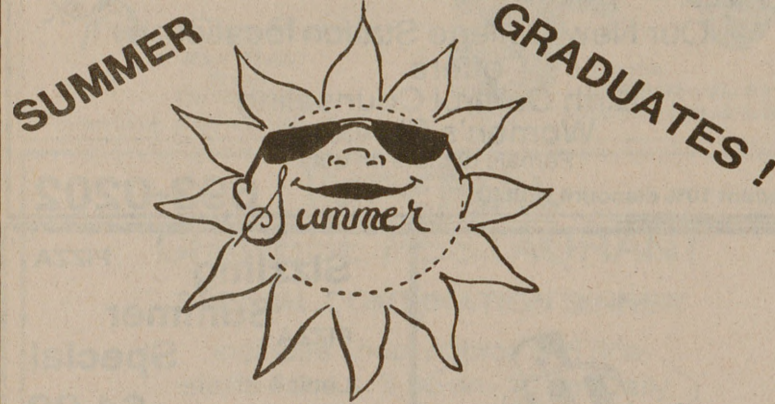


# Battalion Classifieds

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### The Psychology Department

at Texas A&M University is conducting research on group dynamics and we need participants. We will pay you \$30. for 1 hr./week for 6 weeks of your time. If interested, please call 845-4990 and ask for Michele, or sign up outside Room 347 in the Psychology Building.

## THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE

is taking applications for immediate route openings and summer routes. Pay is based on per paper rate & gas allowance is provided. The route requires working early morning hours 7 days a week and earns \$500-\$700. per month.

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To give tennis lessons twice a week to two intermediate players. Lessons after 5p.m. Call Gay at 776-0400 (8a.m.-5p.m.)

Baby sitter wanted for infant care in faculty home, full time. Call 846-3765 between 6-8 p.m.

Schlutzky's is now accepting applications for the summer part evening & weekend shifts. Apply in person only between 2-5.

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The Battalion

# ENTERTAINMENT

The Battalion

Thursday, June 8, 1989

## Fleetwood Mac's Nicks flies solo again; songbird's new album strong, confident

By Chuck Lovejoy

ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

After stepping out on a musical limb with her 1986 *Rock a Little* album, Stevie Nicks returns to the trunk of her musical prowess with her fourth solo album, *The Other Side of the Mirror*.

But the compilation of songs, most of which the Fleetwood Mac lead vocalist penned with friends during the past two years, is not a retreat from the ground she conquered with *Rock a Little's* vast experimentation with synthesizers.

The music contained in *Mirror* is not the standard Stevie Nicks: day-dreams and wishes and fairytales set to wispy, soft musical passages. Instead, it is her most straightforward and headstrong effort to date.

It's the album's title that is somewhat confusing. When most people think of the other side of the mirror, they think of Alice's adventures in Wonderland and the Queen of Hearts and the Mad Hatter.

Instead, as is revealed in the song "Alice," the other side of the mirror is now the real world, at least for Nicks.

As "Alice" progresses the album's reality theme is revealed with the lines: "Run for your life," said the Mad Hatter/ 'Alright,' said Alice, 'I'm going back to the other side of the mirror.'"

And it's really somewhat of a let-down to hear Nicks singing only about reality. Part of her appeal is her mystery, but no song on *The Other Side of the Mirror* (except for "Alice") deals with the dreamland her fans have come to know and love.

On the contrary, most of the songs tell stories in that cryptic, impersonal way only Nicks seems to be able to do, but no names are named, and no conclusions about the occurrences are made.

Despite the fact that the songs describe others' experiences, they are easy to identify with because they tell tales of tribulations stemming from basic emotions: anger ("Whole Lotta Trouble"), disappointment ("Ghosts"), frustration ("Doing the Best That I Can") and even happiness (the hit "Rooms on Fire").



Stevie Nicks

And Nicks' lyrics, although cryptic, are some of her best yet.

In "Ghosts," she describes her cure for a disappointing love life with the lines, "To fill the empty spaces she's feeling/She depends on her music like a husband."

She compares a friend to Romeo's lover on "Juliet," singing, "It was way too hard, it was way too tough/On this she had not bargained/But she was like some missionary dancing to the beat of some man's ancient drum."

But the strongest level of *Mirror* is the music providing the canvas for Nicks' lyrics. Put simply, it is her strongest yet.

Each of her previous albums have had a general musical theme, from *Bella Donna's* country feel, to *The Wild Heart's* piano and tambourine rock, and even to *Rock a Little's* syn-

thesizer-heavy pop.

*The Other Side of the Mirror* showcases Nicks in a stronger rock mood.

The prime example of the album's confident nature is "Whole Lotta Trouble," the set's best song (and likely next single). Screaming horns and a booming beat swirl around Nicks' patent growl as she chants, "This could be a whole lotta trouble/Whole lotta trouble/Whole lotta trouble for you."

Also, hints of John Cougar Mellencamp's southern rock style can be heard on "Fire Burning," and guitar rhythms reminiscent of her 1981 hit "Edge of Seventeen" are featured on "Long Way to Go."

