

BRUM BEAT

THE MUSIC MAG OF THE MIDLANDS

JULY/AUGUST 1989

WISE UP!

SCHOOL'S OUT—
COLLEGE'S IN!

● FOUR PAGE
CENTRE SPECIAL

► WONDER STUFF
EXCLUSIVE—PAGE 5

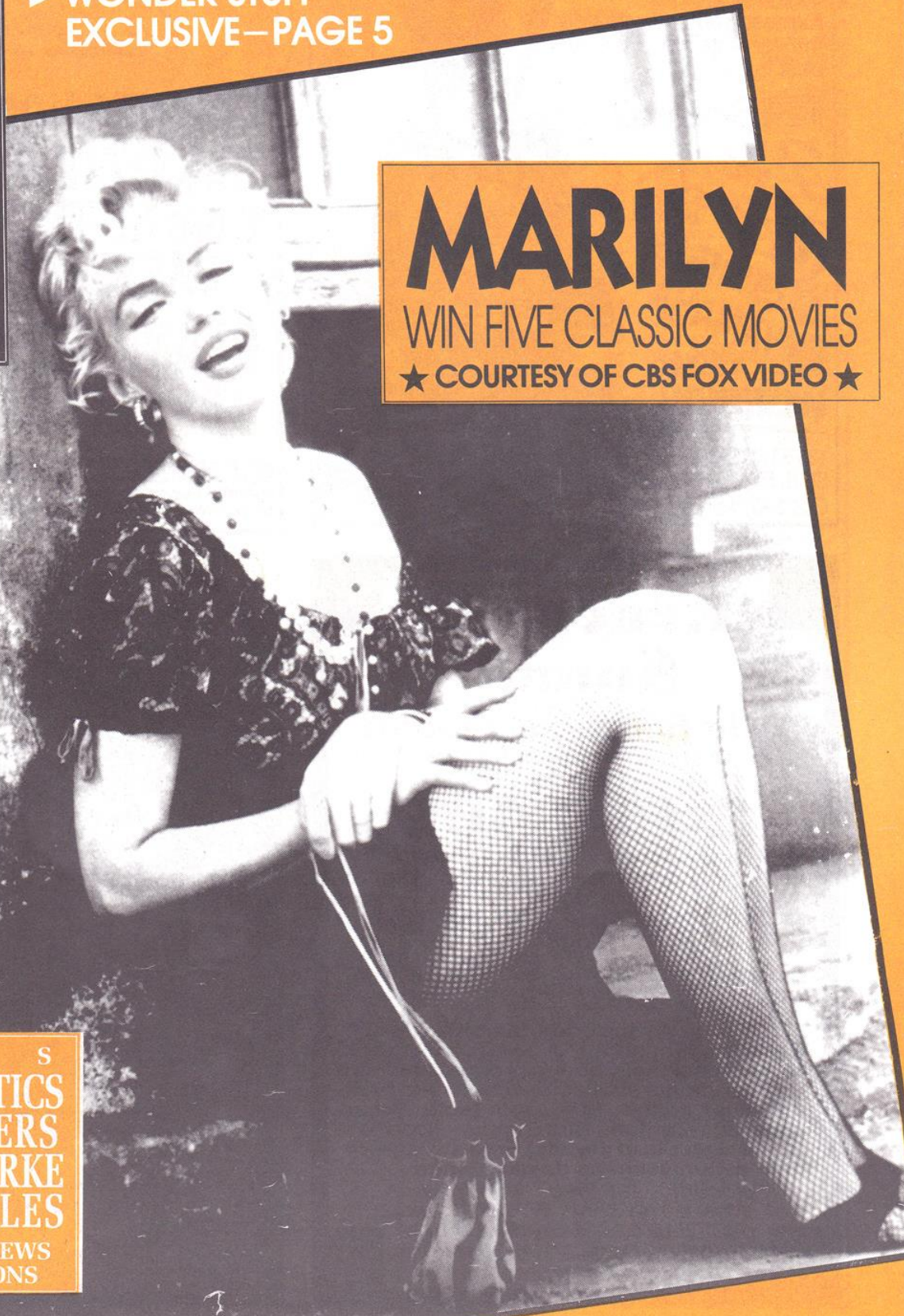
MARILYN

WIN FIVE CLASSIC MOVIES

★ COURTESY OF CBS FOX VIDEO ★

P L U S
THE FANATICS
BONEDIGGERS
TERRY CLARKE
TEXAN TALES

● NEWS ● REVIEWS
● COMPETITIONS



SCREEN GEMS

Jazz buffs are all but ignored by the video world so it's a pleasant surprise to find Hendrix Video putting matters right with a vengeance. While stocks last purchasers of any title from their 'Live at Ronnie Scott's' series will receive a free CD of their choice from the series' aural equivalent. Among featured artists on video and silver disc are Nina Simone, Art Blakey, Memphis Slim (featuring Paul Jones and Slim Gaillard) and Chet Baker (with Van Morrison and Elvis Costello). You will, incidentally, have to shop at Virgin or Our Price to be eligible.

