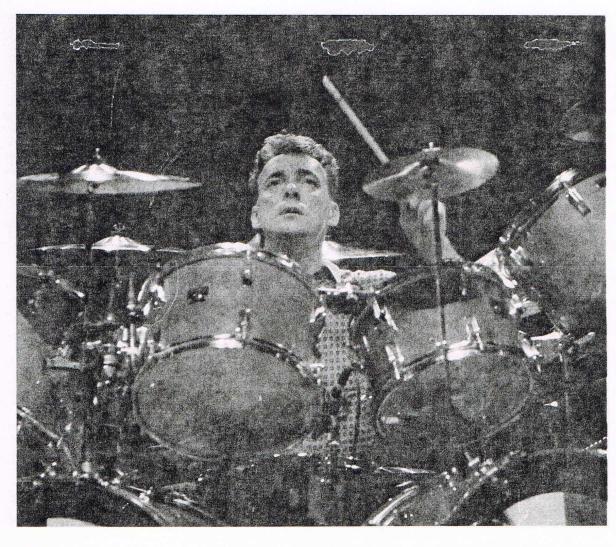


The Atlantic provinces can't complain that Rush doesn't keep its promises. When the band was unable to play the Maritimes on its last tour, Neal and the boys vowed to visit there first next time out. They've held true to their word. The tour supporting the new album, Hold Your Fire, opened in Sydney, Nova Scotia, after rehearsals in St. John's, Newfoundland. They then played Halifax and will conclude the first leg of their tour in the eastern U.S. The tour will continue after Christmas...

## INTERNATIONAL REPORT

## S T R E E T B E A T



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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

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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, Uz, 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 guarter 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 quitar-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