

## General News

# Small Indie Labels Form Group

## Association Launched In N.Y.; Jimmy Dockett Chairman

By JEAN WILLIAMS

LOS ANGELES—The Small Independent Record Manufacturers Assn. was officially launched Aug. 2 at New York's Sheraton City Squire Hotel.

Only labels grossing less than \$250,000 per year were invited to participate in the 12-hour, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. meeting.

According to Jimmy Dockett, singer, acting presiding chairman of the organization and president of StarVision Records. "The association was formed to unite in a collective effort to achieve maximum efficiency in the music industry, with emphasis on affirmative action."

He notes that approximately 50 persons were on hand, including representatives from labels, artists and record producers.

Among the topics discussed were: "Music Trends;" "Material—Writing, Copyrights, Publishing;" "Recording—Producer, Arranger, Musicians, Artists;" "Pressing—Quality Problems;" "Marketing—Foreign And Domestic;" "Distribution—Independent, National/Advantages And Disadvantages;" "Radio" and "Trade Publications—Charts."

"As each topic was broached, one of the label presidents informed the group of his method of handling the situation and the results he has had," says Dockett.

"We also discussed the upgrading of our recordings so as to erase the stigma attached to small independent product. People believe, and in some cases it's true, that the pressing quality of product coming from small independent labels is inferior. This is why we must upgrade all of our product."

"The foreign market is so important now, and we must be aware of what's involved in selling product overseas," he continues.

"We also discussed the problems we have collecting money owed us, and we believe that collectively we can alleviate some of these problems."

"As for radio and the trade publications' charts, we need to fully understand the methodology and in that way we will best know how to exploit our product. All in all, we believe that collectively we can become stronger and more viable in the industry."

Among the labels participating

were: Rota Records, Creative Funk Records, Pi Kappa Records, Silver Dollar Records, ABP Records, Star Vision International, Red Raven Records, Cheryl Records, Scorpemi Records, VAP Records, Pan Ache Records, SMI Records, Empire Records, Phillip Edwards Records and Will Kerr Records.

Dockett explains that although most attending were East Coast-based, "other labels in Los Angeles and Detroit have expressed interest in the association."

The group voted to have a steering

committee, which was to meet Wednesday (6) to put together the structure and programs for the organization.

Dockett notes that the Small Independent Record Manufacturers Assn. is working closely with the Assn. of Black Entertainment Lawyers to obtain legal counseling.

The steering committee was to take its report back to the organization's board which was to meet Saturday (9) at New York's Pace Univ. At that meeting the group was to elect its officers.



**NASHVILLE SOUL**—Phonogram/Mercury artists Dillard & Boyce perform material from their debut LP at a showcase benefitting the Nashville chapter of NARAS. Jesse Boyce, left, and Moses Dillard, right, drew a sellout crowd at the Opryland Hotel's Stagedoor Lounge. Proceeds will go to a scholarship fund for music business students.

## Harrison Leads DRG's LP Lineup

NEW YORK—Rex Harrison, who returns as Professor Higgins in "My Fair Lady" starting in New Orleans Sept. 16, heads a lineup of fall product at DRG, the New York-based nostalgia label.

### Vocals to 'Unicorn'

LOS ANGELES—Rock group America will record the vocals to three songs for "The Last Unicorn," an animated feature film based on a novel by Peter S. Beagle.

Jimmy Webb wrote the lyrics and music and composed the original score for the film which is being produced by Marble Arch Productions in association with Rankin/Bass Productions.

Harrison sings songs by Lerner & Loewe, Irving Berlin, Rodgers & Hart, Bacharach & David in a set called "Accustomed To Her Face," one of his "Lady" numbers.

The label also continues its cast album series with the Off-Broadway hit, "Scrambled Feet" and London cast albums of "South Pacific," with Mary Martin and Wilbur Evans, "Carousel," "Camelot," starring the late Laurence Harvey, and "The Good Companions," with a score by Johnny Mercer and Andre Previn.

Another fall issue is "Holiday With Mulligan," featuring the late Judy Holliday and Gerry Mulligan, including five songs penned by the two.

