

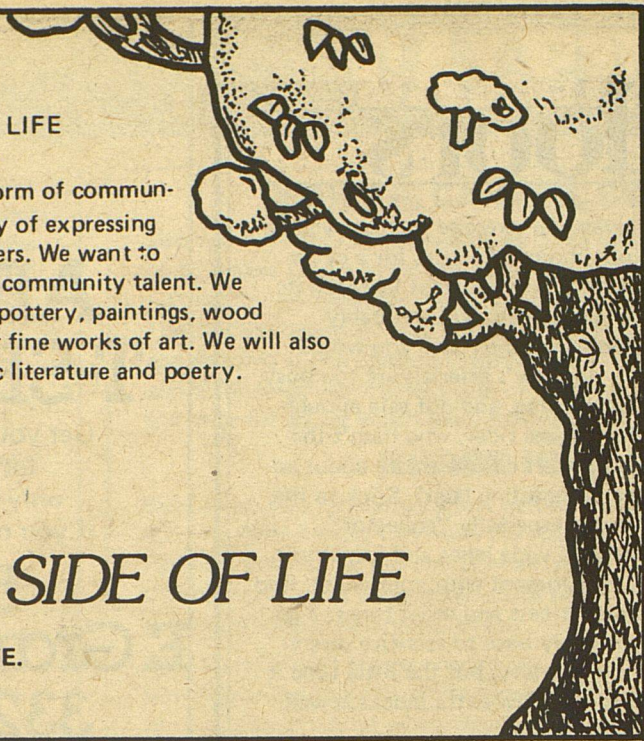
THE GENTLE SIDE OF LIFE is a community art shop.

We believe that art is a form of communication—the creator's way of expressing his or her feelings to others. We want to present some of the best community talent. We will be selling sculpture, pottery, paintings, wood carvings, quilts and other fine works of art. We will also have a selection of classic literature and poetry.

Pat Lindemann  
Renee Lindemann Dart

# THE GENTLE SIDE OF LIFE

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New Releases from TOMATO

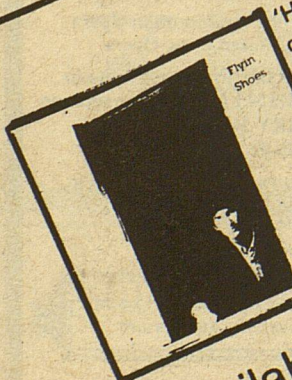
# JOHN LEE HOOKER

THE CREAM  
Recorded Live



# TOWNES VAN ZANDT

'He truly is one of a kind, possibly one of the best writers in his genre'  
- The Village Voice



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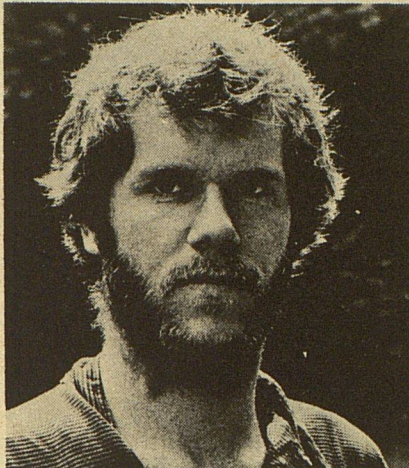


JOHN LEE HOOKER  
w/special guest  
TOWNES VAN ZANDT  
May 5,6  
McDonel Kiva, MSU

TICKETS:  
\$3.00 at MSUnion,  
Elderly Instruments &  
Campus Corners II,  
\$3.50 at the door.

## Wainwright's cutting edge of irony and wit

Loudon Wainwright III, who has been called a post-psychedelic aristocratic beatnik, will perform his own works of bop prosaics, lyrical ambiguities and musical acrobatics at Dooley's on Sunday, April 30, 8 pm.



A writer and performer of uncommon wit, intelligence and insight, Wainwright is more than just funny. He has earned attention as an original, affecting composer-singer.

His songs cover a spectrum of subjects close to many — education, golf, natural disasters, the intake of alcohol and hecklers — and his brand of wit-rock is penetrating, musical and fun.

Although many of his songs are serious, the detail, odd juxtapositions and take-it-or-leave-it voice that Wainwright employs gives the words an ironic edge.

Accompanied by the jovially rocking Slow Train (John Crowder, bass; Richard Crooks, drums; Ron Getman, guitar; Glen Mitchell and Stephen Tubin, keyboards), Wainwright will entertain the audience with a two-hour show of amusing antics and witty madness.

