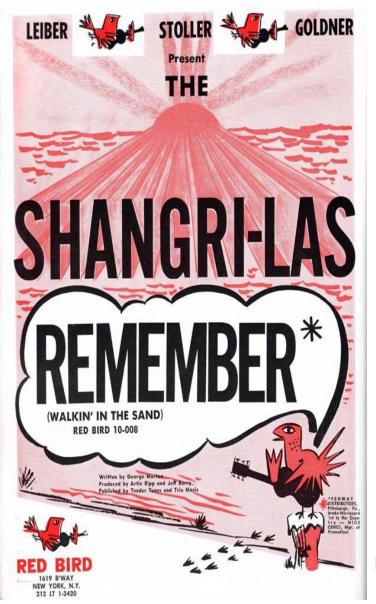
### Artie Ripp' First Hit Production is Just One Look by Doris Troy

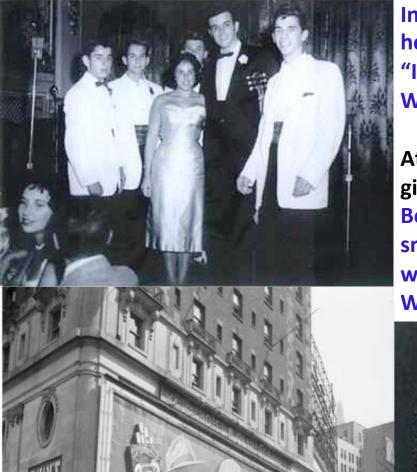
# ARTIE PUTS BANKRUPT KAMA SUTRA ON THE CHARTS! LEIBER & STOLLER ASK ARTIE TO PRODUCE JAY & THE AMERICANS





**SOME HITS & ARTISTS** Neil Sedaka, Billy Joel Lovin Spoonful, Joan Jett Phil Spector' Uptown, Oh Happy Day, Do You Believe in Magic, Carol King-Gerry Goffin, Bill Withers, Woodstock, Survivor' Eye of the Tiger, Melanie, Gladys Knight, Holland-Dozer Hot Wax, Isley Bros. Its Your Thing, Bubble Gum Music Hit's, Captain Beefheart, Ali, Green Tambourine, Ral Donner, Richard Perry, Million Dollar Musical,





In 1954 while listening to WINS radio in New York I heard a hand slapping a phone book and a DJ wailing "I'm Alan Freed and This is Rock 'n' Roll", he played White and Black Teens Singing their Songs, WOW!!!

At 17 I formed my Four Temptations group and got us a gig at a Sweet 16 party in the Claridge Hotel ballroom. Below the ballroom windows a giant Camel sign blows smoke rings across to the Paramount Theater Marque where Freed' live Rock and Soul shows Were Making World Changing History... That I Wanted To Be Part Of...



Alan Freed' Live Christmas show in Times Square has thousands of kids dancing in the Paramount Theater aisles screaming and singing along with great artists performing their hits with a big rock n roll band.

I conned my way backstage and made friends with Paul Anka who took my group and I under his genius wings.

ABC Paramount offices were in the Paramount Theater building...what a Blessing!

Arranging Genius Don Costa, liked Me & my group and Artie Ripp had his First Record deal...

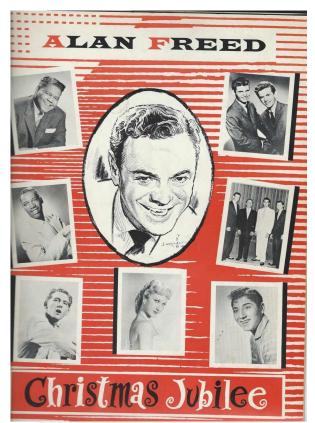
Years later Paul signed with my Buddah Records label...



Diana was recorded in May 1957 at RCA Studios in New York. Backup singers included Artie Ripp. 171



Artie Ripp & Four Temptations



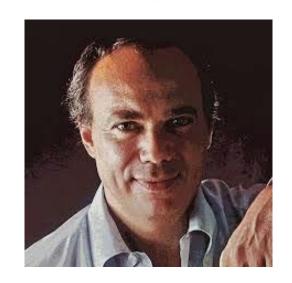




"I spent years chasing fame a a singer, songwriter, then when I finally have it all in hand... once I heard my voice on radio, I realized I'm never going to be superstar singer. At ABC I heard a real superstar from Costa' office, Carole King singing, playing and learning arranging from Sinatra's man.

Paul Anka wrote song', and my group would sing them, or sing backgrounds to his singing in a Brill Building penthouse at night. He listened to our songs, guided our harmonies, and one day I asked Paul to get us an audition with Don Costa and he did...







My singing stardom dreams were not looking bright, and in order to stay in the business I had to learn all about the complex, and no mercy music industries from the experts...



God blessed me with the Gifts of knowing a hit song in its rawest form, a hit record and commercial artists when I heard them!!!

Nat Wright saw my acceptance with ABC execs.

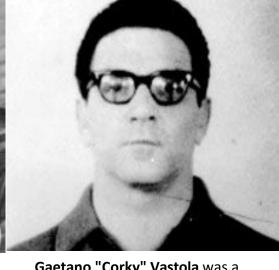
And saw a poor tenacious skinny white boy that could change both our lives.

He was a great working singer who could be a star so managing Nat, working with writers and meeting all music biz players, was my life...

And working in a nearby linotype shop...

"I read that great artist Nina Simone was Performing at Coney Island' 'Riptide' club run by Tommy Vastola,...he is the first Wise-guy I had to pitch, and learn to deal with"





If I could get my
first working
artist Nat Wright,
to be the
opening act for
Nina Simone
I would have
made a life
changing move...
and I did...

Gaetano "Corky" Vastola was a
New Jersey mobster who became
an underboss in the DeCavalcante
crime family in New Jersey. [1] In his
early years, Tommy Vastola was
a concert promoter for singers
Ray Charles and Aretha
Franklin, and a golf partner with
actor/singer Sammy Davis Jr.
A part owner of Roulette
Records, Vastola was the listed
songwriter on several doo-wop
hits from the 1950s and 1960s.
Vastola also engaged in the

counterfeiting of records, netting

him a \$500,000 profit.

# ecord amblings

### In the Music Trades for the First Time! **Step to Impossible Dreams and Destiny?**

### NEW YORK:

Victor brass quite excited with the initial reaction to their highlypublicized newcomer, Rod Lauren and his debut pairing, "If I Had A Girl" and "No Wonder." . . . Carlton worried about the disappearance of its new combo The Nelson Trio (tagged T.N.T.). The boys, Phil, Royal & Artie have been lined up for a host of radio and TV shots to do their Guaranteed bow, "The Town Crier" and "All In The Good Time." Other Guaranteed (Carlton's subsid) artists makin' wax news are Paul Evans ("Seven Little Girls") who'll do the 12 1 Arthur Murray TV Show and Ralph DeMarco ("Old Shep")



TON! ARDEN

who's set for a 12/5 Dick Clark'er. . . . Cosnat's Newark man, Charlie Goldberg and the Mrs., just back from a Los Angeles-Las Vegas vacation. . . . Laurel prexy, Tony Sepe, thrilled with cross-country response to Abie "Available" Baker's "The Web," notes that altho the disk has been taken over for national distribution by Glory, deejays can still get 'em directly from Laurel. . . . Bobby Comstock'll do his "Tennessee Waltz" Blaze click on a 12/12 Dick Clark re-appearance. . . . Arthur Ripp, Nat Wright's Mgr. buzzes that he's expecting great things from Nat's new ABC-Paramount wax session - set for an early Jan. release date. . . . Also on the phone was End-Gone topper, George Goldner, longdistancing from the road, to tell us that Richie Robin's "Strange Dreams" is busting loose all over. Coupler is dubbed "Branded." . . . Al Silver, Herald-Ember prexy, re-releasing the 5 Satins' long-requested

click, "(I Remember) In The Still Of The Night," notes that their new Ember chart-rider, "Shadows," is now on a sales rampage in Detroit, Dallas and Los Angeles; that the Muse LP, "Carload Of Hits" is selling by the carload and that Buddy Greco's "Ask Her" (Herald) and George Tinley's "The Gypsy" both look very promising.

### George Goldner Discovers Artie Ripp



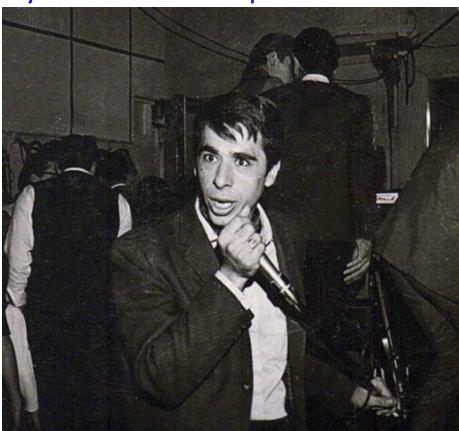








It's simple Mr. Goldner! I want to be your apprentice! You're a hit and star maker, a great music man and only Latin and Rock and Roll pioneer in the business!



"You know what a hit song is, how to arrange and produce it, get it on hit making radio, in juke boxes, and record stores and on the national music charts! I'll add to your successes and cover your back 24/7 and I only need \$20 a week? George paid me \$50...

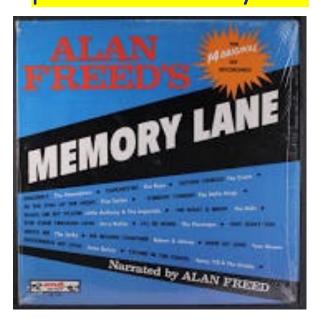
### Before I started working for George, I was eating canned ravioli, now on the road with him we sleep in giant two-bedroom suites, and I eat shrimp cocktails, filet mignon and lobster tails whenever I want.

Earl Woolf, Roulette Records Detroit promo man, info's that he's flippin' over the new Joe Jones waxing "Here's What You Gotta Do" b/w "One Big Mouth." A master that Joe Kolsky picked up on the west coast, "East L.A." by Bob Arlin, is also earning rave notices in Motor City. . . . George Goldner, Gone and End prexy, made the rounds in Detroit with the young beard (Artie Ripp), and very pleased with activity on "Your Other Love" by The Flamingos, and The Royaltones' "Flamingo Express." . . . Our old friend Tommy Schlesinger, J. K. Distribs in Detroit, reports strong action with "In My Little Black Book" by Lou Rawls (Candix).... A preview of Adam Wade's newie "Dreamy" (Coed) excites us. . . . RCA's Stan Pat toured the midwest with RCA's national promotion director Ben Rosner, 12/6 thru 12/10. Before departing Stan info'd that Perez Prado's newie "Julie Is Her Name" is an instrumental click. Another RCA-Victor hot item is "Out Of Gas" by Floyd Robinson. . . . Alan Bress, Jas. H. Martin, items that "Chills And Fever" by Ronnie Love (Dot) looks like a smash. Alan urges us to watch Roy Orbison's "I'm Hurtin'" (Monument), and Bill Black's "Blue Tango" (Hi). . . . Tunesmith Fred Arquilla allows as he generally works better during the exciting Yule Season. It's easier to get a little inspiration into composition.



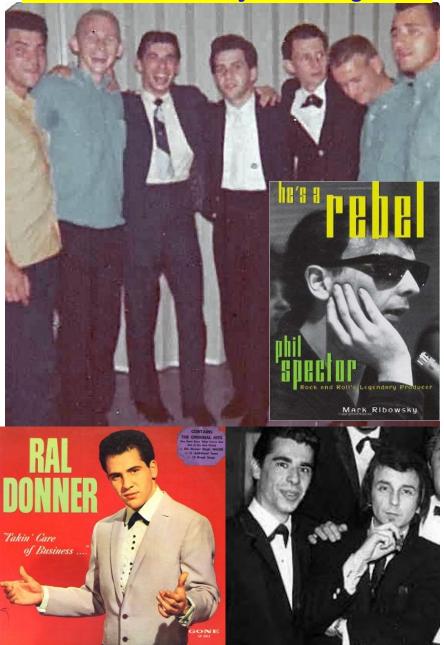
Artie's New Temptations Larry, Arti, Artie, Neil

I finally convinced George to record my song `Barbara' with a new incarnation of my Temptations Group, It's my first hit song and uncredited production of my life.



George also agreed to let me produce two Alan Freed Albums so George could give broke Alan Freed money without Alan losing his pride.

Artie Ripp Discovers & Signs Ral Donner Goldner's First & Only White Mega Star!



ARTIE RIPP & PHIL SPECTOR

Pomus lived during the week at the Hotel Forrest, just across Forty-ninth Street, and they continued their music discussions there. "Phil and I would talk all afternoon about songs. We'd sit around and go over old songs, 'cause he wanted to know about really old standards, the evergreens. And then we gradually started writing some songs in the lobby of the hotel because the lobby was great. Late at night everybody would be there. It was like one of those Damon Runyon—type hotels. We had a group that hung out. In fact, Damon Runyon, Jr., lived up in the penthouse. He was an editor on the *New York Herald Tribune* and his father lived with him there. And we had Joe Morgan, who was Duke Ellington's press agent, and Johnny Mel, a professional gambler, and Artie Ripp would come in. He was George Goldner's assistant at Gone and End Records. So this was our group, and Phil used to hang out in the lobby with us all night long."

Comfortable in the company of wolves, Phil was soon joining in on the pranks carried on by and among this motley fraternity. Huzzahs swept through the hotel the night Spector and Pomus set up Artie Ripp to believe that Elvis's manager, Colonel Parker, was calling him from Memphis. "Artie Ripp was an obnoxious little shit," Pomus said with a laugh, "and Phil and I worked hard to get him. We made him think the Colonel wanted to use Ral Donner-an Elvis soundalike that George Goldner had under contract—in the studio for \$100,000 because Elvis had lost his voice. Now, George Goldner was a very hip, New York type of tough guy, and you can imagine the hell Artie Ripp caught after he woke Goldner up at three in the morning to tell him this bullshit story." Phil knew he was accepted in the brotherhood when Artie Ripp began sending him bogus telegrams from his draft board. Phil, who lived in cold fear that he'd have to go into the army, would quake all day each time.

"Hits & Hits! One Big Problem Is I Can't Stop Goldners Suicidal Gambling Problems"

### Record Firms Organized Payola Ring, Quiz Told

Nationwide, Underground Network of Disc Jockeys Charged by Ex-Platter Spinner

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17. ola probe. Herald Tribune News Service A nationwide, underground It was the first indication public today.

The alleged secret payola or the network is still in ring was described in testexistence. timony of Norman Prescott, Prescott told the House former New York and Bos-panel, headed by Rep. Oren play records on the air.

he said had become "almost big business." He said he refused to join the disc jockey network.

