



# Aretha's son goes for rock'n'roll fun

By Larry O'Connor

Al some point in the conversation it has to be brought up Teddy Richards as the son of Archa Franklin.

This is a great conversation piece, an easy peg for a writer to hang a story on. Yet the fact Richards is the offspring of the "Queen of Soul" should have little bearing to what's at hand. I amous mother in fact, having a famous mother in the soul of the soul of

### SEEING THE SHOW

Who: Terry Richards

Where: River Rock Cale 637 Franklin, Detroit

When: Thursday, May 16. Call 567-8944 for information

Backed up by a crack four-member band — saxophonist Chris Collins, drammer Brian Morrill, basist Marcos Gonzales and trumpet player Tom Mucha — Richards burns through his musical journey with an unfettered passion.

His set features an ambitious set of covers, revealing a wide range of influences. Richards stokes up the evening with The Clash's politically rambunctious "Landon's Calling" and uncovers a '60s chesting,' by the Strawberry Alarm Clock

by the Strawberry Alarm Clock "Incense and Peppermint."

RICHARDS' MUSICAL nadir is reached with his own material,

Please turn to Page 4

# **REVIEWS**

### SEX CYMBAL

- Sheila E.

Face it, Sheila E. is hot. The girl could defrost a refrigerator just by

Face it, Sheila E. is hot. The girl could defrost a refrigerator just by walking by.

But she's also a first-rate percussionist and, through her father, exsination as defeman Pete Escovedo, hele to a rich musical heritage.

Despite list tille and sexy cover art. "Sex Cymball" (Warner Bros.) is an attempt to stress musicanship over sex appeal. It succeeds about haff the time.

The title track, beginning with a snippet of "The Glamorous Life" her 1984 breakthrough hit, re-examines the sex kitten imagery, all over a background of Prince-style funk. That her co-writers are listed as Andrew and Michael Ocelot gives rise to the question is this another Prince collaboration? The answer Probably yes.

"Cry Baby" and "Laverboy" among hem, acrot bad but are relatively faceless, with drum machines too often replacing Shiela E.'s own drums and timbals.

A dance floor remake of "Lady Marmalde" isn't too bad, ether, but yet lattle LaBelle mined that one for all it was worth back in 1975.

Sbella E.'s own original talent



shines through best on "Family Af-

shines through best on "Family Af-lati", a percession rase-sup, and "Private Party," a Latin-tinged dance; pop tune. This is the kind of music she should be making hots, say and danceable, without any Prince-style heavy breathing. Not unlike Gloria Estafan, Shelia E. could spearhead an explosion of Latin rhythm in the Top 40. Unfor-tunately, also like Estafan, she, too, often relies on tirted-and-true pop formulas. That's too had. "Sex Cymbal" is an enjoyable-enough pop album, but given Shelia Es talent and heritage, it could have been much, much more.

- Wanne Peal

## DANGER IN THE PAST

### - Robert Forster

Robert Forster was a co-founding tember of the late 1970s-late 1980s

mober for the date 1976-late 1980s
Australian band the Go-Betweens, a
band that both my editor and the
Trouser Press Record Guide agree
was under-rated and is probably not very
satisfying emotionally or financially,
so the band decided to break up (on
the last day of 1989, for all you trivia
buffs.)

Now, we're seeing the results of
the break-up — a bunch of solo projects. First 'it was Forster's band
mate Grant McLennaw tho worked
with the Church's Steve Kilbey on a
project called Jack Frost (if's get-

with the Church's Steve Kilbey on a project called Jack Frost (It's get-ling airplay on CIMX-FM — give it a listen). Robert Forster is putting in his two two cents with with "Danger in the Past," a record that was pro-duced by Mick Harvey, who works with the Bad Seeds. Harvey also plays bass, organ, piano, guitar, per-cussion and helps on vocals.

BUT THE record is mostly based BUT THE record is mostly based around Forster's acoustic guitar and meandering, poetic lyrics. Since the Go-Betweens' break-up, Forster has been experiencing the liberation that follows cutting binding personal ties.



He moved to the country in southern Germany, is married and busy being

fermany, is married and buy being Germany, is married and buy being Germany, is married and buy being Still, it wouldn't be a Robert Forser record without some songs about that crazy little thing called, face: The best of the bunch is the Irst track called "Baby Stones." It's a song about a lover who wants to explore her options Robert tells her 'You search for a worthwhile need. But why not do the searching around here and try to involve me?"

