

Facts ON wax

by bob morello

reviewing the best... forgetting the rest

THE CARDIGANS – FIRST BAND ON THE MOON (Vinyl)

Universal Music +
Stockholm Records

The celebrated Swedish quintet, The Cardigans, have issued *First Band on the Moon*, featuring their International hit single, "Lovefool." The album was a major breakthrough for the band, both in their native Sweden and internationally and it was their best-selling album in the United States. Formed in the small village of Jönköping, Sweden, in 1992, The Cardigans are a Swedish pop rock band that met as teenagers and went on to find worldwide success. With six critically acclaimed studio albums to their name, the band has sold over 15 million albums worldwide to date. The band's music has been prominently featured on a number of film soundtracks including *A Life Less Ordinary*, *The X-Files* and most prominently on *Romeo + Juliet*, which featured their ground-breaking international hit "Love Fool." Following their 2006 tour, the band reunited in 2012, to play several concerts and continue to perform to audiences across the globe. The Cardigans are: Nina Persson, vocals; Peter Svensson, guitar; Bengt Lagerberg, drums; Magnus Sveningsson, bass; and Lasse Johansson, keyboard, acoustic guitar. Cuts of note include, "Your New Cuckoo," "Been It," "Never Recover," "Step On Me," "Losers," and "Great Divide."

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN: PART 2 – MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK (CD) Varèse Sarabande

Varèse Sarabande delivers the goods with the debut CD release of the soundtrack for *The Other Side of the Mountain (Part 2)*, by multiple award-winning composer Lee Holdridge. The film was the sequel to the successful 1975 box office hit, *The Other Side of the Mountain*. The score features a beautiful love theme, which is heard in variations throughout the album, as well as in two songs sung by Merrily Webber (arranged by Holdridge) – the haunting "Love Theme" and the drowning of tears via "I Hear It Rain." The album was transferred from analog tape from the composer's archive. A sampling of Holdridge's beautiful cuts of music includes, the pretty "Holiday," the balmy strains of "Summer Night," the solitude of "Alone Together," and the moving "On The Road."

LE VENT DU NORD – TERRITOIRES (CD) Borealis Records

Le Vent du Nord are the feisty torchbearers of Quebecois traditional music, and together bring this dream "Le Pays de Samuel" and others to life on *Territoires*, described at the group's richest, most intriguing album to date. From the plight of New France "Louisbourg," to progressive social changes "Evolution Tranquille," a nod to the midcentury "Quiet Revolution" that led to Quebec's rebirth, from mysterious monsters "Chausouaro," to love's yearning "Le Soir Arrive," the

now five-person ensemble travels far and wide. Le Vent du Nord's own dream has been to bring a contemporary, highly original sensibility to the songs and melodies preserved in archives or treasured in family troves. Through thoughtful engagement with songs' stories and artful arrangements, the ensemble pushes Quebec folk music forward, with an ear open to the world and its current travails. Good stuff... eh?

JEFF JOHNSON & PHIL KEAGGY – CAPPADOCIA (CD) Ark Music

For their third recording as a duo, Jeff Johnson (keys, percussion & vocals) and Phil Keaggy (guitars, cumbus, bass, vocals & percussion) have created a contemporary instrumental journey inspired by Turkey's *Cappadocia*. This visually spectacular area has been known over the past several thousand years as a place of great spirituality. The inspiration came upon seeing the colorful soil eroded over the millennia, leaving steep cliffs and tall rock spires known as fairy chimneys, and into that rock ancient inhabitants carved houses, churches and even entire communities, sometimes partially exposed and other times entirely underground. The result is eight compositions, beginning with the mid-Eastern sounding title track, "Cappadocia," trailed by the spiritual question "Quo Vadis (Where Are You Going?)," the mysterious valleys named in "Valley of Swords and Roses," and a second-coming reference with "Parousia (A Presence)." The song "That Which Is Hidden" begins the second half, followed by "Chapel of Stone" which refers to the first carved-out-of-rock church they entered, the soaring "Dove Visions," and the finale "Trinity" is in the form of the mystical union of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. A very moving, close to an hour of music built on love and beliefs!

FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE – CAN'T SAY I AIN'T COUNTRY (CD) BMLG Records

Florida Georgia Line delivers their much-anticipated fourth studio album, *Can't Say I Ain't Country*, which includes their 16th #1 overall as artists, "Simple." The title track sets the pace for the awesome collection, trailed by the slow-paced, steamy "Talk You Out of It," cranking it up for "Speed of Love," teaming up with Jason Derulo on the gospel-flavored "Women," the fast-talking "People Are Different," and mark the midpoint by confessing their love on "Told You." FGL joins forces with Hardy to paint a picture of laid back rowdiness and charm in the down-home fun of "Y'all Boys," plus their definition of "Small Town" folk, trailing with the good looks of "Sittin' Pretty," Jason Aldean is part of the redneck rocker "Can't Hide Red," trying to ride out a lost love with weed and alcohol on "Colorado," the promising "Like You Never Had It," the fascination of "Swerve," and count their rewards with "Blessings."

The time has come, the walrus said,

TO TALK OF MANY THINGS of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings

by Sal Giaratani

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ...

Happy Birthday to my cousin Karen Gorman who now calls the state of Maine her home. She is about to celebrate her birthday on Friday, February 22nd, which by the way is also the birthday of both George Washington and Ted Kennedy.

