

to listen to. But, if you don't, you can blame me! 'Cos I had a big hand in choosing the material with Rick, and I think that there are some beautiful and unusual songs in there!

You know, I'd go so far as to call this the most legitimate album I've ever made. I'm not sure if you'll understand what I mean by that. In a way, it's all part of the fact that, for me, it's got a lot of nostalgia . . .

All the material's new, of course, but some of the moods are nostalgic. And this has been my big chance to express myself as I really am, *and me* as I remember myself. So it's kinda important from a personal angle.

Anyhow, as you've probably gathered by now, I'm feeling pretty good about this one. Of course, it's not perfect . . . And I'm already thinking about how I can make the next one even better! But don't imagine that's a depressing kind of a thought, because it shows me for sure that I'm *growing* musically. And that's what I want right now . . .

GROW AND DEVELOP

I want to grow, and develop and be allowed to take some decisions for myself. That way, even if the album doesn't go commercially, I'll be happy about it inside of myself.

As I write this, the release date could be any time now. All the preliminaries are done with — I was really pleased to be so involved in them, too. I even took a hand in helping to design the sleeve, which was tremendous fun! Hey! I wouldn't mind turning artist now and again, you know. It's terrific!

So I guess that, by the time you get to read this, it could be on the market already. And, if things work out right, that should mean that you'll have it in the record stores over in Britain, too. Because it really does seem that — at long last — we might pull off a same-time release!!

I've gotten so used to my records reaching you several months after their release over here, that I won't know what to make of it!

But it'll be real nice. For a start, once you've had a chance to hear the disc, I hope you might get to understand why I feel it's so special. And I'd like that to happen *soon!*

Another thing I'd like to happen soon is a good film script! I'm only mentioning this because I gather that quite a few of you have been wondering what on earth came of that movie I was planning on doing . . .

Well, I'm afraid the short answer to that one is: 'Nothing! So far . . .' I'm still gone on the idea, but I reckon that it's very important to wait for the *right* script to turn up. And so far — it hasn't!

TERRIBLE EYESTRAIN

An awful lot of *others* have, though! And, if it goes on this way much longer, my manager's going to end up with terrible eyestrain! You see, they're all sent to the office, so that I only get to see a very small proportion of them myself . . . The short-list candidates, I guess you'd call them. But that's been enough! I'd sure hate to have to cope with any more!

Some of them are pretty good — for some other guy! But I'm still hunting for the one I reckon could've been written for me and me only! And I'm quite happy to leave alone the full length movie till that special one turns up.

Still, there's no danger of me just treading water while I'm waiting! I've gotten myself plenty of plans laid on right through till next fall. So maybe I'd best not look too hard for the right film property till about then. Otherwise, my life's in danger of getting awful crowded again! And I want to keep some time in hand for all the preparations I'll need to make for my 1974 tour.

Can't wait to see you then! So I hope you're feeling the same way too!

Right now I'll have to quit, I'm afraid, because Sam's pen seems to be running out of ink! . . . I don't know! Some guys can't even keep a decent pen in the house to lend a pal! What do you think of that?

Love,
David



Above: Dave Madden's off again. He's a great guy to have around.

Below: This pic goes just before the one over the page . . . so turn over.

