Breeze Over Boston: Future Winds

Future Winds, Ictus on Airborn Records.

You have probably heard (and seen) this band. For the past two years Ictus has been a featured band for the UA Friday Afternoon Club parties. The first time they played here they created a small sensation. Last spring people (including me) stood out in the rain to hear this band. There is clearly something special about Ictus—in three words: they are good.

Ictus is a large Boston-based jazz fusion ensemble. Large, as in seven players—bass, guitar, sax, piano, synthesizers, a drums, and percussion. A band this big must be capable of extremely tight ensemble playing, lest they sound muddy, and the album *Future Winds* shows that Ictus is tight—sometimes too much so. The opening tune “Ictus Sanctus” is so weighted down with rhythm shifts that it barely gets off the ground, a problem that also plagues “Venus’ Face Unveiled,” a piece that races along a Mahavishnu-esque guitar riff.

With the display of chops out of the way, the album and the band settle down to the task of exploring the possibilities available in a large ensemble. “Temporarily Untitled” is underpinned by a pretty synth sequence which provides a background for pianist Gordon Radnich’s exotifications and Bob Schlink’s guitar work. “It’s a Small World” is a study in toso colors led by Bob Zurg’s alto sax playing (and the tune) resembles that of Weather Report’s Wayne Shorter, though not quite as dense. The album winds up with two ballads, “Siddhartha” (with a beautiful unison theme) and “Return,” another display of Radnich’s talents.

Although heavily influenced by Weather Report, Ictus manages to stretch its own identity. Composer/synthesizer player David Mesh proves quite adept at creating interesting sound structures, maintaining a light feel in his arrangements (a difficult task, this side of the keyboard). What is needed is more room for improvisation—any of the players could easily provide extra originality.

Ictus’ first outing was greatly aided by critical production from David ‘dB’ Butler, who polished the group’s sound to a smooth perfection. *Future Winds* shows great promise for the band: once they relax and stretch out a bit they could easily become everyone’s favorites.

Cahlan Gabriel

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Dylan Develops

Shot of Love, Bob Dylan on Columbia Records.

Bob Dylan has never been one to settle into a pigeon-hole. When he first picked up an electric guitar, when he roamed into country music, when he released *Self Portrait*, he surprised and hurt his fans. His most recent revolution came two years ago, when he released *Slow Train Coming*. On this album, he took the first, tentative (but characteristically brash) steps of what appeared to be a Christian life. I was apprehensive about the effect that “religion” would have on his music, but Dylan couldn’t really be a Christian, could he?

Bob Dylan has never worried about elaborately producing his music, preferring instead to get a song on tape in as few attempts as possible. When this production technique works, the song has an intense, spontaneous feel, as if the music is invented and captured as it is being played. But when the process goes wrong—when rhythm and melody clash, or when that feeling in the heart, can I be forgiven?—it is “singing about being ‘saved by the blood of the Lamb’” and “troubling the calling of the Lord.” The spontaneity of *Slow Train Coming* had given way to maturity, as the preachiness of “When You Gonna Wake Up?” became the teaching-by-demonstration of songs like “What Can I Do For You?”

The expression of Dylan’s Christianity on the recently released *Shot of Love* defies the stereotypical image of the Christian as a right-thinking conservative who looks back to Beaver long ago. Dylan’s individuality is most evident when he sings a tribute to Levon Helm—“You Are a Child of God”—the album’s opening track.

If you’re worried about Dylan’s religious output, rest assured. He is still the same old Dylan, just looking into the deeper calling of his faith. And there is clearly something special about Ictus—three words: they are good.

General Assembly

General Assembly election will be held in living groups throughout September. Each independent living group has one representative, and everyone who is a resident of the representative for forty-resident high-school campus residence. On election day representatives will be getting a petition-form signed by forty residents of the campus residence. The signed petition is to be submitted to your house president for details. The GA will have its first regular meeting on October 8. Meetings are every two weeks on Thursday evenings. There will be regular meetings and one Saturday symposium at Freedman Hall scheduled for the fall term. Each meeting will feature a particular person or group and discuss issues of importance to undergraduates at CMIT.

Dylan Develops

**Nominations Committee**

**Hearings**

The UA Nominations Committee will be holding hearings for under-graduate on campus, and in the community on Saturday, September 26. Some of the committees include:

- Committee on Student Affairs
- Committee on Library
- Committee on Research
- Community Service Fund Board
- Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid

For more information and to register for an interview, please fill out a form at the UA Office, Room 401.

**Art Loans**

The List Student Program & Catherine N. Storrs Collection of Graphic Art is a great way to obtain painting for your room, free for the year. To request a List print, contact Ms. Julianna at the UA Office, Room 401.

**84 Council Petitions**

Petitions for the Class of 1985 are now available in the UA Office. Forty signatures are necessary, and everyone who is elected by the class to the Class Committee is requested to get a petition-form signed by forty residents of the campus residence. If you have any questions or comments, please contact John DeRubuis (LAP), Ken Dohne (SAYM), Joyce Puckuck (Secretary, General), or Bob Wallace (General Projects Director). The UA Office is located on the first floor of the Student Center, Room 20B.

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This year should be progressive and exciting — join the GA!

**Attention Class of 1985**

Petitions for membership on this year’s Freshman Council. All you need do is get 40 signatures and you’re on! The Council will do whatever the members want it to do. Pick up at the UA Office and start the Class of ’85 right off.

**STOP BY**

The UA has many projects in the works. Please stop by any office if you have any ideas or would like to help. If you have any comments or suggestions please contact John DeRubuis (LAP), Ken Dohne (SAYM), Joyce Puckuck (Secretary, General), or Bob Wallace (General Projects Director). The UA Office is located on the first floor of the Student Center, Room 20B.