SHOULD CITY COUNCIL TERMS BE DOUBLED?

I see that the Boston City Council is beginning a conversation amongst itself over whether or not to double the term of office from two years to four years. I think it is a good idea. Presently, running every two years means that almost as soon as they are elected, they begin thinking about re-election. Two years go by too quickly. Four-year terms would make for better government.

Recently, the Mayor of Quincy increased the length of the term to four years for the first time in the city. The same argument used by Boston City Council President Andrea Campbell suggesting the need for four-year terms was successfully used in Quincy.

Also historically noted, The Governor of Massachusetts was up through the 1964 election was elected to a two year term. In 1964, the voters of the Commonwealth elected its first governor for a 4-year term. It is hard to govern when seemingly upon being sworn in for two years, you start running for re-election.

I support four-year terms for the Boston City Council.

REVERE GETS NEW FOOD TRUCK BUSINESS

Two Revere women are getting ready to open a Mediterranean and Latin American food truck with a goal of bringing healthy food to Revere. Selene Erazo and Hana Kolsky, who is a vegan, are aiming to sell local produce that aren't GMO products. Erazo said, "It's a passion of mine to cook. I am concerned about chemicals in food, so I'm looking to sell products like fish, tacos, hummus and falafel." Good luck!

FIELDS CORNER TO BE RE-BRANDED AS WHAT???

I read this story in the *Dorchester Reporter*. Apparently, there are some in the Fields Corner area and at City Hall who are thinking about getting a historic designation for the largely Vietnamese community around Fields Corner. The new name being bounced around is "Little Saigon," and this news has started a conversation in that area of Dorchester.

I still remember a Dorchester Day Parade years ago when Dapper O'Neil, still a city councilor, was caught on a nearby reporter's mic calling the area near the T Station Saigon when he saw the large numbers of Vietnamese watching the parade go by with their children. He got into so much trouble for that remark because it was viewed as a slight to the neighborhood.

Now we have city officials and community activists actually

looking at a name change to "Little Saigon." I don't like it. If anything, after the fall of Saigon, multitudes arrived in America as asylum seekers and made new lives for themselves and families. They sought to assimilate into the American culture, especially for their children born here. As they have held on to Vietnamese traditions and culture, they have also Americanized.

While the Fields Corner area has grown into a large Vietnamese neighborhood, Vietnamese live across the city. There is large Vietnamese community in East Boston and points nearby north of the city. They live among us not as strangers but as friends and neighbors.

Calling a community "Little Saigon" is a push backwards. We need to look forward. I didn't appreciate what Dapper said back in the day at a parade and I don't appreciate this call to re-brand Fields Corner today.

CHIEF MARSHAL'S BANQUET

Soon St. Patrick's Day will be here and the pre-festivities are already planned. On Sunday, March 2nd, dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m., for the Chief Marshal's Parade Banquet honoring John C. Beatty, Lt./Col. U.S. Army retired. Corned Beef and Cabbage and music by Boston's Erin Og a great Irish band fitting for this event. Boston Teachers Union Hall in Dorchester Carson Place.

For more information, call 617-596-6322, 617-293-8060 or 617-792-8570.

'80s Music

CROSSWORD

1. "Formerly," formerly
5. "Steven Tyler to Liv
8. "Ebony" ivory
11. Shakespeare king
12. Depression drifter
13. "One with lonely heart
15. Epiphany guests
16. Sir Mix
17. "Free Fallin'" performer
18. "This is what it sounds like when
20. Day before, pl.
21. Scandinavian fjord, e.g.
22. "Sweet dreams" made of ..."
23. "Clock strikes up the hour and the sun begins
26. Iscarn to cinema
30. Time frame
31. Maximum
34. Greek liqueur
35. Escape
37. Black and white sea bird
38. Razor sharpener
39. Antonym of all
40. Starting time
42. Chowd down
43. Like geometric reasoning
45. Styled with salon goo
47. Decompose
48. Past participant of bear
50. Duck-like black bird
52. A-ha's hit
53. Folium, plural
56. Argonauts' propellers
57. Container weight
59. Apartments, e.g.
60. Black-eyed legumes
61. Author Murdoch
62. Opposite of paleo
63. Checked at bar, pl.
64. Catholic fasting period

DOWN

1. "Slippery" tree
2. Done between the lines
3. Kind of palm
4. Alex Trebek's forte
5. Big name in fashion
6. Terminate, as in mission
7. Half-rotten
8. Pot contribution
9. In proximity to the Knicks
10. Del'Espant album, "High 'n' "
12. Pork meatloaf
13. Phantom's favorite genre?
14. "We've got to hold on to what
19. Provide with ability
20. "Goody Two Shoes" singer, Adam
23. "Tiger Beat" audience
24. Lowest deck
25. Flora's partner
26. Says "what?"

CROSSWORD

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38

39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47

48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55

56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64

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27. Beyond suburban

28. Nitrogen, in the olden days

29. Bicycle with a motor

32. Stake driver

33. "Swing" Sister

36. "Just a city boy born and raised in South"

38. Dictation taker

40. Quaker Man's cereal

41. Emerge

44. Itsy-bitsy bits

46. Dal staple

48. Talked like a sheep

49. Ladies' fingers

50. Orange traffic controller

51. Spaghetti aglio and

52. Serengeti antelope

53. Foal's mother

54. "Joan Rivers Loves Chachi" actress

55. "Oh girls just want to have

58. NYC time

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