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APRIL 1987 No 26

the

BEAT

50p

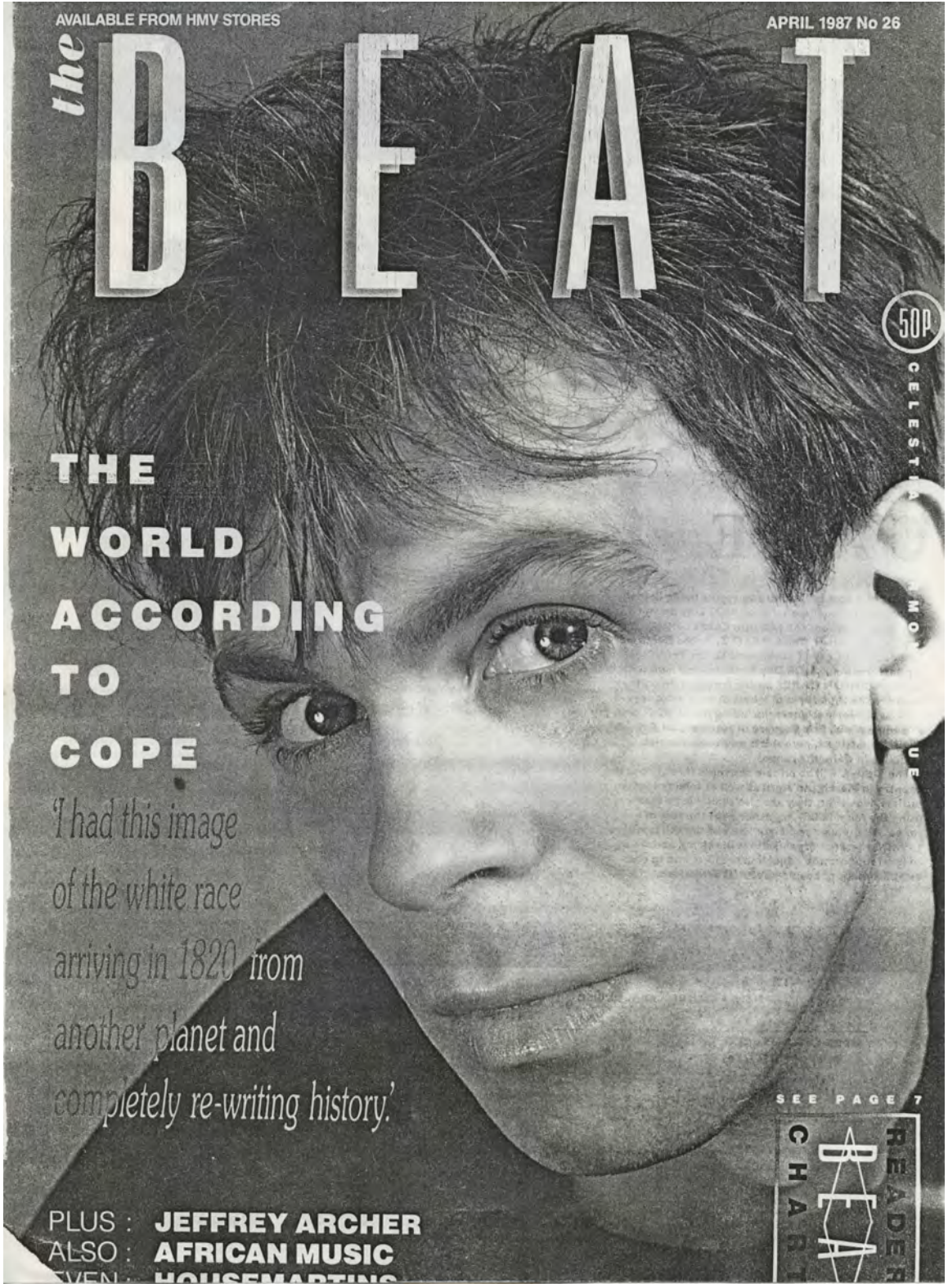
THE WORLD ACCORDING TO COPE

*'I had this image
of the white race
arriving in 1820 from
another planet and
completely re-writing history.'*

PLUS : **JEFFREY ARCHER**
ALSO : **AFRICAN MUSIC**
EVEN : **HOUSEMARTINS**

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READER
CHART





Joanna Stingray, in Leningrad, with members of Russian underground bands Kino and Alisa.

THE LIST

Beat Magazine - London April 1987

CAMPER VAN BEETHOVEN are definitely mad. They are American. They make very good music that sometimes sounds like a Ukranian Polka, and other times sounds like a rowdy afternoon on someone's back porch. They call their songs things



like *Take The Skinheads Bowling* and pound them out to a foot-tapping beat with fiddles and gee-tars. Over in Britain for a mini-tour, they put their heads together and compiled a list of their favourite things. A sort of recipe for life.

- 1) **Gila Monsters** - those frilly necked ones in prehistoric B movies, "because of the way they look"
- 2) **Spacecrafts** - "Rather not say why"
- 3) **Paint** - oil spray or enamel
- 4) **Belgian beer**
- 5) **An overwhelming sense of beauty and/or fulfillment**
- 6) **Delectation**
- 7) **Water**
- 8) **Melody**
- 9) **Movement**
- 10) **Large rooms.**

The Campers say the reasons why they like these



SMALLEST & THE BEST

In June Sanyo are putting out on the market a CD player that's so small you won't even be able to see it. Already selling well in Japan, the CP12, measuring just 125 x 19.8 x 127.5mm, offers innovative technology and impressive styling (I got that straight from the press blurb) with all sorts of things like remote control (which'll be handy seeing as you could lose the thing under a cigarette packet), 16-track memory and fast access, which all sound really fancy to me. You can also use it as a portable hi fi. With its batteries you can pick it up for a

ROCKIN' RUSSIANS

Joanna Stingray, a musician from Los Angeles, certainly looks like she ought to be a pop star, but in fact she's closer to being a secret agent.

Since 1984 she's been sneaking contraband master tapes of rock music out of Russia and they're about to be released here on the album *Red Wave*, through Big Time Records.

"Russian rock bands make some incredible music," she explains, "and I want people in the West to be able to hear it, because I was once in Disneyland and I asked a bunch of kids what they thought about Russia, and one said, 'We've got to nuke them, get rid of them!' The rest all cheered and shouted 'Yeah!' so I figured maybe it was time they had a better understanding of what it's really like over there."

The best Russian rock doesn't normally slip through the Iron Curtain, because rock is not generally officially approved of. There are government approved bands (like Autograph who played at Live Aid) but according to Stingray, "they look like cocktail lounge bands from the 1950s."

Western rock is hard to come by in Russia. The Beatles' *Hard Days Night* has only just become available, and there's a huge black market in albums by Pink Floyd and Genesis, but Stingray discovered that she was also aware of bands like The Smiths and Cabaret Voltaire, and that local punks dye their hair pink, wear leather and do a neat line in slam dancing.

The *Red Wave* album features such groups as Kino, Alisa, Strange Games and Aquarium, all from Leningrad, the Russian musical equivalent of Liverpool. Since the release of *Red Wave* in America, the Soviet authorities have softened their line on the Leningrad underground bands, and Aquarium have