

# Jerry Jeff Walker to perform in B-CS

By Shane Hall

## REVIEWER

As part of a concert tour to promote his new album, *Live at Gruene Hall*, country singer Jerry Jeff Walker will be performing at 8 p.m. Saturday at the Bryan Civic Auditorium. The concert is being sponsored by KORA-FM.

Walker, a native of Oneonta, N.Y., has long been recognized as an important singer/songwriter and as a vital force in the Texas music scene. His songs include "Drifting Way of Life," "Gypsy Songman," "Cadillac Cowboy" and "Mr. Bojangles," for which he is best known.

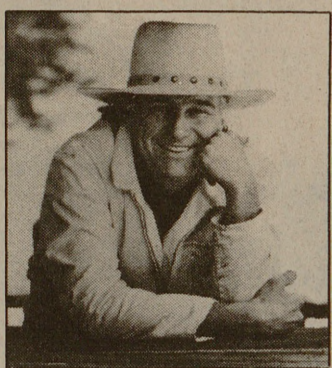
He has performed around the world and has played a wide range of music. He's played acoustic folk, country and, as a member of the band Circus Maximus, even psychedelic rock. Austin music critic John T. Davis once wrote that it is easier to "teach monkeys to tap dance than it is to classify Jerry Jeff Walker." More recently, Walker lent his talents to the "Don't Mess With Texas" television spots.

*Live at Gruene Hall*, Walker's 20th album, is his first live album since 1973's *Viva Terlingua*. Gruene (pronounced "green") Hall is located near New Braunfels. Walker chose to record his new album there because of his fondness for performing there.

"It's an old-fashioned Texas dance hall," Walker said in a telephone interview Wednesday. "I've played there a lot over the past eight to 10 years. It's always a lot of fun."

Making his first live album in 15 years was fun as well, he said. The album will be on sale exclusively at Walker's concerts until its May 1 release date, Walker said.

*Live at Gruene Hall* includes songs penned by Walker himself, such as "Lovin' Makes Livin' Worthwhile" and "The Pickup Truck Song," as well as material written by Austin singer/songwriters Steve Fromholz and Chris Wall, who is Walker's opening act



Battalion File Photo

Jerry Jeff Walker

on the tour.

For the album and tour, Walker, who often performs solo, assembled a lineup of Austin musicians that he had worked with at different times in his career. Accompanying Walker's vocals and acoustic guitar are Roland Denney, bass; Lloyd Maines, steel guitar; Paul Pearcy, drums; Brian Piper, piano; and Champ Hood, electric guitar.

*Live at Gruene Hall* is Walker's second release on his own Tried and True Music label (the first was 1986's *Gypsy Songman*). In the past, Walker has recorded for major labels such as MCA, Elektra, and Atlantic. But in keeping with the rebel image he was famous for in the 1970s, Walker chose to release his new album independently of the big record companies.

"The big record companies wanted all the money, but we did all the work," Walker said. "So I decided to do this my way and release it myself."

Tickets to Jerry Jeff Walker's Bryan concert are on sale for \$10 each. For additional ticket information, call KORA-FM at 775-1240.

# New Sputnik lp not for timid listeners

By S. Hoechstetter

## REVIEWER

*Dress for Excess*  
Sigue Sigue Sputnik  
EMI Records

\*\*\*  
This time it's music. At least that's what it says on Sigue Sigue Sputnik's latest album, *Dress for Excess*.

But this time it's not just music, it's lots of sound effects to create an album that is typical Sigue Sigue Sputnik. As a band popular for its offbeat style, this album is not for the timid or conservative music listener.

The band's musical style is classic pogo (dare I say teeny-bopper?). But *Dress for Excess* still can appeal to the sophisticated listener who is willing to abandon snobby musical attitudes and have a good time.

If anything is in excess on this album, it's the computerized voices and reverb, but that's typical Sigue Sigue, so it's to be expected.

Neither Tony James nor Neal X, both of whom play guitar, do anything spectacular or out of the ordinary on the album. Most of the emphasis is on the newest band member, Miss Yana Ya Ya on keyboards and special effects.

The first song, "Albinoni vs. Star Wars (Parts 1 & 2)" begins with an electronic version of 17th century composer Tomaso Albinoni's classical work, "Adagio in G minor." It's a slow piece, but then the "Star Wars" part takes over and blasts the listener back into the 20th century. It's loud and raucous and fun, so beware, music snobs!

If you've heard anything from this album yet, it's probably been "Success (Insider Stealing? Sputnik Aitken Waterman!)," which has been getting some airplay. So if you like this song, you'll like the rest of the album, because it follows suit.

Lead vocalist Martin Degville has a sometimes rich, sometimes breathy voice that he uses to taunt and shock the listener by making fun of himself and music in general. He co-wrote all the songs on the album with Tony James.

In "Super Crook Blues," Degville sounds like he's doing a simultaneous impression of Billy Idol and Elvis Presley as he sings, "Wow! Oh yeah! Shakin' in my blue suede shoes."

"Rio Rocks! (It's a City in Shock)" is a song about the wild, sometimes illegal party life in Rio de Janeiro,

Brazil as we hear a variation on a theme of "La Bamba" played subtly as a background to Bill Mitchell's deep voice telling us about the attractions of the city.

While most of the songs are not on the album for their intellectual content, some of them do address important issues for the listener to think about as he thrashes. In "Dancercama (Dance \* Dance \* Dance)," Mitchell asks the question of the decade: "Is it love or is it sex?" Degville later sums up the attitude of the whole album when he sings, "Vive le shock tonight!"

