

# REGORD REVIEWS

RUSH-All The World's A Stage Mercury / Polydor

'All the world's a stage. And all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances. And one man in his time plays many parts, His acts being seven

The famous quote is Shakespeare from As You Like It. The album with the title taken from, and perhaps inspired by that quote is Rush, A very live Rush. A Rush so powerful, so explosive, that it will steal your breath away

and leave you gasping for more.

Rush has gone through a number of stages and has had to play many parts in its time already. High school band, bar band, and then with the release of the first album, a band determined to power its way to the top with no time to think or care about subleties. The opportunity was there. It had to be taken and taken fast. The signing with Mercury / Polydor and its acceptance ended the first stage. The second stage began with Fly By Night and finished with 2112. Time was still important but there was more of it now. Time to worry about the arrangements and the structure of the songs. Time enough to get it right instead of having to settle for something less. Time to channel the band's resources along its most constructive path in order to yield the best possible return on their large potential. All The World's A Stage showcases that second phase of growth and gives a glimpse of that coveted third plateau, the plateau wherein a band is at its peak and becomes a major force to be reckoned with. The album is four sides of Rush at its best in the live arena. The



performance was recorded at Massey Hall, Toronto in June of this year.

Side one begins with searing renditions of 'Bastille Day' and 'Anthem' before moving into one of the favourites from the second album, the title track "Fly By Night." Geddy is certainly in fine voice this night. The band immediately merges into "In The Mood." It is a decided improvement over the original. The side closes with "Something For Nothing," a harder version than on 2112 but still graced by Alex's delicate opening guitar. The entire side rocks hard. It grabs you by the ears and pins them to the wall.

Side two is taken up with "Lakeside Park" and "2112." The latter is the gem on this side. Neil Peart's sci-fi saga of the priests of Syrinx is re-created, as faithful as possible to

the original right down to the few bars of 1812 injected by Alex. Who said this band didn't have taste! "By-Tor And The Snow Dog" opens things up for side three. If you thought
Alex Lifeson was merely a good rock guitarist
before, you'll have to upgrade your assessment considerably after this song. The stops
are all out here. Everything from shimmering glissando slide to scorching metal. Another tune from the first album, "In The End," is mance. A medley of "Working Man" and "Finding My Way" starts the last side. It is here that Peart gets a well described. re-examined and given a superior perfor-He covers the kit will with some nice phasing effects thrown in, and of course, there is that touch of humour injected with the oriental ending.

Geddy Lee is not given a bass solo as such but quite a few people will be surprised at his prowess throughout the album. His playing is anything but pedestrian. "What You're Doing' is the last cut and was the encore number live. It does what an encore is supposed to do, send the audience home happy with a little more than they expected. There are many pretenders to the throne of Zeppelin as kings of heavy metal but few real contenders. Rush is for real.

If you're a metal freak you've probably had yours ears raped by the sonic attack of bands whose sound is closer to white noise than music. You know the ones. Three chord wonders with an imagination that could barely fill a cracker jack box. Do your ears a favour. Caress them with the steel of All The World's

A Stage. They'll thank you for it.

-Greg Pappas

# **CONCERT CALENDAR**

# (ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

#### OCTOBER

#### Rush

- 3 St. John
- 4 Halifax
- 8 North Bay
- 9 Sudbury
- 10 Ottawa
- 11 Kingston
- 13 Sault Ste. Marie
- 15 Thunder Bay
- 17 Winnipeg
- 19 Brandon
- 20 Regina
- 21 Saskatoon
- 23 Edmonton
- 24 Lethbridge
- 26 Vancouver
- 27 Victoria

#### Jackson Browne & Orleans



Jose Feliciano & Jackson Hawke

4 Ottawa 5 Toronto

#### Oscar Peterson Tour:

- 6 Kingston, Queens
- 29 Guelph, University of Waterloo

#### MURRAY McLAUCHLAN

- 10 C.B.C. T.V. SPECIAL\*
- 15 HAMILTON
- 16 OTTAWA
- 18 CORNWALL
- 19 BROCKVILLE
- 20 BELLEVILLE
- 22 PETERBOROUGH
- 23 GUELPH
- 24 LONDON
- 26 WINDSOR
- 27 SARNIA
- 28 TORONTO
- 29 TORONTO

#### Van der Graff Generator

15 Toronto

Jeff Beck

15 Toronto

#### Billy Joel

16 Toronto

#### THE WHO

18 Winnipeg

21 Toronto

22 Toronto

#### Ella Fitzgerald, Oscar Peterson,

#### and Joe Pass

20 Toronto

21 Hamilton

22 Winnipeg

### Strawbs / Roger McGuinn

31 Toronto

#### NOVEMBER

Tower of Power

4 Toronto)

Ry Cooder

5 Toronto

#### Blood, Sweat & Tears

6 Toronto

#### Harry Chapin

Toronto

Doobje Brothers / Lynyrd Skynyrd

(15 Toronto)

## Frank Zappa

16 Toronto

#### Chieftains

22 Toronto

#### DECEMBER

Bee Gees

7 Toronto

8 Montreal