

# SINGLES

This week the Sugarcubes' Bjork, Einar and Siggi, hot off a plane from their native Iceland, are kind enough to lend us their ears as they ponder on the new single releases. Deejaying by Paul Simper. Cubist snaps by Mauro Carraro.

**SONIA**  
**I Can't Forget You (Chrysalis)**  
*(Yes, SAW's latest chart-topper with the biggest smile in pop is back.)*  
**Bjork:** (Keen to get on with it, starts before the two lads arrive) I like the sleeve — the same colours as ours. She looks nice. She might make a good nanny for my child. I'm looking for one at the moment. (Frowns) But she'd have to be able to speak Icelandic and I don't think she does. As for the music to be honest it goes in here (indicates left ear) and out the other side.  
**Star rating:** It's not really even on that level. It's almost not music. Give it a square.  
**Chart prediction:** 10



**EINAR'S SINGLE OF THE WEEK**  
**THE RAMONES**  
**Pet Sematary (WEA)**  
*(The Ramones were all the rage as American new wavers in punk days who did songs like 'Sheena Is A Punk Rocker'. This is from the new Stephen King horror movie of the same name!)*  
**Einar:** (Not waiting to hear it) This is brilliant.  
**Simper:** Do you think it's a weird song for a horror movie?  
**Siggi:** No, I think it's a good song. Horror movies should have jolly songs in them.  
**Einar:** And nobody does better choruses than The Ramones. This is good Hoovering music. You put this on and you go swoosh with the Hoover...  
**Bjork:** And Public Enemy is good for washing the dishes when they've sat there for two days.  
**Star rating:** ★★★★★  
**Chart prediction:** Nine.



**GINA FOSTER**  
**Love Is A House (RCA)**  
*(A remix for this young singing sensation — 'big in the clubs' as they say.)*  
**Simper:** It doesn't sound like house music but is house popular in Iceland?  
**Bjork:** They've just opened the first regular club for that type of music. Before that it had to be done secretly. It wouldn't make me dance although I go to a lot of clubs when I'm in Europe. I like Public Enemy and Chaka Khan. This is too smooth for my tastes.  
**Einar:** (Taking up seat) Car music. Typical non-descript music that a bloke driving to work listens to in his car. It doesn't disturb me so much that I would have to stop the car.  
**Star rating:** ★  
**Chart prediction:** 25

**DAN REED NETWORK**  
**Tiger In A Dress (Phonogram)**  
*(Dan's PR at Phonogram reckons this young fella is the new Prince — as opposed to the old one.)*  
**Bjork:** (Breaking into fits of laughter as she shakes her head about with rock 'n' roll abandon) Oh, it's just this type of music. Hih hih hih!  
**Einar:** (After an earnest conference in his native tongue with Bjork) We are wordless on this, Siggi (who has conveniently entered the room) will have to do this one.  
**Siggi:** (Happy in his work) It's completely uninspirational in every way. I've heard this all millions of times before.  
**Bjork:** He's not the new Prince. He's the new Geiri Seem.  
**Siggi:** (Helpfully) An Icelandic teenybop star.  
**Star rating:** A triangle!

**Chart prediction:** Einar: He'll be Number One with his third single from this one when he's hopefully learnt from his mistakes.



**BJORK'S SINGLE OF THE WEEK**  
**KATE BUSH**  
**Sensual World (EMI)**  
*(Two years beaver away quietly this is Kate's first work since 'The Hounds Of Love' LP.)*  
**Bjork:** I used to be a big Kate Bush fan when I was about 12, when her first record came out. But I was really disappointed with 'Hounds Of Love'. It's not enough really to just listen to this once. I like it.  
**Star rating:** ★★★★★  
**Chart prediction:** I don't know. People here in this country like her don't they? 15, maybe.

**BROS**  
**Chocolate Box (CBS)**  
*(Yes 'tis they!)*  
**Bjork:** They know what they're doing. You can't blame them. They're getting what they want. That's what life's about isn't it.  
**Siggi:** (Studying words on back of sleeve) I would say that lyrically this is the worst-est-est-est I've seen for a long time.  
**Einar:** It's a collection of clichés of words without any connection — "you want your cake and eat it/ with a silver spoon in your hand". It's silver spoon in mouth. This is total... they even got it wrong! It's not as good as

'When Will I Be Famous'. But the worst mistake they made was printing the words on the back of the sleeve.  
**Star rating:** Bjork: (Burps) Eight.  
**Chart prediction:** One.

