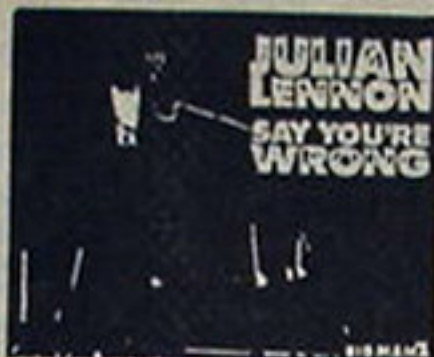


No. 1 SINGLE
WE ARE THE WORLD
USA For Africa

No. 1 ALBUM
PHIL COLLINS
No Jacket Required

SINGLE PICK

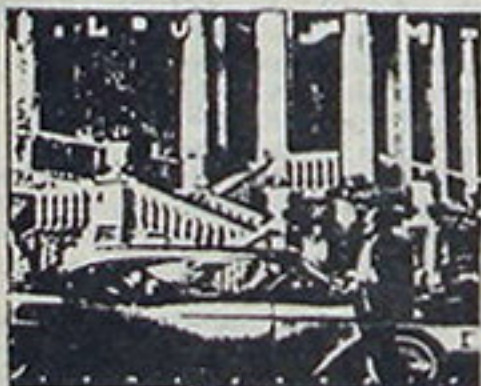


SAY YOU'RE WRONG
Julian Lennon
Atlantic - 78-95677-P

ALBUM PICKS



PAUL HYDE AND THE PAYOLAS
Here's The World For Ya
A&M - SP-5025-W



BELouis SOME
Some People
Capitol - ST-12345-F

HOUSTON DEBUT LAUNCHES YOUNG SINGER

"Whitney has the pedigree and style to be a major vocalist." — *Billboard*. "This is one of the most outstanding records I've heard in at least a decade by a new singer. A star has been born." — *New York Daily News*. "This is the most surefire bigtime debut since Sheena Easton's first LP in 1981." — *People*. The record in question is Arista recording artist Whitney Houston's self-titled debut LP, from which *You Give Good Love* has been taken as the first single.

The young woman responsible for these accolades sits curled up in an armchair in her Toronto hotel room — shockingly composed for a 21-yr.-old who has set the pop music establishment on its collective ear. "I think it (the LP) should be appreciated," Houston asserts, when she is read some U.S. press clippings. "It took a long time . . . it's good that the critics like it too. It makes me very happy." Daughter of R&B vocalist Cissy Houston, and first cousin to pop singer Dionne Warwick, the New Jersey-born Houston has worked as a backing vocalist since the age of 12. At 15, she toured Japan with her mother. "If there's anything I've learned from my mother," Houston explains, "it's to sing what you feel — don't let anybody convince you to sing something that you don't believe in. The song may not coincide with what every person is feeling, but it's going to reach someone." *You Give Good Love*, the LP's debut single, is supported by a smoothly edited, languid video that features Houston singing to a cameraman who is filming her. Her video character's teased hair and leather jacket are testament to Houston's ability to present any number of "looks". Houston sings a song, *Shock Me*, in an upcoming film. Perfect will feature John Travolta and Jamie Lee Curtis. "I'm not in the picture," Houston laughs. "I think that they have enough people already." When Houston had decided to sign a record contract, she held a showcase so that "record executives could come down and put in their bids." It was Arista President Clive Davis who lucked out. "Clive was one of the last to see me," Houston remembers. "He was late, he listened, and then he walked out without saying anything. I knew nothing about this man, but I had heard of his reputation for fairness and talent selection." The LP, produced by Jermaine Jackson, Kashif, Michael Masser, and Narada Michael Walden, features duets with Jackson and R&B legend Teddy Pendergrass. "Singing with other people has helped me a lot," Houston says. "It's added to my voice, and I've learned so much."

Houston performed earlier this week before an invited audience of media people and label personnel at Toronto's Club Bluenote. Among the handful of songs she sang to a backing track was *You Give Good Love*. Those assembled were given but a taste of the confident stage presence and thrilling

voice that promise to carry the young singer into the big time.

The LP's tracks are *You Give Good Love*, *Thinking About You*, *Someone For Me*, *Saving All My Love For You*, *Nobody Loves Me Like You Do*, *How Will I Know*, *All At Once*, *Take Good Care Of My Heart*, *Greatest Love Of All*, and *Hold Me*.



Arista has released a special "promo only" cassette package that includes a copy of the Whitney Houston cassette, and a booklet that contains an artist biography, libretto, and track listing. A duet with Jermaine Jackson, *Take Good Care Of My Heart*, appeared on Jackson's debut Arista LP. *You Give Good Love's* video was directed by Michael Lindsay-Hogg (The Rolling Stones, Simon & Garfunkel). In a decade that has witnessed the revival of heavy metal, a consolidation of electro-pop into the mainstream, and the full-fledged explosion of funk/dance music, there is yet another phenomenon at work — renewed interest in "singers" as opposed to "vocalists". Sade Adu and Alison Moyet are 2 of the best examples, and Whitney Houston fits the bill. Stylistic interpretation of others' writing seemed to be a lost art in popular music . . . presumably that time is now over. Whitney Houston has arrived.