Every track has voices that simply speak, as in "Hey Jayne Mansfield Superstar! (Oooh! She's got it... yeah!)" when voices say things such as, "Her private life was a publicist's dream," and a Mansfield impression squeaks, "I know I'm so kissable, but why don't you pour the champagne first, loverdoff?"

And in "M\*A\*D (Mutual \* Assured \* Destruction)" Degville presents U.S. and Soviet propaganda about nuclear arms only to satirize it all by saying, "I'll take you on any day, sucker!" Later, we hear a re-creation of an accidental nuclear attack. "Is this the Future (Five Years of



THE SPUTNIK CORP. - THIS TIME IT'S MUSIC

Acoustic Guitar)" is another semi-serious song that pokes fun at the band.

*Dress for Excess* is not a serious album. There's no evidence of incredible talent. It's an album meant for losing inhibitions to and just having a good time. It's crazy and stupid and I recommend it to anyone in search of fun.

Thanks to Music Express for lending this album for review.

# Show displays computer-generated art

By Shane Hall

## REVIEWER

For centuries, paints and brushes have been important tools for the artist. In this age, the computer is added to the list of tools. The computer can be used to produce artworks of great beauty, as an exhibit in the Langford Architecture Center gallery demonstrates.

The exhibit consists of photography, sculpture and video art by seven artists. The common element in the works is that all were electronically derived or altered, says Eve Mosher, a sophomore environmental design major who helped set up the exhibit.

Dawn Rasmussen, the gallery director, says the artists' use of the computer was an important consideration in choosing the works to exhibit.

"It was important to me to choose works to use the new tools in a unique way," she says.

For the team of Bruce and Susan Hamilton of Glorieta, N.M., computers have played an important role in their sculpture since 1981. Three sculptures by the Hamiltons are on display.

The three-dimensional works, made of laminated wood, acrylic, cable and brass, are based on forms in the natural world. One sculpture, "Snowsnake," has a spiral shape resembling that of a coiled serpent.

Each artist's exhibit is accompanied by a printed statement in which

the artist explains the process of making the works on display and the inspiration for them. According to the Hamiltons' statement, the two start out with an electronic drawing and, using a special computer program, expand the idea into a three-dimensional form.

Perhaps if the computer existed in the Renaissance, artists such as Bronzino and Botticelli might have used it in their works. Some works by Robert Anderson of Bloomfield, N.J., allow us to see what classical paintings might have looked like had they been done on computer.

The classical images, one of which is taken from the painting, "The Birth of Venus," use intense combinations of red, blue and other colors. The images themselves shows a digitally altered look.

"What he's done is borrowed images from classical art and really created a new painting," Rasmussen

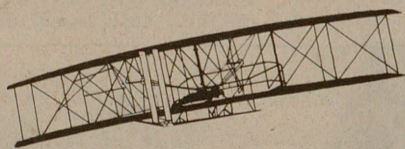
says. "It's almost like a collage."

One of the more interesting and humorous displays in the exhibit is a series of images by Brian Taylor, Monte Sereno, Calif. Using a series of hand-colored, electronically altered photographs, Taylor looks at the crudeness of early computer graphics. His photos show early computer work with their battered typewriter keyboards connected to second-hand monitors and held together with wire, masking tape and more than a little ingenuity.

Other works on display in the gallery include black-and-white photographs by John Burris of Brookline, N.Y. and some colorful, computer-generated graphics by Victor Arvedo of Los Angeles.

The exhibit will be on display at the Langford Architecture Center gallery through April 28. The hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

# FAMOUS FIRSTS



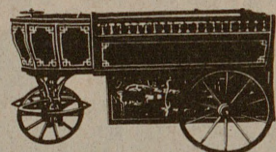
## FIRST AIRPLANE

The Wright Brothers began experimenting with kites in the 1890's and in 1903 became the first to sustain flight for 852 feet over the beach at Kitty Hawk.



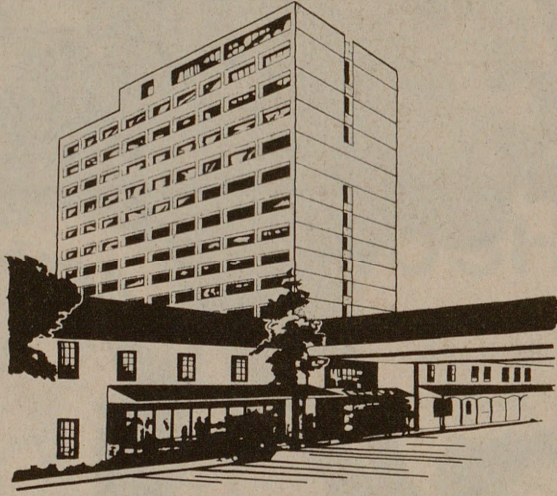
## FIRST LOVE

She was the only one who didn't laugh when you fell off the jungle gym and broke your leg. She even let you win at checkers. What a woman!



## FIRST CAR

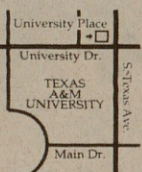
The world's first motor car, the Lenoir, named after its inventor, ran at an average speed of 4 miles per hour. In 1863 the 1 1/2 horsepower vehicle made its first drive of 6 miles in only 3 hours.



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By Chuck Lovej

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The disease is sp Its cause is bea its primary effect i tion.

It is incomparab Recognizing the D Webster's Thircio nial Dictionary fever as "a lazy or often associated w spring."

A more perfect the condition coul A walk around

Desha Woodall painted on her fa