**PAUL SIMPSON featuring TERRI JEFFRIES**  
**Everybody's A Star (Cooltempo)**  
*(The fellow who helped Adeva out on 'Musical Freedom'.)*  
**Siggi:** Good dance record.  
**Einar:** But it doesn't have much oomf.  
**Bjork:** (Tapping away on the table.) It's got a good beat.  
**Siggi:** It sounds very normal.  
**Simper:** Normal being good or bad?  
**Einar:** It sounds very usual. And in usual it's probably very good for dancing.  
**Star rating:** ★★  
**Chart prediction:** High on the dance chart.

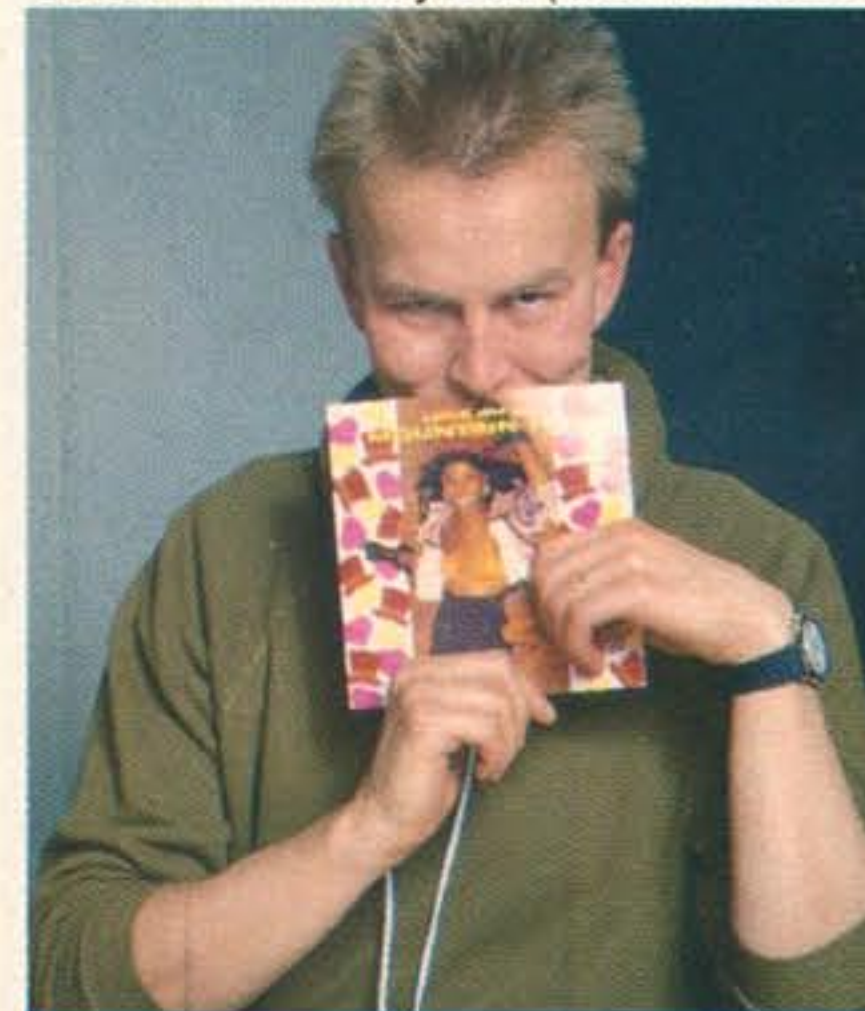
**THE PRIMITIVES**  
**Secrets (Lazy Records)**  
*(Tracey Tracey's hair is still dark red as the Indies of old return.)*  
**Siggi:** She should have stayed a model (Siggi has been distracted by the full-bosomed cover shot of the Belinda Carlisle single, of which more later).  
**Einar:** I think this is what we could call in Iceland typical British pop/rock.  
**Siggi:** It's almost like they're covering an old Ramones song but without the oomf.  
**Bjork:** I have nothing against the Primitives, it's just er...  
**Einar:** This silly notion that the British are best at making guitar rock music which is absolute rubbish.  
**Bjork:** It's got no charge. It's too safe.  
**Star rating:** ★★  
**Chart prediction:** Top 20.

**HELEN TERRY**  
**Lessons In Loneliness (Virgin)**  
*(Helen used to sing with Culture Club*

*and Boy George before striking out on a not wildly successful solo career. She has returned.)*  
**Siggi:** This is a bit depressing for us.  
**Bjork:** My mum would like this. Ladies' rock.  
**Simper:** Would that be Tina Turner?  
**Bjork:** No. She used to like Joni Mitchell. She likes Anita Baker and Tracy Chapman. Ladies rock.  
**Einar:** This is very romantic to listen to in a pub with your best loved ones with a smile on your face. You sing along with your pint of Guinness.  
**Star rating:** ★★½ (for doing 'Church Of The Poisoned Mind' with Culture Club)  
**Chart prediction:** Top 50.