#### House Panel

The house panel probing ting the last job in July. payola questioned Prescott Prescott said that with

\$9,955 and an automobile dustry, "bribery, payola, before realizing "I was has become the prime funcashamed of myself," also tion of this business to get told the congressmen that the record on the air at any payola was responsible for cost" to promote retail rock 'n' roll music, that "top sales. He said he took payola 50" song ratings are rigged, from four Boston distribu-and that the management of tors. the stations he worked for accepted payola in the form UC President Kerr of tie-in advertising.

them to destroy the stock Santiago. Chile.

network of disc jockeys was that some disc jockeys were organized by record com-organized to take payola. No panies to push records for further details about the netpay, a House subcommittee work were divulged and a was told in testimony made subcommittee spokesman said he did not know wheth-

ton disc jockey and the first Harris (D-Ark.), that he had to admit to the subcommit-worked in radio since 1948, tee that he took payola to but took payola only in the Prescott said he quit in years because "it was disgust over "payola conditions" in broadcasting which ever at that time." last two or two and a half

#### Records Backbone

He said he had worked for WHT, Boston; WORL, Boston; WNEA, New York, and WBZ, Boston, before quit-

behind closed doors Feb. 8. records being the backbone Prescott, who said he took of the radio broadcasting in-

### Prescott also swore that in Buenos Aires

a California record company BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 17
floated a million shares of (UPI)—President Clark Kerr stock and gave it away to of the University of Califordisc jockeys to encourage nia and Franklin Murphy of them to plug their records the University of Kansas He said the company, which toured Buenos Aires today, had one hit called "Pink en route to an American Shoelaces," wrote to disc Republics Superior Council jockeys recently asking of Education meeting in

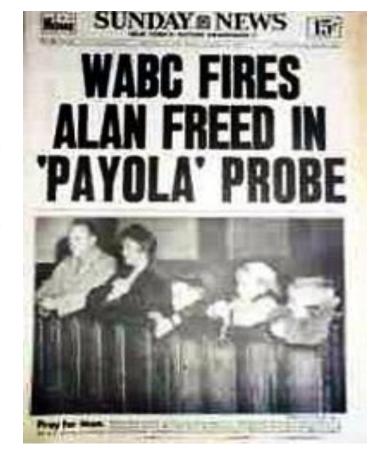
Page 2, New York Post December 9, 1959

### WINS Asks Disc Firms To Tell of Any Payola



# House to Probe Alleged Bribes to Plug Songs

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6 (UPI) - Chief counsel Robert W. Lishman of the House committee investigating TV quiz shows today said that one of the next targets of the subcommittee will be alleged bribes paid to disc jockeys to build up certain songs on the



**Broke Shamed Pioneer** Alan Freed lived for weeks with my bride **Phyllis and I During** November 1963

### Nevins-Kirshner Names Artie Ripp Promo Head

NEW YORK—Nevins-Kirshner Associates has announced the addition of Artie Ripp as national promotion director.

Ripp will assist N-K in all areas. including production, and will be working with Emil La Viola, the firm's general professional manager.

Ripp was formerly associated with Gone Records for two years as assistant to prexy George Goldner. He also was Gone's A&R director and headed up national promotion.



Artie Ripp, who later worked for Kirshner, agreed:

It would amaze you how naïve and squeaky clean Donnie could be... . Donnie's sense was, in a kind of crass way, that the song, the artist, and the record were the big pair of tits. If you walked in with a big pair of tits to somebody who was really a breast man, you didn't need anything else to move that guy. If in fact that disc jockey or program director needed to be schmoozed, that was the record company's job. Donnie was not the record company. Donnie would have acted in an incorrect, demeaning manner had he greased the guy. Now, he could turn around to the promotion guy at RCA and say, "What do we have to do to take care of this guy?" That would not be beyond Donnie's creative thinking. But Donnie himself [was] really like P. T. Barnum bringing his artist into town.



### **ALDON MUSIC, Inc.**

BREAKIN' IN A BRAND NEW BROKEN HEART Jack Keller, Howard Greenfield

CALENDAR GIRL

Neil Sedaka, Howard Greenfield

GOODBYE CRUEL WORLD Gloria Shavne

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SWEET SIXTEEN Neil Sedaka, Howard Greenfield

I LOVE HOW YOU LOVE ME Barry Mann, Larry Kolber

JUST FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE Jack Keller, Hank Hunter

LITTLE DEVIL

Neil Sedaka, Howard Greenfield

**RUN TO HIM** 

Gerald Goffin, Jack Keller

TAKE GOOD CARE OF MY BABY

Carole King, Gerald Goffin

WHERE THE BOYS ARE

Howard Greenfield, Neil Sedaka

WHO PUT THE BOMP

(In The Bomp, Bomp, Bomp)

Barry Mann, Gerald Goffin WILL YOU LOVE ME TOMORROW

Gerald Goffin, Carole King

#### THE HITS OF THE FUTURE WILL BE WRITTEN BY:

Charles Albertine • Mike Anthony • Brooks Arthur • Jan Berry • Sylvester Bradford • Bill Buchanan • Brice Coefield • Chip Colby • Dee Erwin • John Estanislau • Carole King • Gerald Goffin • Howard Greenfield • Ed Grossman • Dean Hawley • Sid Jacobson • Art Kaplan • Ken Karen • Steve Karliski • Paul Kaufman • Jack Keller • Larry Kolber • Charles Koppelman • Alan Lorber • Barry Mann • Helen Miller • Tony Orlando • Chester Pipkin • Artie Ripp • Don Rubin • Freddie Scott • Neil Sedaka • Gloria Shayne • Lou Stallman • Anne Thompson • Don Trotter • Ed Wallace • Cynthia Weil

#### 1962 RELEASES

CRYING IN THE RAIN . . . . . Everly Brothers HER ROYAL MAJESTY ..... James Darren HE KNOWS I LOVE HIM TOO

MUCH ..... Paris Sisters I'VE GOT BONNIE . . . . . . . . Bobby Rydell COME BACK SILLY GIRL . . . . The Lettermen NIGHT THEME ..... Al Nevins I BUILT MY WORLD AROUND A DREAM ..... Damita Jo

HELP ME . . . . . . . . Andy Williams A GIRL HAS TO KNOW ..... The G-Clefs TALKIN' ABOUT YOU ..... Tony Orlando JUST ANOTHER FOOL ..... Curtis Leigh WHEN MY LITTLE GIRL IS SMILING ..... The Drifters

HELLO AGAIN ..... Erma Franklin I'LL CRY YOU OUT OF

MY HEART ..... Tommy Edwards

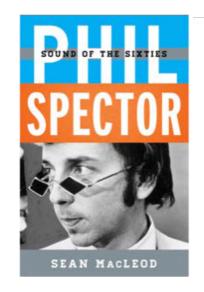
A THORN ON THE ROSE ..... Joe Dowell LIGHT IN YOUR WINDOW . . . . Kenny Karen THE DOOR IS OPEN ..... Tommy Hunt I COULD HAVE LOVED YOU SO WELL ..... Ray Peterson ASK ME NO QUESTIONS . . . Carl Dobkins, Jr. IT'S ALL OVER BUT THE CRYING . . Four Aces THE YEAR MAY BE OVER .... Vinnie Monte

Al Nevins Don Kirshner

Lou Adler 6515 Sunset Blvd. Hollywood



Emil LaViola Artie Ripp 1650 Broadway N.Y.





ARTIE RIPP & PHIL SPECTOR

Unbeknownst to Beverly, Jerry Leiber had given Phil the lyrics of a song he had written and earmarked for the Drifters, "Spanish Harlem." With Mike Stoller out of town, he asked Spector to see if he could come up with a melody. Now the riff had given Phil a brainstorm, the three-syllable repetition, and when he got to Leiber's West Side townhouse, he sat at the piano and played what he had. Mike Stoller had returned and happened to be in Leiber's kitchen making himself a hamburger. Hearing the "da-da-da, da-da-da" hook, he came in and worked it into the centerpiece of the song, to be played on vibraphone from first bar to last. But Stoller begged off a writing credit—Spector had worked up a full melody, and Stoller gave him his due.

Artie Ripp heard the song before most of the world did. Ripp was taking two young women up to his room at the Hotel Forrest one night when he saw Spector.

"Phil, come on up," he told him.

Upstairs, Artie announced, "Okay, girls, now we're gonna get crazy," and instructed everyone to get naked.

Phil, (guitar in hand) joined myself and two hot to trot young women in my hotel room. I got naked with the girls as Phil stripped to his underwear. Phil guitar in hand sits on top a TV console that swiveled. Phil sang, hummed and strummed "Spanish Harlem" a song he was writing with Jerry Leiber. Crazy foreplay and wild sex unfolded between Artie and the pretty ladies while Phil kept polishing the song and arrangement to a choir of sighs, quiet screams and joyous sex sounds...

To everyone's surprise, the Paris Sisters' "Be My Boy" made a respectable display on the chart, reaching No. 56 in late May of 1961. In search of a follow-up record, Lester Sill came to New York to make the rounds on Broadway. At Don Kirshner's office, Artie Ripp, who was now working at Aldon, sat at a piano and played Sill and Spector a ballad by Barry Mann and Larry Kolber called "I Love How You Love Me." Ripp could hardly hit the right keys and had a voice like a hinge, but Phil loved it; the long pauses in the lyrics made it compatible with strings, and it intrigued him that the old Teddy Bears sound could be buffed with violins.



**Aldon Family circa 1963** 

(Top L-R) Jack Keller, Artie Levine, Lou Adler, Al Nevins, the Kirshner's, Emil La Viola, and Howard Greenfield. (Bottom L-R) Barry Mann, Cynthia Weil, Gerry Goffin, Carole King and Neil Sedaka. Phil Spector having his own record label was a great eye opener for me...a reality I wanted to attain...

I Worked On

Halfway to Paradise,

I Love How You Love Me, Go Away Little Girl, Uptown, On & On...

I Was Making My Bosses & Aldon' Artists,
Writers and Producers Happy!
I Was Respected And Well Paid.

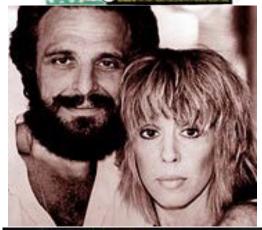
But I Prayed For a Supportive Partner Who Gives Artie Ripp Total Growth Control...

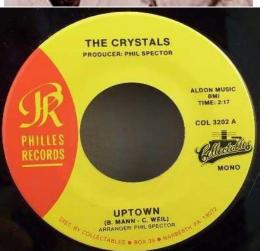
Always Magic in the Air: The Bomp and Brilliance of the Ken Emerson

> Weil owed her social consciousness to Woody Guthrie and hootenan nies in Washington Square. The folk music scene gathering momentum in Greenwich Village attracted a college student rebelling against her conservative Republican upbringing. Mann's politics were pure Brooklyn. Like many Jews in the borough, where an estimated ten thousand mourners filed past the open coffins of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg when Mann was fourteen, the Imbermans were left-wing. "I always felt that political noise in the background," Mann said. "If you grew up in Brooklyn . . . coming from a Jewish background, you're not even conscious of it but it's always there." A "liberal heritage," he concluded, is "just part of your fiber." Mann was a sophomore at James Madison High School when one of its veteran teachers was threatened with dismissal for refusing to testify before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, occasioning Albert Einstein's famous call for intellectuals to refuse to testify before congressional investigating committees even at the risk of impoverishment and imprisonment. Growing up in Brooklyn, where Jackie Robinson broke the color line in major league baseball, also predisposed Mann to sympathize with the civil rights movement and its crusade against racial injustice in the "angry land" that "Uptown" described.

> Artie Ripp was responsible for placing the song. George Goldner had squandered so much money at the track that he had to surrender his record labels, Gone and End, to Morris Levy. "I'll go to the grave for you," Ripp said he told Goldner, "but I'm not going to work for Morris." Ripp remained at 1650 Broadway, landing a job promoting songs for Aldon. When Phil Spector dropped by, seeking a song for the Crystals, a trio of young black women who were the first act Spector produced on Philles, the record label he had recently formed with Lester Sill, Ripp sang and played "Uptown" on the piano—"clumsily, because I'm not a pianist."







### Goldmark in Own Business With Art Ripp

NEW YORK — Aaron (Goldie) Goldmark, colorful exec of the publishing fraternity, has left Imperial Records and Post Music to go into business for himself here. For nearly a decade, Goldmark had been associated with Moe Gale in the operation of Gale's firms, Sheldon, Shalimar, Sequence and Springfield. A year ago Gale sold out to Imperial Records president, Lew Chudd. Goldmark, at the time, remained with the firms and set up an office here for the Chudd interests.

With Goldmark's departure, Chudd is closing the New York office and moving his publishing operations to his main West Coast office. Meanwhile, Goldmark has opened Goldie Records, Inc.; Armada Music, Inc. (ASCAP), and Fredella Music, Inc. (BMI). Joining Goldmark in the new combine is Artie Ripp, who had been doing promotion and recording work for George Goldner's firms for three years.

The publishing interests are to be on a world-wide basis, and will be known as Goldmark Music, Ltd., in association with Chappell, Ltd. Goldie Records will also be released overseas but final distribution arrangements have not yet been made.

Distribution arrangements, which are described as having "angles never before achieved in the business," were completed by Goldmark and Ripp during last week's ARMADA convention in Miami Beach. There are 31 distributors in all.

Initial Goldie release is expected July 15. Meanwhile, three songs in the ARMADA firm are already on disks—"I'm the Playboy," by the Pyramids on Cub; "Let Me Be Your Boy," by Wilson Pickett on Cub, and "Bouquet of Flowers," by James Velvet on MGM.

Goldmark is president of all a three firms; Ripp is vice-president.





# Goldie Signs On With Premier

NEW YORK — Aaron (Goldie) Goldmark, well-known publishing figure here, has joined the organization of Premier Albums, Inc., to head up the firm's newly established publishing and master producing operations, according to Phil Landwehr, president.

Goldmark will act as general professional manager of Award Music, Premier Music and West End Music, with new headquarters at 1650 Broadway. Operations on the a.&r. level for the master producing wing will be handled by Artie Ripp, who was previously associated with Goldmark when the latter had his own operations.

#### Premier Albums Moves Into Pubbery, Producing Fields; Goldmark Named Topper

NEW YORK—Moving into the publishing-master producing field, Premier Albums, the low-priced LP setup, has named vet music man "Goldie" Goldmark to head-up its three new pubberies, Award Music, Premier Music and West End Music.

The new companies, according to Phil Landwehr, head of Premier, will operate as in indie division of Premier Albums, with Premier Music, a BMI firm, and West End, affiliated with ASCAP, engaging in publishing activities, and Award Music concerned with the production of master disks. He added that Premier Albums would definitely not go into the manufacture of singles, but would stick with its eight LP labels.

Award is to have at least one of its own labels, but all labels will be manufactured and distributed under special licensing arrangements with outside companies.

A&R operations are headed by Artie Ripp. Lewis Harris, Premier veep and counsel to the parent company and its new division, is negotiating licensing and distribution deals.

Goldmark, who recently operated his own label, Goldie Records, has had varied experience in the publishing field. He joined the Leeds and Duchess operations as professional manager in charge of the California offices in 1944. He returned to New York in 1952 to head the Sheldon, Shalimar and Sequence music operations, later sold to Imperial Records, for which Goldmark was associated with for one year, including Imperial's Post Music operations.

I HAD TO CHANGE MY SKIRT CHASING LIFE AND WAS BLESSED TO MEET, FALL IN LOVE WITH, AND GET ENGAGED TO PHYLLIS MARMOR



SUDDENLY PHYLLIS WAS STRUCK DOWN WITH VIRAL ENCEPHALITIS LEAVING HER WITH NO VOCABLARY OR MEMORY.

MY BOSS PHIL LANDWEHR ADVISED ME TO END MY ENGAGEMENT AND HER LOVING PARENTS WOULD UNDERSTAND.

I WORKED WITH PHYLLIS IN
ELMHURST HOSPITAL AFTER WORK
EVERYNIGHT TALKING AND USING WORD-PICTURE
CARDS TO HELP HER REGAIN HER SPEECH,
A BY PRODUCT OF HER INCURABLE DISEASE.
WE WERE HAPPILY
MARRIED ON MARCH 30, 1963

My Irresponsibility Got Us Evicted.

