Kingfish animates Live 'N Kickin'

By Robert St. James

In the spring of last year, Kingfish released their first album. However, the group had only made occasional appearances around the San Francisco Bay area. There were doubts about the future of the group for one of the main performers was Bob Weir, who is a member of another group, the Grateful Dead. This spring, however, the release of their second album, Live 'N Kickin', has dissipated those doubts.

Live 'N Kickin', as the name suggests, is a live recording made at the Roxy in Hollywood. Among the ten tracks on the album are three "Good-bye Yer Hoonas," "Hypnotize," and "Jump for Joy" — which were included on Kingfish. One other song, "Around and Around," written by Chuck Berry, has most recently been recorded by the Grateful Dead. The technical quality of the record is excellent. Each instrument is clear and distinguishable. The vocals are strong and exciting. The entire group functions together as one.

Technical quality is not the only ingredient necessary to make a great album. Live 'N Kickin' excels in its musical content. Exhibiting a blend of rock 'n' roll with country, and jazz, Kingfish has given us a thoroughly enjoyable record.

As Bob Weir has said, "Kingfish started out as a good-time party band." Everyone in the band is at their best. The entire group functions together as one unit to make this recording of the song "Hypnotize" a real treat. The only instrumental number on the album, Matthew Kelly gives a stand-out performance in the song "Jake," the only instrumental number on the record.

By far, however, the best track on Live 'N Kickin' is the final one, "Around and Around." With Bob Weir singing the vocal, everyone in the band is at their best. The entire group functions together as one unit to make this recording of the song surpass even the Dead's version.

The Cambridge Ensemble will open a new stage adaptation of Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter on Thursday, May 12, at 8pm in Kresge. Admission is free.

The MIT Chamber Players will perform works by Stravinsky, Gabrielli, Purcell, Wagner, and Schubert on Tuesday, May 10 at 8pm in Kresge. Admission is free.

Events

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Peter Seger will give a benefit concert for the Clamshell Alliance, Vocations for Social Change, and the BU Student Union on Thursday, May 12, at 8pm in Kresge. Tickets, $5, are available in the UA office.

The Scarlet Letter, a 1977 production of the MIT Symphony Orchestra, directed by Marcus Thompson, at the Esplanade's An Outdoor Overture and Ravel's orchestration of Moussorgsky's Pictures as an Exhibition. The public is invited and tickets will be $1 at the door.

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Mezzo-soprano Joy Blackett will be soloist with the MIT Symphony Orchestra, directed by Marcus Thompson, at an 8:30pm concert, Saturday, May 7 in Kresge. The program will include Copland's An Outdoor Overture and Ravel's orchestration of Moussorgsky's Pictures as an Exhibition. The public is invited and tickets will be $1 at the door.

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The MIT Choral Society under the direction of John Oliver will perform Mozart's Requiem Solifoonali De Confessor, K. 339, and his Requiem Mass in D Minor, K. 625, at a 7:30pm concert on Sunday, May 8, in Kresge. Solists will be Cheryl Studer, soprano; Donna Hewitt, alto; Henry Lassiter, tenor, and Gordon Hohemann, bass. Tickets will be $4 ($2 with student ID), and available at the door or by calling 32-9396.

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