## Counterpoint

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Henderson was, at one time, coproducing with Laws.

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More than 500 record retailers and one-stop operations have entered the "Tramaine's Heart Of Gold Display Contest." The competition is to promote Tramaine Hawkins' newest Light Records LP, "Tramaine."

Final deadline for entries is Aug. 18, with all winners receiving cash awards. First prize is \$500. A panel of judges, including Vicki Mack, the label's product administrator, will make selections from color photos supplied by entrants. Contestants also will be eligible for a drawing for a box of Tramaine's albums. Incidentally, Tramaine is the wife of Walter Hawkins. . . . Also at Light, Jessy Dixon is gearing up for his eighth world tour with Paul Simon beginning Sept. 13 in Cleveland.

Stevie Wonder recently performed an impromptu concert at New York's restaurant/nightclub Bogard's, owned by The Best of Friends. The musician surprised a capacity crowd when he went to the piano, sat down and began to perform.

Friend to the Best of Friends, a group of New York City entrepreneurs for many years, also owns the Leviticus International nightclub. When Wonder left Bogard's he moved onto Leviticus.

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Al Jefferson and Maxx Kidd of Washington's Al & the Kidd Promotions have decided to go in separate directions. Jefferson will reopen under a new name, while Kidd will retain the Al & the Kidd tag.

According to Kidd, who is in the process of building a new staff, "We decided it was best to go in different

directions because of our basic philosophies. However, we continue to be close friends and we will be working together on special projects."

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Arista recording group GQ will be guest performers at the Bronx Lebanon Hospital benefit Aug. 28. The benefit is scheduled for the Savoy Manor.

All proceeds will provide immunization shots for underprivileged children, health services such as pap smear, complete physical examinations, psychiatric care and alcoholic counseling.

GQ has participated in several benefit programs recently, including the Advancement of Education in junior and senior high schools.

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Remember . . . we're in communications, so let's communicate.

