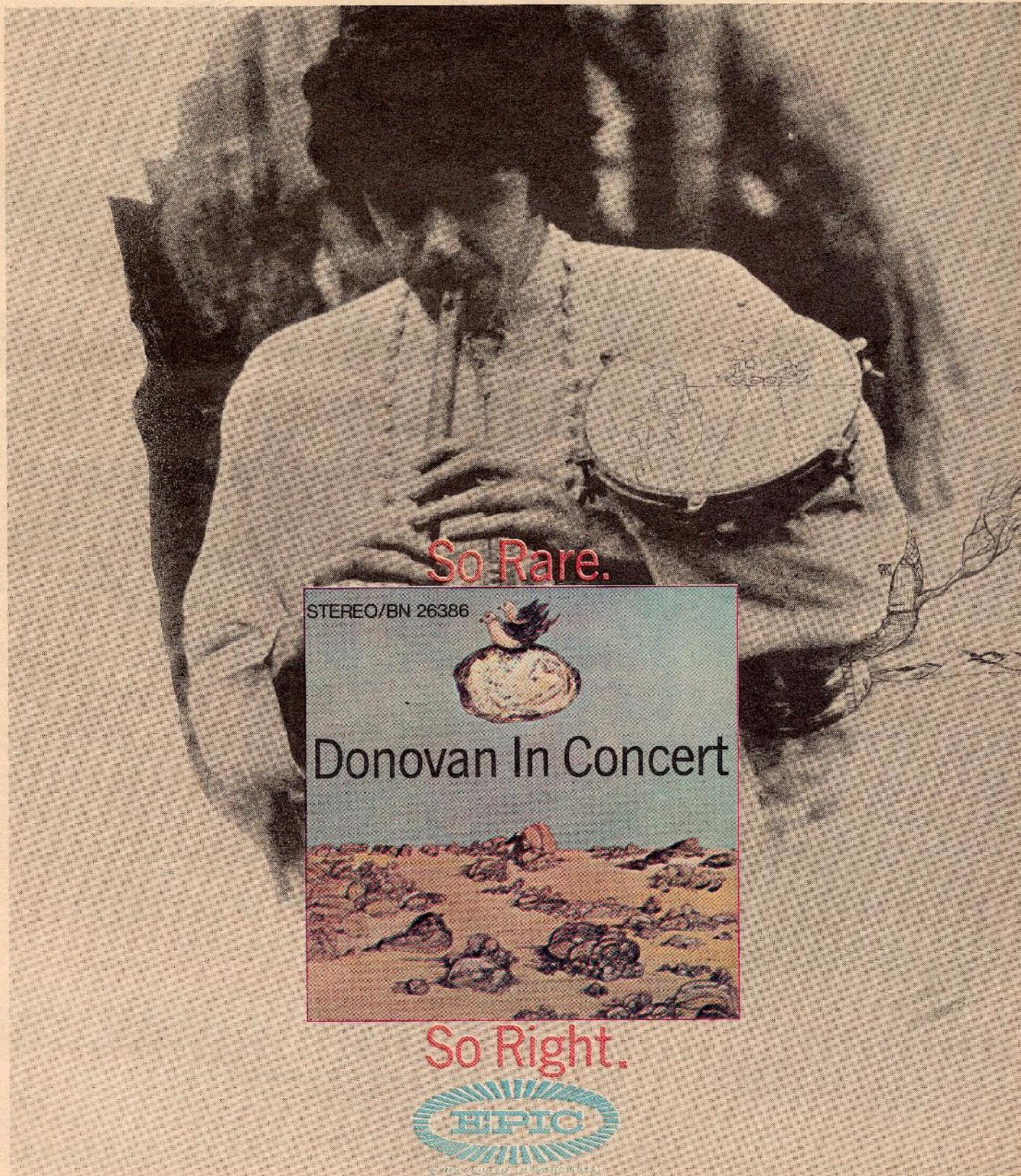
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So Rare.

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Donovan In Concert



So Right.



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# 1968... the year of Joni Mitchell ?

Just Joni onstage in a long purple robe with her long straight blonde hair gleaming in the soft lights focused on the stage of the Bitter End in Greenwich Village. Just Joni accompanying herself with an acoustic guitar while in a clear voice she sang her songs and the full house at the coffee house listened in quiet enchantment.

