

REVIEWS

Thursday, January 26, 1989

The Who looks back as New Order moves on

By Shane Hall

REVIEWER

Who's Better, Who's Best
The Who
MCA Records
★★★★½

"This is the very best of the Who," the cover of the guys' latest anthology of greatest hits proclaims. The guys have released two compilations in the past: the excellent *Meaty, Beaty, Big and Bouncy* and *The Who's Greatest Hits*, which had too few songs to be what it claimed.

Who's Better, Who's Best, a double LP set containing 18 songs (19 on compact disc), is a classic collection of songs that plainly demonstrate that those who called the Who "the greatest rock band in the world" were not just speaking idle words. From the band's breakthrough hit,



THE WHO

"My Generation" to 1981's "You Better, You Bet," *Who's Better, Who's Best* is a collection of rock 'n' roll at its best.

From the mid-1960s onward, the Who built a reputation for being one

of the loudest bands anywhere and for destructive antics both onstage and off. Their sound was louder than the Rolling Stones and the very sight of guitarist Pete Townshend in the mid-1960s smashing his guitar to smithereens might have sent the Beatles' teenybopper audiences away screaming with terror.

The Who was rock 'n' roll rebellion personified, as demonstrated by the album's first track, "My Generation," on which singer Roger Daltrey sings the immortal line of youth defiance, "I hope I die before I get old" and, in a stuttering voice, tells the older generation to "F-f-fade away." With "My Generation" and subsequent singles, the Who gave rock 'n' roll a fury and aggressiveness that legions of punk and heavy metal bands have never matched.

Who's Better, Who's Best contains most of the songs you would expect to see on a greatest hits collection: "Substitute," "The Kids Are Alright," "I Can See For Miles," "I

Can't Explain," and the Bo Diddley-ish "Magic Bus," to name a few.

In 1969, the Who released their influential rock opera, *Tommy*. Three songs from that milestone album are included on this one: "Pinball Wizard," "I'm Free," and of course, "See Me, Feel Me."

The 1970s saw more success for the band, namely the release of the phenomenal *Who's Next*, which includes Townshend's 1970s anthem, "Won't Get Fooled Again," which is included here in its short version rather than the extended one commonly heard.

The 1970s also saw tragedy for the band. In 1978, drummer Keith Moon, widely considered the greatest rock drummer ever, died from an overdose. Ex-Faces drummer Kenney Jones replaced him. "You Better, You Bet" is the only post-Moon recording on this album.

The weaknesses of *Who's Better, Who's Best* are mostly sins of omission. The ballad "Behind Blue Eyes" and the hilarious "Boris the Spider," to name two, are not present on this album, and "Baba O'Riley" is available only on the compact disc. This anthology could well have been a boxed set.

Because it contains the Who's best known songs, *Who's Better, Who's Best* is geared more toward casual fans and newcomers to the Who's music rather than to the serious collectors, who probably have all of the songs on other records. Serious fans may want this record only for the sake of a complete collection. For the casual fan or the novice rock listener, *Who's Better, Who's Best* is highly recommended as a document of one of rock's most influential groups.

By S. Hoehstetter

REVIEWER

Technique
New Order
Qwest Records
★★★★

The ultimate dance-club band, New Order, has done it again with its latest release, *Technique*. This album has all the songs that has made the group one of the favorite dance club bands. Without a doubt, the songs on *Technique* will be getting heavy play in the next few weeks.

The album is packed with nine songs that play for nearly 40 minutes of some of the best dance music since New Order's last album, *Substance*.

The songs "Fine Time," "Round & Round," "Mr. Disco," "Vanishing Point" and "Dream Attack" are the better dance tunes on the album. They all have that typically strong New Order beat that's great for dancing the night away.

Not all of the songs on this album have the harsh beat and shallow lyrics as prior New Order releases had.

"All the Way" is a good example of the group's new style of a lighter beat combined with substantial lyrics. Their words, "It takes years to find the nerve to be apart from what you've done, to find the truth inside yourself and not depend on anyone," is proof that New Order can go beyond producing just great dance mixes and can write lyrics of some importance.

They're not trying to make any great political or social statement, but if you listen closely you'll hear ly-

rics that actually make sense.

New Order also seems to have calmed down since their last album, "Loveless," a song about lost love slower and more laid back than usual for the group.

"Round & Round" returns to the fast, strong, beat with the tunable New Order digital sequencer that clubs just love to turn into extended-play versions.

"Guilty Partner" has haunting detones: "I'm not some foolish lover," they sing. "I knew that you'd come back to me."