Most of the songs are long and ont follow the traditional three-verse structure. Leaving his band gave Forster the chance to write more free-form lyrics, and he takes advantage of it by following his lyrical muse wherever she may take the state of the songs in the state of the songs and state of the songs are long and dealers of the songs are long and state of the songs are long and state of the songs are long and state of the songs in the songs and state of the songs in the songs and state of the songs is taken in a deadman.

cal muse wherever,
him.
He sings his tales in a deadpan,
sort of out-of-tune voice, a little
remniscent of Robyn Hitchcock.
Overall, it's fine effort.

— Jill Hamilton

## IN CONCERT

KITCHENS OF DISTINCTION
 Kitchens of Distinction will perform
Monday, May 13, at Saint Andrew's Hall,
431 E. Congress, Detroit. For information, call 961-MELT.

● VINCENT BOWENS

Vincent Bowens and the Paradise Valley Jazz Jam Band will perform Monday, May 13, at Alvin's, \$758 Cass, across from Wayne State University, Detroit. For information, call 832-2355.

JAMMIN JONES
 Jammin Jones will perform with guests, Two of a Kind, Monday, May 13, at The Ritz, 17580 Frazho Road, Roseville. For information, call 778-6404.

CHEAP AND NASTY
 Cheap and Nasty will perform with guests, Wicked, Tuesday, May 14, at The Ritz, 17860 Franho Road, Roseville. For information, call 778-6404.

CHISEL BROS.
 Chisel Bros. will perform Tuesday, May 14, at Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University, Detroit. For information, call 832-2355.

• THE TOASTERS

The Toasters will perform an all-ages show 7.30-10.30 pm. and Etch-a-Sketch will perform 10.45 pm. to 2 am. Wedne-day, May 15, at the Blind Pig. 208 S. First, Ann Arbor. For information, call 934-8555.

• TEXAS HEAT

Texas Heat will perform Wednesday,
May 15, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann
Arbor. For information, call 996-2747.

• TIN PAN ALLEY

Tin Pan Alley will perform with guests, Crash and Burn, Wedineday, May 15, at The Ritz, 17880 Franho Road, Roseville, For information, call 778-8404

RED C Red C will perform Wednesday, May 15, at 'Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University, Detroit. For in-formation, call 832-2355.

◆ JAZZ NIGHT Industry, 15 S. Saginaw, Pontiac will have a Wednesday Night Jazz Series. There will be live bands as well DJ jazz music Boors open at 5 pm. Admission is free For information, call 334-1999.

WILD KINGDOM
 Wild Kingdom will perform Thursday,
 May 16, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann
 Arbor. For information, call 998-2747.

· FAITHHEALERS

FaithHEALERS
Faithhealers will perform with guests,
All You Can Eat, Thursday, May 16, at
Club Heidelberg, 215 N. Main, Ann Arbor,
For information, call 994-3562.

• FULLY LOADED/LUNA PARK
Fully Loaded will perform 6-9 p m fol-lowed by Luna Park Thursday, May 16, at the Blind Pig, 208 S First, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-8555

 ASSEMBLY REQUIRED Assembly Required will perform Thursday, May 16, at Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University, Detroit, For information, call 832-2355.

THE FIXX
 The Fixx will perform with guests, Hyperformance, Thursday, May 16, at The Ritz, 17540 Fratho Hoad, Roseville. For information, call 778-6404.

SEE DICK RUN
 See Dick Run will perform Thursday,
May 16, at 3-D Club, 1815 N. Main, Royal
Oak, For information, call 589-3344.

• SON SEALS

Son Sealls
Son Seals will perform Friday, May 17,
at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor,
For information, call 996-2747.

AL COPLEY
 Al Copley will perform Friday and Saturday, May 17-18, at Sully's, 4758 Greenfield. Dearborn For information, call 846-5377

STRAIGHT AHEAD
 Straight Ahead, featuring Hegina
 Carter, will perform Friday, May 17, at
 Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne
 State University, Detroit For information, call 522-2355

tion, can objective.

3-D Invisibles Happy Accidents, Cuppa, 3-D Invisibles Happy Accidents, Cuppa, 3-D, Volebasts and Colorful Trauma will all perform Friday, May 17, in a "Tremo-Preview" show at Lilli 8:1, 2:084 Canffl. eff. Jos. Campau, Hamtramck. On Sattyria, May 18, Crange Boughten, Strange Bedietlows, Cynaride, Seul Station and Chris Richards will perform For information, call 873-6555.

■ SEU GHY GUN Sey Ghy Gun will perform Friday, May 17, at the Majestic Theatre Centre, 4140 Wisdward, Detroit Showtime is 11 p m Admission is 84 For information, call 833-9700

## LOCAL

Here are the top-10 songs on "Detroit Music Scene," which is heard 4-5 p.m. Sundays on WDTR-FM 90.9.

