



Singles

DINOSAUR JR

I Don't Think So - Blanco Y Negro a/r/ehr
 PRODUCER: Jay Mascis
 Always praised as the architects of the grunge sound, their pioneering role has never rewarded them with a hit. Their most accessible song in quite some time may have come too late.

GO-GO'S

The Whole World Lost Its Head - I.R.S. ehr/r
 PRODUCER: John Porter
 Reunited for the compilation CD *Return To The Valley Of The Go-Go's*, the "beach girls" pick up their instruments where they left off when they split up. Great surf punk!

IRENE GRANDI

Vai Vai Vai - CGD ehr/d/ace
 PRODUCER: Dado Parasini
 Sensually Italian chanteuse Grandi swings her way through a soulful pop song which somehow reminds us of Astrud Gilberto.

JAMIROQUAI

Light Years - Sony Soho Square ehr/d/ace
 PRODUCER: J.K./Mike Nielsen
 When J.K. quotes his master by saying "now I get that sunshine in my life," we don't have to tell you what the best track off *Space Cowboy* sounds like. Wonderful, of course, and soulful.

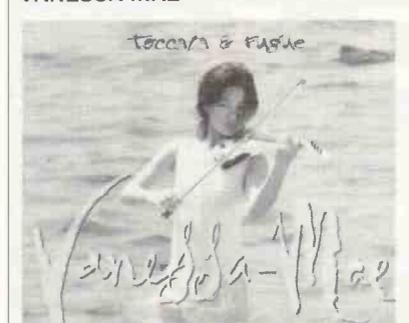
JODIE

Anything You Want - Mercury d/ehr/ace
 PRODUCER: Tim Lever/Mike Percy
 Fostered by a fine pop dance production of the guys who handled the last Tyrrel Corporation single *Better days Ahead*, Jodie confidently strays into Lisa Stansfield's territory.

KEZIAH JONES

Million Miles From Home - Delabel r/ehr/d/ace
 PRODUCER: Ron Saint Germain
 An African in Paris, but not operative in the music of his motherland, Jones brings a soulful rock variant which positions him in the ranks of Lenny Kravitz, Roachford and Jamiroquai.

VANESSA-MAE



Toccata & Fugue - EMI ehr/r/ace
 PRODUCER: Vanessa-Mae
 Holland is waltzing to André Rieu's *Strauss & Co.* On the other side of the North Sea a young violin player has got the UK at her feet with a hip interpretation of a Bach composition.

TOM JONES

I Wanna Get Back With You - ZTT ace/ehr
 PRODUCER: Richard Perry/Thom Panunzio
 In his battle with Johnny Cash to see who will become the hippest guy in showbiz, Jones draws an ace by introducing Queen of the alternative scene Tori Amos on this big Diane Warren ballad.

LYNYRD SKYNYRD

Sweet Home Alabama - Capricorn r/ehr/ace
 PRODUCER: Barry Beckett
 Take a seat on the bench next to "Forest Gump" and listen to his favourites. The original is included on the OST, here we have the "Unplugged" version of the southern rock hymn.

SUEDE

New Generation - Nude a/r/ehr
 PRODUCER: Ed Buller
 Brett Anderson, the Bowie of the new generation, excels with a glittering pop song. The voice is put nicely upfront in the production; horns are in the back under layers of guitar.

THOSE 2 GIRLS

All I Want - Final Vinyl/Arista ehr/d
 PRODUCER: Dave James
 Supervised by First Avenue Management which also handles Dina Carroll, Eternal and Michelle Gayle—that's a first hint to what you might expect from this duo: refined soulful pop for the masses.

TIMBUK 3

Just Wanna Funk With Your Mind - High Street a/r/ehr
 PRODUCER: Pat MacDonald/Barbara K.
 Wear shades for this one, because the future looks bright for the D.I.Y couple again. Attempting a little amateur brain surgery on a macho, Barbara is totally jazzed up on this obscure funkier.

THE TRAGICALLY HIP

Scared - MCA a/r/ehr
 PRODUCER: M.Howard/The Tragically Hip/M.Vreeken
 Afraid of music? Come on! Quintuple platinum at home in Canada, sold out tours in Benelux and Germany; hundreds of thousands of people have already endorsed this angst-laden acoustic ballad.

U96

Club Bizarre - Urban ehr
 PRODUCER: Alex Christensen
 So unlike anybody else in Euro, the child-like songstress, the melody and the airy sample from Alannah Myles' *A Song Instead Of A Kiss* add up to music that's a new nursery rhyme for '90s kids. "What a classic melody," enthuses ORB Fritz/Potsdam (Germany) head of music Bernd Albrecht. "You can hear at once that this song stands out off the whole Euro pack."

MONTE WARDEN

Just To Hear Your Voice - Watermelon c/ace/ehr
 PRODUCER: Dave MacNair/Mas Palermo
 You read it first in M&M a year ago: "He's a serious threat to Chris Isaak's domain." Since then this superb ballad has won him the "Austin Music Awards" Song Of The Year. Hear that brilliant voice!