### Premier Music Coming Up With Lots Of Disk Dates

NEW YORK—Things are humming at Premier Music Publishing (BMI), the pubbery affiliate of Phil Landwehr's Premier Albums.

The outfit, under the direction of Goldie Goldmark, has a number of singles on releases currently on the market, one of them the strong Doris Troy outing on Atlantic, "Just One Look" (side is 17 on this week's Top 100).

Other Premier copyrights making the rounds include "There Goes My Heart Again" by Fats Domino (ABC-Par), "Here's Where I Came In" by Aretha Franklin (Columbia), "Cinderella Baby" by Johnny Cymbal (Kapp), and "Mr. Fix-It" with Jimmy Jones (VeeJay).

On the production end, Award Music, also a Premier Albums' subsid, has just signed Carl Dobkins Jr., who, in turn, has just been inked to a disk pact by Atlantic Records. Dobkins, who recently finished his Army stint, was a big name on the Decca label. Award Music, with Artie Ripp heading A&R, sold the Doris Troy master to Atlantic. Other Award Music pactees include Jimmy Jones, The Romeos, The Hollywood Flames, The Uptowns and Carol Shaw.

And We Had To Live at Her Parents, in Her Childhood Bedroom

### Artie Ripp becomes a Kama Sutra Productions Partner After The Shangri-La's First record is a Total Bomb...



"THE SHANGRI-LAS"





still young. They lived just one block from Andrew Jackson High School colleagues Mary and Liz 'Betty' Weiss, and the two pairs of sisters became firm friends in 1963, when a mutual love of singing pulled their worlds together. Honing a nasal-sounding harmonic style (Mary Weiss took lead), The Shangri-Las were playing the hops before the high-school year was out. Artic Ripp - sinisterly named head honcho at Kama Sutra - was quick to sign the group after witnessing an early performance: rock 'n' roll may still have been young, but girl groups were very much 'happening'. A few minor recordings were made before producer/writer George 'Shadow' Morton appeared on the scene with the cool, disquieting 'Remember (Walkin' in the Sand)' (1964) - which would change the girls' lives and fortunes for ever. The Shangri-Las (who had now joined the short-lived Red Bird label as minors, their contracts signed by their parents) found themselves with an unexpected Top Five hit. This was followed by an undisputed classic, 'Leader of the Pack', which, by the end of the fall, saw The Shangri-Las dramatically displace The Supremes at the top of the US charts. For a time, the US was hip to The Shangri-Las' groove and a series of 'teen angst' vignettes followed ( The Death Toll #1).

I FINALLY HAVE PARTNERS WHO COVER MY BACK, MANAGE THE BUSINESS WHILE I FIND AND MAKE HITS, DEALS AND BUILD STARS.

PHIL STEINBERG AND HY MIZRAHI GAVE
ME THAT CHANCE... NOW I WILL HAVE
MY TEAM OF HIT MAKERS, JUST LIKE
ALDON AND BERRY GORDY HAVE!



Hy Mizrahi, Artie Ripp, Phil Steinberg

It was an acquaintance of Morris Levy who headed one of the most outrageous attempted Mob takeovers in the music business of the 1960s. The victim was Kamasutra Productions, a production and record company based in Los Angeles, run by George Goldner's protégé Artie Ripp and his two partners, Hy Masrati and Phil Steinberg.

Kamasutra's initial financing had been dubious: \$60,000 that Hy Masrati received as insurance money when his record store burned down. "Rumor has it that a fire sale was appropriate," says Ripp.

By the time he was invited to become a partner Kamasutra had already run out of that money. "Unbeknownst to me they had borrowed some other money from some friendly people from the other side of town," says Ripp with heavy sarcasm. "Some friendly loan sharks."

Oblivious to this, Ripp set to work making records with groups such as the Shangri-Las and the Critturs. It was only after Kamasutra Productions had enjoyed five smash hits out of its first eight releases that Ripp had time to relax and look around. He didn't like what he saw. "What are these guys doing sitting in the office?" Ripp demanded of his partners. "They look like something out of Guys and Dolls."

"Well, they're friends," his partners lamely replied.

"They're not friends of mine," said Ripp. "I haven't invited them here. Why are they here? Aside from that, they're pinching the girls' asses, they're trying to fuck the secretaries—anything that's breathing they're trying to nail. I didn't realize we're running a massage parlor or a whorehouse here."





Ripp quickly rose in the music publishing, recording, and distribution business. In 1961, after Goldner transferred his Gone and End record labels to music industry executive Morris Levy, Ripp became national promotion director at Nevins/Kirshner Associates, Inc., founded by Al Nevins and Don Kirshner. (Nevins/Kirshner was the parent company of Dimension Records and its music publishing division Aldon Music (BMI). Aldon, located at 1650 Broadway in Manhattan, played a significant role in shaping the socalled "Brill Building Pop" sound of the late 1950s and early 1960s.) In 1962b Ripp partnered with music publisher Aaron "Goldie" Goldmark and was named vice president of three of Goldmark's newly established businesses: Goldie Records, Inc., Armada Music, Inc. (ASCAP), and Fredella Music, Inc. (BMI) (which were together known as Goldmark Music, Ltd. in association with Chappell, Ltd.). During the summer of 1962, Goldmark and Ripp collaborated to generate worldwide distribution arrangements that were described by Billboard as having "angles never before achieved in the business." In 1963, when Goldmark was selected to head Premier Albums' newly established publishing and master-production operations, Ripp followed and was named chief of "A&R" (Artists and Repertoire) for Premier's subsidiary, Award Music, which was the master-production business. As A&R Chief, Ripp signed singer Carl Dobkins, Jr. Also under contract with Award during Ripp's tenure were Jimmy Jones and The Hollywood Flames, both of whom were on the Vee-Jay record label.

In 1963, Ripp produced "Just One Look" for Doris Troy. The song peaked at number ten on the *Billboard* pop chart and at number three on the Rhythm and Blues chart. It was listed as one of the 7,500 most important songs of the Rock-n-Roll era and was covered by The Hollies as their first single.









Sonny Franzese owned 10% of Kama Sutra:
Acquired before Artie was a Partner.
How can hitmaker Artie buyout the fearsome gangster accused of committing so many murders he couldn't keep track of the body count...



Another old hand in the New York record business who turned to Levy when times got tough was Art Kass, who owned Buddah Records. The label traced its history back to a production partnership called Kama Sutra Productions formed in 1965 by Artie Ripp, Hy Mizrahi, and Phil Steinberg; an unnamed "investor" in the operation was said to be mobster Sonny Franzese of the Colombo crime family. Levy's first encounter with the trio occurred after they oversaw the recording of the Shangri-Las' first hit, "Remember (Walkin' in the Sand)," which hit #5 on the charts. It was released on Red Bird Records, run by George Goldner. After the Shangri-Las hit it big, Levy showed up at Kama Sutra's offices to demand his cut of the action, according to Steinberg. Levy claimed that he owned a piece of the group. According to Michael Franzese (Sonny's son):

Steinberg felt the muscles in his neck tighten. A burly ex-football player, he suppressed an urge to toss Levy out of his office. That wouldn't have been a wise option . . .

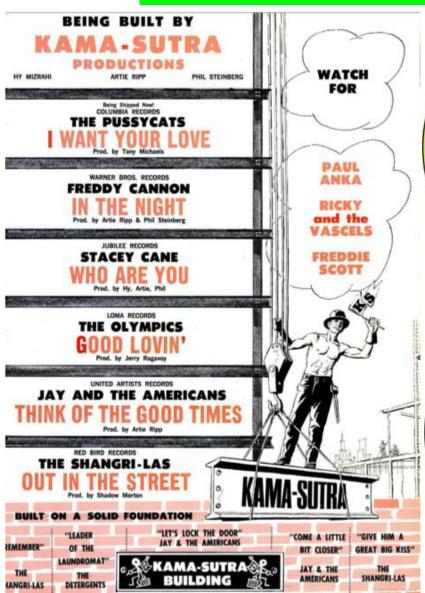
"I'll discuss this with my partners, and we'll get back to you," Steinberg said, forcing a smile. "I'm sure we can work this out to your satisfaction."

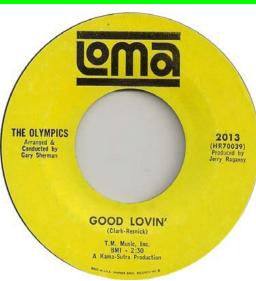
"Make some calls. Check around," Levy advised. "I'm confident you'll do the right thing."  $^{23}$ 

Sonny Franzese later visited the offices and was outraged when he heard that Levy had tried to muscle in on the action. Franzese told his partners, "You boys worked too hard to have the likes of Moe Levy shake you down. Don't worry about it." When Steinberg subsequently ran into Levy in a recording studio, "Levy was all handshakes and smiles," and not a word was said about their former encounter.<sup>24</sup>

When Steinberg and his associates decided to launch their own label, Kama Sutra Records, Kass, who had previously worked at MGM as an accountant, was brought in to help manage the operation. Kama Sutra was distributed by MGM and initially scored success with the group the Lovin' Spoonful. In 1968 the trio sold Kama Sutra to the Viewlex Corporation, a company that produced educational slides and projectors as well as owning Bell Sound Studios (a prominent New York studio) and record pressing and tape duplicating companies.<sup>25</sup> They formed a second label, Buddah Records, which became best known for launching "bubblegum" music. Producer Neil Bogart was brought in to help run the operation, and Steinberg left by the early '70s. Bogart left in 1973 to form Casablanca Records, and Buddah struggled on until Viewlex decided to sell out in 1975; Kass then raised the money to repurchase the label as its sole owner. However, the bills continued to mount until the early eighties. Finding himself in the hole to the tune of \$10 million, Kass turned to Levy as his savior. Called to the bank after missing a \$250,000 interest payment, Kass said, "I felt like maybe I was in jail. You're allowed one phone call. I called Morris."26

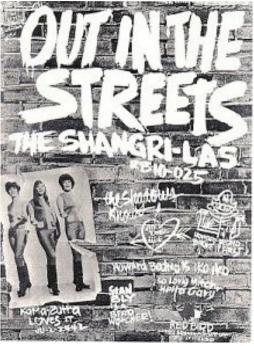
### Artie Ripp Settles With Sonny & Drives Kama Sutra Growth! Even Artie' Discoverer, Paul Anka Signs Up...











Artie Producing The Critters, Mister Dieingly Sad & Younger Girl at Bell Sound



Artie Gets \$50K Advance on the First Pop Music Production Deal at Columbia.

However they reject a Kama Sutra label with other Hot Hit Makers Labels...

### Col., K-S Pact Reflects Inroads

NEW YORK—The Impact of independent record producers on the industry was pointed up anew last week with the signing of the Kama-Sutra organization to a major production contract by Columbia Records. Columbia has been using material by independent producers, but this is the first time a deal has been set with such a top producing outfit as Kama-Sutra.

Kama-Sutra, which is headed by Hy Mizrahi, Phil Steinberg and Artie Ripp, has produced a number of hits by the Shangri-Las, Jay and the Americans, and various other top teen-age artists. In its new association with Columbia, Kama-Sutra will produce its own recordings for the Columbia label. Its first Columbia single, "Don't Say Goodbye," by the Townsmen is already on release.

Ken Glancy, a&r vice-president, said of the affiliation, "Kama-Sutra has established a consistent and impressive track record in today's singles market:
It offers a creative excitement
much in the Columbia tradition
and we look forward to our
future association."

Meantime, Kama-Sutra is expanding its production operations next with the opening of a Coast branch. It's not yet decided who'll head the office there.





### Artie Parlays Hits into Growth Funding and Major Company Fire Power

### **UA-Kama Sutra Deal**

(Continued from page 7)

Sutra principals, Artie Ripp, Phil Steinberg, Hy Mizrahi, and Frank Mell have also gained an international reputation by producing such blockbusters as "Come A Little Bit Closer" by Jay And The Americans, "Younger Girl" by The Critters and "Leader Of The Pack".

At present, Kama Sutra Music is expanding into the commercial, movie score, and advertising field in which the new combination will also participate.

15



Signing the United Artists-Kama Sutra music publishing deal into law are from left, Hy Mizrahi and Artie Ripp, two Kama Sutra principals; Murray Deutch (seated), executive vice-president of UA Music Companies, Mike Stewart, label President; and Phil Steinberg, third Kama Sutra principal.



### KAPP HAS THE HIT VERSION!

# "YOUNGER GIRL" by The Critters K-752

A Kama-Sutra Production Produced by Artie Ripp



PLUS these great singles:

PLEASE DON'T SELL MY DADDY NO MORE WINE

The Greenwood Singers

31119C

THE IMPOSSIBLE Dream

Jack Jones

(From Man of La Mancha)



LARA'S Theme

from "Dr. Zhivago"

Roger Williams

K-738

WHY SHOULD I CRY OVER YOU

> Freddie Hart

> > K-743

### 

I'll Have Two Critters Hits in a Row, Bad News Is Hit Voice Lead Singer Don Ciccone Gets Drafted.



CHALK UP THE CRITTERS as the latest hot discovery by Kama Sutra Productions. Exclusively on Kapp Records, their first single, "Younger Girl," produced by Artie Ripp, is currently way up the charts. (Advertisement)

THE CRITTERS — YOUNGER GIRL (Prod. by Artie Ripp) (Faithful Virtue, BMI)—Off-beat lyric ballad from the pen of the Lovin' Spoonful's John Sebastian should be the ticket to the top for the new group. Flip: "Gone for Awhile" (Elmwin, BMI).

Kapp 752

### MGM Will Handle Kama-Sutra

NEW YORK—MGM Records has acquired distribution rights of the Kama-Sutra label, which has been in independent production for 15 months.

The deal calls for a Kama-Sutra label (the organization never had a label of its own) with all future Kama-Sutra product going through MGM distribution channels.

K-S's three principals, Artie Ripp, Phil Steinberg and Hy Mizrahi, explained that the

MGM distribution deal does not conflict with the production arrangement between K-S and

Columbia Records.

Under terms of the latter agreement, K-S agreed to provide three of its artists to Columbia for release by the latter company. The artists, who are cutting Columbia Records, are the Townsmen, the Pussycats and the Duprees.

Another facet of the Columbia-K-S agreement called for three mutually accepted Columbia artists to work for K-S. The two companies have not been able to agree on three mutually acceptable artists, according to Mizrahi, Meanwhile, two other K-S artists, Phil Flower and Karrie Wells, record for Columbia.

Negotiations between MGM and K-S were initiated by Arnold Maxin for MGM before his appointment as executive head of the Robbins, Feist and Miller music publishing firms. Leonard Sheer, co-ordinator of independent single record production, will work with the K-S trio on releases.

First K-S release under the MGM distribution system will



PRINCIPALS IN THE MGM-KAMA SUTRA DEAL are, left to right; Lenny Scheer, MGM co-ordinator of independent single record production; Mort Nasatir, MGM president, and Hy Mizrahi, Artie Ripp and Phil Steinberg, Kama-Sutra officers.

be "You're My Baby," with the Vacels.

During the past year, K-S has produced such hit singles as "Leader of the Pack," "Remember Walking in the Sand" and "Give Him a Little Kiss," all with the Shangri-Las, and "Come a Little Bit Closer" and "Let's Lock the Door," both by Jay and the Americans.

