

arts/entertainment

The Knack is part of New Wave music, but not a fluke

By Casey McCabe

Debut albums have become an interesting phenomenon lately. Never before have novice groups had to pay so few musical dues to go so far, so fast.

In recent years, this sudden formula for success has sent some bands out on sell-out tours, wide-eyed and wondering how not to be predictable when performing with only one album to their credit. With rave initial acclaim also comes pressure for a band to prove its first effort wasn't a fluke. Such pressure caused groups like Boston and Foreigner to take several deep breaths, and an unusual amount of time, to do follow-ups to their multi-million selling debuts.

album review

That was three years ago and, predictably, there came an onslaught of clone bands, capitalizing on the slick, sometimes sterile, but none-the-less catchy sound of their predecessors.

Now there seems to be a new breed of debut bands, breathing some much needed fresh air into the airwaves. What these groups have in common is a grittier rock 'n' roll edge, more identifiable lyrics and a certain debt to the sound of the mid-60's.

This new wave of music, interestingly enough, is often classified as New Wave music. But it is arguable as to what that category should encompass. Certainly most visible is the material that leans to the pop end of the spectrum, material cohesive enough to sell well on the mainstream market but with a definitive hook that sets it apart from the clutter.

ONE OF THESE groups, The Cars, seems to have avoided the pitfalls of debut success as their slightly delayed follow-up

Candy-O recently surpassed their first album on the charts, where, amazingly, it has stayed for more than a year. But leading the pack this week (depending on whose list you follow) is *Get The Knack* by this year's debut success story, The Knack.

What strikes a listener scanning the album is its back cover, which features a photograph of the four-piece band in a vintage 1964 Beatles' pose that somehow manages to look strangely authentic.

Curiosity sufficiently aroused, the listener will find the inner contents of *Get The Knack* a worthy part of the package—some fine out-and-out rock 'n' roll, a well-tempered touch of New Wave and an almost obligatory addition of blatant pop.

All songs were composed by rhythm guitarist Doug Fieger and lead guitarist Berton Averre, save for the Montgomery-Petty composition "Heartbeat" (done with a bit more vengeance than Buddy Holly's original version). For the most part, they score well with their 11 numbers, although the album occasionally stalls in limbo when the band tries to shift gears from stronger material.

BETWEEN THE HARD-core rock of "Let Me Out" and "Frustrated," The Knack shows good enough balance not to be shoved away categorically, although the radio listener teased by the Zeppelin-ish hint of "My Sharona" may be surprised at the cute, pop sound of "Your Number or Your Name."