Billboard SPECIAL SURVEY For Week Ending 8/16/80

# Billboard Soul LPs

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★	This Week			Last Week			★	This Week			Last Week		
	Rank	Title	Label & Number	Rank	Title	Label & Number		Rank	Title	Label & Number	Rank	Title	Label & Number
1	1	DIANA	Diana Ross, Motown M8-936M7	2	2	S.O.S.	S.O.S. Band, Tabu NJZ 36332 (CBS)	30	47	4	SOMETHING TO BELIEVE IN	Curtis Mayfield, RSO RS-1-3077	
2	2	ONE IN A MILLION YOU	Larry, Graham, Warner Bros. BSK 3447	3	3	HEROES	Commodores, Motown M8-939M1	40	60	2	GARDEN OF LOVE	Rick James, Gordy G8-995M1 (Motown)	
3	4	CAMEOSIS	Cameo, Casablanca CCLP 2011	4	3	THIS TIME	Al Jarreau, Warner Bros. BSK 3434	41	49	3	LOVE APPROACH	Tom Browne, Arista/GRP 3008	
4	3	ABOUT LOVE	Gladys Knight and The Pips, Columbia JC 36387	5	5	NAUGHTY	Chaka Khan, Warner Bros. BSK 3385	42	34	11	INVISIBLE MAN'S BAND	Invisible Man's Band, Mango MLPS 9537 (Island)	
5	5	REAL PEOPLE	Chic, Atlantic SD 16016	6	6	ABOUT LOVE	Gladys Knight and The Pips, Columbia JC 36387	43	38	15	POWER	Temptations, Gordy G8-994M1 (Motown)	
6	6	GIVE ME THE NIGHT	George Benson, Warner Bros. HS 3453	7	7	SWEET SENSATION	Stephanie Mills, 20th Century T-603 (RCA)	44	40	8	FOR MEN ONLY	Millie Jackson, Spring SPI 6727 (Polydor)	
7	7	SWEET SENSATION	Stephanie Mills, 20th Century T-603 (RCA)	8	8	HOT BOX	Fatback, Spring SP-1-6726 (Polydor)	45	NEW ENTRY		NO NIGHT SO LONG	Dionne Warwick, Arista AL 9526	
8	8	HOT BOX	Fatback, Spring SP-1-6726 (Polydor)	9	12	LET ME BE YOUR ANGEL	Stacy Lattisaw, Cotillion SD 5219 (Atlantic)	46	42	21	LIPPS INC.	Mouth To Mouth, Casablanca NBLP 7197	
9	12	LET ME BE YOUR ANGEL	Stacy Lattisaw, Cotillion SD 5219 (Atlantic)	10	24	RHAPSODY AND BLUES	Crusaders, MCA MCA-5124	47	43	19	TWO	G.Q., Arista AL 9511	
10	24	RHAPSODY AND BLUES	Crusaders, MCA MCA-5124	11	9	LET'S GET SERIOUS	Jermaine Jackson, Motown M7-928R1	48	48	24	LIGHT UP THE NIGHT	Brothers Johnson, A&M SP-3716	
11	9	LET'S GET SERIOUS	Jermaine Jackson, Motown M7-928R1	12	13	ADVENTURES IN THE LAND OF MUSIC	Dynasty, Solar BXL1-3576 (RCA)	49	59	2	UPRISING	Bob Marley & The Wailers, Island ILPS 9596 (WB)	
12	13	ADVENTURES IN THE LAND OF MUSIC	Dynasty, Solar BXL1-3576 (RCA)	13	16	AFTER MIDNIGHT	Manhattans, Columbia JC 36411	50	44	16	PARADISE	Peabo Bryson, Capitol S00-12663	
13	16	AFTER MIDNIGHT	Manhattans, Columbia JC 36411	14	15	'80	Gene Chandler, 20th Century T-605 (RCA)	51	41	18	MONSTER	Herbie Hancock, Columbia JC 36415	
14	15	'80	Gene Chandler, 20th Century T-605 (RCA)	15	10	SHEET MUSIC	Barry White, Unlimited Gold FZ 36208 (CBS)	52	50	9	ROCKS, PEBBLES AND SAND	Stanley Clarke, Epic JE 36506	
15	10	SHEET MUSIC	Barry White, Unlimited Gold FZ 36208 (CBS)	16	22	LOVE JONES	Johnny Guitar Watson, DJM 31 (Mercury)	53	46	5	WAITING ON YOU	Brick, Bang JZ-36262 (CBS)	
16	22	LOVE JONES	Johnny Guitar Watson, DJM 31 (Mercury)	17	14	JOY AND PAIN	Maze, Capitol ST-12087	54	39	22	THE BLUE ALBUM	Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes Featuring Sharon Paige, Source SOR-3197 (MCA)	
17	14	JOY AND PAIN	Maze, Capitol ST-12087	18	11	LOVE TRIPPIN'	Spinners, Atlantic SD 19270	55	45	18	SPIRIT OF LOVE	Con Funk Shun, Mercury SRM 1-3806	