The deal between the two firms is set for three years.

K-S held a distributors meeting at the City Squire Hotel here Friday (11). The company plans to add eight or nine people to its New York staff.



### ARTIE & TEAMS CREATED AND ATTRACTED HIT MAKERS!

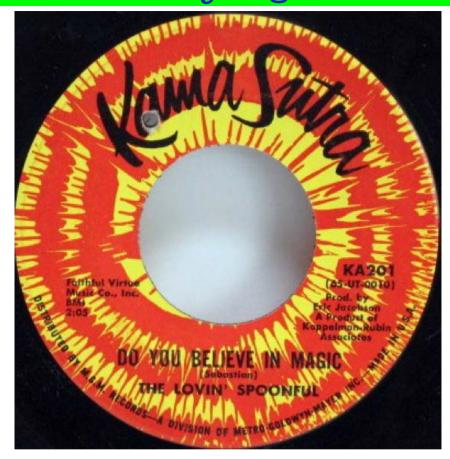
NOW OUR OWN KAMA SUTRA LABEL WITH MGM, A MAJOR FILM & TV CO.





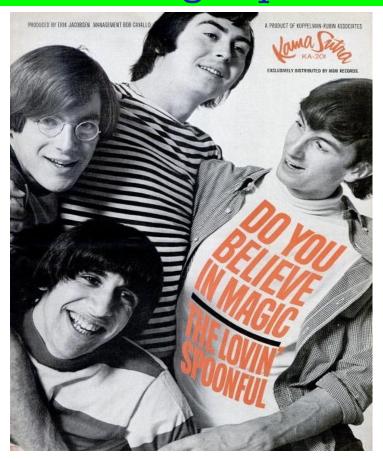
MGM DISTRIBUTOR PROMOTION men met in New York last week to kick off the MGM acquisition of Kama-Sutra distribution rights. First MGM-KS release is "You're My Baby," with the Vacels. Bottom, left to right, Barry Whitwan (Herman's Hermits), Ricky Ricano, Vinnie Gorgmann, Harvey Cooper, Vinnie Cappola and Peter Gorman, all of the Vacels, and Phil Steinberg, Kama-Sutra. Middle row, left to right, Artie Ripp, Kama-Sutra; Lenny Sheer, MGM; Hy Mizahi, Kama-Sutra; Karl Green (Herman's Hermits), Lee Fogel, Bob Holiday, Derek Lekenby, Jerry Sharrell and Bob Sholes. Top row, left to right, Val Valentin, MGM; Charles Estrin, Eddie Biscoe, Paul Maged, Neil Bogart, Frank Mancini, Herman (Herman's Hermits), Bob Greenberg, Keith Hopwood (Herman's Hermits), Mickey Wallach, Dan Alvino, Russ Bach, Arnold Feldman and Frank Mell.

### Artie Finally Signs His First Hit Making Superstar!



Spoonful Manager Bob Cavallo & Artie





Artie, Charles Koppelman, Charlie Estrin



### My Unconditional Dream Supporter, and Loving Wife Phyllis and I Enjoyed Our First Vegas Convention Where I was a Star, and Flowering Genius...



Above, photo highlights of the recent MGM Records convention in Las Vegas, where diskery and its family of labels billed \$4.2 million business. Sixty-seven albums were presented. Shown, from top, left: Mort Nasatir, Mr. and Mrs. Artie Ripp, Art Cass, Neil Bogart, Lenny Scheer; Eric Small, Val Valentin, Nasatir, Jack Maher, Frank Greenwald, Acy Lehman; Henry Stone, Stan Lewis, Henry Hildebrand, Tom White; Nasatir, Jack Devaney; Maher, Greenwald, Lehman, Harvey Cowen, Sol Handwerger; Irv Stimler, Kip Brandon, Nasatir, Gregg Wilson; Ed Lawson, Lee Farley, John Nathan, Bill Medley, Nasatir, Ronald Kluger; Rex Oldfield. Nasatir; Jesse Kaye, Bill Medley, rack jobber, Morrie Price; Lenny Scheer, Julie Budd, Herb Bernstein; Kaye, Clive Fox, White, Jerry Schoenbaum; Jerry Ross, Hal March, Nasatir, Irv Trencher; Gregg Wilson, White, Stan Drayson, Brandon, Al Lewis; Richie Havens, Nasatir, Schoenbaum, friends.

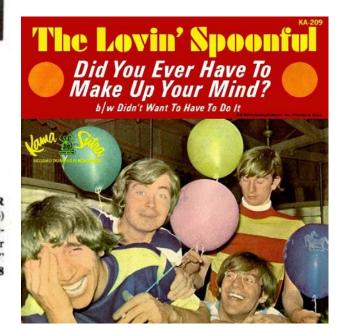
### POP SPOTLIGHTS

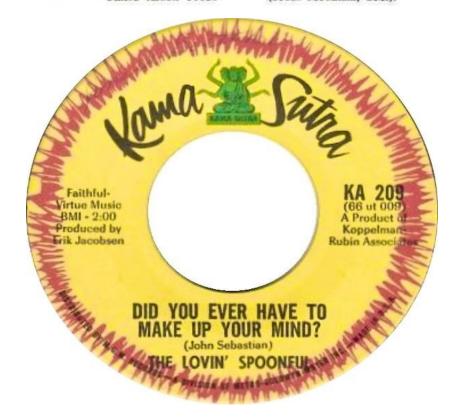
TOP 20 Spotlights—Predicted to reach the top 20 of the Hot 100 Chart

THE LOVIN' SPOONFUL—DID YOU EVER HAVE TO MAKE UP YOUR MIND? (Prod. by Erik Jacobsen) (Faithful, BMI)-Another off-beat winner for the hot group. Easy rockin' ballad should quickly equal "Daydream." Flip: "Didn't Want to Have to Do It" (Faithful, BMI). Kama Sutra 209

BOBBY GOLDSBORO—I KNOW YOU BETTER THAN THAT (Prod. by Jack Gold) (Unart, BMI)-Goldsboro-written tune with solid dance beat rhythm will quickly follow his "It's Too Late" hit. Flip: "When Your Love Has Gone" (Unart, BMI). United Artists 50018

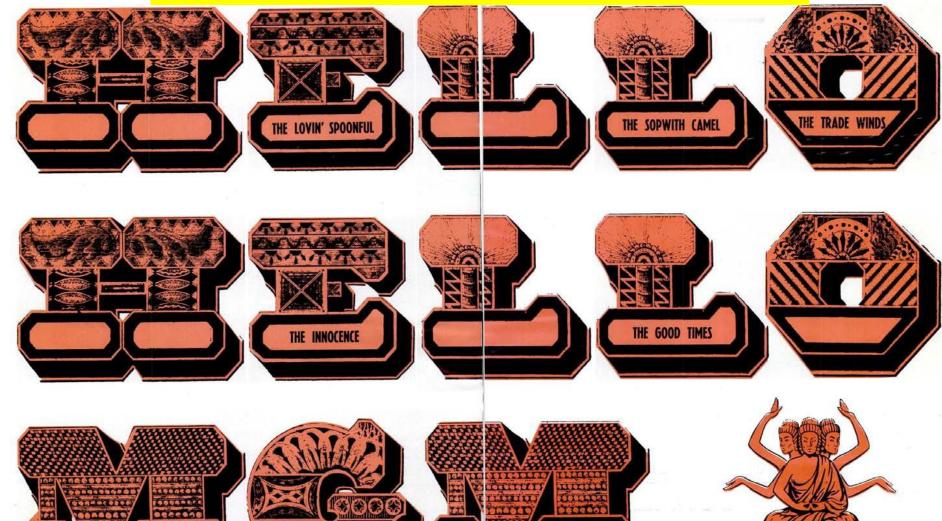
LITTLE ANTHONY & THE IMPERIALS—BETTER USE YOUR HEAD (Prod. by Teddy Randazzo) (South Mountain, BMI)-Group bows on the reactivated label with a sure-shot rocker destined for the top of the chart. Flip: "The Wonder of It All" (South Mountain, BMI). Veep 1228



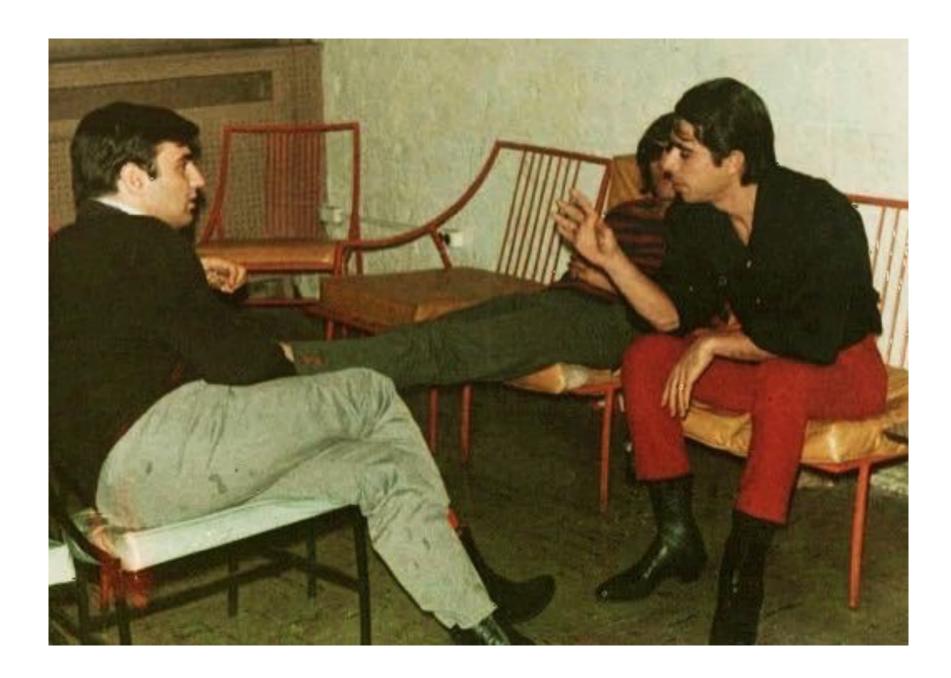




# Despite All My Hits MGM Film & TY Units Would Not Support My Growth Dreams



1650 Broadway, N. Y. C., N. Y.
ARTIE RIPP • HY MIZRAHI • PHIL STEINBERG



Koppelman & Rubin explain to MGM that their Spoonful rights end in 3 years & Kama Sutra' rights end in five. So, K&R and MGM sign a 5-year Spoonful deal starting at the end of my 5-year term.

MGM withholds my royalty payments, so I'd default on my royalty obligations to Koppelman & Rubin.

I CURSED THEM...AND STARTED BUDDAH RECORDS!

A Big Time Broker Friend Bert Kleiner Lent Us The Spoonful Obligations! So No Contract Defaulting!

### Hit Team Continues Thru '75: MGM, Kama-Sutra, Spoonful, Koppelman-Rubin

NEW YORK—A long-term deal, through 1975, will maintain the winning combination of MGM Records, the Kama-Sutra label, its leading attraction, the Lovin' Spoonful, and Koppelman-Rubin Associates, the group's producers.

The deal, said to involve seven figures, will continue MGM's distribution agreement with Kama-Sutra's



FRONT COVER: (Standing, left to right): Eric Jacobsen, Charles Koppelman, Don Rubin, Mort Nasatir, Hy Mizrahi, Artie Ripp, Art Kass; (sitting on table, left to right): Bob Cavallo and Phil Steinberg.

singles and album output. Mort Nasatir, president of MGM, said that the extension of the original agreement marked the "faith MGM, Kama-Sutra and Koppelman-Rubin Associates have in one another's ability to keep pace with the Lovin' Spoonful as the group grows into the most creative musical force in American popular music." Nasatir also pointed to a "wealth of fine young talent" flowing through MGM distribution channels via Kama Sutra, including groups like Sopwith Camel, the Innocence and the Tradewinds.

On hand at the signing (see cut) were Kama Sutra toppers, Artie Ripp, Phil Steinberg, Hi Mizrahi and Art Kass, K-S comptroller; Charles Koppelman and Don Rubin, executive producer Eric Jacobsen and Spoonful manager Bob Cavallo.

The Spoonful were brought to the attention of Kama Sutra two years ago by Koppelman & Rubin. Since their first hit, "Do You Believe in Magic," their sales have reached 4½ million singles and more than 2 million albums. A single, "Summer in the City," is an RIAA-certified million-selling single.

John Sebastian is a member of the group who has emerged as a top writer, having penned the group's hit material and a soundtrack score, "You're a Big Boy Now."

# Record World Dialogue with Artie Ripp 1/22/72

What Happened to Kama Sutra Stable

Record World: What eventually happened to that stable of writers and producers at Kama Sutra?

Ripp: My partners sat down with me and said that I'd blown too much money on them and that we would go down the tube unless we let go of them. At that point we got into an argument with MGM. I had a longer contract with the Spoonful than they had with me. MGM wanted me to extend my agreement for at least the period I had the Spoonful which would have been two more years.

Record World: How did this affect the beginnings of Buddah?

Ripp: I told my partners that I would sign an extension of the Spoonful agreement with MGM if I could start a new record company. So I signed the extension and immediately flew to NARM and came away with \$95,000—\$105,000 in loans from distributors. Buddah Records was then started. Then I decided we had to have our own sales and promotion staff since we weren't going to be distributed by anybody. My associate Ort Kass and I met with Neil Bogart, Marty Thau and Cecil Holmes and concluded a deal with them to come in and manage and direct the affairs of Buddah. Now we also had Kama Sutra which I wanted to base on the West Coast when we became contractually free from MGM in 1970. I hired Bob Krasnow out here. We signed Captain Beefheart and a girl named Penny Nichols and Krasnow took them to Europe to break them.

Record World: When did Buddah begin to distribute other labels?

Ripp: In 1968 no other label was distributing a label they didn't own. Columbia was offered Kama Sutra for distribution and turned them down. I had thought in 1963 that independent label distribution was where the business was going. So Buddah signed up Curtom, Sussex, Hot Wax, Holland-Dozier & Holland's label and T-Neck Records with the Isley Brothers.

(Concluded next week.)

### The Curse Unfolds!

"Lovin Spoonful are busted for drugs, and they give up the dope dealers...

Radio drops all Spoonful records! The Press & Fans Destroy them!!!

Now MGM has a Dead Group and Unhappy label...
Now I start Buddah Records!





Since Bogart's MO was to trade his way up the industry ladder, he didn't have unrealistic expectations at Cameo-Parkway. He accepted that the label was just a stepping-stone to the next move, and he diligently kept his eyes peeled for other opportunities. Through his position at Cameo, Neil made friends with Artie Ripp of Kama Sutra Records. Kama Sutra had a distribution deal with MGM that they weren't happy with. They were looking to start a new label and wanted a fresh creative force in the industry to take on the challenge. Artie Ripp's partner, Art Kass, offered Neil something too good to pass up—his own New York City-based label. Bogart knew his future lay elsewhere, away from Cameo-Parkway. In February 1964 American Bandstand moved from its East Coast home in Philadelphia to Los Angeles, taking away Cameo's proximity and access to an enormous source of promotion and exposure.

### 1650 Elevator Doors Open And I Hear a Piano Playing a Groove,

### A Guy & Girl Sing "Listen While I Play My Green Tambourine"

Door Closes, I Take an Elevator Back, and Close Song and Production Deals...



