

# P I C C R A P H Y

JULY 1981

## URGH! A MUSIC WAR

### DEFINITIONS:

- 1) **Erg**—n. (Gk ergon work): a cgs unit of work equal to the work done by a force of one dyne acting through a distance of one centimeter.
- 2) **URGH!**—n. (Lat. deriv.): an A&M vinyl unity of incredibly diverse music equal to the work done by a force of twenty-seven musical dynamos acting through a distance of two albums.

### THE STORY:

If there's one producer who knows the value of the new, it's Michael White. Aside from having produced numerous West End shows in London, he's been the executive producer of *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, and the Clash's *Rude Boy*.

And if there's one talent booker who knows the value of the new, it's Ian Copeland, president of Frontier Booking International, which handles nearly three-fourths of the new music performers in the world.

And if there's one manager who knows the value of the new, it's Miles Copeland. President of the International Record Syndicate, the leading independent new music label, he's most recently escorted new music hit-men, the Police, to the top of the charts.

Taking all this into consideration, it's not at all surprising that when Michael White got it in his head to produce a documentary of new music, Miles and Ian became the creative consultants on the project. Instrumental in this awesome coalition was Gil Friesen, president of A&M Records, with whom White had previously worked on *Rocky Horror*. When White came to Friesen with his concept, Friesen told him that Miles would be the one man who could help him realize his vision. Miles brought Ian into the effort: while Ian booked practically all of the bands in conjunction with several friendly promoters here in the U.S. during the summer of 1980, Miles brought several other bands together with the Police for concerts in England and France. Everything was filmed by director Derek Burbridge, and the result is *URGH!*, a film soundtrack that presents—without frills, without padding, without tripe—the sounds of things to come.

### THE ARTISTS:

In order of their appearance on *URGH! A MUSIC WAR*, these eclectic talents well represent the future of music:

#### THE POLICE

Exhibiting an astonishing range, both musically and lyrically, the Police specialize in blistering rock coupled with idyllic reggae rhythms. "Driven to Tears" hails from the band's third and latest A&M LP, *Zenyatta Mondatta*, which has firmly established them as the top new music attraction in the world.

THE POLICE ARE:

**Sting**—bass, vocals

**Stewart Copeland**—drums

**Andy Summers**—guitar

#### WALL OF VOODOO

Mechanization, alienation, and minimalism figure prominently in Wall of Voodoo's musical sensibilities. The revolutionary "claw method" for keyboards and other "neo-Neanderthal" approaches to contemporary music conceived by the band are evident in "Back in Flesh."

(over please)



A&M Records, Inc. • Press Dept. • 1416 N. La Brea Ave. • Hollywood, CA 90028 • (213) 469-2411  
A&M Records, Inc. • Press Dept. • 595 Madison Ave. • New York, N.Y. 10022 • (212) 826-0477

WALL OF VODOO ARE:

**Stanard Ridgeway**—vocals, keyboard  
**Marc Moreland**—guitar  
**Bruce Moreland**—bass, synthesizer  
**Chas. T. Gray**—synthesizer  
**Joe Nanini**—percussion

### TOYAH WILCOX

Having been, at one time or another, a Hell's Angels' frail, a waitress, and a go-go dancer has given Toyah quite a bit of life's experience from which to draw in her singing and acting career. She's been the subject of two British television documentaries and played opposite Katharine Hepburn in George Cukor's television remake of *The Corn is Green*. "Dance" clearly demonstrates she's as evocative a singer as an actress.

TOYAH WERE:

**Toyah Wilcox**—vocals  
**Joel Bogen**—guitar  
**Adrian Lee**—keyboards  
**Phil Spalding**—bass  
**Nigel Glotker**—drums

### ORCHESTRAL MANOEUVRES

Combining soaring, sweeping instrumental approach with intensively-researched lyrical content, Orchestral Manoeuvres perpetrates a sense of history and irony while leaning into the winds of change. "Enola Gay" recalls the carrier of Hiroshima's doom as it signals the band's impending success.

ORCHESTRAL MANOEUVRES ARE: **Paul Humphreys**—keyboard, vocals  
**Andy McCluskey**—lead vocals, bass  
**Martin Hansley Cooper**—guitar  
**Malcolm Alfred Holmes**—drums

### OINGO BOINGO

Originally formed as a street-performing cabaret ensemble, Oingo Boingo has transmogrified into a crack new music octet. "Ain't This the Life" hails from their I.R.S. self-titled debut EP, aptly described as "the vinyl solution for a world gone mad."

OINGO BOINGO ARE:

**Danny Elfman**—vocals  
**Steve Bartek**—guitar  
**John Hernandez**—drums  
**Leon Schneiderman**—sax  
**Kerry Hatch**—bass  
**Richard Gibbs**—keyboard  
**Dale Turner**—trumpet  
**Sam Phipps**—sax

### XTC

Formed in Swindon, England in 1976, XTC have pushed punk energy forward into a style that is, in turn, driving, quirky, controlled, witty, and gently experimental. "Respectable Street" conveys an almost uncontrollably smug grin of confidence in its resounding power and cleverness.