Albums

JOHN LEE HOOKER

Chill Out - Virgin r/ace/ehr
 PRODUCER: Roy Rogers/Carlos Santana/John Lee Hooker
 Boom boom, what's left of the '90s blues boom, generated by the Hooker effect? His name is now so well established among new devotees, that the time seemed right to re-record his back catalogue. Still drinking his *One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer* and flooding *Tupelo* again, if you know what we mean. With guitar doctor Santana once more at his side, the Latin-styled title track is *The Healer's* twin brother.

JASON & THE SCORCHERS

A Blazing Graze - Mammoth r/c/a/ehr
 PRODUCER: Jason & The Scorchers
 Saddle up and tune in to Rodeo Radio/Nashville. Both EMI and A&M hadn't enough rope to keep the wildest country band in the world. For an audibly lower budget, but with the same rock energy as ever, the band returns after six lost years out on the prairie, in which Jason made one solo album. The way they dig their spurs into *John Denver's Take Me Home, Country Roads* should reanimate any rock programme Seattled asleep. *Hell's Gates* with "Edgy" guitar work would make a perfect second single fulfilling their reestablishment on the air. Country programmers who like to keep their hands clean get delicate ballads like *Where Bridges Never Burn* and *Some-where Within*.

MARCO MASINI

Il Cielo Della Vergine - Dischi Ricordi ace/ehr
 PRODUCER: Giancarlo Bigazzi
 This is the moment Dutch stars like Marco Borsato and Paul De Leeuw have been waiting for. Another Italian CD, full of dramatic tracks waiting to be "plundered" for covers that shoot to number 1. Masini's massive ballad *Bella Stronza*—smooth in the intro, volcanic at the end—is such a song. But why not first enjoy the original and then the title track?

SATOR

Stereo - Planet Of Noise/WEA r/a/ehr
 PRODUCER: Tim Hunt/Sator
 Stereo played from a mono perspective, that's Sator which masters the art of three-cord rock songs. Interspersed with silly news snippets, you jump from one shaker to another, all in that lovely brats-in-dad's-garage mood. *Next To Nothing* and *Buy Now, Pay Forever* are sing-alongs from the very first note. If you can't wait until the next Ramones album, you'd better find your Sator-faction here. Fasten your headphones!

SCARLET

Naked - WEA ehr/ace
 PRODUCER: Mike Paxman/Paul Muggleton
 What ever happened to female pop duos Wendy & Lisa and Shakespears Sister? They are no more. It's a dirty job, but somebody's got to fill the gap. With the orchestrated ballad *Independent Love Song*, which started its life as an M&M insert, Scarlet has taken on that chal-

lenge magnificently. Less weird than their abovementioned predecessors, Cheryl Parker and Joe Youle probably have got better programmable follow-up singles (*Shine!*) on their debut album.

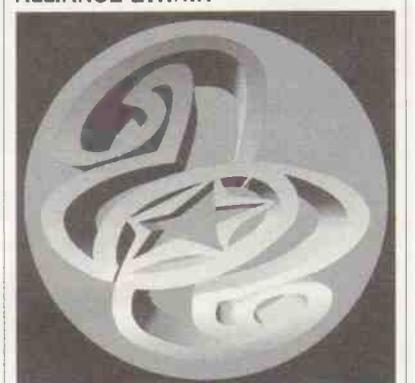
SENSELESS THINGS

Taking Care Of Business - Epic a/r/ehr
 PRODUCER: Ralph Jezzard
 A few years ago they were just one of the masses fiddling with alternative rock and samples, but now they've developed into seriously pretty things. They haven't only grown as songwriters with a great riff-ertoire but also as musicians who know how to spank that plank. Some 30 years after she first shocked the nation, *Christine Keeler* will do it again. If she doesn't, *Page 3 Valentine* will, with material that's more inflammable than a tabloid centrefold. The sound is as brutally direct as one might expect from Mr Jezzard who works for Strychnine productions.

SKINTRADE

Roach Powder - Polar r
 PRODUCER: Tomas Skogsberg
 That their extensive tour in support of their previous album has honed their playing skills to a razorsharp edge becomes apparent from the moment the album opens and first single *Snap Goes Your Mind* hits your eardrums. Darker, dirtier and away from the anthemic crossover raps on their debut; *Matty Alfonzetti's* voice is as powerful as ever while the band's playing could blister the chrome of a Ferrari's pistons. A relentless, varied and sophisticated tour de force to be filed next to *Soundgarden* under S for "sweet smell of success."

ALLIANCE ETHNIK



Simple & Funky - Delabel ehr
 PRODUCER: Bob Power
 For those who thought rap in France was limited to MC Solaar and IAM, here comes the new French rap sensation ready for international crossover. The single *Respect*—also available in a Prince Paul remix—has already stormed the charts and is currently enjoying heavy airplay. NRJ put the song on air the same day they received the record. This is smooth and funky rap à la Snoop Doggy Dog/Sugarhill Gang with a very catchy chorus sung in English by a beautiful female choir. The rest of the varied album is full of imaginative sound tricks and pleasant "cool" rapping in a top-rate production by the man who has put A Tribe Called Quest in the right sonic environment.