San Francisco Nights

Gene Sculatti & Davin Seay

St Martins Press

April 1985

Pgs. 143-144, 157-159.



Artie, Neil Bogart and the Lemon Pipers celebrate million-selling "Green Tambourine"

# ARTE PULLS TOGETHER FIRST INDIE LABEL OUTPUT ADVANCE DEAL WITH A 4 & 8 TRACK PRODUCT COMPANY



A BOND OF FAITH is taken by Buddah Records and International Tape Cartridge Corp., as the two companies re-sign a long-term tape duplication and marketing pact. Shown signing are, from left to right, Art Cass (Buddah), Jim Elkins (ITCC), Artie Ripp (Buddah), Jimmy Tyrell (ITCC), Neil Bogart (Buddah) and Paul Adams (ITCC).

# Kama Sutra Creating Catering Concept to Aid Indie Producer

By MIKE GROSS

NEW YORK — The young independent record producers are beginning to look around for ways to get a larger slice of the profit pie. Many of them have been voicing dissatisfaction with the 2 or 3 per cent deals they've been getting from companies handling their prod-

The Lovin Spoonful DIDN'T WANT TO HAVE TO DO IT YOUNGER GIRL DAYDREAM HAVE TO MAKE UP YOUR MIND? DARLING BE HOME YOU DIDN'T HAVE SUMMER IN THE TO BE SO NICE DO YOU BELIEVE RAIN ON THE IN MAGIC? TILL I RUN WITH SIX O'CLOCK

uct and are yearning for their own label operation.

Since it's virtually impossible for the major record companies to set up new labels for every independent producer they deal with, Kama Sutra, an indemusic publishing organization, is planning to step in to fill the gap. The wheels are already in motion for an organizational set-up which will cater to all the needs of the creative independent producers.

According to Artie Ripp, who is partnered in Kama Sutra with Phil Steinberg and Hy Mizrahi, the blueprint calls for the development of record companies and publishing firms in conjunction with the independent producers. Both the disk company and publishing company operations will be built up on the domestic and international level. In addition, Ripp is now working out a plan to set up an independent distribution network to handle the new labels.

8-Track Facility

Ripp also is now holding talks with financial investors for the acquisition or building of an 8-track studio facility. "One of the major hangups to an independent producer," Ripp pointed out, "is the lack of studio space availability. They've got to wait in line for studio time and then they've got to rush through their sessions to make way for those booked right on top of them." It's Ripp's feeling that such delays are detrimental since this is such a fast-moving studio facility," Ripp pointed

(Continued on page 8)

SHA NA NA The Golden Age Of Rock N Roll

## HIT MAKERS AND MEGA STARS CHOSE BUDDAH

# Buddah Distribs Holland's Hot Wax Label

Buddah Records, represented by Artie Ripp, Art Kass, Neil Bogart and Phil Steinberg, has acquired distribution rights in the United States and Canada to the new Hot Wax Records label represented by Eddie Holland. Stagecoach Productions, Inc., is the production wing of Hot Wax.

Fredrick Patmon, of the Detroit law firm of Patmon, Young

& Kirk, and Pete Pryor, of the new law firm of Pryor, Braun, Cashman & Sherman, represented Hot Wax and New York lawyer Richard Roemer represented Buddah in the contract negotiations.

Holland's production and writing credits include such hits as "Where Did Our Love Go?", "I Hear a Symphony," (Continued on page 48)

# Buddah's Deal With Smothers & Damone

NEW YORK-Buddah Records will distribute Smobro Records, the Smothers Brothers' label, and United Talent Records, Vic Damone's label, according to Buddah Vice-President Neil Bogart. The agreement with Tom and Dick Smothers for Smobro Records came as a direct result of the recent Billboard International Music Industry Conference in Nassau. said Neil Bogart, Buddah vicepresident. It was in Nassau that Tom Smothers met with Artie Ripp, president of Kama Sutra,

# Bowmar in Record Field

RALEIGH, N.C. — Bowmar Records has been formed by Bowie G. Martin and Michael D. Collins of Bowmar Productions. In addition to producing for other companies, Bowmar Productions plans 15-20 releases on the new label in the next year.

Product will be generally in the pop field with the first release, slated for this week, by the S.O.U.N.D. (of Tyme). Collins can be contacted at 919—237-6195.

and began negotiations for the Buddah-Smobro. First product will be an album and a single featuring the Sound Foundation.

Both the Sound Foundation product and a new Vic Damone single and album will bow at the Buddah sales meeting in Monticello, N. Y., this week. Damone and other artists will be made available through an agreement between Buddah and Vic Damone and his associate Rudy Durand. Damone said United Talent Records was launched because "I am tired of the attitudes and lack of enthusiasm of some of the major companies toward artists they have classified as good music acts. There's no reason why artists of this nature should have to take a second place in place in promotional and sales campaigns to rock acts." United Talent Records will give these artists a chance. Damone is said to be negotiating with several established artists who feel the same way he does.

Damone's single will be "Don't Let Go." The LP is "Vic Damone Live at the Frontier."

David Caroll of the Smothers Brothers' office in Los Angeles will coordinate the activities of Smobro with Buddah.

# Buddah Gets 650G in Orders at N. Y. Meet

NEW YORK — Buddah Records, a 10-month-old subsidiary of Kama Sutra, held its first national convention at the City Squire Motel here Friday through Sunday (7-9) and reported sales to distributors of \$650,000, most of it from the label's 17-album catalog.

The convention kicked off Friday (7) with the world premiere of the Kastenetz-Katz Singing Orchestral Circus at Carnegie Hall (see separate story). At the business session the following morning, eight albums were introduced. Artists are the Ohio Express, Lemon Pipers, Salt Water Taffy, Zalman Yanovsky. Speakers were Neil Bogart, Buddah general manager; Artie Ripp and Phi

Steinberg, Kama Sutra presidents; Marty Thau, national promotion manager; Cecil Holmes, r&b promotion director; Art Kass, Kama Sutra executive vice-president, and Lennie Evanoff, national sales manager for Team Records, the new Kastenetz-Katz label which Buddah distributes.

Edward Thomas, president of Curtom Records, which Buddah will distribute (Billboard, June 15), announced that Curtis Mayfield will produce for the label. The first Curtom Impressions

are the Ohio Express, Lemon Pipers, Salt Water Taffy, Zalman Yanovsky. Speakers were Neil Bogart, Buddah general Which Buddah Released Which Buddah Released



tion set-up will be introduced at the NATRA convention in Miami in August.

Speakers in the afternoon session included George Lorenz, WBLK, Buffalo; Dick Starr, KYA, San Francisco, and Al Herscovitz, WPRO, Providence.

That evening, Buddah distributors were taken to Roosevelt Raceway. The tote board flashed "Welcome Buddah Records Distributors," and one of the races was dedicated to Buddah Records. Kass and Bogart presented a Buddah trophy to the winning jockey. The evening wound up at the Rolling Stone, where Buddah's new group, the 14-Bridge, was performing.







BUDDAH BRASS, Marty Thau, left, director of pop activity; Neil Bogart, general manager, and Artie Ripp, president of the parent Kama Sutra company, show solidarity at the label's first convention.







HUGH MASEKELA and Stewart Levine of Chisa Productions get together with officials of Kama Sutra and Buddah Records after agreeing to have Chisa Records distributed by Buddah. From left are Art Kass, Kama Sutra executive vice-president; Levine; Masekela; Artie Ripp, Kama Sutra president; Neil Bogart, Buddah general manager; and Phil Steinberg, Kama Sutra president. Masekela will continue as a Uni Records' artist, but will produce with Levine for Chisa.

# Buddah Deals a Hot Singles Hand: Surges to 7th in Sales

· Continued from page 1

agreements in music business history. It was based on personal rapport between Masakela and Levine and all of us at Buddah."

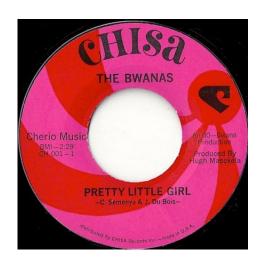
Bogart recalled that it is now a year since Buddah president Artie Ripp formed the company with Phil Steinberg (also president) and \$200,000 borrowed from distributors. "This had to be paid back within six months," said Bogart. "It was. Buddah's first-year revenues will be nearly \$5.8 million. Success like this has created a great morale situation within the company.

"Although we are primarily known for 'bubble gum music' we still aim to hit the mass market, whatever the trend might be—r&b, teen-age music, or underground. Right now we

have a steady seller with Barry Goldberg Reunion; an album featuring the avant-rock organist and composer."

Buddah's staff consists of Steinberg and Ripp, presidents: Bogart and Art Kass, vice-presidents; Marty Thau, director of pop promotions: Cecil Holmes, director of r&b promotions, and a promotion team of Lennie Evenoff, Barry Lane and John Lloyd.

Last month Kama Sutra and Buddah were purchased by Viewflex Inc. for an undisclosed amount based on projected sales of more than \$6 million. Former Kama Sutra president Hy Mizrahi's interest in the company was acquired by Art Kass and Neil Bogart. (Buddah and Kama Sutra, British distribution change—see International section.)







# S. F. 'Hippop' Music Format of Future?

SAN FRANCISCO — Two developments in broadcasting have occurred here which Chet Helms, an entrepreneur of the pop/hippie movement, feels throws a shadow over future national radio programming.

Concurrent with KYA's adoption of the sounds of San Francisco as a regular hourly feature, whereby album cuts by local pop/hippie groups are played, KMPX-FM has begun playing the neophite group's



WRIZ PRESIDENT, Jack Roth, goes over musical score with Vic Damone, right. Damone customized the new signature jingles—launched May 1—for the Miami station, whose transmitter beams from atop pilings six and a half miles off Southern Florida coast. The station features million-seller LP cuts.

music. The FM station, which operates on a limited evening broadcast basis, plays album tracks and unreleased dubs which the groups provide. Former KYA top 40 disk jockey Tom Donahue is the "catalyst," in Helms' opinion, for the interest shown by KMPX-FM in the emerging pop groups.

Helms says young people in San Francisco are supporting KMPX-FM and despite his short experience in show business, he claims that as a result of the San Francisco music, "formula radio will be dead in five years." Artie Ripp, a Kama Sutra partner "unequivocably" agrees, believing that change will occur in radio which will open programming to extended length selections and a return to non-jukebox radio, where personalities will again reign.

This summer's reported massive influx of young people to San Francisco will be exposed to the pop/hippie sounds. This awareness will be brought back to other cities when the young people return home. Helms points out. This should help create requests at local radio levels for airplay for disks by San Francisco groups.

Kama Sutra and Helms' Family Dog Productions are partnered in a recording production affiliation, whereby acts cut at Helms' Avalon Ballroom will be distributed by KS.

# Artie' Philly DJ Friend, Tom Donahue Is The Ears & Music of Today & Tomorrow!





# KS Will Distribute Family Dog Posters

NEW YORK — Kama Sutra has gained distribution rights for Family Dog's psychedelic poster catalog for record servicers and retailers. The brightly colored posters feature rock groups. The posters will be handled by the Special Projects Division of Capitol Records. The posters will retail for a suggested list of \$1 each.





10



# Kama Sutra Ties Up S. F. 'Hippop' Scene

By ELIOT TIEGEL

LOS ANGELES—Kama Sutra has signed an exclusive disk production pact with Family Dog Productions in San Francisco for distribution rights to the pop/hippie groups playing the Avalon Ballroom.

Kama Sutra's Coast office has tapped Chet Helms and his associate, Bob Cohen as producers for the pop market developing in the Bay City, KS is spending \$25,000 to build a recording studio in the Avalon, which will be used to obtain products through Helms-Cohen's company and as a custom recording facility for outside clients.

Artie Ripp, the KS partner who has just moved here from New York and Bob Kransow, the Coast office manager, plan to (Continued on page 8) When I Played "Oh Happy Day" for My Teams, They Told Me JESUS is Only is Played on Sundays at the End of the Radio Dial, NO POP PLAY, EVER!

They also said that I had taken too much acid



Every Deep Pocketed Label Was Bidding for the Rights...

My Little Buddah could not Win in the Upfront Advance Race...

So I made call to Owner Lamont Bench and I told him

That he had an Obligation to Bring

Two of Our Lord's Sons,

Jesus and Buddha Together!...

I Promised him a Global Smash And More

Profits per Sale, which he and his Artist enjoyed at Buddah Did.

# Coast Kama Sutra Rolls in High

LOS ANGELES — Having established a beachhead here in December, Kama Sutra will now begin sending in its troops from New York to create records for its own label and for outside clients.

Bob Krasnow, West Coast office head, said the contemporary production firm has been huddling with Liberty and 20th Century-Fox Records anent producing records for their labels. "We'll set up production deals for their hit artists," Krasnow said. Erik Jacobson, a free-lance producer, has been cutting the Sopwith Camel here. He cuts the Lovin' Spoonful in New York.

Within the next two months, Artie Ripp, Vinnie Poncis and Pete Anders will fly here from New York to get acquainted with Coast-based producers and become familiar with acts working in the LA market.

Krasnow says the company will bring out its writing-producing teams on a rotation basis. The KS concept is patterned on United Artists Pictures, which finances a producer and gives him free rein in developing his product.

(Continued on page 10)

STEREO

BUDDAN PROCESS

BUDDAN WAR RECORDS

Protects & BIOS SOOI



Artie Moves Richard Perry to LA to Produce Bob Krasnow' First Buddah Signing, Captain Beefheart and His Magic Band KS hopes to emulate this thinking by signing a&r men with ideas and acts, financing their labors and distributing their products.

So far, KS has no production deals with any Coast firm. But Krasnow envisons two such based on "selective" deals choice. The firm already cuts records for MGM, UA, Kapp and Columbia. Krasnow says the major labels tend to "bog down" creative a&r men with administrative demands. The KS free-wheeling concept is to give the right a&r man the money and ask that he deliver his best efforts, unencumbered by time deadlines.

#### **Edwards Sessions**

In addition to the Sopwith Camel, actor-singer Vince Edwards was cut here (by Artie Ripp) and these two sessions will shortly be looked upon as the firm's initial Coast efforts.

In line with its expanding operation, the local office will take over an entire floor of office at 7122 Sunset Boulevard in March.

The firm is also planning publishing expansion and will open an office for its Kama Sutra Music in line with this move. Kransow also revealed he is negotiating to buy two publishing firms, one locally the other in San Francisco.

#### Buddah Cuts 'Buck White'

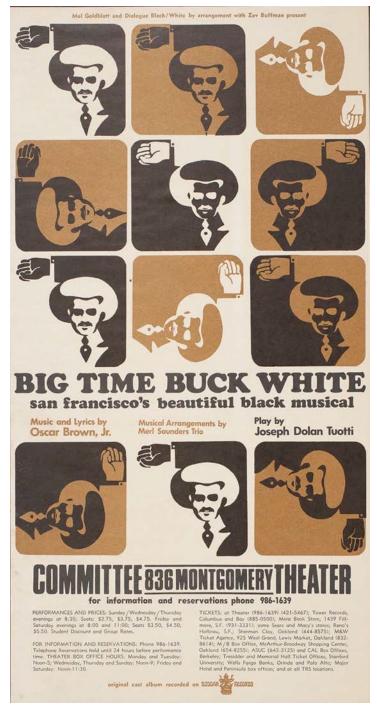
Buddah Records has announced acquisition of the rights as limited partners in the soon-due Broadway production of "Buck White," starring Muhammad Ali (Cassius Clay).

