

Latest Kinks release shows intellect

By Dave Meister
Staff Reporter

The Kinks
"UK Jive"
MCA Records

The latest album by the English quartet the Kinks is one that reflects a possible turning point in the band's music.

album REVIEW

It varies between ballads, basic rock music and songs with lyrical content aimed at the social conscience.

The Kinks appear to be trying to grasp some intellectual credibility while still attempting to keep the side that brought them hits like "You Really Got Me Now" and the more recent "Lola." The music is classic Kinks but the lyrics in half the songs show a more perceptive and smarter side that hasn't been exposed until the release of "UK Jive."

The opening track "Aggravation" is a fast, hook-filled song with lyrical content unlike the traditional Kinks. The overall mood of the song is very gloomy and hopeless. It reflects life in the fast-paced, confusing, and cruel world that has been commonplace to most people throughout the 1980s.

While this song is very contemptuous and hopeless, "Down All The Days (to 1992)" is one of hope, anticipation and a view of a bright fu-

ture. The song is a thoughtless, pathetic attempt at creating a sing-along anthem.

The title track "UK Jive" reflects the pop side of the Kinks. It is very smooth, upbeat and extremely danceable. "UK Jive" will more than likely have some chart value in London dance clubs and fits well with English top ten.

"Now and Then" is a very somber "End of the Innocence"-type track that depicts a coming of age from content youthfulness to the confusion and disillusionment of adulthood. "The world was much younger then/and we were much wiser then/before we were full of discontent."

"Entertainment" opens side two and is in itself a blatant contradiction. The lyrics comment about the sub-standard entertainment industry while this song is a very poor example of quality entertainment.

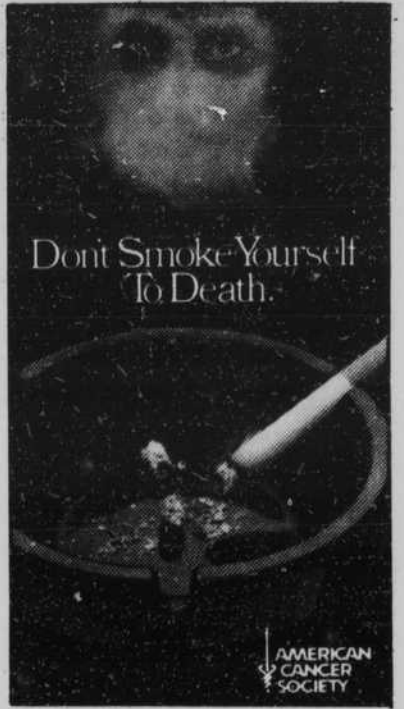
In the following track "War Is Over" the Kinks call for the hype and patriotism of wartime to be quieted and for the soldier to go home as there is no longer a need for them anymore.

The Kinks also make an effort to duplicate the sound of late Beatles on "Loony Balloon," "Drift away just drift away on this loony balloon."

The album is traditional Kinks, but progressive at the same time. It has a few very high points and an equal number of low points. Half of the tracks are classic, entertaining, Kinks rock 'n' roll, while several others show a more mature coming of age for the Kinks who appear to be just discovering their potential as quality lyricists.



Andy Manhart/Daily Nebraskan



Footloose & Fancy
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stars. Roberts is moving as the courageous Shelby. Roberts' Shelby is vibrant, funny and committed to life. An authentic "Southern girl" from Smyrna, Ga., Roberts also appeared in the critically acclaimed "Mystic Pizza." Also believable and funny is Parton, another authentic Southern woman from the hills of Tennessee. Parton, a singer, songwriter, actress and businesswoman, also has appeared in "9 to 5," "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" and "Rhinestone." MacLaine does a great job of

revealing the saving traits of the town grouch, Ouiser Boudreaux. Ouiser's interaction with the genteel Clairee (Olympia Dukakis) is truly hilarious.

Supporting male characters include M'Lynn's husband, Drum Eatenton (played by Tom Skerritt); Truvy's husband, Spud Jones (played by Sam Shepard); Annette's husband, Sammy Desoto (played by Kevin J. O'Connor); and Jackson Latcherie (played by Dylan McDermott).

"Steel Magnolias" was written by writer/actor Robert Harling, who adapted the screenplay from

his acclaimed stage version of the same name. "Steel Magnolias" is based on Harling's own life; Harling's late sister, Susan, was the inspiration for the character of Shelby, and M'Lynn is based on Harling's mother, Margaret. At the time of Susan's death, Harling was a struggling actor; his grief spurred him to write the play version of "Steel Magnolias" in just 10 days.

"Steel Magnolias" is a warm, moving film that is suitable for the entire family. Be sure to bring tissues for the inevitable tears that will fall during this movie.

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