**THIS PICTURE**  
**The Naked Rain EP (Rough Trade)**  
*(A budding new group who are mates of Jaynie Senior, our illustrious Features Ed.)*  
**Bjork:** It sounds very old fashioned.  
**Siggi:** This could be like '82. But then a lot of music could be '82.  
**Star rating:** ★★ ("for being honest music", Bjork)  
 ★★★ ("for the violin", Siggi)  
**Chart prediction:** 35, possibly. "It's kind of folksy and fun."

**BILLY OCEAN**  
**Licence To Chill (Epic)**  
*(Billy likes a movie tie-in like Jewel In The Nile but this has now to do with 007!)*  
**Bjork:** The video for 'Caribbean Queen' was excellent. This lady in a cage in exotic clothes.  
**Siggi:** I like his voice. Something about it is not very bad (work that one



**SIGGI'S SINGLE OF THE WEEK**  
**SINITTA**  
**Love On A Mountain Top (Fanfare)**  
*(The one and only...)*  
**Bjork:** (After 10 seconds takes it off. Is she going to smash it? No... ) I think I heard some space drums (she starts it again). Yes. Listen. Space drums (she looks pleased). Very clever. Far Away. (While the boys join in on the oo-woos) She would like it in Iceland. She could make love on a glacier.  
**Siggi:** This isn't very convincing — the lyrics — I can't see her making love on a mountain.  
**Einar:** She's done better songs.  
**Simper:** Can you picture the video?  
**Siggi:** It would be hot and very beautiful. Not many clothes. Good make-up. Sinitta is fun.  
**Star rating:** ★★★★★  
**Chart prediction:** Nine.

*out, Billy).* It has to be a dance hit. He rarely farts unless it's a dance hit. There's a groove to this but it's not super-super catchy. The title is probably a joke on the Bond film.  
**Star rating:** ★★ for his voice.  
**Chart prediction:** 16.

**LISA M**  
**Going Back To My Roots (Jive)**  
*(Lisa is a new young protégée of The Style Council who have magnanimously produced this umpteenth version of a fine old dance hit.)*  
**Bjork:** (Studying the piece of vinyl in her hands) This has a secret message in the grooves — "who had a little curl?" (Lisa M has) And "Utopia"... It's so obvious what this is supposed to be.  
**Siggi:** People can redo old dance tunes if they have fun with it. I don't see why not (grins). Plus they make a lot of money. This is a nice hip-hopish version.  
**Einar:** It's very predictable (apes enthusiastic board meeting) 'Let's go and do a rap version of 'Going Back To My Roots' Yeah!  
**Star rating:** ★★  
**Chart prediction:** Five.

**BELINDA CARLISLE**  
**Leave A Light On (Virgin)**  
*(The ex-Go-Go who had a Number One hit with 'Heaven Is A Place On Earth' a couple of years ago.)*  
**Bjork:** (Having put on the extended mix which comes on like a choral version of 'The Reflex') Let's just do the seven-inch.  
**Siggi:** She's starting to sound like Abba! (The seven-inch takes over...)  
**Einar:** Bing, bing, bing (he is taking the rise out of some rather obvious guitar playing).  
**Bjork:** I'll tell you one thing, I hate the voice. It's so... (she wiggles her throat).  
**Siggi:** She sings like a sheep.  
**Bjork:** And it's not like she wants to sing that way. It's as if she's doing it for duty's sake. (She flicks the needle off). Have fun, Belinda.  
**Star rating:** A circle. And a kiss from Siggi. And a star from Einar if she knows Tiffany.  
**Chart prediction:** A miss.

**DEBBIE HARRY**  
**I Want That Man (Chrysalis)**  
*(Debbie's been acting and singing since Blondie days and this new one appears to be produced by one-time Thompson Twin Tom Bailey.)*  
**Bjork:** I would have expected something more exciting from her.  
**Siggi:** That song sounds very dull. She should have gone more of a dance way. Got some house boys in and been like the grand old lady singing over the top of it (as he talks a noise not unlike an express train starts to grow from the speakers. Einar is standing thoughtfully by the record deck).  
**Einar:** This is the other side 'Bike Boy'. This is more like it (and indeed it is as Debs snaps and yells while wild guitars come apart at the seams). She does good rock and roll.  
**Star rating:** ★★★★★ for the B-side.  
**Chart prediction:** Einar: if they play 'Bike Boy' on the radio — Three — 'cos they can sing it on the terraces.