18	11	LOVE TRIPPIN'	Spinners, Atlantic SD 19270	19	19	T.P.	Teddy Pendergrass, P.L.R. FZ 36745 (CBS)	56	52	24	LADY T	Teena Marie, Gordy G7-992R1 (Motown)	
19	19	T.P.	Teddy Pendergrass, P.L.R. FZ 36745 (CBS)	20	20	GO ALL THE WAY	Isley Brothers, T-Neck FZ 36305 (CBS)	57	56	15	1980	B.T. Express, Columbia JC 36333	
20	20	GO ALL THE WAY	Isley Brothers, T-Neck FZ 36305 (CBS)	21	32	TWO PLACES AT THE SAME TIME	Ray Parker Jr. and Raydio, Arista AL 9515	58	53	19	RELEASED	Patti LaBelle, Epic JE 36381	
21	32	TWO PLACES AT THE SAME TIME	Ray Parker Jr. and Raydio, Arista AL 9515	22	19	BLOW FLY'S PARTY	Blow Fly, Weird World WWX 2034 (T.K.)	59	54	24	SKYWAY	Sky, Salsoul SA 8532 (RCA)	
22	19	BLOW FLY'S PARTY	Blow Fly, Weird World WWX 2034 (T.K.)	23	NEW ENTRY	BEYOND	Herb Alpert, A&M SP-3717	60	70	2	I TOUCHED A DREAM	The Dells, 20th Century T-618 (RCA)	
23	NEW ENTRY	BEYOND	Herb Alpert, A&M SP-3717	24	17	SPECIAL THINGS	Pleasure, Fantasy F-9600	61	55	33	THE WHISPERS	The Whispers, Solar BXL1-3521 (RCA)	
24	17	SPECIAL THINGS	Pleasure, Fantasy F-9600	25	23	CAMERON	Cameron, Salsoul SA 8535 (RCA)	62	62	12	SHINE	Average White Band, Arista AL 9523	
25	23	CAMERON	Cameron, Salsoul SA 8535 (RCA)	26	26	THE GLOW OF LOVE	Change, RFC 3438 (Warner Bros.)	63	63	10	ME MYSELF I	Joan Armatrading, A&M SP 4809	
26	26	THE GLOW OF LOVE	Change, RFC 3438 (Warner Bros.)	27	35	DON'T LOOK BACK	Natalie Cole, Capitol ST 12079	64	57	14	SPLASHDOWN	Breakwater, Arista AB 4264	
27	35	DON'T LOOK BACK	Natalie Cole, Capitol ST 12079	28	30	ONE WAY FEATURING AL HUDSON	MCA MCA 5127	65	61	14	AND ONCE AGAIN	Isaac Hayes, Polydor PD-1-6269	
28	30	ONE WAY FEATURING AL HUDSON	MCA MCA 5127	29	36	OFF THE WALL	Michael Jackson, Epic FE-35745	66	58	13	NOW WE MAY BEGIN	Randy Crawford, Warner Bros. BSK 3421	
29	36	OFF THE WALL	Michael Jackson, Epic FE-35745	30	18	YOU AND ME	Rockie Robbins, A&M SP 4805	67	64	9	A BRAZILIAN LOVE AFFAIR	George Duke, Epic FE 36483	
30	18	YOU AND ME	Rockie Robbins, A&M SP 4805	31	28	BOUNCE, ROCK, SKATE, ROLL	Vaughn Mason & Crew, Brunswick BL 754221	68	66	14	SYREETA	Syreeta, Tama T7-372R1 (Motown)	
31	28	BOUNCE, ROCK, SKATE, ROLL	Vaughn Mason & Crew, Brunswick BL 754221	32	27	MIDDLE MAN	Boz Scaggs, Columbia FC 36106	69	67	12	JERRY KNIGHT	Jerry Knight, A&M SP 4788	
32	27	MIDDLE MAN	Boz Scaggs, Columbia FC 36106	33	31	ROBERTA FLACK FEATURING DONNY HATHAWAY	Roberta Flack Featuring Donny Hathaway, Atlantic SD 16013	70	68	4	BODY LANGUAGE	Patti Austin, CTI JZ-36503 (CBS)	
33	31	ROBERTA FLACK FEATURING DONNY HATHAWAY	Roberta Flack Featuring Donny Hathaway, Atlantic SD 16013	34	29	TWICE AS SWEET	A Taste Of Honey, Capitol ST 12089	71	72	3	THE BEST LOVE	Jerry Butler, P.I.R. JZ 36413 (CBS)	
34	29	TWICE AS SWEET	A Taste Of Honey, Capitol ST 12089	35	25			72	65	23	WARM THOUGHTS	Smokey Robinson, Tama T8-367M1 (Motown)	
35	25			36	37			73	69	3	CONCERNED PARTY #1	Captain Sky, TEC 1202	
36	37			37	33			74	74	3	FIGURES CAN'T CALCULATE	William DeVaughn, TEC SA 1200	
37	33			38	51			75	71	24	SKYLARKIN'	Grover Washington, Jr., Motown M7-933R1	