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NEW A

Kossuth Nyomda – Budapest

EVA

The most successful singer in Hungary in 1988 was Eva. The hitlist which documents the annual sales for records and tapes demonstrates this. The number one selling record is Eva's "Year of the Dragon", and its English version was released in Korea during the Seoul Olympics. It will also be released in Japan by Toshiba-EMI in July. "Clap your hands for Gorbachev", which has been released on 7" in Austria, Scandinavia, the Netherlands and in Hungary, where it caused a big sensation, is featured on this record as well.

Eva has another album in the top 10 of the above mentioned hitlist. Taken together, the sales for both records total 460 000 copies in Hungary which, considering that it is a market of only 10 million people, represents a quite unbelievable success.

Let's not forget, too, that Eva is also a singer in a top Hungarian group and, parallel to Eva's solo LPs, the band releases records as well. Its success is helped by Eva's popularity. These releases are hits in the Hungarian market, too.

A British composer, well-known in this trade all over Europe, writes Eva's songs and, in addition, there are songs on her albums written by two members of the above mentioned band, Newton Family.

Success for Eva is nothing new. She won the Grand Prix at the Yamaha Festival in 1983 and was invited back the following year to perform in the Gala concert with her band. Two of her solo LPs were released in Japan,

she has given 40 concerts and now she is going to perform again at the Gala celebration of the Yamaha festival.

Eva says that her success abroad doesn't mean as much to her as in her own country. However, there are some exceptions. She remembers with happiness when she first sang and won the best performer prize in Seoul, at a time when hardly anyone visited Korea from the Soviet bloc. Eva is very proud of the fact that she could sing a song by a Munich composer at the gala concert marking the opening of the Olympic Games, and earlier she was able to sing this song at a mass concert for the opening of the Olympic year. "It was a very good feeling"

says Eva. "I was just there in Seoul when it was announced that my country had opened diplomatic relations with South Korea, and I believe that I helped a teeny-weeny bit in this opening process". Eva mentions with the same enthusiasm that Israeli TV showed that her Gorbachev song was broadcast on BBC at New Year's Eve, and not even for the first time. In addition, Sky channel introduced her just when its programmes could be received in Hungary too.

Eva has a contract with WEA, which will release her album in Austria.

It is an interesting occurrence that a pop star who sang about Gorbachev in

1987 has enjoyed an unbroken popularity. At that time, the English text for the song, as well as welcoming Gorbachev, was also a bit ironic and cheeky. When a section of the Hungarian press attacked the singer because of this song, broadcast on TV at New Year, the singer suddenly turned more serious and threw down the gauntlet to the conservative press by issuing the Hungarian text of the song.

