



Mark Huff strums a little ditty on the ol' acoustic guitar.

Mark Huff becomes a success with the Inflatables

by Tricia Romano

On his debut record, *Happy Judgment Day*, Mark Huff played some nice folk tunes. This time around, his music has received a major kick in the butt, courtesy of his new bandmates The Inflatables.

Truth is Chaos, the second release for Huff, but the first outing for "Mark Huff and the Inflatables," features a livelier singer than on the debut record. And that's good news.

Huff and his "inflatablemates," featuring Tim Jackson (drums, keyboards), Greg Smith (violin, bass), and Matt Wood, (bass, guitar), fare better when the volume is turned up and when the pace picks up. Nice folk tunes are still nice folk tunes, but if you can kick a little ass and still get your point across, well, the effect has longer-lasting re-

sults.

Case in point: "Death," starts off slow and gradually builds up the pace until it has you running to catch up to the guitars, and then... it's time to slow down again. "Death" is a rollercoaster of a song.

"I Don't Believe a Word," is a signature Huff song: folk stuff turned electric with a bit of a message.

"We used to have heroes we could trust, now, these

days, they seem to vanish to dust," sings Huff.

The Bob Dylan influence is obvious, as are the Waterboys, but this is not necessarily a bad thing. Huff is not concerned with creating cutting edge futuristic music; he wants to write the old-fashioned way, without all of the synthesizers and distortion and studio tricks. He wants to write honestly.

He succeeds.

Exodus Records Release Party

Join Mark Huff and the Inflatables for the Exodus Records release party of *Truth is Chaos*. All those wanting to get a sneak listen of the latest Inflatable disk can do so at Favorites at 9 p.m. on Saturday.



GRAMMY NOMINATIONS

RECORD OF THE YEAR	METAL PERFORMANCE
"Tears in Heaven" Eric Clapton	"In the Meantime" Helmet
"Achy Breaky Heart" Billy Ray Cyrus	"Countdown to Extinction" Megadeth
"Constant Craving" kd lang	"N.W.O." Ministry
"Save the Best for Last" Vanessa Williams	"Wish" Nine Inch Nails
"Beauty and the Beast" Celine Dion and Peabo Bryson	"Into the Void" Soundgarden
ALBUM OF THE YEAR	ROCK SONG
"Unplugged" Eric Clapton	"Layla" Eric Clapton
"Ingenu" kd lang	"Digging in the Dirt" Peter Gabriel
"Diva" Annie Lennox	"Smells Like Teen Spirit" Nirvana
"Achtung Baby" U2	"Jeremy" Pearl Jam
"Beauty and the Beast" Various artists	"Human Touch" Bruce Springsteen
NEW ARTIST	ALTERNATIVE MUSIC ALBUM
Arrested Development	"Good Stuff" B-52's
Billy Ray Cyrus	"Wish" The Cure
Sophie B. Hawkins	"Your Arsenal" Morrissey
Kriss Kross	"Bone Machine" Tom Waits
Jon Secada	"Nonsuch" XTC
ROCK VOCAL, DUO OR GROUP	RAP SOLO
"Free Your Mind" En Vogue	"Addams Groove" Hammer
"Little Village" Little Village	"Strictly Business" L.L. Cool J.
"Kiko" Los Lobos	"You Gotta Believe" Marky Mark
"Under the Bridge" Red Hot Chili Peppers	"Latifah's Had It Up 2 Here" Queen Latifah
"Achtung Baby" U2	"Baby Got Back" Sir Mix A Lot
HARD ROCK PERFORMANCE	RAP PERFORMANCE BY A DUO OR GROUP
"Dirt" Alice in Chains	"Tennessee" Arrested Development
"Angel Dust" Faith No More	"Check Your Head" Beastie Boys
"Live and Let Die" Guns N' Roses	"Jump Around" House of Pain
"Smells Like Teen Spirit" Nirvana	"Jump" Kriss Kross
"Jeremy" Pearl Jam	"Greatest Misses" Public Enemy
"Give It Away" Red Hot Chili Peppers	