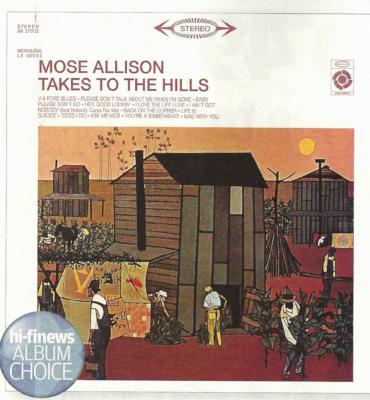
ALBUM REVIEWS: VINYI.



MOSE ALLISON

Takes To The Hills

Pure Pleasure/Epic BA17031 (180g vinyl)

Allison's style of easy singing - very Chet Baker-ish, to help you appreciate his laid-back, effortless vocals - inspired Georgie Fame so much that he should assign some of his royalties to this octogenarian swingmeister. A heady mix of Southern charm, deep blues and swing jazz, it echoes Willie Nelson's way with standards: both are phenomenal composers (Mose's 'Young Man Blues' has been covered by The Who and Foo Fighters), but they're equally adept at reinterpreting the work of others. Here, back in '62, Allison covered 'Baby, Please Don't Go', "Deed I Do' and 'Hey, Good Lookin" and others to demonstrate his utter versatility, plus two originals so you don't forget how well he writes them, KK

Sound Quality: 91%



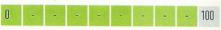
GEORGIE FAME & THE BLUE FLAMES

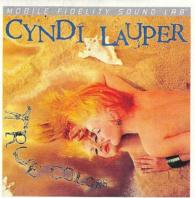
Rhythm And Blues At The Camden Theatre

R&B Records Ltd R&B3-180 (180g vinyl)

Speaking of Georgie Fame, this live set, a snapshot of the era recorded at two venues, doesn't simply capture the artist in 1964: it's a textbook study of what fed the 'British Invasion'. While most know of the influence of Berry, Holly and Elvis Presley on the pre-Beatles scene, and the roles of Mayall, Korner and others in championing the blues, Fame adds a dose of jazz sophistication and R&B funk. Thus the sets include Jimmy Reed's 'Bright Lights, Big City' alongside Rufus Thomas' 'Walking The Dog', 'Night Train' and 'Yeh, Yeh' as well as the mandatory Mose Allison cover. Fame's outfit was, despite the heat of the name, as cool as could be. KK

Sound Quality: 86%





CYNDI LAUPER

True Colors

Mobile Fidelity MOFI 1-028

After her astounding 1983 debut, She's So Unusual – with the mega-hit anthem 'Girls Just Want To Have Fun' - it was assumed the follow-up would have a hard time matching it. Lauper proved she was no mere novelty. gathering around her Billy Joel, The Bangles and Aimee Mann for vocals, with Adrian Belew, Nile Rodgers and Rick Derringer on guitars for this 1986 sequel. In addition to fresh, co-authored material, she included two surprising covers, the funky 'lko lko' and the soulful 'What's Going On'. Best of all, the title track emerged as a standard that would be covered by Eva Cassidy, Phil Collins, the cast of Glee and others. An LP that oozes charm. KK

Sound Quality: 90%





THE LOVIN' SPOONFUL

Do You Believe In Magic

Sundazed LP5507 (mono; 180g vinyl)

Offered in rare mono, this sublime debut from 1965 included the title smash, their fourth hit, 'Did You Ever Have To Make Up Your Mind', and ten more tracks that explored their jugband/folkie roots while revealing their way with sublime pop. John Sebastian originals like a 'Younger Girl', later a hit for The Critters, shared space with traditional folk-blues numbers, along with a couple of covers, performed with the joie de vivre the band maintained throughout their career. Admittedly, it was a bit schizophrenic: back then, hip credibility among the folkies would be compromised by Top 40 success, but so what? It was as magical as the title enquired. KK

Sound Quality: 89%