"Dream Attack," the final song on the album, is another good song and again, is reminiscent of songs on previous New Order albums.

Even though New Order's sound that's all their own, they well in creating a new excitement and a distinction in each song. It is never anything dull about the group, especially if you like to dance and have lots of energy.

Rating Key

★★★★ — A classic. Not to be missed.
★★★★ — Excellent.
★★★ — Good.
★★ — Fair.
★ — El stinko.

Lundberg exhibits video sculptures

By Thomas Boylan

ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Bill Lundberg's video sculpture, now appearing in Room 125A of the Langford Architecture Center, is an unusual work. It consists of three units, each with its own TV displaying an endless loop of film footage.

The first and largest of the group is called "Suspicion." It is a wall 10 feet tall with wallpaper on both sides and a television set punched right through the middle. Only half the screen is visible unless you stand at the edge of the wall, and that screen shows various shots of police cars.

A patrol car backs out of a parking place and slowly approaches the viewer, then the tape cuts to the car's side. The rest of the loop shows close-ups of the car's bumpers, lights and doors while voices, presumably officer's voices, speak casually and unobtrusively in the background.

The second in the group is a unit called "Retirement." It's smaller, about two feet tall, and the television (sunken a little into the surface of the tilted, tiled surface) shows a re-

tired couple having dinner. Close-ups of food, utensils, hands and elbows abound while the couple talk to each other quietly in the background.

The final piece is the smallest and most complex, incorporating an electric bug zapper, a sheet of translucent green roofing material and a television built sideways into a steeply slanted surface. The TV plays a continuous scene of blowing sand. The unit is called "Vacation Console" and may be the most emotive of the three — but the vacation doesn't look like much fun.

"Vacation Console" is the only piece that will be moving on to other showings in the future, Lundberg expects.

Lundberg has had showings of other video sculptures at the Detroit Institute of Art, the Museum of Contemporary Art in London and the Carnegie Museum. His *Espace Lyonnaise d'Art Contemporaine* was displayed recently in Lyons, France.

The video sculptures will be on exhibit until Feb. 16. Closing ceremonies for Lundberg's show and the



Photo by Jay Janner

Bill Lundberg poses with his video sculpture, "Suspicion." His exhibit is on display in the Langford Architecture Center.

First Texas Triennial art exhibit in Rudder Exhibit Hall will be at 9:30 p.m. that day.

Around Town

If your club has live music that you would like listed, call *The Battalion* at 845-3312.

Brazos Landing

Brazos Landing is at Northgate. Everyone is admitted. Beer and wine are served. For more information call 846-3497.
Thursday — Poi Dog Pondering. Rock. \$4 cover.
Friday — Bobby Mack and Night Train. Rock and blues. \$4 cover.
Saturday — Trout Fishing in America. Rock. \$4 cover.

Cow Hop Annex

Next to the restaurant at Northgate. Those 18 and older admitted. Alcohol served to legal drinkers. Call 846-1588 for more information.
Thursday — Breakaway. Rock 'n' roll. \$2 cover.
Friday — The Texas Twisters. Classic rock 'n' roll. \$3 cover.
Saturday — The Texas Twisters. Classic rock 'n' roll. \$3 cover.
Wednesday — Singalong with Sneaky Pete. \$1 cover.

Emiliano's

In Bryan at 502 W. 25th Street. Those 18 and older admitted. Beer and set-ups served. Call 775-9539 for more information.
Saturday — Selena y Los Dinos. Latin/Spanish. \$10 cover.

Frank's Bar and Grill

In College Station at 503 E. University Drive. All ages admitted. Beer, wine and liquor are served to legal drinkers. Call 846-5388 for more information.
Saturday — Karan Chavis and D.A. McDowell. Jazz. \$2 cover.

Hall of Fame

In Bryan on FM 2818 north of Villa Maria. Those 18 to 20 admitted on selected dates. Alcohol

served to legal drinkers. Call 822-2222 for more information.
Thursday — Lonesome Dove. \$2 cover.
Friday — Junction. \$4 cover.
Saturday — Texas Fever. \$4 cover.

Kay's Cabaret

At Post Oak Mall. Those 18 and older are admitted. Beer, wine and liquor are served to legal drinkers. For more information, call 696-9191.
Thursday — Hank Townsend. Solo acoustic. \$2 cover.
Friday — Stonefish Square. Rock 'n' roll. \$2 cover.
Saturday — The Killtones. Rock and blues. \$2 cover.

Movies

All movies and times are provided by the theaters, and are subject to change.

