

APRIL 1981

SPLIT ENZ

Split Enz. You've heard their music, seen the film clips, been privy to the hot gossip, caught them live and know what they can do with sound, image and a dedication to art and entertainment. Probably nobody knows what tomorrow has in store for Split Enz.

1980 was a year of firsts for the band. They released Australia's first video cassette of the *True Colours* album. The Oz government put it in a time capsule. Also, in 1980, a "laser" LP edition of *True Colours* was released—the first in the world.

It was obvious from the first few bars of "I Got You" that *True Colours* was a classic, and each cut from the album proved to be just as magnetic. By the end of 1980, the album had sold an extraordinary 200,000 copies in Australia, many hundreds of thousands more worldwide, and is still selling. "I Got You" became number one in Australia, New Zealand, and Israel; number 12 in England, number five in Canada, and number 38 in the USA. "I Got You" became Single of the Year (Countdown TV Week Awards) and in New Zealand, they scooped the awards pool for 1980 with Best "Everything" (except female awards, but they're working on that one). They returned to England in triumph, taking the very route that Julius Caesar and William the Conqueror took (British Rail Express from Dover to Victoria Station) headlining at the Hammersmith Odeon to S.R.O. crowds. They were presented to the U.S. fans via 14 television appearances and 35 performances, leaving the country with the expectation as THE band to make it in '81.

This year, with the new album *Waiata*, the return of David Tickle (producer of *True Colours*), and now a compact, five-piece band with Noel Crombie having replaced the drummer for a new, cohesive sound, the world and Split Enz are poised to really meet each other. This year, 1981, they embark on a world tour which takes them everywhere, including Japan, and your small town. With the band continuing to explore new ways to express the ambience of rock music, we confidently expect the world and Split Enz to bring much pleasure to each other.

The Enz are an avant-garde band, make no mistake about it. But there is no need to equate the words avant-garde and art with the phrase, "no commercial potential." It just took a few years before Split Enz and its audience finally recognized each other.

The band, while approaching musical creation joyously, are never satisfied to act conservatively, unless to use conservatism as a statement. Each time they present an album, it is a statement of where they are in sound; and as all members are constantly exploring sound separately and together, we can be sure they will never stand in the same stream twice.

The Enz 1981 World Tour started on St. Patrick's Day in Australia. During this S.R.O. series of 30 nationwide concerts, Split Enz released the album, *Waiata*, and in the first week it went platinum. It then entered the Oz album charts at number five.

Before starting the impending U.S. tour, Split Enz visited their native New Zealand for 10 concert dates. The *Waiata* album on their home territory went platinum in 3½ days, entering the New Zealand Top 70 Album Chart at number one.

If nobody knows what tomorrow has in store for Split Enz, there are now two ways to find out. *Waiata* is out and the band is coming to your city to entertain, have fun and get you whistling, singing, dancing, and stomping. After all, that's what *Waiata* means in native New Zealand language.

THE ENZ