The musical version of the original play by Joseph Dolan Tuotti has music and lyrics by Oscar Brown, Jr. It first won plaudits as staged off-Broadway in non-musical form by Zev Bufman, Ron Rich and Leonard Grant. It was revived for another successful run, in Los Angeles, as a straight dramatic production.

The musical version was launched in San Francisco a year ago when it came to the attention of independent record consultant, writer and radio personality Tom Donahue, and Cynthia Badie, Buddah's West Coast Regional Promotion Manager. The pair immediately notified Buddah executive Artie Ripp, Phil Steinberg, Art Kass and Neil Bogart, who jetted to San Francisco and agreed to back the show for a New York engagement, in co-production with Zev Bufman.

The original cast album will also be on Buddah Records.

"Buck White" will be presented at the George Abbott Theater, 152 W. 54 St. There will be two weeks of previews, Nov. 18-30. The opening is scheduled for Tuesday evening, Dec. 2.



#### GEORGE ABBOTT THEATRE

ZEV BUFMAN

In Association with HIGH JOHN PRODUCTIONS

presents

MUHAMMAD ALI a/k/a

## BUCK WHITE

A New Musical

HERSCHELL BURTON TED ROSS DAVID MOODY EUGENE SMITH RON RICH CHARLES WELDON

Music and Lyrics by OSCAR BROWN, JR.

Book Adapted by OSCAR BROWN, JR.

From An Original Play by JOSEPH DOLAN TUOTTI

Musical Arrangements by MIKE TERRY & MERL SAUNDERS

Musical Direction by MERL SAUNDERS

Scenery Designed by
EDWARD BURBRIDGE
Costumes Designed by
JEAN PACE

Lighting by
MARTIN ARONSTEIN
General Manager
ROBERT KAMLOT

Staged by OSCAR BROWN, JR. and JEAN PACE

Dramatic Play Originally Presented in New York by ZEV BUFMAN In Association with RON RICH & LEONARD GRANT

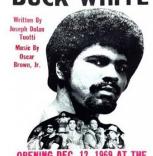
Original Los Angeles Dramatic Production by RON RICH

Musical Version Originally Presented in San Francisco by MEL GOLDBLAT AND DIALOGUE BLACK/WHITE COMPANY

ORIGINAL CAST ALBUM BY BUDDAH RECORDS







MUHAMMAD AL
DEBUTING IN HIS NEW BROADWAY MUSICAL

# Buddah Meet Chalks Up \$1.5 Mil. In Sales; 33 New LP's Spotlighted

#### Continued from page 3

During a seminar Aug. 26, George Burns, national programming director of Pacific and Southern Broadcasting, said that the record promotion man was going to gain more in stature because of the handicap the music director at a radio station faces by having more and more product coming out each week. The fact that a record is

No. 15 in Spartanburg or other cities is becoming more and more "irrevelent," he said. He spoke of playing several new records without previous sales data to go on and said much of his current playlist featured records like this. Joe Fields of Buddah told of the broad range of promotion necessary on albums today because no one cut was being played like a single.

Jerry Boulding, new national program director for the Sonderling Broadcasting chain, told the distributors there were a lot of mistakes made by promotion men who "think soul music is black music." Tom Donahue, former program director and disk jockey now in the record business, spoke of progressive rock radio being increasingly important for exposing records.





IN A SERIES OF distributor meetings, Buddah Records executives map out sales plans and book orders. Facing, from left, Joe Fields, head of LP sales and promotion; Neil Bogart, vice-president of Buddah; and label attorney Joe Zynczek. They converse with T.D.C. executives. At left, Marty Thau, national promotion director, chats with David Lieberman, center, of Lieberman Distributors, Minneapolis, and Kama Sutra Records executive Artie Ripp, right.

#### "Artie' Four Temptations Did Shows with Johnny Maestro When He Was in the Crests"



FOR WHOM THE BRIDGE TOLLS—Artie Ripp and Johnny Maestro stand at the center of a ten-man supporting cast at the recent introductory party which offered press and industry people a preview of the Brooklyn Bridge. Maestro and the ten make up the newest addition to Ripp's roster of artists with Kama Sutra & Buddah Records.







BROOKLYN BRIDGE BLAST: Buddah Records and Action Talents recently joined to host a celebratory party at Cheetah for the Brooklyn Bridge and their smash single, "The Worst That Could Happen." In top photo, the Bridge is honored as the first act to enter the "Cheetah Rock Hall of Fame," as a gold record is set into the sidewalk by (front, l. to r.): Dan Daniel and Jack Spector, WMCA-New York deejays; Johnny Maestro of the Bridge; and Neil Bogart, Buddah vice president and general manager. Producer Wes Farrell is between Maestro and Bogart; the "cowpoke" in the rear is Artie Ripp, president of the Kama Sutra Group. In center photo, Bogart receives a bronze plaque "thank you" from Maestro and the Bridge. In bottom pic, Maestro reads the inscription on Farrell's award as the producer looks on.

Kama Sutra Partners get Paydays! Mizrahi & Ripp Can Finally be Rid of Each other! Artie and Phil are Paper Millionaires and give Hy' Shares go to Neil Bogart & Art Kass. Neil shows his Selfish Colors & Gives his guys Marty and Cecil Nothing!

# Viewlex Buys KS, Buddah for Stock

NEW YORK—Buddah Records and the Kama Sutra label—together with record production and music publishing affiliates—have been purchased for an undisclosed amount of common stock by Viewlex Inc.

Viewlex is a corporation in the educational field, manufacturing audio-visual aids. However, it recently purchased three record pressing plants — Sonic Recorded Products, Holbrook, L. I.; Allentown Record Co., Allentown, Pa., and the American Record Co., Owosso, Mich. In addition, Viewlex has the Globe Record sleeve plant in Long Island.

The Kama Sutra and Buddah operations will retain their present staff and locations with Artie Ripp and Phil Steinberg continuing as presidents. However, Hy Mizrahi leaves the company to work in films, record production and music publishing.

Mizrahi has formed Angel Productions, in partnership with actor Vince Edwards, to enter the film producing field. He has also formed Remember Records with the Year 2000 group as its first release and also expects to record Edwards.

Big Bucks Music, Miz Music
—for music publishing—and Hy
Mizrahi Productions—for both
record and film production—
have also been formed.

The purchase of Kama Sutra by Viewlex was based on projected sales of over \$6 million and a profit of \$500,000 for Kama Sutra during the year ending May 31, 1969. Payout will be made over the next five years, based on an earning formula.

AUGUST 17, 1968, BILLBOARD

### Kama-Sutra Prod. Is Developing A Total Entertainment Concept

NEW YORK — Kama-Sutra Productions, which in its two years of existence has moved to the forefront among independent production companies, has renewed its contract with MGM Records. In the fiscal year just ended, K-S produced seven records for MGM, five of which hit the top five in the Hot 100, and two of which hit the top 50.

The producer also has contracts in force with Columbia, Kapp, Mercury and Amy-Mala.

While independent production is still the bread and butter of the firm, Kama-Sutra is developing what it terms a "total entertainment" concept. This includes film production for TV and movies, TV commercials, publishing, the purchase of masters from other independent producers, as well as the operation of its own label, Kama-Sutra Records.

Kama-Sutra has completed the soundtrack for a featurelength film entitled "The Plastic Dome of Norma Jean." The script is complete and shooting is expected to get under way soon. The publishing arm also owns the music to a soon-to-bereleased, and as-yet-unnamed feature film which features the Lovin' Spoonful, K-S's top act. A third film production, to be used as a 20-minute short, is in production. It will be a documentary on the Kama-Sutra operation.

K-S is already in the TV film commercial business, with beer advertisements featuring the Good Times and the Critters. The theory is that these commercials are aimed at a young adult audience, and music which appeals to young adults will perform the most effective selling job.

At the executive as well as at the artistic level, Kama-Sutra's accent is on youth. The three presidents — Artie Ripp, Hi Mizrahi and Phil Steinberg —are all in their mid-20's. Frank Mell, the vice-president, is the senior citizen. He's 31.

The firm was founded two years ago when Steinberg and Mizrahi formed a small record label. They were joined by Ripp, who left his job with Premier Albums, and by Mell, who operated a music publishing firm at the time.

At the outset, the partners decided that they would not just produce masters and look for buyers, but they would get long-term contracts with record companies and develop their artists in an orderly fashion.

Promotion is one of the keys to artist development, and Kama-Sutra doesn't rely on the label to take care of this vital chore.

For example, K-S doesn't merely attempt to hit the major markets with a new release. When the Lovin' Spoonful come out with a release, records are sent to some 1,200 radio stations and they are followed up with telegrams, telephone calls and letters.

Disk jockeys are told to telephone collect for interviews with the artists. These interviews are taped, then sent to the jockeys.

Radio promotion is worked on a "hub of the wheel" concept. If the record doesn't get played in the major city, known as the hub, the record is plugged in surrounding s maller cities. Eventually, the major city must play the record.

Film shorts are made of Kama-Sutra acts, then they are mailed to local television stations. Toy Buddhas (the Kama-Sutra symbol) are sent to radio and television stations.

Contests are also used to promote artists. One talent contest, worked with New York's Channel 47-UHF, drew 2,500 acts who competed for a Kama-Sutra contract. Videotapes of the winning act were sent to TV stations all over the world.

The most important aspect of the Kama-Sutra operation, however, is the selection of recording talent. And whether the act will come up with an initial hit single is not the prime consideration.

The visual as well as the vocal attraction is taken into consideration. The prospective artist is sized up with regard to his potential in live performances, radio and television appearances, and possible film exposure.

The producer assigned to the artist does more than supervise the recording sessions. He's responsible for the artist's image—how he dresses, how he acts in public, and his development as a showman.

Purpose of all this is to develop the artist on a sustaining basis, as an album seller, and as a potential TV act.

In the fiscal year just ended, Kama - Sutra - produced singles have sold to the extent of 7,000,000, according to Steinberg. The figure includes masters produced for other labels, and records under the Kama-Sutra logo. The latter are distributed by MGM.

For the rest of 1966, increased emphasis will be placed on film production for movies and TV, although the independent production activity will still account for the bulk of the revenue.

#### Ashley Famous Takes on Acts Of Kama Sutra

NEW YORK — Kama Sutra has signed a three-year representation agreement with Ashley Famous Agency. It marks the first time that the record and independent production firm has affiliated itself exclusively with any booker.

The deal was negotiated by Al Schweitman of AFA and Hy Mizrahi, Artie Ripp and Phil Steinberg of Kama Sutra.

Frank Mell, Kama Sutra vicepresident, said that the contract also covers artists managed by Cama Deva Management. He added that the contract also covers writers and producers.

Ed Rubin, AFA concert head, pointed out that due to prior commitments, the Lovin' Spoonful and the Shangri-Las are not covered in the contract.

Rubin said he regards the deal as a major step forward in AFA's move to enter the teen market. Kama Sutra artists will be represented in TV, movies, concerts and commercials.

I Hired Jack Hook, Freed' Mgr. Who Allowed Me Back Stage at Freed' Paramount Shows To Run Cama Deva. He Befriended Me and Was Key to My Education, Fun and Industry Links...

#### Artie has a Public Company & Visionary Owner!...Unfortunately His Visionary Man Dies...

# Rock And Roll Revival



of rock and roll. Sha Na Na is here. What is Sha Na Na? Well, it is everything you remember from the Fabulous Fifties like gold lame suits and white socks and hair cream. Sha Na Na is also rock and roll music presented the way it really was and still is by a group of twelve young rock musicians eager to take you on a trip back in time. Sha Na Na is the second to last on the bill at Woodstock, just before Hendrix, which means Sha Na Na is well worth waiting for.

To say any more would be spoiling the surprise Listen to the album, see the group live.



In addition to Sha Na Na, Buddah is concentrating on bringing back the sound of goodtime, happy rock and roll through two artists: The Tokens and Lou Christie. Both of these artists enjoyed incredible suc-

P.S.

The Entire

**Buddah Staff** 

And A Happy,

Happy New Year

Cynthia Badie, Buck Reingold,

BACK ROW: Marty Thau, Cecil Holmes,

A Merry Christmas

Wishes You

cess during the rock and roll era and both are now back on the charts with Buddah singles. Lou Christie's latest, "Are You Getting Any Sunshine," follows his smash, "I'm Gonna Make You Mine." The Tokens, who introduced the concept of vocal harmonies to pop music with, "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" in 1961, are back with "She Lets Her Hair Down." Both The Tokens and Lou Christie herald a new era in popular music. led by Buddah, with their happy, enjoyable, honest



#### Good Music

Another facet of Buddah is good music from artists of the caliber of Kole and Param and Vic Damone. Along with loan Rivers whose first comedy album for Buddah "The Next To The Last Joan Rivers Album," is a best seller, Kole and Param and Vic Damone are bringing Buddah Records to the attention of a new record buying audience.

In keeping with the belief in artistic freedom that has led to Buddah distributing a variety of labels from I-Neck to Curtom, Vic Damone has established his United Talent Records with Buddah. Eventually, through United Talent, Buddah hopes to attract the very best in good music to record for them in the belief that artists of Vic Damone and Kole and Param's caliber should never have to take a second place in promotion, sales, and airplay to anything else that's happening on the current pop music scene

#### Hot Wax

Known throughout the world as a talented producer and songwriter, Eddie Holland chose Buddah Records to distribute his first independent label. Hot Wax Records. And so far, the choice has proven to be a wise one. Combining incredible talent with Buddah promotion, Hot Wax has become one of the country's hottest new labels with artists such as The Honey Cone, The Flaming Ember, and 100 Proof attaining chart success with their initial releases. Along with T-Neck and Curtom, Hot Wax represents a new breed of r&b record company, functioning as an independent but working hand-in-hand with Buddah on distribution, promotion

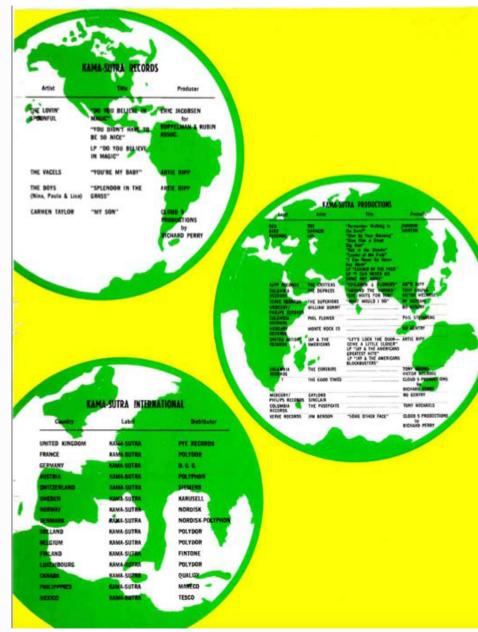
As you can see, Buddah Records is many things to many people. If you dig r&b, Buddah is The Isley Brothers, The Impressions, Baby Cortez, Edwin Haw-kins, The Honey Cones, The Flaming Ember, The Five Stairsteps & Cubie Nolan Chance, among others. If you're into rock history, Buddah is The First Generation. If new music is your groove, find yourself a little time to enjoy Melanie to Motherlode or The Sound Foundation or Privilege or Barry Goldberg. If you love good time music Buddah is Super K Records and The Ohio Express and the 1910 Fruitgum Co. The variety of musical experiences is available to you on Buddah Records and Buddah distributed labels which is the way they planned it.

