

32 THE TENNESSEAN, Wednesday, April 14, 1976

Guy Clark's 'Old Time Feeling' Strikes Poise

By ALICE ALEXANDER

SOME THINGS ABOUT Guy Clark haven't changed a bit—same lanky stance, straight-forward delivery, both comfortable as old jeans that fit close on the spare word-pictures and stories he sings.

Monday and last night's sets at the Exit/In pointed up one difference a year has made, with Clark's sprawling Texas-sized energies suddenly condensing into a lean and closely-reined presentation. Opening night, a packed house registered Clark's changeover from songwriter to songwriter/performer with attentive appreciation.

THE TRANSFORMATION LAYS the emphasis right where it belongs, back on the songs themselves. They paint the people, the

stories—"the old men, old trains, and old memories, like black and white movies" that Jerry Jeff Walker (Guy's foremost popularizer and longtime partner in devilmint) cites in the RCA album liner notes.

The sets range from the haunting "Desperado Waiting For the Train," to a rollicking goodtime "Rita Ballou," styled on a solid, Texas-rooted foundation that builds into Nashville funk.

Texas-born, Hollywood broke, and a Nashville transplant since 1971, Clark's double-dose demeanor had at least one enthusiastic, if confused, listener hollering "T for Texas, Tennessee for Tennessee!" Crowd response had Clark grinning back "I'm sure I'm having a better time than you all are"—apt because he performs with a warmth that transmits easily to listeners.

CLARK'S DOWNRIGHT neighborliness of style plus the fact that his songs are personal in content without getting lost in a shuffle of ego, mark his strength both as artist and performer.

Backing him up, Lea Jane Berinati gladdened and boogied her way across the piano keys, to the delight of her own sizeable cheering sector in the audience.

Charlie Bundy on electric bass and Danny Rowland on lead guitar held the top and bottom musical lines to a spare and elegant grace, with Bundy and Rowland synching together in the manner of country auction bidders who signalled back and forth almost imperceptibly.

Chris Laird on drums was tasteful and controlled.

TOWNES VAN ZANDT, another Texas-bred

songwriter of first class ability, complemented Clark's sets with his opening act. Van Zandt shares with Clark the knack of knocking out a poignant ballad, whimsical social comment, or telling tale molded over sharp-etched characters. His delivery is straight from the Austin Hill Country, gangly and humorous in a low-keyed vein of madness that kept the crowd howling, as Van Zandt would pronounce over and over "this next one is in the people's key—the key of D" (or G, or A, as the occasion demanded).

Van Zandt, recently sprung from a constricting five-year "personal management" contract that put a holdback on his career, is hopefully on his way to breaking out in a reputation limited to a regional strength, in the same way Clark has already managed to do.



MISS NANCY MILES MORGAN MISS SUSAN FERN LEVAN MISS JUANITA JORDAN

Mr. and Mrs. Worcester M. Morgan of Dallas announce the engagement of their daughter, Nancy Miles Morgan, to Gregory Allen Scott, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Perin Scott of Madison, Ind.

The wedding will take place June 12. The bride-elect is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. James L. Sinclair and the late Mr. and Mrs. James H. Morgan, all of Dallas. She is a graduate of Yonkers University, Yonkers, N.Y., where she was a member of Lotus Eaters, sophomore honorary; Athen-

Sigma Phi Epsilon social fraternity. He received his J.D. degree from Vanderbilt University. A captain in the U. S. Army, he is with the Judge Advocate General's Corps.

Miss Jordan, Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Jordan announce the engagement of their daughter, Juanita to William B. Summers, son of Mr. and Mrs. William B. Summers. The wedding will be an event of June 12. The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Young, son of Mr. and Mrs. Percy C. Young of Doonick.

A June 12 wedding is planned. The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mrs. William Mack LeVan of Enigma, Ala., and the late Mr. LeVan and Mrs. Alma Matthews of Geraldine, Ala., and the late Augustus Camp. She is a graduate of McGavock High School and will graduate in May from Belmont College nursing school. Mr. Young is the grandson of Howard Young of Mt. Juliet, Tenn., and the late Mrs. Louie Young and the late Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Edwards.

Red Blood Cells in Urine

By PETER J. STEINCRON, M.D.

DEAR DR. STEINCRON: I always considered myself healthy until three months ago. One night I passed blood in my urine. There was no pain. Nevertheless, I went to our doctor a week later—although my urine showed no blood after that first night.

Though he found no gross blood, he discovered under the microscope that I still had many red blood cells in the urine. He advised a cystoscopy examination. But I put it off. A few days ago I passed blood again. This time there was some pain in my right side. Though I dislike the idea of having it done, I've consented to having the cystoscopy. Is it possible there is serious trouble?

—Mr. B. DEAR DR. STEINCRON.

Medicine

check your bladder and kidneys by direct inspection, by special X-rays, and by studies of your urine specimens. Also your blood.

Medical letters

COMMENT: Always possible; not necessarily probable. But be thankful you're not putting off complete examination any longer. The urologist will

there were days when I did not have to take any at all. Am I taking too much? Is too much nitroglycerin harmful?

COMMENT: Some patients take as many as a dozen or more of these tablets every day. They are not harmful. Sometimes we prescribe additional long-acting nitroglycerin tablets that decrease the need for so much nitroglycerin. Until recently, there were days when I did not have to take any at all. Am I taking too much? Is too much nitroglycerin harmful?



Irving Berlin

(Continued From Page 28) Irv's songs anymore," said a friend. "It's all remain nameless, "Irv was born in a small town in Russia, called Tetemin, near Siberia, I believe. He came here when he was four years old. And he was a millinaire by—well, by the time he married Ellin, easily."

THE BERLINS live in a five-story brick building on New York's Upper East Side. Only miles away but worlds removed from where Irving Berlin grew up on the crowded and impoverished Lower East Side.

He still tinkles at one of his several pianos but hasn't published a song since 1966, when he wrote "An Old-Fashioned Wedding" for the Broadway revival of "Annie Get Your Gun."

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June Wedding Is Planned

Mr. and Mrs. Chester L. Smith of Scottsboro, Ala., announce the engagement of their daughter, Mary Jacqueline, to Anthony Wayne LaRue, son of Mr. and Mrs. Buford Wayne LaRue of Guntersville, Ala.

The wedding will be June 12. The bride-elect is a graduate of Scottsboro High School and will graduate from Auburn University in June. Mr. LaRue is a graduate of Guntersville High School and will graduate in August from Auburn University.

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