A couple of interesting tapes have appeared on the Castle Vision label. "The Unauthorised Biography of Jane Fonda" is a ninety minute US TV show of the kind that pads out the 3am slots on UK TV. Concerned in the main with injecting some controversy into the world of Ms. Workout it sags badly under the weight of its own worthiness. Interesting none-the-less. "The Day The Dream Died", a documentary from the Channel Four archive directed by Godley and Creme, investigates the murder of John F. Kennedy and proves simply that there

are more questions than excuses. The complacency we all share about such events makes it all so much more unnerving. Both tapes retail at £9.99.

BBC Video have rush released the 1989 Liverpool v Everton Cup Final in its extra time entirety for home viewing. Retailing at £9.99 profits from sales will be donated to the Hillsborough disaster fund. Video title of the year? How about 'Mike Tyson's Greatest Hits'! Sporting biography or entertainment? Well you'll have to spend your £9.99 and decide.

APPRENTICE TO MURDER

(New World Video) (15)

Donald Sutherland stars as John, a pow wow doctor or faith healer come mystic. Chad, brother of Rob, Lowe is Billy his adolescent pupil. Billy is also involved with Alice, a fellow lodger in the boarding house favoured by John. The three form an uneasy triangle with Billy drawn both by religious mysticism and the love/lust of an awakening sexuality. Ultimately it's his faith in "the Lord" that leads him to the crime of the title; a crime or an hallucination? Did/does John have the power or merely the charisma to dupe Billy. Not a brilliant movie but atmospherically paced with Sutherland adding the lazy menace he does so easily.

Steve Morris

SCREEN GEMS COMPETITION

THE MARILYN COLLECTION

Marilyn Monroe is arguably the most legendary of all Hollywood stars. Year after year books, posters and magazine articles regularly fill the shelves. Indeed Monroe's image has become that of icon.

Mention the name Marilyn in an entertainment context and only one face comes to mind. Sadly, all of this activity forgets that central to the myth are her movies.

She starred in thirteen major films during her career and ten of these were made for 20th Century Fox. These are now available to collectors courtesy of CBS/Fox video at a mere £9.99 each.

The ten are "Monkey Business", "Don't Bother to Knock", "Niagra", "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes", "How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying", "River Of No Return", "There's No Business Like Show Business", "The Seven Year Itch", "Bus Stop" and "Let's Make Love".

To celebrate 'The Marilyn Collection' Brum Beat, in conjunction with CBS/Fox Video, has a magnificent competition. The lucky winner will choose their five favourite Monroe Movies from the above list and have them delivered on VHS videos to watch whenever their mood takes.

To enter, answer the following questions on a postcard and mail it to 'Marilyn Collection' competition at our usual address. First out of the hat wins the bumper prize of five VHS videos

- 1) What was Marilyn's real name?
- 2) Who had a hit with a song that said goodbye to her?
- 3) With which US president was her name linked?

The Season Of The Hurricane

Arthur Wood on Terry Clarke



Terry Clarke and Steve Gibbons sing the Encyclopaedia of Rock 'n' Roll.

Terry Clarke has spent more years than he would care to remember on the perimeter of national recognition. Nothing has ever damaged his enthusiasm for music. He is the consummate fan. A walking encyclopaedia of our "rock n' roll" heritage since the fifties. You can't help but relate to a man, who, in one breath, praises Dion and Dylan, the Everlys and Tom Petty; then pitches in names like, Dwight Twilley, Van Dyke Parks - two of our more obscure American cousins. You can't help but admire a man who recognises that songwriting is an art to be nurtured.

If albums were compass points which threw out ley lines for other songwriters to follow, then Clarke would surely quote Gram Parsons' vinyl legacy and Joe Ely's debut album as the Krypton filled blockbusters which most sparked his imagination. Despite it's hokey image, country music possesses a heart and soul, a passion and a

basic honesty which are hard to equal anywhere in the aural arena.

