

APRIL 1982

SPLIT ENZ

"Spirit of a sailor
Circumnavigate the globe.
And the lust of a pioneer
Will acknowledge no frontier"

Split Enz ... what are they? Paradox? Parabola? Authentic disguise? Saga invincible? Perpetual surprise? All of these and much less.

The current five pride themselves on being a bunch of originals. Through the years, they have won fans and lost enemies but you can never get a fix on the Enz.

Split Enz' seventh album, *Time and Tide*, was recorded in Sydney at Paradise studios, and comprises twelve songs written by various members of the band in new combinations. Indeed, the number of songs written by Tim and Neil Finn is much less than on any previous album. Bass player Nigel Griggs is a notable new entry on the writing credits. Another new element is Noel Crombie's drumming. His first vinyl entry has propelled the band to new heights as did Hugh Padgham's expertise and inspired production.

Split Enz and Hugh share the production duties and he essentially became a sixth member during the recording of the LP—an interesting footnote to the relationship is that in 1973, Hugh was a humble tape operator on the *Frenzy* LP. Since then, both the band and Hugh have come a long way. Hugh's recent credits include *Ghost In The Machine* by the Police; Phil Collin's *Face Value*; XTC, Peter Gabriel, and Genesis.

In case you need to be reminded, Split Enz have over the past few years had a string of hits in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and England. America has yet to be cracked, and the Enz see their progress in the U.S. as being akin to a slow tease ... with this, their seventh album, finally revealing all.

"Years ago in an Auckland flat
This odyssey began
Motivates me still
Haul away, haul away, haul away"

Apart from recording *Time and Tide*, Split Enz have been involved in various individual pursuits. Eddie Rayner has produced an album for NZ Pop and has also written the theme music for the new *Nightmoves*. He has also added 50 guns to his water pistol collection. Tim Finn has written and helped produce songs for several Australian movies, notably *Puberty Blues* and *Body 'n Soul* for Starstruck. Noel Crombie, as ever, is the master of ceremonies behind the new LP's presentation, creating all artwork and film clips. Neil and Nigel have done nothing lately.

"Time to break away from the condition
Rejoin the human race
See what I'm missing
Try to face the day
My private passion is eating me away"

(over please)



The lyrics in "Time and Tide" show Split Enz being determined and positive about the human condition. Lyrically, the album is not exclusively concerned with the male/female metaphor, but speaks from a broader base.

Tim Finn and Phill Judd formed Split Enz in October 1972, and now as he enters his tenth year, Tim sees no end in sight. "There have been so many changes, I never get a chance to get used to it."

"It's a small world and it's getting smaller
There's no getting away from it all
In a small world"

While others may come and go, the Enz edit and emit.