

Bolsom In 2-Way P.R. Assoc.

NEW YORK — Rick Bolsom has been named director of public relations for Bizarre and Straight Records and for Neil C. Reshen Inc.

Bolsom, who will headquarter at Bizarre's New York offices at 162 West 56 St., will be involved in all possible areas of press and public relations for the Frank Zappa-Herb Cohen owned labels and for the artists appearing on them including the Mothers of Invention, Alice Cooper, Captain Beefheart and his Magic Band, Judy Henske and Jerry Yester, as

Great Lakes NATRA's Gala June Weekend

NEW YORK — The Great Lakes Region of NATRA, the black dj association, has set a gala weekend meet, June 27-29, at the Statler Hilton Hotel in Detroit.

Following registration, the meet will kick-off Friday night with a cocktail party and buffet at 9:00 in the disk jockey lounge. Saturday will feature a breakfast, lunch with guest speakers, a president's meeting in the presidential suite at 2:00 pm, a meeting for all members at 4:00 pm and cocktails, dinner and entertainment at 7:00 pm.

Sunday's features include a Great Lakes Region Nine Hole Golf Tournament, kicking off at 7:30 am, a family chuckwagon picnic at noon, a cocktail party at 6:00 pm and the Installation of Officers Ball at Cobo Hall.

Museum's Jazz Series Will Rock Once Again

NEW YORK — Four top rock groups have been signed for the 10-concert Museum of Modern Art Jazz in the Garden series, entering its ninth season of Thursday evening performances on June 26 at 8:30 pm.

Produced and coordinated by Ed Bland, who introduced the pop element into last year's series, with a successful integration of jazz, pop and gospel, the traditionally jazz-oriented program will include the Pazant Brothers and vocalist Betty Barney (June 26), James Moody and Joe Newman Quintet (July 3), Chicago (Transit Authority) (July 10), Jimmy McGriff (17), Muddy Waters (24), Orpheus (31), Pacific Gas & Electric (August 7), the Bob Patterson Gospel Singers and Isaac Douglas Gospel Singers (14), Kwame Nkrumah and his Ghanaian Drummers (21) and Robert Moog & the Moog Synthesizer (28).

well as provide these services for talent managed through this complex including Tim Buckley, Linda Ronstadt. The Reshen corporation, which is involved in business and talent management and directs Bizarre's operation in these areas also handles such talent as the Buddy Miles Express, artist Peter Max and record producer Anne Tansey among others.

Bolsom joins the new labels and the Reshen complex after 1½ years as eastern publicity director of Mercury Records. Prior to his association with Mercury he was an account executive with the Goldstein p.r. organization where he handled such top talent as the Mothers of Invention, the Rascals, Peter, Paul and Mary and the Association among numerous others. He is also a former member of the Cash Box editorial staff.

Patti Johnson continues in the p.r. vein in the west coast office of Bizarre located at 5455 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles.

Weinstein In Bell Art Director Post

NEW YORK — Beverly Weinstein has been named art director for Bell Records, adding control over graphics and album covers to her current responsibilities as production manager and office manager. Miss Weinstein has been with Bell since shortly after its inception in 1964.

In her new assignment, she will be working closely with Gordon Bossin, national director of album sales for Bell.

Bell president Larry Uttal cited Miss Weinstein's enormous contribution to the functioning of Bell. "She has consistently kept our day-to-day operations smoothly coordinated, giving freedom of movement to the entire staff. Her understanding of Bell Records is uniquely valuable, and her new assignment will enable us to use more of her talents.



Beverly Weinstein

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to rep the pop festivals in Denver, Atlanta, Seattle and Atlantic City. The Atlantic City Fest, a three-day affair, will have Biff Rose as M.C.

Speaking of fests, the Blind Faith Festival at Newport (July 11) will also offer Booker T. & the MG's, Delaney and Bonnie and Friends and Free. Latter group is a new entry from the Chris Blackwell organization.

Trini Lopez to film a TV special, "I Dream Of Trini (at the Waldorf)", during his current engagement at the Empire Room. Jerry Jeff Walker taping a half-hour TV special for syndication. George Burns will guest.

The Critters to headline a July 17th concert at Manhattan College. Savage Rose, a top rock group from Denmark, added to the 1969 Newport Jazz Festival. Steve Alaimo to headline the Copa, June 19-July 12.

Joe Simon and the Five Stair-steps follow the Temps into the Apollo this Thurs. (19). Oliver, hitting Top 10 with "Good Morning Starshine," busy taping TV's. His "Happening '69" shot will be seen on June 21.

Bobby Vinton (in Washington for a Shoreham Hotel engagement) and top promoter and politician Pete Bennett joined President Nixon and his family at a Quaker service in the East Room of the White House yesterday (15).

HOLLYWOOD

SNOW IN JUNE — Murry Wilson, original manager of the Beach Boys, has formed a new group and pub firm on the coast. Group will be known as the Snow and the music firm is Bri-Mur (for son, Brian and Murry Wilson). First pubbery tune is titled "Break Away," which, according to Murry will be "a million seller" with the Beach Boys. Snow has no label affiliation at this writing.

WORLD'S BEST ACTRESS — She bites her fingernails and falls in love too easily. She is a stubborn woman-child of twenty, fragile, elfin, elfish and beautiful. Born on the isle of Mauritius, she is a citizen of England. She cut her first sides for CBS and more for Polydor with brother Jacques producing. She arrived here just a month ago. "I don't really want to be a big star — just a fine actress." She is model-singer-actress-dancer Françoise Pascal, our "West Coast Girl of the Week."