These are the new and old acts and more excitement building for 1970—The Buddah History—It's Just A



Artie Ripp Phil Steinberg Art Kass Neil Bogart Presidents Vice Presidents





My First London Trip, Chasing Yes, Joe Cocker, Jethro Tull, Rejection, Rejection!
Then Blessed with Signing Jimmy Hendrix' Only Production, Eire Apparent



# MIDEM Success Resounding

#### By JEAN GRIFFITHS

Midem 1969 is at an end but the results will be felt for a long time to come, via deals and contacts made.

A pattern is now emerging after this third year. It is no longer a new annual event; it is now a familiar one. All day and every day the Martinez Hotel was a hive of activity and a babble of at least 10 languages.

Familiar faces were everywhere. Bob Dylan's manager, Albert Grossman, attended for the first few days and made quite a visual hit with the local population. Artie Ripp of Kama Sutra and Buddah wore his cowboy hat for every occasion. Eddie Barclay, head of Barclay Records, made his company's presence felt. He had a yacht

moored to the jetty outside the Martinez Hotel and one evening took over the Playboy Club and hosted a tremendous party which went on well into the late hours of the morning.

Press receptions were abundant for the 5th Dimension, Sergio Mendes and Brasil '66, Joe Tex, Mary Hopkin, Maurice Chevalier and Aphrodite's Child.

The Galas were much more enjoyable this year, and they were kept to a durable length. Jean-Pierre Aumont proved to be a very entertaining compere with the difficult task of introducing acts from all over the world.

(Continued on page 33)

Artie Smiles as He Got Melanie on Paris' Olympia Stage: The Audience Is Captivated By Her Powerful Voice & Sensitive Soul And She Explodes Overnight All Over France



## **Europe! US!. TV! Film! Now Yegas Where I Meet Bill Layne**

#### **Who Booked Elvis into his International Hotel Theater**



BRUNO, NEW CAPITOL STAR, seals recording deal via four-way handshake with Capitol's V.P. Head A&R Voyle Gilmore, Pres. Alan W. Livingston, and producer Artie Ripp.

#### **Tony Bruno Slated** For Vegas Showing

HOLLYWOOD-Former record producer and now Buddah Record artist Tony Bruno has been booked in for a four-week stint at the Frontier nitery in Las Vegas.

Arrangements firmed by Sy Samuels with Frank Melvin and Artie Ripp, arranged for an estimated \$10,000 weekly for Bruno and his 18 piece orchestra. The figure was cited as unusual for an artist represented only by his first LP and single, "Small Town, Bring Down."

The engagement begins Sept. 20.

#### Talent

#### 1968. The year of Bruno: Dynamic New Song Stylist

the most exciting new talent dis-coveries in years, Tony Bruno's burgeoning career takes off in a blaze of glory this month with the release January 2 of the singer's first album for Capitol

Those who have previewed the Bruno LP-and the Bruno talent-acclaim the sensual song stylist as "a unique singer com-bining virility and pathos"— "that rare phenomenon, a genuine personality with the ability to sing anything in the style-book and make it belong to nobody else but Bruno!' Rave advance notices would indicate that the New Year will also belong to Bruno!

So far the facts speak for themselves. Last October Bruno opened a four-week engagement at Las Vegas' Frontier Hotel with a repertoire of Bruno-penned songs no one had ever heard before. Reception was sensational. He promises the same for his gig at the "hungry i" set to open early this year. He has already completed this program.

#### Hit song writer

Bruno, whose voice electrified hard-bitten Las Vegas in the first night club appearance of his career, takes success as a matter of course since he found his of course since he touth his niche in the music world. The first song he ever wrote made the national Top 20 list. His Frontier Hotel debut won him a big-money Capitol recording

contract.
At 27, Bruno has the world by the tail and a brilliant future both as a star-caliber entertainer and as a talented song writer Says the new Capitol star, "I've never really failed at anything. Except my first 51 odd jobs."

Until he was 23, the closest Bruno ever got to a musical career was singing in the cabs of various livestock and oil truck-and-trailer rigs he piloted around the seamy outskirts of Brooklyn. The chain of successes started The chain of successes started with Bruno's meeting singer Chuck Jackson, who spotted young Tony's talent and asked Bruno to write a song for him. The song was "Tell 'em I'm not Home;" and it was an immediate

#### **High School Dropout**

Who is Bruno? What is he like? For openers, he's a high school dropout. For clinchers, at the age of 27 he made his first stage appearance. At Las Vegas' Frontier Hotel. At \$5,000 a

The soul of Bruno is a com-plex one, born in fire, tempered by trouble. He admits being a misfit for over 20 years. He



BRUNO, NEW CAPITOL STAR, seals recording deal via four-way handshake with Capitol's V.P. Head A&R Voyle Gilmore, Pres. Alan W. Livingston, and producer Artie Ripp.

he did that, too. And with

Feeling the need for instru-mental knowledge and, typically, not knowing he couldn't learn to play, Bruno mastered the piano, guitar, trombone and clarinet. He now plays all four instru-

ments with amazing dexterity.

"I sleep all day and write all night," Bruno says. "I wake up about five in the afternoon, fool

about five in the atternoon, fooi around awhile, eat a little and go to work. I get my inspiration, if that's what you want to call it, watching television without sound. I watch the old flicks, and because I can't hear what they're

about, I make up my own story and that's how I get my ideas."

Bruno never left New York City until he came west for the

"It's better in New York where TV is on all night. But I'm get-ting used to it in California."

first time eight months ago.

notable success.

couldn't stay in school. He couldn't stay with a job. Not that he didn't want to; he had 51 tries including plumbing, truck-driving, messenger-running and driving, messenger-running and painting eyebrows on doll's

He was an obvious candidate for Hippieville. He didn't go "because that route is an escape for hollow people. The sincere hippies you can count on the fin-gers of one hand and you never see them in the papers. The rest are coat-tail waggers. Hippie-ism is nothing but a big excuse, a hang-up, a national cop-out. It wasn't for me. I love people

That Bruno also loves music is evident in his sensual singing style. And his honest feelings about life are clearly shown in the lyrics he pens.

#### Producer

Bored with banal songs, Bruno eventually started writing his own. With no formal training or experience, he not only wrote songs but also produced them with Maxine Brown doing vocals.

Later, Bruno formed a com-pany called Nomar Records, organized his own distribution organized his own distribution setup and hit the market with his first recording by singer Maxine Brown. In eight months, the record grossed a quarter of a million dollars. To prove this was no mere fluke, Bruno's second Maxine Brown release, "Funny," sold 700,000 copies.

sold 700,000 copies.
"I didn't know I couldn't do
it," says Bruno, "so I did it."
Bruno didn't know he couldn't write songs for Jack Jones and Louis Armstrong either; nor that he couldn't produce records, or create television commercials for General Mills and Bufferin-so

#### Bruno to expose 3-chord gimmick

Several top tunesmiths will be caught with their chords down when soul-singing tough-guy Tony Bruno exposes their work-bags at his appearance in San Francisco's "hungry i" early in

the year.

Bruno, not one to pull a punch when there's a chance to throw one, says he will uncork an R&R medley of 10 Number One Hits all written with the same chords. "And only three chords at

that," says Bruno. "The same chords in the same progression

-composed in the same metre. A famous songwriter first got the idea from an old P.D. tune, 'La Bomba';'

Noting that any singer could belt all 10 tunes against the same track, Bruno adds, "They've grossed over three million dol-lars. Not bad for just changing



#### CAPITOL LAUNCHES **BRUNO INTO SURE-**FIRE HIT ORBIT

Capitol Records, sighting straight up the charts, launch their mercurial new star, Bruno, this month with a giant promo-tional thrust. An ex-Brooklyn truck driver, who couldn't hold a job until he found himself in the music business, Bruno apppears bound for an apogee in the big time.

"hungry i" on a date soon to be



Countdown on Capitol's push for the volatile singer's new album, "An Original by Bruno," begins with the star's engage-ment at San Francisco's new

The Bruno LP is scheduled The Bruno LP is scheduled to hit the market January 2. Seven of its songs were written by Bruno. Arrangements are by Artie Butler, also a hot new talent and long-time Bruno buddy. Long-time friend and producer Artie Riph describes the LP as having "distinct adult appeal with strong overtones of the teen scene."



WHEN BRUNO SINGS...YOU LISTEN!"-is reaction of public already familiar with sensational soul-style of new Capitol vocal star, Tony Bruno. Capitol plans all-out promotion for singer's debut LP, "An Original by Bruno," set for release Jan. 2. Album's pre-release reviews indicate Hit status is in offing for Bruno, not only for vocals but also for 7 Bruno-penned songs in the set.

#### Bruno "HE-male" ... by ARMY ARCHERD

"An Original by Bruno" Capitol ST-2857

This is one of the most visual recordings ever heard.

Tony Bruno is a new breed in performers—both on record and "live." He lets himself go completely and confidently like no one since the days of the great Jolson. His animal-like mag-netism and emotionalism form a trademark that will distinguish him from any predecessors as well as the contemporary crop of male singers. He is a HE-male

Tony Bruno is in the tradition Tony Bruno is in the tradition of a long line of Italian-descended singers. But, he is also unlike any of his "countrymen." He can handle anything from Disieland to Soul with equal vigor. He has the vocal sex appeal of Dean Martin with the rhythm of Frankie Laine, plus the property of the coul of Low Rawls, and the cry of a Johnnie Ray.

Yet, he is none of these. Add all the similarities to these greats and you have a new great-Tony Bruno.

"It figures that a guy who grew up the hard way would know whereof he sings. Tony proves it herein. The next best thing to seeing this two-fisted singer in action "live" is this first, great Capitol album by Tony Bruno. In addition, he is backed by the best musicians in the business from the sweetest strings to the torridest trumpets and unbeat-

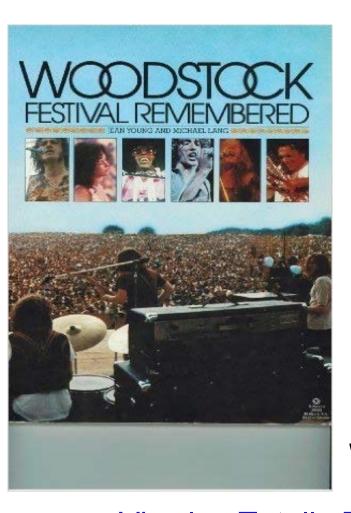
able beat. With the downbeat of "Yellow Bird," he launches with a Dixie-land beat that is infectious— sexy as a Dean Martin song, with sexy as a Dean Martin song, with a vocal humor of Armstrong. He segues smoothly to a bossa nova with "Somewhere There's Someone," showing from the start, we ain't heard nothin' yet. Bruno is a unique singer who Bruno is a unique singer who combines great strength with a personal pathos that is never questioned. He has accuracy of style, as well as tone. He never only the word He sings soul with a heart and proves it with "Hard to Get a Thing Called Love." And we guarantee reactions when he sings "quiver" and "shiver" in "The Grass Will Sing For You."

Only a guy as obviously mas-culine as Brooklyn's Tony Bruno could also be as romantically convincing. He's unafraid to sing the lyrics as they were originally created-out of personal

For a "tomorrow sound," Tony's "Yesterday" is the most powerful version we've ever heard. Many who hear him sing this contemporary standard will, for the first time, get the full impact of this classic. Lest weimpact of this classic. Lest we-or Tony-get too maudlin, fol-lowing is an up-tempo'd "What's Yesterday" sung with a smile— and a surprise never before tried on record!

Only a gutsy, as well as talented guy could tackle a song owned by another. Tony takes on "That Lucky Old Sun" and gives it his own, special brand of vocal rays. And, as a finale it's fitting he revives "Il Be Seeing You" with a feeling it never knew. He gives a promise that we'll be seeing - and hearing you. Tony Bruno. Soon. Often.

-ARMY ARCHERD



Artists Artie had at Woodstock

Burt Sommer, Melanie, Sha Na Na, John Sebastian...

I Write a Personal
Check for \$25,000 to
Michael Lang and
Artie Kornfeld,
An Advance
for All
Woodstock Rep Rights..



Viewlex Totally Rejects My Woodstock Rights Deal "Sex & Drugs are Black Marks for any Educational Company"

...That Was the End of the Road for Me...

Now Artie had to figure a way to escape his home that's become his handcuffs and prison.

I must find a multimedia company who'll give me total creative control, fund new discoveries and support the artists marketing needs as well as welcome my creativity in all media...

## Artie Ripp' Chosen Ones Become His Assassins

# Bogart, Kass Buddah-KS Co-Chiefs

NEW YORK — Neil Bogart and Art Kass have been named co-presidents of the Buddah-Kama Sutra Group, following a realignment of the company.

Ben Peirez, president of Viewlex, the parent company, reported that Artie Ripp had resigned his post as president to pursue other interests and that Phil Steinberg, co-president, had been elected consultant to Viewlex and the Buddah-Kama Sutra Group. He'll devote much of his time to research of sight and sound techniques and consult Buddah-Kama Sutra on its international affairs.

Bogart and Kass previously served as vice presidents of the music operation. No immediate changes in the current setup are expected, Peirez stated.

#### Ripp in Paramount Pact



Artie Ripp flew into New York last week to sign the contract for his exclusive record production/music publishing deal with Paramount Records and Famous Music. Ripp, pen in hand, is flanked by (left to right) Famous Publishing VP Marvia Cane; Famous Music Corp. President William P. Gallagher; Gulf+Western President David Judelson; and Famous Music Exec VP Jack Wiedenmann.

I was finally in business with a major Film, TV Studio who would listen to me to grow market share and stars! I designed a way to maximize profits on global music sales for myself, the artist and producer!

I licensed USA tape rights, a separate vinyl fee deal for distribution, promo manufacturing and marketing!

A Ten Albums Per Year,

Three Year Firm Commitment...

### **Ampex-Family Tie**



William L. Slover, Ampex Vice President and general manager of Ampex Music Division (AMD), signs an extension of a long term tape licensing agreement for manufacturing and marketing Family Productions recordings. Looking on are Family Productions president, Artie Ripp (seated), Mort Drosnes, AMD business manager (left), and Cohen. AMD national Jules marketing manager. The contract gives Ampex the exclusive right to market Family Productions recordings in the U.S. and Canada.

# Family Ripp To Ph'gram World Deal

LONDON — Family Productions Inc., the Los Angeles-based disk production enterprise headed by Artie Ripp, has signed a deal with Phonogram International for the latter to represent it for the world outside the U.S. and Canada.

Ripp left the Kama Sutra/Buddah organization in August 1970 to form Family Productions. He intends to concentrate on the U.K. market in breaking new acts as a consequence of achieving success here first in the past in several cases, notably Melanie.

Family acts include Billy Joel, who will take part in the Great Western Express festival, Mama Lion, Burton and Cunico, and Kyle.

Phonogram International will distribute Family's record and tape product worldwide, apart from North America where Famous Music and Ampex handle disks and tape respectively in the States, and Quality Records distributes in Canada.

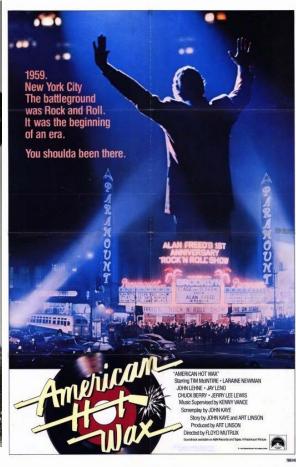


# WINS Radio Triangle was Home to Alan Freed' Rock N Roll show





Gulf & Western Bldg. built on WINS Site is now home to Paramount Pictures & TV and Paramount Records Refurbished building is now Trump International Hotel.



