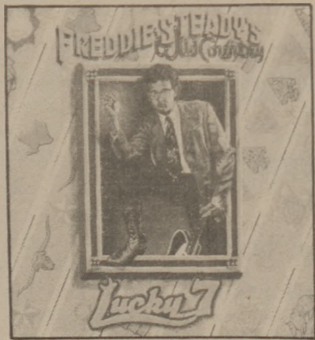


Reviews



"Lucky 7"
Freddie Steady's Wild Country
Amazing Records

The mid-1970s saw the beginning of the watering down of country music. Artists like Kenny Rogers and Barbara Mandrell were releasing records that sounded more like middle-of-the-road pop music than real country.

By the mid-1980s, this began to change, with artists like Dwight Yoakam and Randy Travis returning the music to its true roots. Since then, a number of bands playing traditional country music have sprung up. One of these is Wild Country, led by drummer and vocalist Fred KRC.

"Lucky 7," the debut release by this Austin-based band, is an album of hard, honky-tonk country with occasional touches of Cajun, rockabilly,

blues and rock 'n' roll.

"Lucky 7" opens with the Cajun-flavored country rocker "Say You'll Go," highlighted by Bob Loveday's bayou-style fiddle playing and Wes McGhee's rock/country guitar work. "Love You Tonight" is another example of Wild Country's blend of Cajun music with rock 'n' roll. Here, McGhee's guitar takes on a rockabilly tone, while Geraint Watkins provides accompaniment on the accordion.

Songs like "What I Got" and "I Like Whiskey" are both solid country songs that demonstrate the band's knowledge of country styles. The lyrics of "I Like Whiskey" reveal the roots of bandleader KRC's brand of honky-tonk music, a sound rooted in the styles of country legends like George Jones, Hank Williams and Merle Haggard.

"High Lonesome, Country Soul" is an excellent country ballad, highlighted by KRC's wailing vocals and B.J. Cole's masterful lap steel work.

KRC is a talented vocalist, as well as a gifted percussionist. At various points on the album, he demonstrates his ability not only on the drums, but also on the maracas, rub board and castanets. McGhee's versatility is especially impressive, with

his knowledge of various styles of American music.

On the whole, "Lucky 7" is an album that would appeal not only to country fans, but to anyone who appreciates variety in their music. This album is one of the best country albums of the year and gives listeners an emphatic reminder of where rock 'n' roll first came from.

Review by Shane Hall



"Pilgrims"
Eliza Gilkyson
Gold Castle Records

"Pilgrims" is the first album in seven years by folk/new age artist Eliza Gilkyson. Here, she has recorded an album of outstanding music with brilliant lyrics that has to be one of the best albums of 1987.

The record opens with "Calling All Angels," which introduces us to Gilkyson's unique style, a combination of folk-style acoustic guitar and synthesizer accompaniment that avoids the repetitious droning found in most modern dance music.

Gilkyson demonstrates that she is a gifted piano player as well on songs like "Shadows and Footprints" and "My Baby is a Universe." On top of her musical ability, Gilkyson has one of the finest voices in music today. Her vocals are of consistently fine quality throughout this record.

She is backed up by a talented group of musicians playing various instruments including mandolin, flute, electric guitar, bass, drums, synthesizer and piano.

Gilkyson is also a fine lyricist. Most of the songs on "Pilgrims" address relationships as an externalized example of the imbalance between each individual's inner male and female selves.

The lyrics of "Material Man," the album's best song, give an excellent contrast to the shameless materialism and yuppie attitudes expressed in Madonna's "Material Girl." Here, Gilkyson warns the "material man" that his planet is going under and his deadly ways are numbered.

Despite the meaningfulness in the lyrics, "Pilgrims" avoids being a preachy album. Rather, it is a very enjoyable record that happens to have a message in it as well.

The music is consistently well-played, and should find favor with fans of new age, folk and progressive, even though it is hard to pin down as being any one of these. It's just a good example of some of the great music in the world today that needs to be heard.

Review by Shane Hall

"Three Men and a Baby"
Starring Tom Selleck, Ted Danson and Steve Guttenberg
Directed by Leonard Nimoy
Rated PG

"Three Men and a Baby" is a comedy whose compelling drama appeals to the viewer's sentimental side. All too often a film maker will overdo the handling of genuine, tender human emotions, and will commit the crime of sentimentality.

In this movie, Leonard Nimoy uses the talented acting crew of Tom Selleck, Ted Danson and Steve Guttenberg to portray three men whose ideal bachelor lifestyles are forever changed by the unexpected arrival of Mary, Danson's baby girl.

The men are roommates in a plush penthouse apartment designed to satisfy every want of a somewhat cold and detached professional life. Selleck plays an architect, Danson a struggling actor and Guttenberg an artist. When Danson lands a ten-week acting job in Turkey, he leaves behind a mysterious message about a special, secret package.

When Selleck and Guttenberg find an abandoned baby on their doorstep with a note from an old lady friend of Danson, they assume Mary is the package Danson spoke of. Things are not so simple, of course, as the real package turns out to be heroin. The resolution of this problem is too pat to be believable, and this subplot is perhaps the film's only major flaw.

Selleck and Guttenberg know absolutely nothing about how to care for an infant, and their initiation into the eating, "doodling" and crying world of babies keeps the entire audience laughing hysterically. Instead of losing patience, they gain perspective in the act of caring and grow to love Mary.

Meanwhile their careers are going down the tubes. Luckily Danson comes back early. He, too, is overwhelmed with the responsibility of fatherhood, but Mary works her way into this heart of stone as well.

Since "Three Men and a Baby" is third in this year's line of baby movies, after "Raising Arizona" and "Baby Boom," the public may be ready to grow up. But Selleck, Danson and Guttenberg complement each other well and combine to make this comedy a success.

Review by Matt Stewart

Go Ahead,
Ignore
Your
Teeth.



...They'll Go Away.

Sure, you mean to brush.
After every meal.

Only sometimes there's
not enough time.

OK, a lot of the time
there's not enough time.

At CarePlus, we
understand. And we can
help. We'll examine and clean
your teeth for only \$29 cash
— including x-rays. That's a
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So quit worrying about
your teeth. And smile!

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