Music has never been less than a ceaseless evolutionary process. With that musician's inner ear writers redraft old works; by twisting the theme in their mind, a new sound or

song is born. Such is the power of an imaginative and creative spirit.

It seems appropriate to recall, that the first occasion I saw Terry Clarke perform in public, was at the Border Cafe's annual July 4th Independence Day bash in 1988. Recently returned from Texas, Clarke had cut eleven of his own songs, during recording sessions at The Fire Station in San Marcos and at Austin's Cedar Creek. In the not too distant future, those songs will finally be available on vinyl, via the small independent PT record label. With the release of "Call Up A Hurricane", the waiting and worry will finally melt away.

That Clarke's album was ever recorded, comes from the realms of "Once upon a time....". In July '87, the American acoustic music magazine "Frets" carried an advert for a Gram Parsons/Clarke White memorial concert. Terry's curiosity was sparked. Two transatlantic phone calls later, he had been invited to appear on the bill alongside the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Rodney Crowell and many others. While rehearsing in Nashville for the show, Terry was introduced to Dwight Yoakam's ex-bassman. Sufficiently impressed with the Brits' songs, J.D. Foster suggested they record some of them. Those initial sessions took place at 16th Avenue Sound, Nashville on Sunday 4th October 1987. Three songs were cut. As they say, the rest is....

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On paper, the eighteen day event was based around "Eleven 6-hour Evening Concerts, six 2-hour Sundown Concerts, two New Folk Concerts for emerging songwriters, the 2nd annual Blues Project, six two-hour Children's Concerts plus the annual Fish Fry and Concert and not forgetting, the Native American Tribute". All in all, around eighty individual performers or groups/duos to be seen and heard - over one hundred hours of live music. And simply for the sum of \$125. Those events however, were merely the financial (and social) tip of the annual Hill Country happening. The biggest error that anyone can make in all of this, is to ever contemplate visiting the Quiet Valley Ranch, Kerrville, Texas. Once there, if you take the time to look around the ample twenty acre camping grounds during the initial Memorial Day (Whitsun, to us Brits) weekend, your first impression might be of a giggled, piggybacked gaggle of Airstreams, Winnebago's, tents of all sizes and descriptions plus some (genuine native) North American tepees. Look closer. People are smiling and happy. That lively Kerrville "spirit" is weaving its magic spell, once again. Look deeper. Stranger is meeting stranger for the first time. Friendships are being forged, which will survive way longer than the duration of this, or any other year's Festival. Bonds are formed. Continents and nations irreversibly linked. A trust is created, which infinitely transcends the mere boundary fences of this "gentle acre" of

Texas. A coexistent society has survived here in microcosm, for seventeen years. The core of that family returns each year, to celebrate, to remember and to reaffirm. Realise that, and you will have located another "home" - forever (or at least for as long as you need it, or it needs you). Remember however, this is also the cost of your curiosity.

Listen To Yourself.

At Kerrville, you can literally bathe in music for nigh on three weeks, twenty four hours a day. In the process, you may just discover how to reacquaint with the nation of man.

The easiest escape route of expression for human nature, is the negative one. Thoughts of criticism creep swiftly into your mind, like a silent thief. You voice them, without even thinking. Listen to yourself sometime. You'll soon discover how true that is.

In some ways, there are positive and negative aspects to titling this event, the Kerrville Folk Festival. The word "Folk" is undoubtedly misleading, with reference to the wide spectrum of music served up there each year. Particularly so, during this year - 1989. On the other hand, applying the word "Folk" may be deliberate. As such, it is only liable to draw the musically curious. The "seekers of the song". It may be its own self procreating defence mechanism.

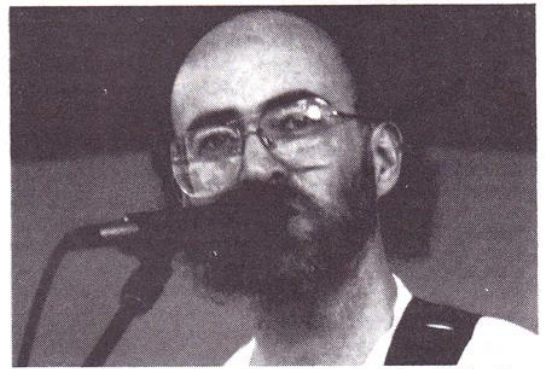
During the eleven day, 15th annual 1986 Festival (also the year of the Texas State sesquicentennial celebration). I fell into the category of Kerrvirgin. A "first time" stranger in their midst, who came to observe. Pete Lawrence turned up at Kerrville, during the latter weekend of that year's Festival. I recall sharing a beer with him near the Smootie stand, the evening after he arrived. He regaled me with tales of a girl he had spotted singing at a Campfire, the previous evening. He appeared to be interested in recording her for his fledgling record label, Cooking Vinyl. A few months later, she debuted on the

ailing British TV alternative music show "Old Grey Whistle Test", singing in front of a "live", but "imitation" campfire. Andy Kershaw also gave the "Kerrville Campfire" tape ample pre-release airspace on his Radio 1 show. The Michelle Shocked legend was it's ascendancy. They say lightning never does strike twice.

