

Talent & Venues



BELLE STARS—The Belle Stars, who record for Stiff in the U.K., make their U.S. debut at Danceteria in New York.

Rock'n'Rolling

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beyond my understanding. You just keep going, doing what you do. I'm just waiting for all the foam and aftermath of 'Johnny' to die down somewhat. To me it was just a song we did and I want to move on now."

What's the hottest new female act from Britain? Ask this writer and you'll be answered: the Belle Stars. Who?

The Belle Stars are not very well known in the U.S., as they have had no product released here, and have no record label. In Britain they are signed to Stiff, where they have had six singles; the most popular, "The Clapping Song," peaked at 11. Their debut album will be released in Britain early next year.

They were in the U.S. recently for a couple of dates in New York and

Philadelphia, which were quite successful. The Belle Stars play an eclectic and pleasing array of pop music, using elements of new and old rock, r&b, reggae and basic rock'n'roll. They do it with an energetic stage show that allows each of the seven members an opportunity to develop her own style and look. They are entertaining and refreshing.

But if their brief stay in the U.S. got them a deal here, we haven't heard about it. And they made no money here—or if they did, they didn't take it home with them: their hotel room was burglarized, and they lost their cash, cameras and tape players.

Despite the mishap, they seemed cheerful enough. The Belle Stars manage themselves, and, except for their sex, are not much different from a host of others acts coming

from English art colleges. They have been together two years, and have appeared on the same bill with such acts as the Clash, the Police, Madness, Elvis Costello and the Pretenders.

They say it's a conscious decision to keep the band all female. But they are not a "politically" female band.

"There are some (female) bands that will not play if there are guys in the audience," says Leslie Shone, the bass player. "In one case there was a guy who had a sex change operation, and he was still attacked by all those women. I thought he had more right to be there than anyone else."

While the Belle Stars do play cover songs (their version of "Mockingbird" is a killer), they also write their own material, with each one of the seven contributing.