Cinema Three

Cinema Three is at 315 College Ave. Call 693-2796 for more information.

Twins. Rated PG-13. Showtimes are 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m.
Talk Radio. Rated R. Showtimes are 7:15 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Monday through Friday.
The Boost. Rated R. Showtime is 9 p.m. Ends Friday.
The Land Before Time. Rated G. Showtimes are 7:15 p.m. Monday through Friday and 2:45 p.m. and 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.
Night of the Demons. Rated R. Showtimes are 7:20 p.m. and 9:20 p.m.

Post Oak Three

Post Oak Three is at Post Oak Mall. Call 693-2796 for more information.

The Naked Gun. Rated PG-13. Showtimes are 7:20 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
The January Man. Rated G. Showtimes are 7:10 p.m. and 9:25 p.m.

Working Girl. Rated R. Showtimes are 7 p.m. and 9:20 p.m.

Schulman 6

Schulman 6 is at 2002 E. 29th Street. For more information, call 775-2463.

Tequila Sunrise. Rated R. Showtimes are 7:20 p.m. and 9:50 p.m.
The Accused. Rated R. Showtimes are 7:10 p.m. and 9:35 p.m. Ends Friday.

Without a Clue. Rated PG-13. Showtimes are 7:10 p.m. and 9:35 p.m. Opens Friday.

A Fish Called Wanda. Rated PG-13. Showtimes 7:15 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Who Framed Roger Rabbit. Rated PG-13. Showtimes are 7:05 p.m. and 9:25 p.m. Ends Friday.

Diehard. Rated R. Showtimes are 7 p.m. and 9:40 p.m.

Big. Rated PG. Showtimes are 7:15 p.m. and 9:45 p.m.

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels. Rated PG. Showtimes are 7:05 p.m. and 9:25 p.m. Opens Friday.

Plaza Three
Plaza Three is at 226 Southwest Parkway. Call 693-2457 for more information.

Rain Man. Rated PG. Showtimes are 7 p.m. and 9:35 p.m.

Beaches. Rated R. Showtimes are 7:10 p.m. and 9:40 p.m.

The Accidental Tourist. Rated PG. Showtimes are 7:20 p.m. and 9:45 p.m. Ends Friday.

Three Fugitives. Rated PG-13. Showtimes are 7:20 p.m. and 9:45 p.m. Opens Friday.

Manor East Three
Manor East Three is at Manor East Mall. Call 823-8300 for more information.

Mississippi Burning. Rated R. Showtimes are 7:05 p.m. and 9:40 p.m.

Deep Star Six. Rated R. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. and 9:50 p.m.

The Experts. Rated PG-13. Showtime is 9:30 p.m. Ends Friday.

The Accidental Tourist. Rated PG. Showtimes are 7:15 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Opens Friday.

Oliver and Company. Rated G. Showtime is 7:10 p.m. Monday through Friday.

PREVIEWS

Jubilee

Campbell's Ozark Country, a down-home-style band from Branson, Missouri, will perform its musical variety show, "Jubilee" in Bryan on Saturday. The Bryan-College Station Association for Retarded Citizens will present the show and benefit from the proceeds.

Showtimes are 3 p.m.-5 p.m. and 7 p.m.-9 p.m. in the Bryan Civic Auditorium, 800 S. Coulter Drive. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door. For ticket information, call 693-0777.

BVSO concert

The Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra will present a concert for children at 3 p.m. Sunday in Rudder Auditorium.

The program will include performances of "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" by Paul Dukas, J.S. Bach's "Little Fugue in G Minor," Morton Gould's "American Salute" and "The Fireproof Polka" by Joseph Straus.

Tickets are \$5 and are available in the Rudder Box Office and at all Ticketron locations.

Contributions will be accepted to allow underprivileged children to attend the concert. For more information, call the Symphony office at 776-2877 or send contributions to the BVSO at P.O. Box 3524, Bryan 77805. Identify checks as contributions toward the concert.

Parents of Year

Nominations for Texas A&M's "Parents of the Year" are due Feb. 10. Applications are available in the Student Programs Office of the MSC, the Student Government office in the Pavilion, the Sterling C. Evans Library, and in the Corps of Cadets' Guardroom.

The Student Government's Parents of the Year committee selects the couple on the basis of the

parents' service to their family community and to A&M.

Winery tour

Messina Hof Wine Cellars, Bryan will offer a tour of the winery grounds on Saturday and Sunday to show how the grapes are pruned and trained. Wine-tasting session will follow each tour.

Tours are free. To make reservations, call 778-9463.

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