Before the release of Joni Mitchell's first Reprise album, a small circle of hip people knew her from her appearances in small coffee houses and her songs like "The Circle Game" and "The Urge For Going". Her reputation was really underground.

Now, since the release of the album earlier this year, Joni is finally getting the attention she deserves, for she is certainly one of the most important songwriters on the scene.

In a way, she reminds me just slightly of Donovan, for they both use words in a way that imparts a feeling of beauty and wonder.

There is almost a fairy-tale quality in the loveliness of many of her songs, but they are all very real and personal statements about her feelings, experiences and surroundings.

Onstage, she can be a fairy princess vulnerable in her delicate beauty or a woman who has lived and experienced life. Joni is a singer who takes her audience with her from the mountains to the sea in her songs.

Having worked in Detroit for two years, I saw Joni perform there before she made it. At the time, Detroit was her home. I hoped then that Joni would get the national exposure she deserved and now it looks as if 1968 will be the year of Joni Mitchell.

Bunky and Jake shared the bill with Joni during her three-week run at the Bitter End. I see so many new acts that it is very difficult for me to really flip over anyone unless they are absolutely super. I flipped over Bunky and Jake.

The duo stand out as one of the most original new and creative acts on the pop scene. Their style is dynamic and their material fresh. Pick up on their Mercury album and you'll get a good taste of what Bunky and Jake can do.

Speaking of excitement onstage, Sam and Dave walked off with all the honors in that department at Atlantic and NATRA's giant "Soul Together" held at Madison Square Garden.

The two have always been among the great R&B acts, but their new 13-piece band make them number one. The whole band go through precision dance routines that would put the Rockettes to shame. Sam and Dave always did great dances onstage themselves, but now, backed by this amazing band, no one can beat them.

No need to tell you how good Sam and Dave sound. They know how to put down soul like very few other performers. All I can tell you is that if Sam and Dave are appearing



SAM AND DAVE... walked off with all the honors with a knockout performance at the "Soul Together".

## SCENE

by  
Lorraine Alterman

anywhere near where you live, make sure you are first on line to see them.

Life magazines' recent feature about "the new rock" had marvelous pictures and an amusing piece written by Frank Zappa. Otherwise it fell flat on its glossy face, trying too hard to be hip.

They attempted in photo captions to be arty, but what do all those words mean! Just that Life doesn't have what it takes to freak out with words. The articles say a lot of nothing, too. Unfortunately, the feature comes off as an instant-make yourself-hip-kit and it just doesn't work.

The Young Savages currently on a promotion tour in the East for their new Roulette single, "Sitting On A Plane". The boys, incidentally, wrote, arranged, produced and performed the new Yoo Hoo diet drink commercial... Josh White Jr. being approached by casting directors for

roles in upcoming Broadway shows... Bobby Vee doing one TV special in Britain and two in Germany during his current tour abroad... Lulu just cut Nilsson's "Without Her" and she's the 15th artist to do that tune... Independent producer Bones Howe's first disc for Laura Nyro is "Save The Country". Laura and Bones cut the song in Columbia's Los Angeles studio... Warner Brothers-Seven Arts cashing in on Richard Harris recording success by releasing his "How To Handle A Woman" from the "Camelot" film score album on their label as a single.

## QUALITY IS THE KEYNOTE, SAYS DUNHILL CHIEF

"If a record is really good, there is no particular timing necessary for releasing it," says Jay Lasker, President of Dunhill Records. That, in a nutshell, is the major difference between Dunhill records and its giant competitors.

"The majors set monthly releasing policies," Lasker told GO. "Theory is that if you throw enough records up against the wall, some of them are bound to stick. Unfortunately, in order to meet their monthly allotments, they sometimes have to release product that is not up to snuff."

"That's why when production copies get to the all important radio station the station programming director, or whoever chooses the records to be played on the air, faced with a stack of releases from a particular label, will often pick out the artists whose names he knows, and not ever listen to the others."

"At Dunhill, we release by the seats of our pants. There is no firm release schedule for singles. We set a tentative schedule to use as a guide, but we very rarely stick to it."

"There are a lot of records produced for us that are never released, because when we hear the final version we aren't satisfied that the record is good enough."

"That's why when a record is released on the Dunhill label, we know the radio stations will listen to it."