CIRCUS IN TOWN — A new rock ballroom opened at the Hollywood Palladium this past weekend. It's known as the Magic Circus, a division of Watermark, Inc. Super-bills (last weekend The Who, Poco and Bonzo Dog Band performed) will include Johnny Winter, Chambers Bros., Spirit, Canned Heat, etc. Friday shows start at 8 P.M.

Talent On Stage

CHUCK BERRY

FILLMORE EAST, N.Y. — Although the Who were the headliners at last week's Fillmore show, they only did what was expected of them: turn on the same super show we saw several weeks ago. Chuck Berry, on the other hand, was a welcome surprise, demonstrating not only his 1950's nostalgic appeal, but some new 1960's twists as well.

We've seen Berry on two other occasions in the last year, but always with a pick-up band. This time, with what looked and sounded like a more permanent aggregation, Berry slipped right into a groove and had the Fillmore audience following in it right along with him. With his guitar slung somewhere in the area of his knees,

Berry proceeded to demolish the packed house with a long set of his old hits. "Sweet Little Sixteen," "Johnny B. Goode," "Rock & Roll Music," "Roll Over Beethoven," "Too Much Monkey Business" and, of course, "Maybelline," contained all the old familiar elements which made Berry one of the top five in-person attractions of the '50's, but they also contained something new: Berry has started throwing in straight blues runs and guitar work more flashy than ever. Berry still needs a hit to bring him back solidly, but he made 10,000 friends last weekend.

Albert King has been reviewed in these pages countless times, so let's just say he turned in another fine show.

ALICE COOPER

THE SCENE, N.Y. — Alice Cooper, a new quintet recording for Frank Zappa's Straight Records (their first LP, "Pretties For You," was released several weeks ago) has two things going for it. They're good musicians and they're the freakiest band we've yet seen.

The lead singer also named Alice Cooper (but he's nowhere near as pretty as Janis Joplin), is the head freak, leading his band through their musical paces dressed in a multi-colored, shining jump suit. But Alice's voice, unfortunately, was usually drowned out by the never-ending wall of rock pouring forth from the band.

The group rides a precarious line, but rides it perfectly. Their music almost borders on total noise, in fact you feel that there is a diabolical machine hidden somewhere that is painting a musical background for the group. At all times, however, the individual instruments are discernible amongst the undercurrent.

The use of a long border of flashing lights, perfectly manipulated to follow the twists and turns of the music (at times it seems as if the music had been written as a soundtrack for the light show) highlights the group's physical performance, nearly as com-

elling as the music itself. And the music is compelling, sometimes a little too much so.

Highlights of the set were "Reflected" (the group's current single, though because of a poor mix on the disk it's hard to recognize the resemblance), "Nobody Likes Me" and "Don't Blow Your Mind Like We Did Last Summer." Alice, taking the role of a pimply girl, sits behind a prop door to sing "Nobody Likes Me" while the band tries to reassure her that they do, and the tight vocal interplay, the result of five years of practice, brings the tune home. "Don't Blow Your Mind . . ." is a song the group doesn't heed, for blow their minds, and those of their audience, is what they proceed to do. As cymbals and mikedrums go flying (though not in the violent, Who-like manner), the band reenacts a bad acid trip and puts the audience through a gone one.

Alice Cooper is not perfect (though who is?) and some of their material is not strong enough to keep up with the impact of the total show, and they have a bad habit of trailing off at the end of a song so that the audience can't tell if it's really over, but there is no other band like them and they should have quite a healthy future.

CHILDREN OF GOD TOWNES VAN ZANDT

THE SCENE, N.Y. — Two hard rock acts, the Children of God and Ralph, and a contemporary singer/songwriter, Townes Van Zandt, made up the bill of fare at Steve Paul's nitery, The Scene, last week. Ralph is an energetic group that does its thing effectively. Material is the group's own, and it comes off well.

Townes Van Zandt, who recently has an album, "Our Mother The Mountain," issued on the RCA-distributed Poppy label, offered a program of his own ballads, all of which are in the folk bag. His lyrics are full of poetic imagery, and the mood is usually sad. Two of the best of his numbers were the title tune of his LP and "Second

Lovers Song." As a record act, Van Zandt's chief strength will be in albums, and the coming months will tell just how strong that strength is.

The Children of God, who record for A&M, are a powerhouse hard rock act that could come into national prominence. They combine imagination and solid musicianship in a most effective manner. In a performance of their theme song, "Child Of God," they played a very long instrumental break (much longer, in fact, than the song itself) that was more inventive than many jazz works. With the proper push behind them, they could make it big.

Passman Is Ahlert Professional Mgr.

NEW YORK — Ray Passman has joined the Fred Ahlert Publishing Companies as general professional manager. He will be working in conjunction with Bob Esposito, director of special projects.

In addition to managing the Burt Bacharach-Hal David music firms, Blue Seas/Jac, the Ahlert firms publish such standards as "I'll Get By," "I Don't Know Why," "I'm Gonna Sit Right Down And Write Myself A Letter," "Moon Over Miami," "Boo Hoo" and many others.

Powell Associates Adds Jean Williams

NEW YORK — Edward Powell Associates, an advertising agency specializing in music business accounts, has added Jean Williams to its staff as office manager.

Mrs. Williams, formerly of Allstate Discount Corp., will be totally in charge of the clerical and secretarial staff, reporting directly to Powell.

Powell's recent accounts have included the Douglas Corp. and the Sound Images P.R. firm.