XTC ARE:

**Andy Partridge**—guitar, vocals  
**Colin Moulding**—bass, vocals  
**Terry Chambers**—drums  
**Dave Gregory**—guitar





# B I C G R A P H Y

## MEMBERS

Members' lead singer, Nicky Tesco, once worked in an American merchants' bank in England. Culling the knowledge he acquired in this capacity and combining it with a straight reggae flavor, Nicky came up with "Offshore Banking." Recently a Top 30 hit in England, the song takes a considered shot at illegal tax shelters. Bull's-eye.

MEMBERS ARE:

**Nicky Tesco**—vocals  
**J-M Carroll**—guitar, vocals  
**Chris Payne**—bass  
**Nigel Bennett**—lead guitar  
**Adrian Lillywhite**—drums

## GO-GO'S

What sets this five-person band apart from the obvious comparisons is that they decided among themselves to form a rock 'n' roll unit as well as write their own songs—both of which they've accomplished with enviable success. The anthemic "We Got the Beat" proves that the Go-Go's surely do.

GO-GO'S ARE:

**Belinda Carlisle**—vocals  
**Charlotte Caffey**—guitar  
**Jane Wiedlin**—guitar  
**Kathy Valentine**—bass  
**Gina Schock**—drums

## KLAUS NOMI

Garbed in a cubist-deco-inspired plastic tux and belting forth with an inspired mezzo-soprano, Klaus Nomi combines the visual elements of mime and high-tech with the musical elements of pop and classical opera. Klaus' mentor, David Bowie, combined forces with the self-styled Nomi on *Saturday Night Live* for an outrageously theatrical set. "Total Eclipse" captures Klaus Nomi's inimitable flair.

## SPIZZLES

From SPIZZ to SPIZZ OIL to SPIZZENERGI to ATHLETICO SPIZZ 80 to SPIZZLES, band founder and leader, Spizz has guided a variety of musical experiments into varying degrees of fruition. Most notably, "Where's Captain Kirk?" stands as quintessential Spizz.

SPIZZLES ARE:

**Spizz**—vocals, silly string  
**Jim Solar**—bass  
**C.P. Snare**—drums  
**Lü**—guitar

## ALLEY CATS

They sing about the streets with the spirit and excitement which comes from the discovery that "Nothin' Means Nothin'." Alley Cats hail from California's South Bay district and, through their numerous club appearances, have built up a following from the street on up.

ALLEY CATS ARE:

**Randy Stodola**—guitar, vocals  
**Dianne Chai**—bass, vocals  
**John McCarthy**—drums

## JOOLS HOLLAND

Formerly one of the driving forces behind the British rock band Squeeze, Jools' solo version of "Only For You" gives a taste of things to come from Jools' new band, appropriately called Jools Holland and his Millionaires & the Wealthy Tarts. To be sure, Jools will be tickling the eighty-eights for many, many moons.

(over please)



A&M Records, Inc. - Press Dept. - 4141 Wilshire Blvd. - Hollywood, CA 90048 - (213) 467-2411  
 A&M Records, Inc. - Press Dept. - 375 Hudson Ave. - New York, NY 10014 - (212) 626-0477

## STEEL PULSE

Here's the first major reggae band whose members were all either born in England or immigrated there as very young children. That is to say, here's the first major reggae band whose members are indigenous to England. "Ku Klux Klan," Steel Pulse's first hit single in England, lyrically bears out with rastaman conviction the band's philosophy on Britain's worsening racial climate.

STEEL PULSE ARE:

**David Hinds**—guitar, vocals  
**Fonso Martin**—vocals  
**Basil Gabbidon**—guitar  
**Ronnie McQueen**—bass  
**Steve Nesbitt**—drums

## DEVO

In these days of double-knit zombies plodding wearily down the paths of technological malfunctions brought on by inept helmsmen, a crisis state is reached where a lack of a true Big Brother rings loud and clear. Working overtime with an "Uncontrollable Urge" to rectify this situation are these five spudboys.

DEVO ARE:

**unavailable for comment**

## ECHO & THE BUNNYMEN

With the aid of a drum machine named Echo, the Bunnymen made their debut on November 15, 1978. Since then, Echo has been laid off and replaced with a human. However, the fully electrifying sound of "The Puppet" is almost more than would seem humanly possible.

ECHO & THE BUNNYMEN ARE:

**Ian McCulloch**—vocals, guitar  
**Will Sergeant**—lead guitar  
**Les Pattison**—bass  
**Pete DeFreitas**—drums

## AU PAIRS

"Their songs are fuelled by the natural temperamental scenes of (sexual) confusion, ignorance, selfishness . . . Au Pairs' "Come Again" was banned by the BBC because of its attitude toward sex—it brilliantly conveys the mental . . . tug of war of sex."

—Paul Morley, NME, 10/11/80

AU PAIRS ARE:

**Leslie Woods**—vocals, guitar  
**Paul**—vocals, guitar  
**Jane**—bass  
**Pete**—drums

## THE CRAMPS

Their very name suggests something askew, some kind of inner rebellion and discomfort. With their knuckles-clenched, fire-eating brand of rock 'n' roll, the Cramps raze all expectations with "Tear It Up," capturing the essence of rock's past while keeping a razor on the wrist of the future.