## Michael Franks' star is rising

By Jan Loveland

*I've squandered love as I've wandered  
Lover to lover untrue . . .  
Cut flowers, pink tiled showers,  
Women I've counted like coup —  
Been in search of the perfect shampoo.  
You threw me, you walked right  
up to me . . .  
My follicles prayed it was true.  
Don't panic, we're Pure Organic,  
No more Medicated Goo.  
Now I've found the perfect shampoo —  
And it's you.*

Lansing jazz and pop enthusiasts are about to be treated to an evening with guitarist Michael Franks, courtesy of Pyramid Productions who are bringing the author of the lines above to Dooley's Monday, May 1.

Franks' music is a combination of wry lyrics and low-key, jazz-infused melodies and vocals. His ability to articulate common themes with humor has begun to earn him a well-deserved reputation.

His current album, *Burchfield Nines*, on Warner Brothers, includes such comic masterpieces as the above-quoted, "In Search of the Perfect Shampoo," "When the Cookie Jar is Empty" (about lovers' quarrels), and the cryptic "Wrestle A Live Nude Girl." More serious tunes, like the title cut and the romantic "Vivaldi's Song" round out Franks' newest effort. The album is his third for Warner and the fourth of his career, which has hardly been meteoric.

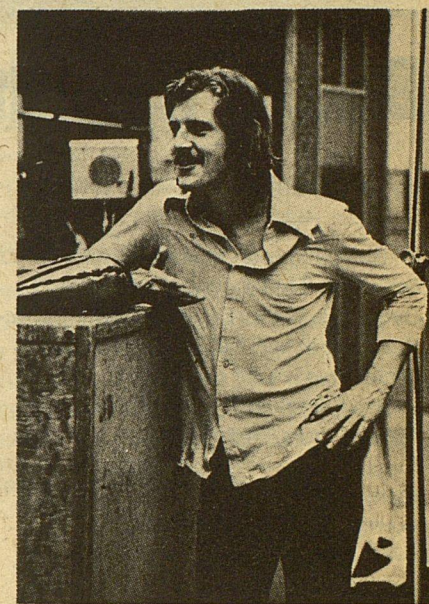
Franks spent a decade skirmishing with academia, both as a student and

as a professor of music. Main influences were jazz luminaries Mose Allison, Thelonius Monk, and Horace Silver, and classic songwriter Cole Porter. He has commented that he was "waiting for the change to go overground."

Experience scoring films such as *Count Your Bullets* (a spaghetti Western) and the better known *Zandy's Bride*, led him to the association with Warner Brothers, which has proved more fruitful than his first venture with an obscure label.

Franks' first album for Warner, *The Art of Tea*, was recorded in 1975 with musicians the stature of the Crusaders, the Becker Brothers, and Eumir Deodato. Franks lived for a time in Brazil, and the Latin influence is felt in his compositions. Gentle, rhythmic structures perfectly accompany his airy, Mose Allison-like delivery. His second album for Warner, *Sleeping Gypsy*, was recorded in Brazil with native musicians as well as members of the Crusaders.

For *Burchfield Nines*, Franks, a native Californian, made a conscious decision to move his base of operations



to the East Coast, where he could benefit from what he saw as the experimental musical climate. The album is more mainstream jazz than Latin in its flavor, which may win him new followers. At best, Franks is long overdue for commercial success and public recognition.

Accompanying Franks on his tour will be another up and coming jazz musician, John Payne, who has both fronted his own group and performed with Van Morrison on *Moondance*. Payne's debut album on Arista, *The Razor's Edge*, showcases his considerable talent as a reed and wind instrumentalist. Payne's group should provide a very hospitable environment for Franks' musical genius and a memorable night of music for East Lansing.

## Ferency benefit

The Zolton Ferency Campaign will hold a benefit concert by Griot Galaxy and Marcus Belgrave with the New Detroit Jazz Ensemble Friday night (April 28).

Griot Galaxy, a septet usually holding forth at Detroit's Cobb's Corner, puts together a strange yet interesting blend of Arabic, African, jazz and rock styles.

Trumpetist Belgrave and the 15-piece New Detroit Jazz Ensemble features the big jazz band sound with roots stretching back to the Fifties and branches reaching forward far into future forms.

There will be two shows, at 8 pm and 12 midnight, at the Paradise Theatre, 3711 Woodward, Detroit. Tickets are \$5 and \$10, with all proceeds going to the Ferency gubernatorial campaign.

Tickets are available at Wazoo Records, Discount Records, and Flat, Black and Circular in East Lansing.