Bloodrock, 2 Grand Funk 0

Bloodrock is an extremely obscure group that can play good music without getting caught in the music production game. Their album, 'Meeting in the Airport', has sold a lot of copies, but Bloodrock has not been given a fair shake by critics or record companies. In fact, they're probably considered more interesting than the average radio DJ at this point. But Bloodrock is capable of creating music that is both original and inspired. They've got a lot of potential, and it's time they were given a chance to succeed.

Elton John is so popular in England. I suppose it is capable of creating music that is both original and inspired. They've got a lot of potential, and it's time they were given a chance to succeed.

Bloodrock has a sound which might best be described as the sound that Grand Funk wishes they had. The group has good depth, a fairly together sound, and good sound lines. The base lines are clean runs that make the overalling lead and piano/organ easy to follow. The vocals are slightly reminiscent of Grand Funk's whining anemic, but somehow have enough of an extra edge to make them fit the image the group projects, which is mostly good, solid, driving rock; there are no such attempts at blues, which distinguishes this from most recent rock albums.

Grand Funk, while impressive, is a band that can go too far before it reaches the plateau that Capitol thinks they should have. In fact, they've probably never been there. Their latest album, 'The Master of Reality', is much better than their previous albums, but still lacks the depth that the group has. But we're only talking about about 20 years, and the band is not that old.

Their latest album, 'The Master of Reality', is much better than their previous album, but still lacks the depth that the group has. But we're only talking about about 20 years, and the band is not that old.

The Move (A&M) - The Move have been around England for several years. They haven't had much popularity here because they used to use axes and fires in their stage act. Nevertheless, their music merits attention. It has tremendous exuberance, unlike any other group (with the possible exception of the early Who). The Move is just about the most energetic record to come out this year.

The dossier is simple - two guitars, bass, drums. But the range of styles the Move can show is astounding. On "Fields of Peace," the sound is good as the Who ever did. "Don't Make My Baby Blue" has a lead sound that is kind of amazing Jimmy Page can play. And the treatment of Tom Paxton's "The Last Thing On My Mind" is the same kind the Byrds have given to several of Dylan's songs. All of these numbers are executed perfectly. The sheer energy of the whole effort is really uplifting and the extra bits thrown in here and there (fiddling around with a dulcimer doing some classical lines, talking to people in the street) help create a tremendously refreshing feeling which makes this record work.

There has been almost no publicity or airplay for Shazam, who is perhaps the most talented band in England. He is capable of creating feelings, an unusual accomplishment nowadays. Bernie Taupin's lyrics are full of vivid images and each song has been constructed carefully to do exactly what it is supposed to do. And while Elton John's voice is certainly not the best, at least sounds a lot more honest than, say, Lee Michaels (whose style he approaches occasionally). The group behind Elton John is a capable group and he should be able to generate a wide following based on his rare quality - sincerity.

-Jay Pollock

Shazam - The Move (A&M)

The Move have been around England for several years. They haven't had much popularity here because they used to use axes and fires in their stage act. Nevertheless, their music merits attention. It has tremendous exuberance, unlike any other group (with the possible exception of the early Who). Shazam is just about the most energetic record to come out this year.

The dossier is simple - two guitars, bass, drums. But the range of styles the Move can show is astounding. On "Fields of Peace," the sound is good as the Who ever did. "Don't Make My Baby Blue" has a lead sound that is kind of amazing Jimmy Page can play. And the treatment of Tom Paxton's "The Last Thing On My Mind" is the same kind the Byrds have given to several of Dylan's songs. All of these numbers are executed perfectly. The sheer energy of the whole effort is really uplifting and the extra bits thrown in here and there (fiddling around with a dulcimer doing some classical lines, talking to people in the street) help create a tremendously refreshing feeling which makes this record work.

There has been almost no publicity or airplay for Shazam, who is perhaps the most talented band in England. He is capable of creating feelings, an unusual accomplishment nowadays. Bernie Taupin's lyrics are full of vivid images and each song has been constructed carefully to do exactly what it is supposed to do. And while Elton John's voice is certainly not the best, at least sounds a lot more honest than, say, Lee Michaels (whose style he approaches occasionally). The group behind Elton John is a capable group and he should be able to generate a wide following based on his rare quality - sincerity.

-Jay Pollock