Artie' First Film Acting Job was In American Hot Wax. The casting director asks Artie to do a voice over in an office who's huge windows face directly at every place in Queens Artie Lived he was looking back at where my dreams started escaped Artie Finally Buys his own studio facility, an 8-track studio with a great sound Plus, other production, lounge & business rooms.

Fidelity Sound in Studio City Becomes Go to Studio as it as Owned by a proven Hitmaker and Talent Finder With the Top-Level Music Relationships.

Fidelity attracts and serviced each Client while Artie sought to develop the ones with the Magic

# My \$25,000 Personal Loan at Woodstock to Michael Lang and Artie Kornfeld Brings Great Rewards!!!





Michael Brings Me Billy Joel, Artie Kornfeld Brings Me Burt Sommer

Jim Judelson G&W President wanted to have the kind of success that G&W Chairman Charles Bludorn enjoyed With Love Story and The Godfather with his baby Paramount Records. Jim took me on the private elevator to every G&W Unit Floor and Told me I'd Help make his Paramount Records A Success...



GOOD SHOW-Billy Joel has a word with Gulf and Western executive, Jim Judelson following his performance at a press party at Mediasound Studio. The party celebrated the release of Joel's first solo album on Family Records. Smiling in between the two is Artie Ripp who produced the album. On the left is road manager Brian Ruggles. Smiling on the right is Famous Music president, Tony Martell. Family Records is distributed by Famous Music which is a Gulf and Western company.

Preview:

You had to be there to really appreciate it, but Billy Joel was one of the founding fathers of Long Island rock'n roll. Growing up in Hicksville, L.I. is as bad as the name sounds, and it leaves one with two choices: either sensitize, or anesthesize. Billy Joel chose the former, and became a musician.

Though even he might complain about the music of those days, the cultural contributions of Billy's first bands—the obscure Lost Souls, and the slightly more renowned Hassles-can't be denied. Even if the music wasn't anything spectacular, it was bands like these that gave Long Island kids a sense of identity, even cultural perspective through their synthesis of English rock styles and the Island's own adaptation of rhythm'n blues which had its greatest success with groups like the Young Rascals and the Vagrants.

So even though Billy Joel's a singer-songwriter who writes autobiographical, often confessional songs on his piano, he's no latent folkie. He became a solo artist after a short stint as half of Attila, whose album can now be found for 29¢ in better Kresge's

everywhere.

**Billy Joel** 

Sometime after the demise of that band. Billy recorded an album named Cold Spring Harbor, which got good reviews and generated friendly response from those who heard it. Since then Billy Joel has transplanted himself to southern California. Now Billy lives in an isolated mountain house high over Malibu, which is as close as California gets to emulating the North Shore of Long Island.

Billy's also been writing songs, some of which we'll all get to hear on his forthcoming Columbia album. Probable titles include "Captain Jack," a song that deadeyes the weak personalities of people hung on drugs. "Billy the Kid" is another one, which one might call an allegory inspired by Copeland's Appalachian Suite. Other titles include "Worst Comes to Worst," "Rosalinda" and "Piano Man."

The album is being in recorded at Devonshire Studios in Los Angeles, with Billy of course on piano, with backing from some of L.A.'s top session men. Michael Stewart, whose recently done Alex Harvey, John Stewart and Joy of Cooking, is producing, with Michael Omartian arranging. Look for it around the end of October.

#### Sandy Gibson Joins Family



Record World's Tony Lawrence and Sandy Gibson.

■ HOLLYWOOD—In a major executive assignment, Artie Ripp has named Sandy Gibson to head the Creative Services Department for his Family Records being distributed by Famous Music Corp.



beef in a meat locker). Cold Spring Harbor bombed, mostly because the recordings were sped up in the mastering process, leaving Joel sounding like a Muppet Baby.

But if Ripp had no luck in cutting an album, he certainly knew how to cut a deal. Though he parted with Gulf + Western, he continued to keep Joel signed to his production-and-publishing company. When the president of Columbia Records, Clive Davis, in one of his last acts before being fired amid charges of misappropriating funds, offered Joel a contract, it proved impossible to exclude Ripp.

"You wanna say Artie Ripp had a very strong contract?," Ripp asks today. "There was nothing wrong with it, man. If there was something legally wrong with my position, Columbia Records and Billy Joel would have had me the fuck out of there in a day. You think Clive Davis wanted me there? Or that Columbia wanted to pay me what they had to pay me?" Their recommendation, Ripp says, would have been to "shoot the cocksucker."

Ripp, who says he spent \$450,000 leveloping Joel, won't divulge the letails of what it cost Joel to buy out his contract. But it was almost certainly n the tens of millions. According to the Recording Industry Association of America, Joel's first album for Columbia, Piano Man, sold more than 3 million copies in the United States ilone, but other sources show that Joel nimself realized less than \$8,000. Even ifter Joel regained control of his pubishing, Ripp continued to benefit, geting a piece of each of Joel's albums through his 1986 release, The Bridge. "I ove this guy from my heart and soul - and pocket," says Ripp.

Artie Ripp Invested \$450,000
In Billy, for Living Costs, USA,
Puerto Rico Festival and
European Promotion Tour
Where he was Reconnected
with his Father in Germany.
Billy had to sell millions for
Artie to recoup and if he didn't
Artie lost all of his investment.
As it was not a personal loan!

#### WHO IN THE WORLD

Billy Joel, the exciting new performer from Cold Spring Harbor, appeared at the three day Mar Y Sol Pop Festival at Vega Baja in San Juan.

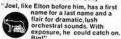
N.Y. Times reviewer, Don Heckman, had this to say about Billy's performance last week "... but the first real excitement was generated by Billy Joel ..."



#### HITS OF THE WEEK

... extraordinary ... can't help loving every composition ... superb clarity. Joel is a winner ... -Record World

Billy Joel - Tomorrow is Today



Record World FPA-0906

Billy Joel - Cold Spring Harbor "Billy Joel has a voice that floats somewhere up above the ground

and he writes songs that also soar in a special way. If the Bee Gees were crossed with Mose Allison, you might get someone akin to Billy Joel. Joel or Billy or however plays the piano like a madman, too -Record World



"Billy Joel may well be the first big discovery of 1972... Fantastic, You must -Cash Box

"Billy Joel has a vocal style that is free and direct, resulting in impact delivery... His 88ing, classically styled through training, is ...and independent, not a secondary, talent." - Variety

... is quite possibly on his way to folk-rock stardom. Joel has a superb LP out on Family Productions label..."

-San Francisco Examiner

"... obvious that Billy Joel has a fine future .outstanding material . . . a welcome newcorrer..."

— The Daily Planet

"His songs are complex and sens tive but at the same time filled with great wit

Los Angeles Herald Examiner

. plays piano like a demon (he has been at it for 17 of his 22 years), has a commanding voice — urgent, plaintive or screaming, as he chooses... his new album is line." San Francisco Chronicle

"The planist-composer is a natural for the cataclysmic catapult of superstardom...
His casual, offhand manner between selections is an honest and persona approach that nabs audience attention and develops full communication. - The Hollywood Reporter



Exclusive representation The Millard Agency

Produced by Artie Ripp Mazur Enterprises

Available on Ampex Tapes



At Sigma Sound Studios, Philadelphia, Harry Chipetz has offered a glimpse of the activities, O. C. Smith has been in, produced by Gamble-Huff for Columbia, while Brad Shapiro and David Crawford have been in, producing Jackie Moore for Atlantic, with engineering by Sigma's Joe Tarsias.

Tarsias has also been busy engineering for various projects brought in by Artie Ripp and Family Productions. In addition album sessions with Sleepy Hollow, wth Carl Paruolo assisting in the engineering, Tarsias has supervised engineering for a live broadcast by Family's Billy Joel over WMMR-FM. Paruolo, Jay Mark, and Don Murray will assist in engineering.

# Billy First Wanted to Sign with Atlantic

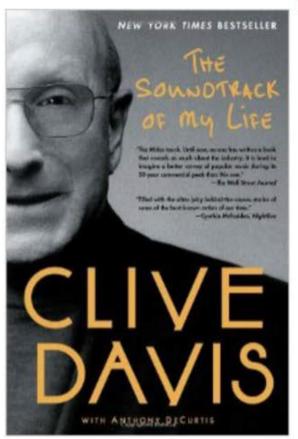
The Soundtrack of My Life

Clive Davis with Anthony DeCurtis

Simon & Shuster Paperbacks

2013

Pg. 145.



of "Captain Jack" on the radio in Philadelphia. Joel was essentially unknown at the time, but the track had become one of the station's most requested songs and Herb rightly thought that we should look into it. At the time Billy was signed to a company run by Artie Ripp, an extremely colorful record industry personality with whom Billy would dramatically fall out. At the time, however, Ripp was tireless in his promotion of Billy in ways that suggested the stereotypical music biz character. I knew he was capable of cranking the hype machine to eleven, but I always got a kick out of him. Artie insisted that I go see Billy perform in a club, and needless to say, he tore the place apart. He had already released one album, Cold Spring Harbor, but he was playing the songs that would eventually be on Piano Man, his first Columbia release. That was enough for me. He was clearly a triple threat—a gifted singer-songwriter, a torrid piano player, and a sensational live performer. I had to sign him.

## Billy Joel On Charts Via New Label Push

By NAT FREEDLAND

LOS ANGELES—Having recorded for both a small company and the biggest label of all, Billy Joel much prefers the big company and poo-poohs the "impersonal monolith" image attached to such record giants.

And Columbia Records has justified Joel's faith, as the writer-singerpianist's first single on his new deal entered the Hot 100 the last week of February after some three months of

dogged promotion effort.

Joel himself had doubts about the commerciality of "Piano Man" as first single from his album of the same title. (The LP has been on the chart for nine weeks. As the single took off, the album has sprouted a star and jumped 25 slots to 65 this week.)

The "Piano Man" single is not really standard contemporary AM fare. It seems too long, too wideranging in its lyrics about the lifepreserving illusions of the denizens of a tacky piano bar.

#### Columbia Boss Insisted

However, Columbia chieftain Goddard Lieberson insisted that the song was a contemporary classic and events may prove him right.

Joel has an unusual deal with Columbia. "I knew up front they must really want me to have gone through all the negotiations in taking over my contract. It took months and months." He remains signed to Family Productions, the company of Buddah co-founder Artie Ripp.

"When I had a chance to sign with several record companies the first time around, I liked the idea of being with a small, personalized Jabel," Joel recalls. "But all I know is that I was touring on the road six months to plug my first album. And I could never find it in the stores at most cities although I know everybody involved was trying really hard."

Joel's tough-kid New Yorker exterior tends to somewhat disguise his sensitive, articulate jnner core. His childhood studies of classical piano are impressively evident in his performances. He entered rock in his mid-teens with a popular local Long Island group, the Hassles. Then he and the Hassles drummer quit to form a power duo, only to find after a year of preparation that Lee Michaels had beaten them to performing with this format.

#### His Own Man

Because of Joel's piano-singingwriting prowess, he had been compared, more often than he would like, to Elton John. But where John is the ultimate flashy rock performer, Joel presents intensive onstage sincerity and works to get audiences involved in his music, rather than his personality.

However, when Joel is feeling particularly pleased with audience reception, he has a mind-boggling tricky number he may perform. Title is the "John Wayne Blues" and it includes perfect singing impressions of Walter Brennan and Joe Cocker, among many others.

Joel has never recorded this material and he left it off his recent tour for the Columbia album. "This time I felt I wanted audiences to accept me for myself, not my ability as a mimic," he says. "On my earlier tours, every critic concentrated on 'John Wayne Blues' because it's so flashy."

But our advice is that if Billy Joel comes your way, demand that he sing "John Wayne" before leaving the stage. Also, insist on "Travelin' Prayer," a heartfelt love song played at breakneck speed.

MARCH 2, 1974, BILLBOARD



JOEL INKS COLUMBIA PACT—Singer/songwriter/pianist Billy Joel has been signed to an exclusive Columbia recording contract. Pictured in the above photo, left to right, at the signing ceremony are Jon Troy, the artist's personal representative, Goddard Lieberson, president of the CBS/Records group, Billy Joel and Irwin Segelstein, president of Columbia Records.

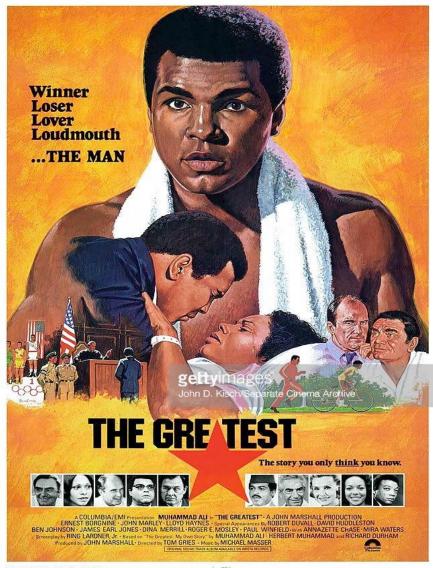
In the bottom photo at the Columbia offices after the signing arrangement, are, left to right, Charles Koppleman, national v.p. of A&R for Columbia Records, Artie Ripp, president of Family Productions and Ted Feigen, v.p. of west coast A&R.

Fates; Koppleman (with Don Rubin) Brought
Artie The Lovin Spoonful.
Ted Feigen & Artie Ripp
Worked for George Goldner

# Artie, Mazur and Clive with Mandrill

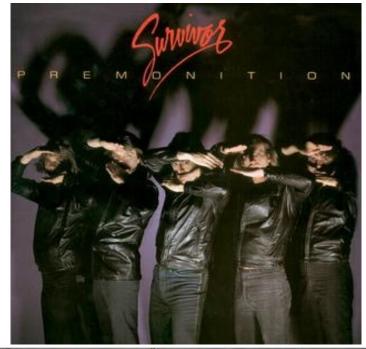


#### Clive Davis Shows Genius Again By Signing Artie's Mandrill Group

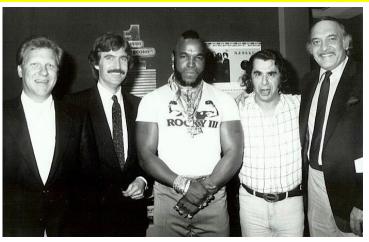


Tony Scotti asks Artie to Save his Rejected by Two Labels Survivor Album Artie Edits Some Songs, Resequencing Tracks & Remasters the Album...

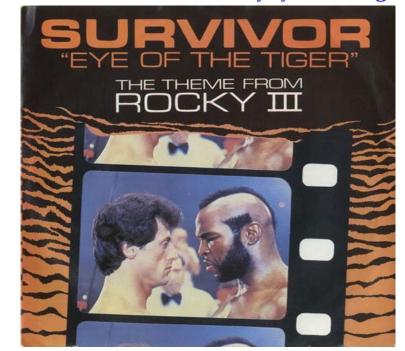
Then Artie Gets Epic who Rejected Original Version, To Release His Versions!







Artie Ripp Gets Epic to Send Rocky III Star Mister T To Black Radio Stations to Play Eye of The Tiger!



# "This is the Adoption Healing Group in Connecticut Mr. Ripp...

We Believe
You are the Father
of a Male Child
Born in 1960"