10-24-1990

The NicePaper October 24- October 30, 1990: Clippings

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Kirk

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On Saturday, AS220 sports the Cabaret of the Oddly Normal with, of course, your host Sir Guy d'Guy and Hiss Panic Band. The show features Rory O'Brian, magician/physician, Brian Jepson, the man who would be words, and Sweat Shop, funky, junky power trio stuff, I think (paraphrase that press release, Slice, you moron). Who books this madness?!

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF PUBLIC FUNDING DOING AMAZING THINGS (see Arts Rally above): AS220 brings an astounding array of folk artists to the 71 Richmond Street space with their World of Rhode Island Music series kicking off Friday night. Rhode Island is second to none in the richness and diversity of its folk traditions. First up is Keiko Nabb, playing authentic Japanese koto music; opening will be Terry "Who Wound Him Up" McDonald, and your host with the most motorcycles, Jon Campbell, will add his smoke-and-leather élan to the proceedings.

Looking ahead to the rest of the series — Scottish Bagpipes with Eric M. Amour November 30th, traditional Christmas music of South America with Tierra Adentro December 28th, the incredibly dynamic West African drum sounds of Dougouto Nganya January 25th, and Hmong traditional music February 22nd with Cia Chue Kue and Pa Koua Vang. Also lined up are the Lima Brothers from the Azores, Norberto Tavares's wonderful Cape Verdean music, Harold Bodhrosian with the Armenian oud, guitars and drums, and a host of others slated. Keep tuned in for the latest on this most exciting music series.

BY KIRK FEATHER

There is lots happening on the jazz scene this week, so let me get right to the highlights. Our favorite alternative space, AS220, is presenting the Boston-based Sweat Shop, featuring guitarist Joe Morris, billed as Jimi Hendrix meets Ornette Coleman. I can't help but be intrigued by the possibilities. With Mr. Morris will be Sebastian Steinberg on bass and Jerry Dupree on drums. Apparently, Morris has been known as one of the most adventurous guitarists on the Boston scene for some years, so we should give him a good welcome to old Providence. (Also, don't forget the big Halloween bash at AS220 on the 31st — Tish Adams and Kurt Lang perform, assisted by yours truly and a cast of characters to be outlined next week.)