

THE CORTINAS/EUROPEANS/MEDIA

Sept. 24

Locarno.

The Media played a powerful, energetic and, in places, exhilarating set. However, the band are best heard in produced form; their sound being a little too raw on stage. Rachel looked pretty (nervous).

Musically, The Media revolve around the energy generated by Thos (resplendent in red-lipsticked kiss-marks) and his drum kit, complemented by John and Nick's guitars.

Although the set started with a strong song (the anti NF 'Wild On The Sidewalk'), it sagged dangerously at the beginning, before picking up with the splendid 'I Wasn't There'

From then on, the set went from strength to strength - 'I Wanna Be A Number', 'New Blood'

'After Oblivion' and 'Playland'  
Europeans played too loud  
-but they are an excellent  
band. After all, this was only  
their third gig.

The single 'Europeans',  
featuring an extended intro-  
-duction, was both the first  
and best number. The mix was  
pretty (non-existent), Jon-  
-athon's synthesiser const-  
-antly being drowned.

In the form of Jon Klein,  
(facial expressions, leaps,  
poses, runs etc.) Europeans  
have one excellent guitarist.

'Voices', 'Future Visions'  
and 'The Only One' were the  
other memorable songs.

The Cortinas played a  
quite amazing set; incorporat-  
-ing the bulk of their new  
album 'True Romances'. They  
received three encores: all  
thoroughly deserved.

After an introduction  
from Miles Copeland, they  
broke into Smokey Robinson's  
'First I Look At The Purse'.  
The rhythm section was

excellent. Danny Swan (natty  
hat) having a seemingly lazy  
style, full of bounce but al-  
-ways supplying the correct  
beat. Dexter pumped the bass  
lines out constantly, and Nick  
Sneppard leapt around a lot,  
but still managed to play  
perfect rhythm. Mike Fewins  
hid himself in the corner, not  
moving until forced to. His  
guitar solos were original,  
and flowed excellently within  
the songs. Jeremy Valentine  
had an extremely fine night  
vocally, being particularly  
powerful on 'Radio Rape'.

Every song was a carbon  
copy of the album version;  
which don't really need add-  
-ing to. - 'Tribe Of The City',  
'Further Education' (no sax),  
'Heartache', an extremely pow-  
-erful 'Have it with You' and  
'Ask Mr. Waverly'.

**They** encored with 'Gloria'  
the favourite 'Television  
Families' and 'Mr. Waverly'  
again. A rather brilliant gig.

