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C A N A D A

MAJOR CANADIAN RELEASES HAVE reached such a saturation point that some scheduled albums have been put on the backburner until the new year.

Images In Vogue have decided to put their latest opus, *The Spell*, on hold until January while releases by former **April Wine** frontman **Myles Goodwyn** and **Jane Siberry** are also being held back.

"There's so much Canadian vinyl out there right now it's unbelievable," noted Images In Vogue manager, **Val Azzoli**. "It's impossible to get airplay unless you're one of the established groups."

New releases by **Rush**, **Platinum Blonde**, **FM** and **Helix** are already competing with albums by **Bryan Adams** and **Gowan** that have been out a while. And there's a host of new groups like **New Regime**, **The Jitters**, **Tu**, **54-40**, **Grapes Of Wrath**, **The Partland Brothers**, **Paul Janz**, **Northern Pikes** and **Refugee** all fighting for retail space.

Add to this traffic the latest album by **Triumph** which will be issued later this month. Titled *Surveillance* and produced by former MCA A&R chief, **Thom Trumbo**, the album is a

return to the band's hard rock roots according to manager **Ross Munro**.

"Our last album, *The Sport Of Kings*, got exceptional airplay but didn't sell as well as *Thunder Seven* or *Allied Forces*," said Munro. "A lot of the hardcore fans thought it was a little too soft. With this album we've gone much harder. Even the graphics suggest a tie-in with *Allied Forces*."

Munro is concerned about an apparent market saturation for concerts and says **Triumph** won't tour until things cool off. "It's just too crazy out there what with **Bowie**, **U2**, **Def Leppard**, **Jagger**, **Fleetwood Mac** and a bunch of others. Even **Rush** are having a bit of a struggle with their Canadian dates. You may not see us out on the road until next spring."

Another Canadian group which should be touring around that time is **Honeymoon Suite** which expects to release its new album in either January or February, according to manager **Steve Prendergast**.

"We've got most of the instrumental tracks done and we're just finishing off the lyrics. We want to be a priority release for Warners in the first quarter of '88 although we are debating

about releasing a single at Christmas."

Prendergast says the sessions with producer **Ted Templeman** have gone well with the band sounding much more guitar-oriented. "The album will have a rawer, live-off-the-floor sound. Ted believes in letting the tapes roll and recording everything. It's the spontaneous bits he likes to capture."

Also scheduled to make a re-appearance shortly is **Strange Advance** who will issue a new release, *The Distance Between (The Heart & The Mind)* on **Gerry Young's Current** label with distribution to remain with Capitol.

It seemed Capitol had dropped the former Vancouver unit (now relocated to Toronto) until the label's A&R department reacted positively to new tracks.

"Strange Advance has become like a crusade for Capitol," notes Young. "They admit the band didn't get a fair shot in America with their first two releases and feel there's at least three or four tracks strong enough to crack U.S. radio."

Produced by band member **Drew Arnott** with **Joe Primeau** and **Howard Ayee** in Vancouver, *The Distance Between* should be out early this month. Either *Hold You* or *Crying In The Ocean* will be the lead-off single.

Another Current label project, **Alta Moda** has been distributed by Epic Records. The self-

titled release features the abundant talents of lead vocalist **Molly Johnson** who — along with co-leader **Norman Orenstein** — has been a staple of the Toronto club scene for several years. The debut single is titled *Julian*.

Platinum Blonde launched its *Contact* album for Epic under opulent conditions with an industry party at historic Casa Loma. Everyone present was impressed with the band's new funky direction and the Blondes seem to have a new sex symbol in the form of muscular Austrian drummer, **Sasha Tukatsch**.

Co-producer **David Bendeth** departs from his image as funkmeister by informing that his latest project is heavy metal rockers, **The Killer Dwarfs**.

In other news: **Corey Hart** returned to the concert stage with a show at the **Montreal Forum** which was taped by the CBC for a television special later this year....**Juno** Award organizers are trying to get **Hart** and **Gino Vannelli** to perform on the November 2nd telecast. Word is that England's **Level 42** will perform one song on the show....Watch for a comeback by **Dan Aykroyd's** favorite blues band, **Downchild**, which will release its first album in five years on Edmonton-based **Stony Plain** Records. The album is titled *Been So Long*.

Keith Sharp