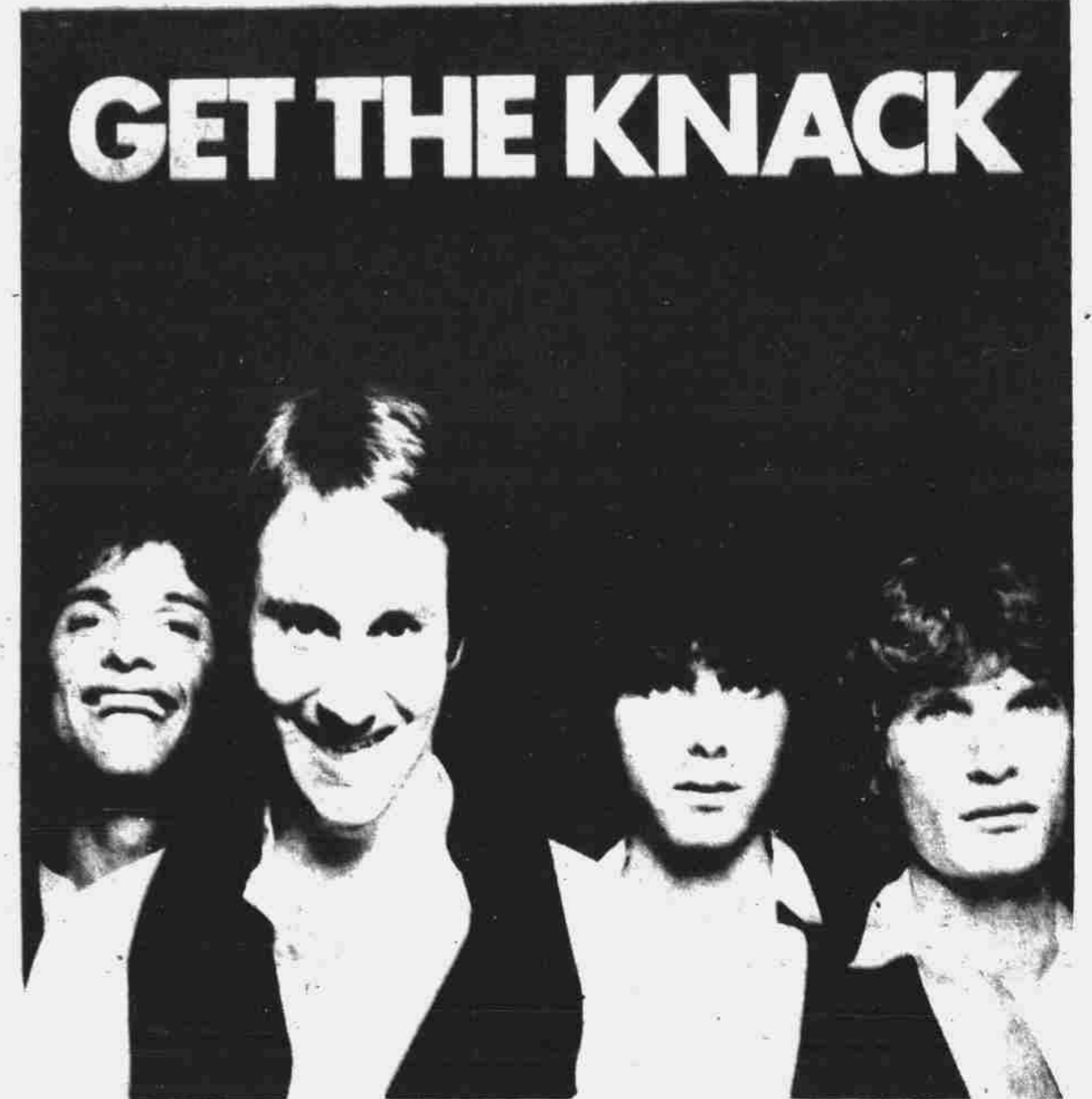
But that sound, complete with the mid-60's style of tight, harmonic blending, serves the band well and delivers two of the albums better offerings "Good Girls Don't" and "That's What The Little Girls Do." Somewhere in the middle ground is "Siamese Twins," a catchy, driving number with a more contemporary sound and, if possible, the definitive Knack style.

But make no mistake about it, The Knack is a rock 'n' roll band not for the timid. A good lyrical flare helps keep the group from falling into the trappings of their simple, but certainly not sterile, instrumental work.

All the elements are there for a successful album, but what makes *Get The Knack*

particularly engaging is the way the music stalks the listener and breathes down his neck with tales of sexual frustration far less subtle than that which ordinarily abounds on the airwaves.

How The Knack will respond to the hype is yet to be seen. For now, they can probably hope for nothing more than proving they are no fluke.



International artists scheduled to perform on UNL stage

The UNL Kimball Performing Arts Series has scheduled a season featuring international artists in dance, theater, music and mime who will perform on the Kimball Hall stage.

The 1979-80 season opens Sept. 14 with the pranks, humor and imaginary reality of the Claude Kipnis Mime Theatre, according to a Kimball Hall press release.

The group uses music, movement, and mime to create a magical world unique to mime and totally enjoyable for the whole family. Both programs are scheduled to begin at 8 p.m.

Kimball Hall will resound Sept. 21 with the organ music of two masters of the instrument: German Gerd Zacher and American William Albright. Both men are interpreters of 20th century music for the organ. They will present an avant-garde organ concert devoted primarily to 20th

century European and American organ classics.

Pianist Emanuel Ax not only has been in demand as a concert artist, but also has recorded extensively.

The pianist's all-Beethoven album was selected as one of the "Best Recordings of the Year" by *Time Magazine*, and his recording of the "Dvorak Quintet," with the Cleveland Quartet, was named "Record of the Year 1977" by *Stereo Review*.

Ax will perform at Kimball Oct. 5. The first theater event of the 1979-80 season will be *Milwaukee*, Nov. 1 and 2. *Milwaukee* is a 20th century adaptation of Shakespeare's comedy and takes place in post World War II Italy.

The Murray Louis Dance Company, regarded as one of the most inventive dance groups, will perform Nov. 16 and 17.

The Guthrie Theatre from Minneapolis

is one of the country's most widely known professional regional theater companies. The company's productions are always first-rate. While in Lincoln Feb. 25 and 26, the members of the Guthrie Theatre will perform Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie," a moving drama dealing with a family torn in the Depression.