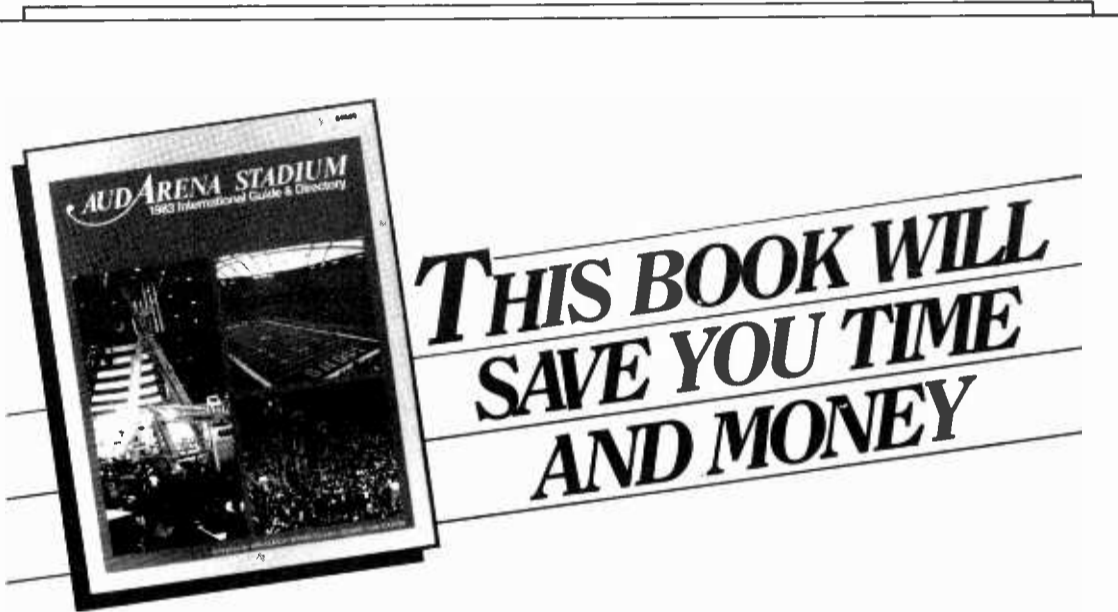
Survey For Week Ending 1/8/83

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This Week	Last Week	Weeks on Chart	TITLE Artist, Label & Number (Dist. Label)	This Week	Last Week	Weeks on Chart	TITLE Artist, Label & Number (Dist. Label)
1	5	8	TWO OF A KIND Earl Klugh/Bob James, Capitol ST 12247	NEW ENTRY	27	14	LEARNING TO LOVE Rodney Franklin, Columbia FC 38198
2	3	12	INCOGNITO Spyro Gyra, MCA MCA 5368	27	14	20	LET ME KNOW YOU Stanley Clarke, Epic FE 38096
3	4	31	OFFRAMP Pat Metheny Group, ECM ECM 1 1216 (Warner Bros.)	29	22	58	CRAZY AND MIXED UP Sarah Vaughn, Pablo 2312-137 (RCA)
4	1	10	CASINO LIGHTS Various Artists, Warner Bros. 23718-1	30	30	8	THE GEORGE BENSON COLLECTION George Benson Warner Bros. 2HW 3577
5	2	26	AS WE SPEAK David Sanborn Warner Bros. 1-23650	31	23	26	CONFIRMATION Tommy Flanagan, Enja 4014 (Polygram)
13	4	4	RIT/2 Lee Ritenour, Elektra 60186	31	23	26	ROYAL JAM The Crusaders With B.B. King And The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra MCA MCA 2-8017
7	7	22	WE ARE ONE Pieces Of A Dream Elektra 60142-1	32	32	8	PATHS, PRINTS Jan Garbarek, ECM ECM-1-1223 (Warner Bros.)
15	4	4	TOUR DE FORCE-LIVE Al DiMeola, Columbia FC 38373	33	21	24	OUT OF THE SHADOWS Dave Grusin, Arista/GRP 5510
9	9	16	TOUCHSTONE Chick Corea, Warner Bros. 23699-1	34	28	46	MYSTICAL ADVENTURE Jean-Luc Ponty Atlantic SD 19333
10	10	14	KENNY G Kenny G, Arista AL 9608	35	27	14	MOVING TARGET Gil Scott-Heron, Arista AL 9606
11	11	26	HANDS DOWN Bob James, Columbia/Tappan Zee FC 38067	36	36	6	BLACK ROCK James Blood Ulmer, Columbia ARC 38285
16	4	4	HOME AGAIN Stanley Turrentine, Elektra 60201-1	37	40	4	ONE DOWN Material, Elektra 60206-1
13	8	18	DESIRE Tom Scott, Musician 60162-1 (Elektra)	38	35	27	WINTER INTO SPRING George Winston, Windham Hill C-1019
14	12	71	BREAKIN' AWAY Al Jarreau, Warner Bros. BSK 3576	39	NEW ENTRY		GOIN' HOME Art Pepper & George Cables, Galaxy GXV-5143 (Fantasy)
17	6	6	WORDS, SOUNDS, COLORS AND SHAPES Donald Byrd And 125th St. N.Y.C. Elektra 60188-1	40	NEW ENTRY		DISTANT LOVER Alphonse Mouzon, Highrise HR 100AE
19	6	6	CHANCE ENCOUNTER Ramsey Lewis, Columbia FC 38294	41	41	4	FOUR IN ONE Sphere, Musician 60166-1 (Elektra)
26	4	4	THE BEST IS YET TO COME Grover Washington, Jr., Elektra 60215	42	NEW ENTRY		FREE FLIGHT The Jazz/Classical Union, Palo Alto Jazz PA 8024
20	6	6	CONCERTS Keith Jarrett, ECM ECM-1-1228 (Warner Bros.)	43	18	12	LOTUS FLOWER Woody Shaw, Enja 4018 (Polygram)
34	4	4	DECEMBER George Winston, Windham Hill C 1025	44	37	81	AS FALLS WICHITA SO FALLS WICHITA FALLS Pat Metheny & Lyle Mays, ECM 1 1190 (Warner Bros.)
29	6	6	TRIO MUSIC Chick Corea, ECM ECM-1-1232 (Warner Bros.)	45	38	56	COME MORNING Grover Washington Jr., Elektra 5E-562
25	10	10	TOUCH THE FEELING Stix Hooper, MCA MCA 5374	46	39	86	THE DUDE Quincy Jones, A&M SP-3721
24	61	61	CRAZY FOR YOU Earl Klugh, Liberty LT 51113	47	47	26	LOVE NOTES Chuck Mangione, Columbia FC 38101
33	4	4	LIVE AT THE PLUGGED NICKEL Miles Davis, Columbia C2-38266	48	48	31	FANDANGO Herb Alpert, A&M SP-3731
NEW ENTRY			70 MILES LONG Chuck Mangione, A&M SP-4911	49	49	111	WINELIGHT Grover Washington Jr. Elektra 6E-305
25	6	18	OFF THE TOP Jimmy Smith, Musician 60161-1 (Elektra)	50	42	6	TEHELLIM Steve Reich, ECM ECM-1-1215 (Warner Bros.)

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