

the voice, the vibes and the volume

## MUSIC: The scene today

### Rock trends roll along

by Paul Johnson

Since the time when most of us started listening to the radio as full time vice, rock music has been changing immensely.

In the early 1960's the basic music trends were Surf songs (remember "Surfin' U.S.A.,"?), ditties about cars ("Little Deuce Coupe.")

Then, there came the revolutionary new music. Four guys from England with long hair crashed the American music scene with a hit parade of songs. Along with them came a barrage of others like the Rolling Stones, Dave Clark Five, Herman's Hermits, and many more. The English sound dominated the charts throughout 1964 and 1965.

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The Los Angeles groups (the Byrds and the Buffalo Springfield, two of them) hit the charts in 1966 with "Turn, Turn, Turn," and "For What It's Worth".

From San Francisco came "psychedelic" music, some of it provided by the Jefferson Airplane and the Moby Grape.

Memphis became the center for "funky" soul, but it was American hard rock that really stood out, no matter whether it was good or bad.

A credit to rock music that year came in the form of Simon and Garfunkel. Paul Simon's songs started a new "message" trend with "Sounds of Silence," a poetic piece about man's inability to communicate with himself.

When 1967 rolled around the teenyboppers rocked to the new sounds of "bubblegum" music, with such groups as the Ohio Express and the 1910 Fruitgum Co. Soul was still riding high, as it is today. And highly commercialized "psychedelic" songs hit it big on the radio.

In my opinion one of the greatest achievements in rock took place that year. The Beatles' album "Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" is and will probably be known as one of the most influential albums of all time.

The Pepper album started a trend in pop. The emphasis switched away from rhythm to the music and words. By 1968, many hard rock groups such as the Young Rascals had moved toward the Beatles' smoother, more sophisticated approach. There was more variety, more instruments, more experiment; pop music was better than ever.

In 1969 a new trend can be seen. It is the trend toward reversion; groups are rediscovering the sounds of the fifties.

"Back in the U.S.S.R.," and "Oh, Darling" on "Abbey Road" show the Beatles again leading the way. At a recent concert in Toronto, Canada, Beatle John Lennon got up and sang Elvis Presley's "Blue Suede Shoes."

Bluesman Johnny Winter has also joined the reversion trend. At his Minneapolis concert a few weeks ago one of his encore numbers was "Johnny B. Goode," an old Chuck Berry hit.

Perhaps we are in the middle of a never ending cycle of new, and old, and new, and old, and new.



Jimmy Reed plays "much more music" between 7 and 12 p.m.

PHOTOS by Roy Holtinger

'CHRIST, YOU KNOW IT AIN'T EASY'

## Jimmy Reed's 'much more music'

by Sue Smiley  
Blueprint Managing Editor

"If you're not crazy when you come here, you sure are when you leave," said the custodian at WDGY radio station.

His comment was born out as Jimmy Reed, disc jockey, hustled into the studio for his interview.

"It's my birthday," he announced. His present to himself, a new Cadillac, was parked outside the studio.

desk. Logs for "on-the-air" cover part of the desk top which displays two record turntables and microphones. Records are filed alphabetically below the desk and commercials on numbered tape cassettes are arranged on a large type of lazy susan.

The D.J.'s log tells him which commercial is on and exactly what goes on the air.

Being the only person in the studio from seven o'clock to twelve o'clock, Reed holds a one-man show. He plays

teenagers, Reed likes working with a young audience. His seven to midnight show allows him some freedom to broadcast with his Laugh-In type of humor. It is, he says, an adult attitude with a young approach.

Regarding censorship of lyrics, the statements made by Reed blamed misinterpretations made by older persons. He believes that "The generation gap is created by older people."

To add to an already busy life, Reed offers to speak to high school speech

### Blueprint Poll

## 'Sugar' sweet to tastes

In spite of "Sugar, Sugar" winning as