THE CRAMPS ARE:

**Lux Interior**—vocals  
**Poison Ivy**—guitar  
**Nick Knox**—drums  
**Congo Powers**—guitar

## JOAN JETT

She's long since run away from the Runaways, Kim Fowley's all-girl brainchild which petered out in the mid-seventies. Now, Joan thumbs her nose at the critics who used to scoff at her "Bad Reputation" with a hard-rocking tune that strips away any doubts about her commanding presence.





# B I O G R A P H Y

## PERE UBU

Formed in Cleveland, OH, in September '75, the band is named after the principal character in a series of turn-of-the-century plays by Alfred Jarry. After four independently recorded and distributed singles, four studio albums, and five U.S. tours, there is "Birdies."

PERE UBU ARE:

**David Thomas**—vocals  
**Mayo Thompson**—guitar  
**Allen Ravenstine**—synthesizer  
**Tony Malmone**—bass  
**Scott Krauss**—drums

## GARY NUMAN

Formed group Tubeway Army in Britain in Autumn '77 . . . recorded and released *Replicas* album in April '79 . . . release of *Replicas* preceded by single, "Down in the Park" . . . headlining concert in itinerary in U.S. preceded by February '80 appearance on *Saturday Night Live* . . . no longer performs concerts but continues to amaze from the studio . . .

GARY NUMAN ARE:

**Gary Numan**—vocals  
**Paul Gardinier**—bass  
**Christopher Payne**—keyboards  
**Cedric Sharpley**—drums  
**Russell Bell**—guitar  
**Dennis Haines**—keyboards

## FLESHTONES

One weekend, in the midst of a party at a rented house in Queens, NY, the Fleshtones picked up their instruments for the first time. The band's vitriolic mix of punchy, direct rock comes across strong and clear. "Shadow Line" plays proudly in this timeless vein.

FLESHTONES ARE:

**Jan Marek Pakulski**—bass, vocals  
**Keith Streng**—guitar, vocals  
**Peter Zarella**—lead vocals, harmonica  
**Bill Milhizer**—drums

## GANG OF FOUR

Formed in the grim industrial environs of Leeds, in the north of England, Gang of Four first attracted attention with the release of their own EP, *Damaged Goods*. Mixing the so-called "new wave" sensibilities with revolutionary fervor, Gang of Four are definitely afraid "He'll Send in the Army."

GANG OF FOUR ARE:

**John King**—vocals  
**Andy Gill**—guitar  
**Hugo Burnham**—drums  
**Dave Allen**—bass

## JOHN OTWAY

Born of humble Aylesbury stock, John Otway spent an unhappy childhood as an unrecognized genius. He left school to hit the local British folk/club/pop circuit, backed by an occasional bongo player. Now, the Terrorist of Tomfoolery wails "Cheryl's Going Home."

(over please)



A&M Records, Inc. • Press Dept. • 1414 N. Hollywood Blvd. • Hollywood, CA 90028 • (213) 469-2411  
A&M Records, Inc. • Press Dept. • 595 Madison Ave. • New York, N.Y. 10022 • (212) 826-0477

## 999

Or Nine Nine Nine, if you prefer. This is the number you dial in an emergency in the U.K. This is also a band which combines power chords with pop hooks to achieve a sound that's infectious, catchy, charming, and head-knocking. Once you've heard their little ditty, "Homicide," this will all ring true.

999 ARE:

**Nick Cash**—vocals, guitar

**Guy Days**—vocals, guitar

**Jon Watson**—bass

**Pablo Labritain**—drums

## X

Living in a tiny duplex apartment just half a block from the most notorious male-hustler strip joint in L.A., just south of the Sunset Strip, X have made their stand as the leaders of the local street scene and springboarded to national prominence. What you've got here is decay and degradation, an incredibly brilliant trek, "Beyond and Back."

X ARE:

**Exene**—vocals

**Billy Zoom**—guitar

**John Doe**—bass

**Don Bonebrake**—drums

## MAGAZINE

Formed in the British new music hotbed of Manchester in Summer '77, Magazine's debut single was dubbed by *Rolling Stone* as "the best rock 'n' roll record of '78." "Model Worker" is no less impressive and certainly suggests that a long-term subscription to Magazine is in order.

MAGAZINE ARE:

**Howard Devoto**—vocals

**Barry Adamson**—bass

**John Doyle**—drums

**Dave Formula**—keyboards

**Robin Simon**—guitar

## SKAFISH

Name: Jim Skafish/ Birthdate: 8-29-56/ Favorite TV show: *Mass for Shut-Ins*/ Ambition: To fulfill all his needs and desires regardless of the outcome. To have many hit singles and be featured in *Sixteen Magazine*./ Jim wrote and arranged "Sign of the Cross"/ Best Friend: No friends.

SKAFISH ARE:

**Jim Skafish**—vocals

**Barbie Goodrich**—vocals, slide guitar

**Larry Mazalan**—bass

**Larry Mysliwiec**—drums

**Javier Cruz**—keyboard, synthesizer

**Ken Bronowski**—roast beef and potatoes

