

late '69 with 21.5 minute version of title track, cover of a TEMPTATIONS hit, edited for no. 4 single. Other LPs steadily slipped down chart: *Ecology* '70, *One World* '71, *Rare Earth In Concert and Willie Remembers* '72, *Ma* '73, *Back To Earth* '75, *Rare Earth and Band Together* on Prodigal '77-8.

RASCALS, YOUNG RASCALS White soul quartet formed '65 NYC by three refugees from Joey DEE and the Starliters: Felix Cavaliere (b 29 Nov. '44, NYC) on keyboards, Eddie Brigati (b 22 Oct. '46, NYC), vocalist; Gene Cornish (b 14 May '45, Ottawa) on guitar; plus drummer Dino Danelli (b 23 July '45, NYC). Named after TV comedy; played in N.J. clubs and were soon signed by Ahmet Ertegun to Atlantic (competing with Phil SPECTOR, etc.); had 13 USA top 40 singles '66-9. First LP *The Young Rascals* '66 no. 15 incl. no. 1 single 'Good Lovin'' with Cavaliere lead vocal; *Collections* '67 reached one notch higher with no top 10 hit; *Groovin'* was no. 5 LP with no. 1 title hit (top 10 UK): with LOVIN' SPOONFUL's 'Summer In The City' the era's premier summer listening track; album also incl. top 10 'A Girl Like You' (their only other UK hit, in top 40), no. 4 'How Can I Be Sure', rivalling ASSOCIATION for lush harmony, covered by David Cassidy. Dropped 'Young' from their name '67; all had been experienced sessioneers, Dinelli playing with Lionel HAMPTON as a teenager; *Groovin'* already showed move towards jazz: as they found room on LPs for sidemen Ron CARTER, Hubert LAWS, Joe Farrell, Joe NEWMAN etc. their beautiful 'blue-eyed soul' vocal blend was obscured; they adopted increasing anti-racist stance, refused to play without a black act on the bill, playing a Martin Luther King benefit, but the times had changed and the golden age of soul was over. Top 20 2-disc *Freedom Suite* '70 incl. no. 1 hit 'People Got To Be Free', instrumental LP called 'Music Music'; *Search And Nearness* '71 barely made top 200. Brigati, Cornish left as they switched to Columbia, replaced by guitarist Buzzy Feiten (ex-Paul BUTTERFIELD), vocalist Ann Sutton, bassist Robert 'Pops' Popwell; *Peaceful World* and *The Island Of Real* '71-2 did not make top 100. Ahead of their time: in competition with HALL & OATES (white act topping black chart early

'80s) they'd have been superstars. Cavaliere made eponymous solo album '74, *Destiny* '75 on Bearsville, *Treasure* '76 and *Castle In The Air* '80 on Epic, to critical praise, poor sales; Cornish and Danelli formed Bulldog; in '80s Cavaliere prod. and Danelli drummed for Steve VAN ZANDT's Disciples Of Soul; Popwell played with CRUSADERS.

RASCOE, Moses (b 27 July '17, Windsor, N.C.) Country blues singer, guitarist. Bought first guitar at 13 from mail-order catalogue, left home at 15, drove truck for Allied Van Lines 1946-83, singing for free drinks or amusement at truck stops. 'You're supposed to let the guitar talk to you. You sing to it.' After retirement sang in local clubs in York, Pa.; discovered by manager Harriet Kyriakos, first pro performance '86 opening for Dave VAN RONK, then for Michael Bromberg, Koko TAYLOR; he had never heard of any of them, but got ovations and found out what an encore was. Plays six- and 12-string, act described as a 'dignified and elegant rendition of American heritage'; first LP was due on Flying Fish late '87. 'I knew I could play guitar, but being great, I never thought about it. I don't even think about it now.' (Quoted by UPI feature writer Ken Franckling.)

RASPBERRIES, The USA pop group formed in Cleveland '70 by classically trained Eric Carmen (b 11 Aug. '49, Cleveland), guitar; Wally Bryson (b 18 July '49, Gastonia, N.C.) and Dave Smalley (b 10 July '49, Oil City, Pa.), guitars; Jim Bonfanti (b 17 Dec. '48, Windber, Pa.), drums. Ex-Cyrus Erie singer Carmen doubled on bass, keyboards; others were members of the Choir; Bonfanti had drummed on 'Time Won't Let Me' by hitmakers the Outsiders (no. 5 '66, with lead singer Sonny Geraci), only Cleveland group except JAMES GANG to reach national charts in '60s. Rasps shared enthusiasm for sound of British Invasion (the Choir known as the Mods at one point). Demos attracted Jimmy Jenner who signed them to Capitol, prod. eponymous first LP '72, incl. no. 5 single 'Go All The Way'. Carmen wrote this and majority of hits; had teen-appeal looks, and lyrics devoted to romance came close to pin-up pop, but band's skill and musical muscle kept them in with more than a