

TRACKING DOWN DAVID'S GREATEST HITS!



Have YOU got every David Cassidy record that's ever been released? 'Cos, if you have, that leads me on to another question . . .

Why did you buy "David Cassidy's Greatest Hits"? Obviously it's a good bet for newcomers on the Cassidy record scene because, on one disc, it gives you a panoramic view of his recording career selecting some of the key points in his development as an artist since 1970. Even so, it's not altogether satisfactory as a first introduction to David's music.

DEVELOPMENT

There are no notes on the separate tracks and there's no indication of original recording dates, which would surely be helpful to anybody trying to trace the course of David's musical development.

And this brings me to yet another question: If you'd been asked to select the

eleven tracks which you personally thought represented David's musical achievements best, which would you have chosen?

I wonder if they'd have been the same all along the line? Clearly there are some landmarks that almost everyone would agree on. I guess "I Think I Love You" comes into this category, claiming its place as David's very first recording. And I must say, although he's now passed right out of this phase, the song still makes quite good listening, especially now that re-mixing has got rid of some of the original tinny quality of the tone.

I'd imagine "Cherish" would be near the top of most people's lists too. Partly for much the same reason—as David's first single—but also because I'm pretty sure that it's still a very well loved number, holding a lot of memories for many of you. As the first track on Side One, it sets the tone of the whole album: soft, romantic, yearning, yet with a certain impassioned force

underlying it.

"Rock Me Baby" takes us further, demonstrating David's very real and powerful feel for rock. It's a must, both in its own right as a splendid track showing his vocal versatility and also as a major turning point in his music.

With "Rock Me Baby" David really started to find his own musical feet and make his own personal wishes listened to and taken notice of. So it's from then on that the music begins to tell us something about David himself; and everything it tells is good.

Anything before this has got to be counted as David's "early" period when he had little freedom and little control over the material and the style chosen for recording. And one of the first things you notice about the "Greatest Hits" album is that it devotes the majority of track space to these earlier numbers. As against six pre-"Rock Me Baby" songs, there are only three that date after that: "Daydreamer", "Please Please Me" and "If I Didn't Care".

BALANCE

Now I don't know how you feel about this, but I'd have preferred the balance to have been weighted more evenly—if not the other way round . . .

Would you, for instance, have selected both "Doesn't Somebody Want To Be Wanted" and "I'll Meet You Halfway" from the "Up To Date" album? For me, the



Continued on next page