Several slower songs are also featured on *Mirror*, but they don't have anywhere near the bite of the up-tempo ones. In fact, the album's worst song is the sluggish ballad "Two Kinds of Love," which Nicks sings with Bruce Hornsby. The song's weak production is inexcusable: Nicks' vocals are horribly strained, and Hornsby's voice is muddy and sounds as if he had a cold.

But three slow numbers hold their own against the challenge of the faster ones.

"Doing the Best That I Can" contains Nicks semi-apology to the lis-

teners for the album's faults, while "Alice" explains why they might have occurred: "Like Alice through the looking glass/She used to know who she was."

One reason "Alice" is so appealing is guest Kenny G's flowing soprano sax solo and the way it fights for dominance over Nicks' sweet vocal performance.

The last song on *Mirror* is the ballad "I Still Miss Someone (Blue Eyes)," a thoughtful reflection on a former love written by Johnny Cash. The song works well for Nicks, though, as she croons, "No I never got over those blue eyes/I see them everywhere/And I miss those arms that held me/Baby when all the love was there."

*The Other Side of the Mirror* may not be Nicks' best album—that title most likely belongs to *Rock a Little*, but it certainly isn't a bad one. In sacrificing her fantasy approach to a songwriting for a more realistic one, she may just be doing her listeners a favor.

After all, it's always nice to know that someone is in the same boat that you are, especially if you're having problems. Nicks' music may not solve your problems for you, but it certainly might help you solve them.

## Road Trips

### Jazz festivals to showcase big-name stars

Jazz festivals being held this weekend in two Texas cities will feature performances by some of the biggest stars in the jazz world.

Trumpet great Miles Davis, along with Spyro Gyra, Larry Carlton, and the Yellowjackets, will perform at the JVC Jazz Festival in Houston on Friday night, and at the Texas Jazz Fest '89 in Dallas on Saturday night.

The Houston show will be held in the Summit at 7:30 p.m.

Ticket prices for this show range from \$17 to \$24. They are

available at all Ticketron outlets including the Box Office in Rudder Tower. Call 845-1234 for more information.

The June 10 performance in Dallas will be held at the Starplex Amphitheatre. The concert is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m., somewhat earlier than most concerts start.

Tickets are available through all Ticketmaster outlets and at the Starplex Box Office. Prices range from \$17 to \$24.

## Around Town Live Music

### Brazos Landing

Brazos Landing is at Northgate. Everyone is admitted. Beer, wine and mixed drinks are served. For more information, call 846-3497.

Thursday — **The Red Bean Guys.** Rock. \$3 cover.

Friday — **Jr. Medlow & The Bad Boys.** Blues. \$5 cover.

Saturday — **The Argument Clinic.** Rock. \$4 cover.

### Cow Hop Annex

Next to the restaurant at Northgate. Those 18 and older admitted. Alcohol served to legal drinkers. Call 696-5522 for more information.

Thursday — **Borrowed Tym.** Rock. \$2 cover.

Friday — **Street Pizza.** Thrash rock. \$2 cover.

Saturday — **Subculture.** Top 40/Dance rock. \$2 cover.

### Emiliano's

In Bryan at 502 W. 25th St. Beer, wine and set-ups served. Call 775-9539 for more information.

Friday — **DJ Frank.** Rap and Top 40 variety. \$2 cover.

Sunday — **Pio Trevino & Magic.** Spanish and Variety. \$6 cover.

### Frank's Bar and Grill

In College Station at 503 E. Univer-

sity Drive. All ages are admitted. Beer, wine and liquor are served to legal drinkers. Call 846-5388 for more information.

Saturday — **Karen Shavis.** Vocal jazz. \$3 cover.

### Kay's Cabaret

At Post Oak Mall. Those 18 and over are admitted. Beer, wine and liquor served to legal drinkers. For more information, call 696-9191.

Thursday — **Acoustic guitarist to be announced.** Oldies. No cover.

Saturday — **Big Al & the Saints.** Blues rock. \$2 cover.

### The Mercury Bar

At 313 S. College in the Skaggs shopping center. Those 18 and over are admitted, and beer, liquor and wine are served to legal drinkers. For more information, call 846-MERC (846-6372).

Thursday — **China Blue.** Progressive rock. \$3 cover.

### The Zephyr Club

In College Station at 913 A Harvey Road in The Woodstone Center. Those 18 and over are admitted. Beer, wine and alcohol served to legal drinkers. For more information, call 693-1989.

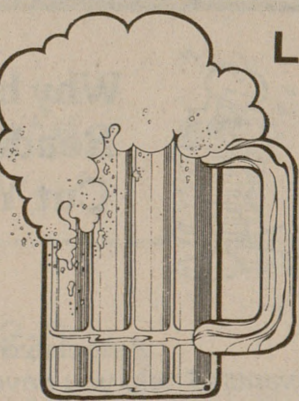
Friday — **X-It.** Rock. \$2 cover.

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