Lasker discussed Dunhill's policy on releasing albums. "With most of our albums we aim for either a

By  
PHIL FLAMM

January or a July release date in order to tie in with ABC's big semi-annual promotion push. They distribute the Dunhill label.

"However, other albums we may handle the same way we do a single release. If a group get a hot single, we can rush an album right out. For example, we just brought out an album called 'Monk Higgins In MacArthur Park' which had a sound similar to the late Wes Montgomery and we're very high on it. It's getting played on rock, soul and jazz stations."

Dunhill - formed three years ago by Jay Lasker, Lou Adler and Bobby Roberts - had their first hit with "Eve Of Destruction" by Barry McGuire. Over the years, their most successful artists have been the Mamas & Papas.

About two years ago, Dunhill was sold to ABC, with Lasker remaining in charge of the label. Today Lou Adler produces the Mamas & Papas and Scott McKenzie among others and has his own label, Ode, which is distributed by Columbia. Bobby Roberts manages the Mamas & Papas and is currently negotiating to enter into several motion picture ventures.

Lasker talked about the most discussed album of the year, "A Tramp Shining" by Richard Harris, composed and produced by Jim Webb, who wrote "Up, Up & Away" and "By The Time I Get To Phoenix".

"Two record companies had

## SOUND THAT'S SOFT, HAPPY

Not only do Eternity's Children have a nice sound on their first Tower single "Mrs. Bluebird", but they are also nice people.

In New York on a cross country promotion tour, they stopped by the GO offices for a chat. Together for about a year and a half, the group - based in Baton Rouge, Louisiana - write all their own material.

In Eternity's Children are Lynda Lawley, vocals; Charles Ross, bass and guitar; Mike McClain, organ; Roy Whittaker, drums.

Their soft sound is reminiscent of the Mamas & Papas and The Association and their single shows them to be a very fine group.

Of their music, Roy said: "We are appealing to every age group. We don't just appeal to one particular kind of fan. If you like music, you'll like our sound."

Lynda added: "It's happy music - that's about the best way we can describe it."

Evidently their music has made one young lady very happy in New Orleans. The young lady is Pete Fountain's daughter, who asked them to play at her Sweet 16 party on August 25.

Mike told the story. "We received a call when we were in Washington from Mr. Fountain, and he told us that his daughter wanted us to play for her party."

"It was a very pleasant surprise," Charles said.

The group were brought together by their managers who searched the South to find the right musicians to make up a new group. Each member of Eternity's Children comes from a different musical background - Lynda from folk, Mike from psychedelic, Charles from rock and Roy from soul.

"I don't know how it all blended in together," Mike said, "but it did."



THREE DOG NIGHT... hot new Coast group.

already turned down the album because Webb told them it would cost \$40,000 to produce. Remember, Richard Harris was then an unknown quantity as far as record sales were concerned.

"When Jim entered into an exclusive production deal with Dunhill, he brought the idea to us. We were a bit wary because of the money, but we had signed Jim because of our faith in his ability, so we gave him the go ahead."

"Simultaneously with the release of the album we released one cut as a single, and the rest is history."

What is the next Dunhill project? "We have a group," says Lasker, "called Three Dog Night, who already have a fine reputation among musicians and are beginning to become known on Sunset Strip, one of the few spots in the country where the opinion of the public can actually

help to launch a group."

Another project on the horizon for Dunhill is "The Greatest Show On Earth" which is the next thing that Jim Webb will do. It should be ready later this month, however it is still a top secret project.

## ANDY PLANS EUROPEAN TOUR

Andy Williams just concluded a very successful cross country tour with concerts at Honolulu's International Center. The Osmond Brothers, who are on the singer's Barnaby Records label were on tour with Williams.

The Columbia Records artist has already won 10 gold LP's. He is currently planning another concert tour of Britain and Europe since his last one was so successful.

## MAJORCA POP FESTIVAL CANCELLED

THE MAJORCA Pop Festival scheduled to take place this month has been cancelled because the promoters could not raise enough money to put it on. Jimi Hendrix, Georgie Fame, Lulu, Tim Rose and many other stars were supposed to perform during the six day jazz and pop festival.

## DUSTY SIGNS U.S. CONTRACT

DUSTY SPRINGFIELD has just signed a new exclusive contract in the U.S. with Atlantic Records. The British singer's deal with her new label is effective August 1. She will return to New York in September to begin recording in Atlantic's studios.

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