The Saint Louis Orchestra has become a traditional musical event in Lincoln and at Kimball Hall. Their program for the orchestra's March 4 concert includes Berlioz's "Overture to Benvenuto Cellini," Shostakovich's "Symphony No. 1," and Brahms' "Symphony No. 4." Conducting the orchestra will be Leonard Slatkin who has conducted numerous orchestras throughout the world.

Ballet bursts onto the Kimball Hall stage March 11 and 12 with Lincoln's first appearance of the San Francisco

Ballet, a company which has experienced tremendous growth and popularity in recent years due to the choreography and artistic direction of Lew Christensen and Michael Smuin.

Mezzo-soprano Jan de Gaetani, best known as the "Queen of Contemporary Music," will perform March 15 at Kimball Hall in conjunction with a week-long residency she will conduct in Lincoln. De Gaetani's true artistry shines when she sings a program as diverse as the work of Cage, Debussy, Brahms and Crumb.

The final event scheduled on the Kimball Performing Arts Series will be three performances of the Pennsylvania Ballet April 18 and 19 at 8 p.m. and a matinee performance April 19 at 3 p.m.

Season tickets for Kimball events will go on sale Aug. 27 through Sept. 28.

Sheldon schedule released

The Sheldon Film Theatre, at 12th and R streets will offer alternative to commercial movies with this year's series.

The Foreign Film Series will begin Sept. 23 and 24 with *The Lacemaker*. This film from Switzerland has received excellent reviews for the way it depicts an ill-fated love affair between two young people from different social classes.

Also included are movies from Iran, China, Hungary, Sengal, France, Germany, and Ireland.

Tickets for the film series are \$10 for UNL students, \$12 for faculty, staff and non-UNL students, and \$15 for patrons. Tickets can be bought at the Nebraska Union's South Desk or from the UPC Foreign Film Committee in room 200, Nebraska Union. Film screening will be Sunday and Monday at 7 p.m. and 9

p.m., with a Sunday matinee at 3 p.m.

In addition to the regular Foreign Film Series, the Sheldon Film Theater will present movies from foreign countries each week, including 21 Japanese. No admission will be charged.

The Take-One Film Series will feature seven classic films this semester.

The first selection, *The Longest Yard*, will be shown outdoors near Love Library, Friday, Aug. 28 at 8 p.m.

Following the Burt Reynolds comedy are *The Philadelphia Story* on Sept. 13, *Beau Geste* on Sept. 27, *Dial M For Murder* Oct. 11, and *The Pirate* on Oct. 25.

Grand Hotel will be shown Nov. 18. Finishing the semester's series will be *Clockwork Orange*.

Tickets for this series are \$6 for students and \$9 for the general public.

NETV covering State Fair

Nightly coverage of the Nebraska State Fair—with its exhibits, horse shows and youth activities—will begin Sunday, on the Nebraska Educational Television Network.

ETV will present "Highlights," a program providing glimpses of livestock shows, 4-H and Future Farmers of America activities, marching bands, new farm equipment, farm produce exhibits, State Game and Parks Commission complex, and other fair events.

"Highlights" will air Tuesday through Friday at 8:30 p.m., repeating each evening at 10:30 p.m.

A new feature in this year's "Highlights" will be a "Parade of Champions" segment, showing winners of fair competition during the day.

NETV State Fair coverage will again offer extensive live telecasts of the State Fair Horse shows. Hal Allen, State Fair veteran broadcaster, will moderate the 90-

minute nightly programs with guest commentators.

Entertainment and modeling of handmade outfits will be featured when NETV presents the "4-H Sing Out and Dress Review" on September 9.

The following is a schedule of the State Fair '79 coverage by the Nebraska ETV Network:

Sunday, Sept. 2	Appaloosa Show at 9 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 3	Appaloosa Show at 9 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 4	Highlights at 8:30 p.m., repeating at 10:30 p.m.
	Pinto Show at 9 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 5	Highlights at 8:30 p.m., repeating at 10:30 p.m.
	Arabian Show at 9 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 6	Highlights at 8:30 p.m., repeating at 10:30 p.m.
	Morgan Show at 9 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 7	Highlights at 8:30 p.m., repeating at 10:30 p.m.
	Morgan Show at 9 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 8	Quarter Horse Show at 9 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 9	4-H Sing Out and Dress Review at 6 p.m.
	Quarter Horse Show at 9 p.m.