- Suncays on willier my by y

  "Henky Tonk." Country Bob

  "Preshar," Grian

  "The Lightling," Brace Nicola

  "Inc. Lightling," Brace Nicola

  "Inc. Lightling," Brace Nicola

  "An Usuprised," Greaty Hary

  "An Usuprised," Greaty Hary

  "Doi H.All Over," Dave Basy

  "Spire," Thirty Forest Aslimals

  "The Seed," Das HB Brian

  10 "Retter Days," The Gear

REDFORD STEVE
Redford Sieve & the Detroit Specials
will perform Friday and Saturday, May
17-18, at the Elwood Bar & Grill, 2100
Woodward, Detroit. For information, call
961-7485.

### SOUL STATION

Soul Station will perform Friday, May 17, at Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross, Ypsilanti. For information, call 485-5050.

● JEANNE & THE DREAMS

Jeanne & the Dreams will perform Friday, May 17, at the Blind Pig, 208 S

First, Ann Arbor. For information, call
996-8555.

PIT VIPERS
 Pit Vipers will perform Friday, May
17, at The Attic Bar, 11667 Jos. Campau,
Hamtramck For information, call 3654194.

HAPPY AS CLAMS
 Happy as Clams will perform with
 guests, Vudu Hippies and Voodoo Chili,
 Friday, May 17, at the Hamtramek Pub,
 2048 Camff, off 1-75. For information,
 call 365-3829.

HOLY COWS
 Holy Cows will perform with guests.
 Dad Blasted, Friday, May 17, at Club Heidelberg, 215 N Main, Ann Arbor. For information, call 994-3562.

JOHNNY 'YARD DOG' JONES Johnny 'Yard Dog' Jones will perform Friday, May 17, at the Other End Lounge, 855 Monroe, Taylor For information, call 278-5340.

THE ALARM
 The Alarm will perform with guests.

 Beer on the Penguin, Friday, May 17, at The Ritz, 17580 Fratho Road, Roseville For information, call 778-6404.

e COUNTRY BOB & THE BLOODFARMERS Country Bob & the Bloodfarmers will perform with guests, Coven 13, Friday, May 17, at Finney's Pub, 3965 Woodward, Detroit Cover to 34 For Information, call 831-8070.

### A DETROIT BLUES BAND

Detroit Blues Band will perform Friday, May 17, at Moby Dicks, 5452 Schaefer, Dearborn For information, call 581-3650

Bootsey X will perform along with 3-D invisibles Saturday, May 18, at Alvin's 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University, Detroit For information, call 832-2355

CONQUERROOTS
 Conquerroots will perform Saturday,
May 18, at the Other End Lounge, 5855
Monroe, Taylor, For information, call
278-5340

MAJESTY CRUSH
 Majesty Crush will perform with
guests, Thirsty Forest Animals, Saturday,
May 18, at the Majestic Theatre Centre,
4140 Woodward, Detroit Doors open 9
pm Admission is 35 For information,
call 833-9700

BLUESRUNNERS
 The Bluesrunners will perform Saturday, May 18, at Rick's Cafe, 611 Church Ann Arbor For information, call 996-2747

RAY MANZAREK
 Ray Manzarek, keyboardist and founding member of The Doors, and Michael McClure will perform along with John Sonciar and His Blues Scholars at 7 pm Salurday. May 18 Manzarek and McClure will also perform at 10 pm at Club Hindelberg, 215 N Mans, Ann Arbor For information, call 1994-366.

HYPERFORMANCE
 Hyperformance will perform Saturday, May 18, at Cross Street Station, 511
W Cross, Ypsilanti-For information, call 485-5650

HUNGRY SO ANGRY
 Hungry So Angry will perform Saturday, May 18, at the Hamtramek Pub 2048 Canff, off 1-75. For information call 365-3829.

• THE HANNIBALS

The Hannibals will perform Saturday,
May 18, at the Blind Pig. 208 S. First
Ann Arbor. For information, call 998
8555

PEDESTRIANS
 Pedestrians will have a record release party with guests. Bourgeois Mission and Red C. Saturday, May 18, at Paycheck's Lounge, 2932 Caniff, Hamitramek. For in-ternation, call 874-8535.

### CUTTING **EDGE**

Here are 10 albums in heavy rotation on "The Cutting Edge," which is heard 7 p.m. to 4 a.m. nightly on CIMX-FM 88.7

- "Real Life," Simple Minds
  "International . . .," Material Issue
  "Why Do Birds Sings," Violent
- 3. "Why Do Birds Sing!," Violent Femmes 4. "Las", The Las" 5. "Strange Free World," Kitchens of Dis-therton 6. "Doubt," Jesus Jones 7. "Unreal World," The Godfathers 8. "Coming Down," Daniel Ath 9. "Peggy Sucide," Jalian Cope 10. "Kill Unler," Morrisey