

Maluma to record in Zimbabwe

TEAL Records (Zambia) Limited have sponsored self-styled reggae man Larry Maluma to release two singles in Zimbabwe.

The singles, *Chimutima Chako/One To Five* and *Ulemu/Black or White*, were first recorded here at DB Studios and will be remixed and produced under Gramma Records who are a sister company to Teal Records.

According to Larry, Teal general manager Stewart Lamb was highly impressed with the music when he heard it, and said that that kind of music, particularly the songs in Zambian languages, would be in vogue in Europe in five years' time.

"The singles will be released in Zimbabwe by September or October," he said in his well-known husky voice.

Teal have stepped forward to give Larry a real push-up, judging by the way they are footing all expenses and requirements involved in his trip. Even the expenses he undertook in recording his music have been refunded.

Larry is supposed to have already left for Zimbabwe with Mr Lamb. You will be simply amazed to hear what Larry is doing. Man, has he improved!

"Chimutima Chako" has an Afro-rock saturation about it, and is a warning to girls whose tastes are so high that they cannot tolerate men who are not "townish" or who cannot provide chicken curry.

It is transversely a warning to men who believe in town girls for the sake of the girls' modernity.

The sprinting rhythm guitar, bobbing bass and steady drums are in this cut amusingly contradicted by a calm, flowing synthesiser. Of a truth, this is the sort of arrangement that if maintained could easily frighten the biggest names in African music.

"One To Five" is a reggae piece with a marked, heavy use of the synthesiser. It is a sort of litany, seeking the freedom of the children and the man who believes in Jah.

on "Ganja Generation" and "Natty Dread" by Supermax, is superb. There is an outstanding electronic feel about this song, with distinct guitar punctuations. This is possibly the most up-to-date reggae production by any Zambian artiste.

"Ulemu" emphasises respect for people in different situations. Mocking others will one day backfire badly on the mocker. Difficult to ignore is the leading of the horn, and a well defined Afro-rock refrain.

"Black or White" is a plea for all colours to unite and share one love since all people are the same. This particular tune is not as catchy as the first three, though. The soprano-alto fusion of horn dabs needs smothering — they are too jarring and "breath-taking."

The overall co-ordination and unison of the four songs is striking. Larry has a lot to offer and seems set to stand out.

A serious failing with the music is the strength and harmony of his backing vocalists. Whoever they are, they occasionally throw a strange touch to his advance when they back him up.

By Charles Kachikoti



• MALUMA — assured success.