

# Halesowen News

## MUSIC

### Kevin Bryan's record reviews

10:58am Tuesday 26th July 2011

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The latest reviews from Kevin Bryan.

Marty Balin, "Live at the Boston Esplanade" (MVD MVDV 4851)- The former Jefferson Airplane frontman's first solo DVD was recorded live at an open air concert in Boston three summers ago, and found Balin strolling languidly down memory lanes as he revisited some choice moments from his illustrious back catalogue. Local rock celebrity Didi Stewart occupied the Grace Slick role with all the lumbering grace of the proverbial drunken aunt at a party, and Marty's attempts to rouse his spectacularly unresponsive audience from their collective torpor largely fell on deaf ears despite the presence in his set list of rabble-rousing gems from the late sixties such as "Volunteers," "White Rabbit," and "Somebody To Love."

Ace, "Five-a-Side"(Cherry Red CDBRED 493)- Ace seemed destined for great things when their debut single, "How Long," soared effortlessly into the higher reaches of the singles charts in both Britain and America during the mid-seventies, but the stylish pub-rockers inexplicably failed to capitalise on this initial burst of success, and finally threw in the towel for good in 1977. The band's excellent 1974 album, "Five-a Side" has now been re-issued by Cherry Red with the addition of a string of fine bonus tracks culled from BBC radio sessions, and their melodic fusion of pop and funk still repays closer investigation almost four decades after it was first captured for posterity.

Mick Ronson, "Heaven and Hull" (Lemon CDLEM 193)- This strangely poignant collection served as Mick Ronson's musical epitaph, as it was released

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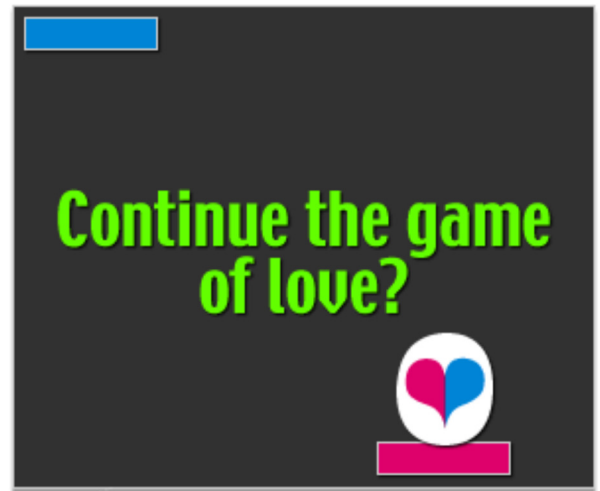
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