

**NEW WAVE HERO JOE JACKSON'S FIRST TWO ALBUMS, LOOK SHARP!
AND I'M THE MAN, REISSUED WITH BONUS TRACKS**

New wave was pop music that knew better, and no one knew better than Joe Jackson. Aggressive yet intelligent, sardonic yet insanely catchy, Jackson's pop exploded onto the scene with two landmark albums in one year, 1979. Now digitally remastered and featuring bonus tracks, lyrics, photos and new liner notes, **Look Sharp!** and **I'm The Man** (both A&M/UME), reissued August 14, 2001, illustrate once again why Jackson was hailed along with Elvis Costello and Graham Parker as new wave's Angry Young Men.

Recorded in just a week and a half, **Look Sharp!** established the 24-year-old singer/songwriter/keyboardist as a near-instant star--albeit a reluctant one, whose skepticism about the machinery of the popular music business was consistent with the barbed worldview of his songs. A definitive outsider anthem, "Is She Really Going Out With Him?" climbed to #13 in Britain and missed the U.S. Top 20 by one slot. Meanwhile tracks such as "Sunday Papers" became fan favorites. The album sessions also yielded "You Got The Fever" and "Don't Ask Me," the b-sides of "Is She Really Going Out With Him?" and "One More Time," respectively, and now included on this reissue.

I'm The Man was released in October, just nine months after his debut. A striking effort, the album solidified Jackson as one of the most compelling and popular troubadours of the post-punk "new wave" boom. The album's front cover photo--with Jackson decked out as a mustached "spiv" huckster and brandishing a jacket lined with a variety of watches, yo-yo's and assorted trinkets--sets the tone for the album's wickedly satirical title track. That song finds Jackson adopting the oily persona of a remorseless media string-puller, gleefully claiming credit for every fad from the hula hoop to Jaws.

Produced by **Look Sharp!**'s David Kershenbaum, the album features "It's Different For Girls," #5 in the U.K. Two songs, "Kinda Kute" and "Get That Girl," each parenthetically subtitled "(A Pop Song)," are a signal that Jackson was already looking to move into other genres. Also included on this reissue is a spirited reading of Chuck Berry's "Come On" recorded live at the Whisky a Go Go in Hollywood earlier that year, and which appeared as the b-side of "It's Different For Girls" in the U.S. and the flipside of "I'm The Man" in other territories.

Though his idiosyncratic career has since taken him to swing and jump blues, jazzy pop and the classically-influenced, Joe Jackson's first two albums still stand as some of the most personal and sharp rock 'n' roll of its era.

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