

# Reviews

## Soul classics revitalized on soundtrack

**"The Commitments" Original Soundtrack**  
MCA Records

Culled from the archives of great American soul music, the soundtrack to Alan Parker's film "The Commitments" features new and arousing versions of soul classics.

As sung by the band members, cover versions of such tunes as "In The Midnight Hour," "Mr. Pitiful," "Chain Of Fools," "Take Me To The River," "Treat Her Right," "Try A Little Tenderness" and "Mustang Sally" are arduous, raucous and ulti-

In the role of the Commitments' frontman, Deco, 16-year-old Andrew Strong, discovered by sheer incident at the casting call, exudes thick, gravelly and often abrasive vocals while sounding as if he's been empowered with some divine gift.

Strong's ability as sometimes belower is mixed with soft, wistful singing on "The Dark End Of The Street" and "Try A Little Tenderness."

His vocals are mirrored closely by the innocuous voice of Maria Doyle, former member of Hothouse Flowers

and current member of The Black Velvet Band. In the role of "Commitment-ette" Natalie Murphy, Doyle's strains turn heavenly in the songs "I Never Loved A Man" and "Bye-Bye Baby."

"Commitment-ettes" Imelda Quirke (Angeline Ball) and Bernie McGloughlin (Bronagh Gallagher) provide nearly all of the backing vocals, with Ball and Doyle teaming up for a striking rendition of "Chain Of Fools," originally recorded by Aretha Franklin.

Ball also covers "I Can't Stand The Rain" with incredible poignancy, rendering the song as one of the best of the collection.

In the role of Jimmy Rabbitte, the Commitments' manager, Robert Arkins spends his time trying to mend the frayed nerves of the band members. Yet Arkins is an established musician who contributes lead vocals on the stirring covers of "Slip Away" and "Treat Her Right."

While the film features more than 50 different rock, pop and soul songs, the soundtrack is contrived exclusively from 14 soul classics made famous by the likes of Percy Sledge, Al Green, Otis Redding, Wilson Pickett, Ann Peebles, Mary Wells and Roy Head.

Alan Parker's story of a struggling Irish soul band transcends the visual boundaries of celluloid with dynamic vocal performances. However, these cover versions are not to be compared merely with efforts of the past. Instead, they should be taken in light of the vitality and talent of those involved.

—Jeffrey Frey



Brian Shellito/DN

## Faces

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The program was given the title, the "Twilight Zone."

This was not to be the first episode of the longstanding series. CBS shelved the episode for nearly a year before airing it in 1958 on "Desilu Playhouse."

But the idea was born, and it was a success.

Early in October 1959, "Where Is Everybody?" was revealed as the first episode of something completely different. For the first time, other people were allowed into Serling's imagination, the twilight zone.

According to the book, when Serling was asked where the title originated from, he said, "I thought I'd made it up, but I've heard since that there is an Air Force term relating to a moment when a plane is coming down on approach and it cannot see the horizon, it's called the twilight zone, but it's an obscure term which I had not heard before."

One of the most immediately rec-

ognizable pieces of the "Twilight Zone" is the unmistakable monologue that preceded each program.

"You unlock this door with the key of imagination. Beyond it is another dimension — a dimension of sound, a dimension of sight, a dimension of mind. You're moving into a land of both shadow and substance, of things and ideas. You've just crossed over into the twilight zone."

Originally, these words were not supposed to be voiced by Serling himself. The first intended narrator was Westbrook Van Voorhis, the voice of "The March of Time." Orson Welles was another consideration, but Serling did not like the idea, and Welles' price was too high.

In January of 1964, CBS announced its fall schedule and the "Twilight Zone" was not included. After a life of five years and 156 episodes, Serling put the series to rest.

"We had some real turkeys," Serling said, "some fair ones and some shows I'm really proud to have been a part of. I can walk away from this series unbowed."

by Bill Watterson



Courtesy of MCA Records

## Calvin and Hobbes



★ EXTRA ★

**MILLIONS COME TO PICKLES IN ONE DAY!**

Local Band hits big time!

### THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"You should hear him! . . . First he howls and growls at me and then he thinks he can make everything OK by scratching me behind the ears."

- ACROSS**
- 1 Stiff collar
  - 5 Swift, graceful horses
  - 10 Loony
  - 14 Sitarist Shankar
  - 15 Fork over
  - 16 "Casta diva," from "Norma"
  - 17 A Cassini
  - 18 Replication
  - 19 Kennel sound
  - 20 Horologist Thomas et al.
  - 22 Terminus
  - 23 Moth's bête noire
  - 24 Military beat
  - 26 Actress MacGraw
  - 27 Inundated
  - 28 Lodestone
  - 32 Ruth's sultanate
  - 35 Packard contemporary
  - 36 Minerva's Greek counterpart
  - 37 Planter's medium
  - 39 Airman's medal: Abbr.
  - 41 "Harold Teen," e.g.
  - 42 Pollen holder
  - 44 Utter
  - 46 Picnic drink
  - 47 Hard
  - 48 Muslim scholars
  - 50 Paul Bunyan's cook
  - 51 An Assyrian capital
  - 54 A Marx
  - 57 Pindar product
  - 58 Put the kibosh on
  - 60 Shield bearing
  - 61 Linda of "Dynasty"
  - 63 White or Blue river
  - 64 Fabulist
  - 65 Pacific battle site: 1944
  - 66 Joy
  - 67 "— Christie"
  - 68 Atlas addition
  - 69 Use the Morse code

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ORAL STEM FLA  
BALES ARLO SOAP  
ONE AT A TIME PURE  
ETC EVENS NERDS  
BRISK PINT  
ATTEND ELECTORS  
SEWN ETAPE FOE  
TROTTED WORNOUT  
ASTICIAN OUST  
REFLECTS STEREO  
BARE YEARS  
ABYSS CORGI MBA  
LOSE THREE BEARS  
ONER LAIC EGRET  
TEA GRAT OKRA

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### DOWN

- 1 God who had gold-tipped arrows
- 2 Old German coin
- 3 — Culp Hobby, first Secretary of H.E.W.
- 4 Comic film classic, with "A"
- 5 Bow
- 6 Manumitted
- 7 Long, long time
- 8 Tie
- 9 Agnès or Cécile: Abbr.
- 10 Annual time
- 11 Neighborhood
- 12 "Phffft!" e.g.
- 13 Sprinter's goal
- 21 Musical tool
- 23 Some London lodgings
- 25 Coal product
- 26 Japanese diver
- 29 Galba's predecessor
- 30 Geraint's lady
- 31 Bark cloth
- 32 Red and Black
- 33 Kind of ad
- 34 Commedia dell'—
- 38 Caller's word
- 40 Hot, in Hidaigo
- 43 Cereal grass
- 45 Hanking
- 49 King, pawn, etc.
- 52 Banish
- 53 Paris's choice
- 54 Runner Budd
- 55 Innisfail
- 56 Outline
- 57 Chamber for a chef
- 59 Landowner's document
- 61 Samuel's mentor
- 62 Establish