



A Singh and a Squeeze at the Jazz Café

THIS week the Jazz Café entertains two names that have in their very different ways played big parts in British popular music, writes *Andrew Brightwell*.

Talvin Singh, a Mercury Music Prize-winner for his adept combination of Asian, pop, orchestral and dance influences, will appear at the Camden Town venue tomorrow.

And Glenn Tilbrook, frontman and singer-songwriter of pop group Squeeze, will make his appearance on Tuesday (May 23).

Singh makes a fairly late-night entry at the Jazz Café, at 11pm with a DJ set. This should be a good opportunity to appreciate this talented musician's many skills – which, if you are not familiar with them, have led the likes of Bjork and Madonna to his door for help with their albums.

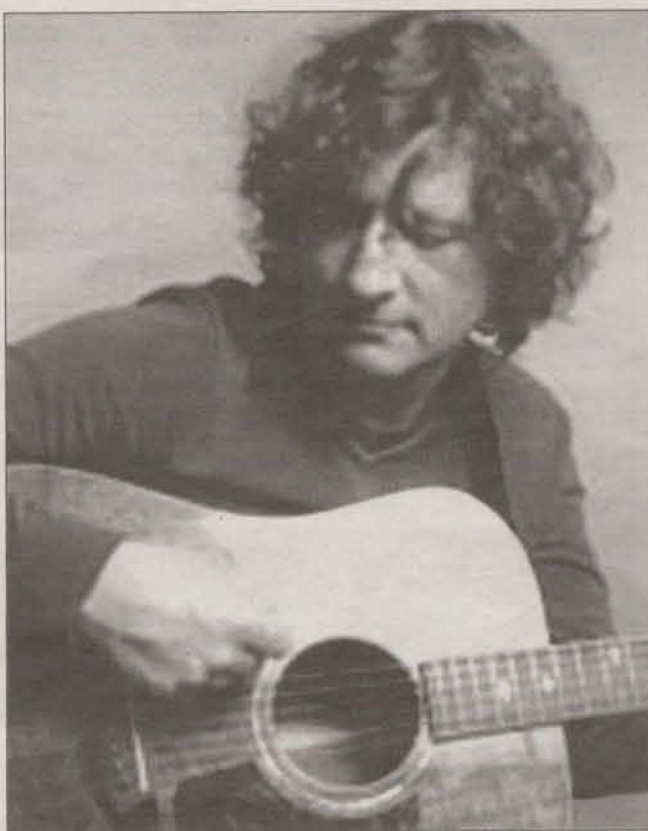
After 25 years at the helm of Squeeze, Tilbrook hardly needs any introduction. He will be at the Jazz Café following the release of his second solo album, *Transatlantic Ping Pong*.

□ The Dirty Pretty Things were reviewed favourably in this column two weeks ago at the Camden Crawl.

They are known to most as the new band of the other half of The Libertines, Carl Barat, and they have already sold out two nights at the Forum, so tickets for the remaining gig on Monday will not take long to go. But fear not, for tonight (Friday May 19) there is much fun to be had at the Kentish Town venue in the shape of Mr Scruff.

Expect a humorous night of dance music tinged with the sounds of brass and jazz.

□ The oddest gig to grab attention this week, however, has to be Deva Premal and Miten. Legend has it they can count among their fans Cher and the Dalai Lama, although it is debatable whether this unlikely pair will be rubbing shoulders with other punters at the Shaw Theatre on Saturday June 10.



German-born Deva Premal and London-born Miten (born Andy Desmond – who was once a singer-songwriter under this name) are now devotees of the power of the mantra.

With their "New Age – sacred contemporary music" they have become big hits around the world. Quite what this means is anyone's guess, but expect a lot of chanting.

□ Monday (May 22) sees the release of *Adult Acne* – the new single for The Boyfriends, whose singer Martin Wallace is from Holloway. Wallace rather honestly admits the track is inspired by feeling thoroughly unattractive.

He says: "The song was written at a time when I found it impossible to get a first glance from anyone, let alone a second."

He professes, too, to making

music that doesn't exactly sing joyously from the rooftops.

"I see a lot of music being made for gregarious people who have never wanted for a party invitation but we make music for the people who don't get invited to parties."

It won't come as a surprise, then, that the band has been supporting Morrissey.

□ For tickets to gigs at the Jazz Café and the Forum call 0870 060 3777. To see Deva Premal and Miten on June 10 at 3pm or 7.30pm, costing £20, call the Shaw Theatre box office on 0870 033 2600. *Adult Acne* by The Boyfriends is released on Monday by Boobytrap Records. Check out their website www.theboyfriends.com for more information.