Many of the popular new artists on the folk/country scene Stateside, have emerged from the ranks of the Kerrville New Folk Contest. Apart from the aforementioned, names like Lyle Lovett and Darden Smith spring to mind. In the wake of this, many "coffee table folk fans" turned up at Kerrville this year. Sufficient in fact to close the gates, on the evening when Ms Shocked and Ms (Nanci) Griffith shared the bill. Nanci didn't show due to illness. Of course, you have to equate this rare "house full" event, with a fuller significance. It will at last, help the Festival to contemplate a long term future. And amen to that.

A Latter Day Hippy Trip?

In 1986, I thought I'd got to the heart of all that went down at the Quiet Valley. On reflection, I didn't even scratch the surface. Following this year's eighteen day event, I emerged a Kerrviver - fulfilled, wiser and more personally curious than three years ago. With much left undone and unanswered. And that is the way it should be. Without serving this up as some latter day hippy trip, just stop and ask yourself - "In society today, is there another way"? A way which our forefathers probably knew, but which the mores of our vast commercialised modern society has seen us abandon. Remember in all of this, that we live on a fragile earth. One which is already sending signals which read, "Enough". As a Kerrvert, you have to abandon - and why should this only be a temporary state - all preconceptions of convenient modern day life. Be a "happy camper".



● Jon Ims

Give your neighbour space to fulfill his visions. On a practical level, keep your area of the Ranch clean. Respect your fellow man, whatever his problem. In other words; share what you have willingly and without prejudice. This doesn't involve being clever or flip. It sure as hell works. And if you don't believe me, then I'd recommend that on Thursday 24th May 1990, you head for the Quiet Valley Ranch

Blame all of this, on the monumental three hour Native American Tribute Concert. Listen to the watchers.

The Next Big Thing?

By the way, I almost forgot. While I was in Texas I saw a hell of a lot of great musicians. Restricting the list to ten names which I reckon you should look out for in the future, then in no particular order they could be: Butch Hancock and the Sunspots - loud and rowdy, Lubbock or leave it; Buddy Mondlock - Chicago kid now resident in Nashville. His debut tape, "On The Line" (Sparking Gap Music) is much loved by Guy Clark and some legend named Townes; Jon Ims - proof that a Mike Davies lookalike can survive and be a rock n' roller up in Boulder, Colorado. Tapes "1", "2" & "3" (Rites of Passage) confirm that Ims should already be a major name; L.J. Booth - one of this year's New Folk Contest winners. A country/folk ringer he might have been, but watch this guy's career go go go; Will T. Massey

- Finally caught him at Jimmie Dale Gilmore's campfire on the last night of Kerrville '89. Writer with a maturity way beyond his tender years. His debut tape "Kickin' up dust" (no label name), is a classic; Christine Albert - who should have had her debut album out on CBS/Epic mid June. Two years work despatched to oblivion, but this lady will rise again. At the very least, check out her tape "Across the miles" (Gambini Global); Willis Alan Ramsey - he of that eponymous Shelter album from 1972. All the way to Texas to meet him, only to discover that he is now domiciled on this sceptred isle; Mickie Merckens - for finally reappearing on a recording, via Volume II of "Texas Summer Nights" (Potato Satellite). That debut album draws closer by the day. Angel voices deserve to be heard and backers will surely stand up and be counted; Hal Michael Ketchum - this guy knows precisely what he wants. What is more, his debut album "Threadbare Alibis" (German Line) proves that he has the tunes and words to match his goal. Thanks Brian & Mickie; David Halley - that debut album can't be far away now. It will arrive when he is ready. You the listener, better be prepared.

And I wouldn't even pretend that those ten individuals even touch the side of the enormous "apple barrel" that is the contemporary folk/country music scene Stateside, but at least it's resembles pointing that old scatter gun at the barn door.

Arthur Wood