Humble Pie is

smokin' — Humble Pie (A&M)

Smokin' is just that — smokin', hot and nasty rock 'n' roll. Finally, everything has fit together for Humble Pie, for the first time on any album of theirs released in America (supposedly their best, Town and Country, was never released over here). After the horrendous excesses of Rockin' the Fillmore, I was, to say the least, not expecting too much. So, Smokin' came as a really pleasant surprise.

Starting with "Hot 'n' Nasty" (with Steve Stills stringing in) working through Eddie Cochran's "C'mon Everybody" to "10 Days in the Hole" (with good old Maggie Bell screaming a little back-up) and ending up with "Sweet Peace and Pie, now that Colosseum has broken up, Stewart, Clem Clemson has joined the Faces, with Steve Marriott singing much vocalists with the then Small Faces, Rod as good as the band's previous and he sounds good, though perhaps not and ending up with "Sweet Peace and Maggie Bell screaming a little back-up) 30 Days in the Hole" (with, good. old Steve Stills sitting in) working through surprise. Eddie Cochran's "C'mon Everybody" to So, to say the least, not expecting too riuch. the best .fuckin' quitarist I've released over here). After the horrendous their best, to be offering support however possible. Nevertheless, the existing group deserves considered credit for producing an album of music, the majority of which is quite above the ordinary level. But in comparison with earlier efforts, the energy, man, it'll melt your ears.

"Alice? . . . Melt my ears . . ."

"Rory Gallagher, man, he's as good as anybody, he's right up there with Hendrix and Page and even Clapton, man, He's incredible."

"Rory who?"

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Duce - Rory Gallagher (Atco)

"Rory who?"

"Rory Gallagher, man, he's incredible, the best fuckin' guitarist I've ever heard. He used to be in a group, Taste; nobody ever heard of them. Now he's got an album out, Duce, and it's fantastic."

"Duce?"

"He's fast, man, and he plays slide and acoustic and electric and . . . he really knows his axe. He screams and yells kind of bluesy-like, like that guy Youlden from the - group's last disc (and an acoustic blues and slower tunes done together, Deuce's wild) of hard and heavy rock, with even bits of Peper Framson, who many consider one of the finest in rock. All together, Smokin' is just a superb album of electric thing I've heard since Alice's Killer or T. Rex hopping away on Electric Warrior . . . listen to it, man, it's just so much... energy, man, it'll melt your ears."

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