

# Joni turns on a whole new style

JONI MITCHELL voice is heard "Mingus" (*Asylum*) between tracks which THIS ALBUM was a he composed personal project for Joni — a tribute to Charles Mingus, her black musician friend who died in Mexico this year and whose



Joni Mitchell

voice is heard between tracks which he composed. Joni's warbling tones dip and soar through the lyrics, revealing an older, more thoughtful and sometimes rueful singer, someone who has matured a lot since her popular

numbers like "Big Yellow Taxi" took off in the Woodstock era.

Most of the music has a bluesy quality — put there no doubt by Mingus — and her songs, as ever, are inward looking but constructive.

Especially good are "Sweet Sucker Dance" and "Dry Cleaner From Des Moines", which changes to a quick, chirpy tempo from the slower, reflecting timing of those before it.

Each song is introduced with some words from Mingus and the whole album fits together well complete in itself and worth a permanent place in musical history.

## HAWKWIND "P.X.R.5" (Charisma)

ANYONE who despaired when Hawkwind broke up and developed into a splinter group formed Hawklords can at least take some consolation from this excellent album.

For, unlike some of the record companies who like to cash in on rehashing old material when a group

splits up and calling it a "best of" or "solid gold" or whatever, Charisma have released an album of previously unreleased material.

And, most important of all, it's good.

It doesn't sound like material once discarded because it wasn't good enough. The quality is obviously there, both with the studio and live recordings.



Tracks like "Uncle Sam's On Mars" (recorded live at the Hammersmith Odeon) and "Robot" (recorded live at Leicester de Montfort Hall in November 1977) make the record a joy to listen to, and make you wonder why the group ever split up in the first place.

## ROBERT PALMER "Secrets" (Island)

THE SECRETS of this new album are style and taste.

This 30-year-old Yorkshireman includes many different styles on this, his fifth, album — a trace of reggae, a hint of blues and a lot of rhythm.

His sexy body and matinee idol good looks play second fiddle to his soulful voice and excellent backing group.

"Mean Ol' World" has good backing base by Pierre Brock and excellent haunting keyboards by Jack Waldman and Steve Robbins. "Jealous" is a

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Primitive, primeval or whatever your view of Stee are the British reggae band.

With the inflammable we their second album, goes ex in the shape of vocals by Da Phonso Martin and excellen

## A trombonist on the top of his world

ONE OF THE finest jazz trombonists this country has ever produced will be visiting the Nottingham on Tuesday.

Not that Roy Williams, currently with the Humphrey Lyttelton Band and for many years a mainstay of the Alex Welsh Band, is any stranger to the city. He will be the guest of Ced

With trumpeter Derek Saint, the front line is unchanged — Chas Harris (clarinet) and Jack Nutbrown (trombone) — and let's not forget the inimitable Eric Peat (banjo and vocals), who plays at both venues.

Derek tells me that even though we are now going into the height of the holiday season the attendances at both venues are very high.

Those of you who enjoyed the session with Dick