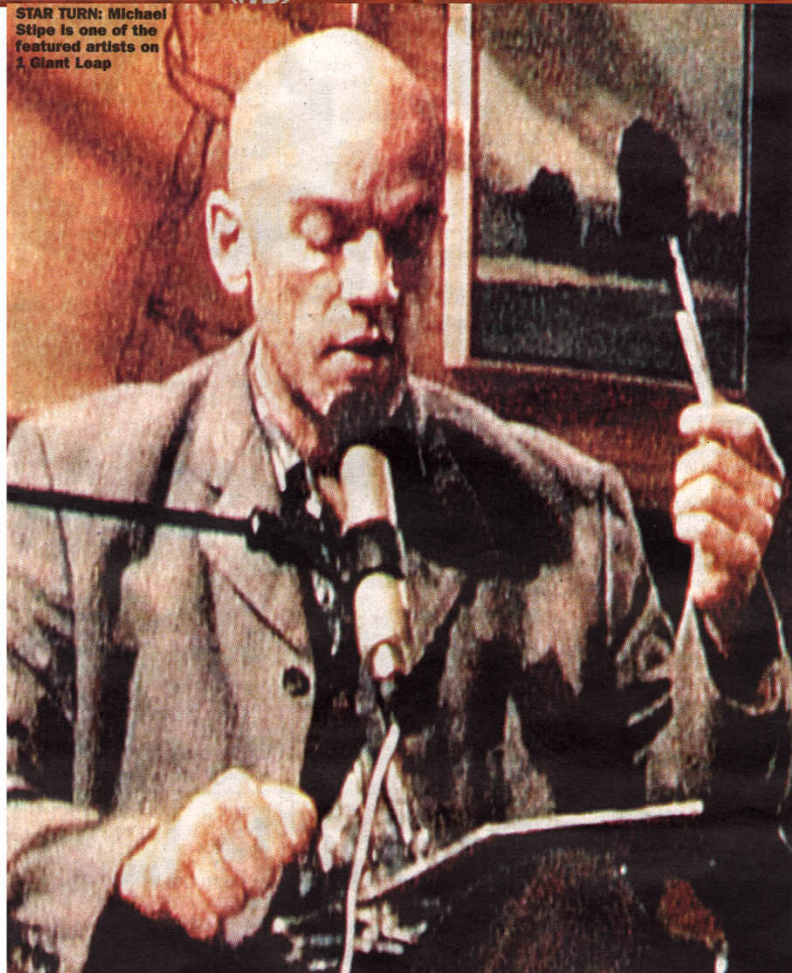




**STAR TURN:** Michael Stipe is one of the featured artists on *1 Giant Leap*



## WORLD WISE

### MUSIC

**T**HERE'S ambitious and there's ambitious and while we've all got our own ideas of what that word means – getting to work on time? building an Ikea wardrobe? – what Jamie Catto and Duncan Bridgeman set out to do, that's ambitious. As it says on the CD: "We travelled around the world, collaborating with the most happening musicians, authors, scientists and thinkers we could find, to explore the unity in the diversity."

Jamie and Duncan met at a mate's flat in Brighton – natch. "We found that not only did we share our two favourite albums – David Byrne and Brian Eno's *My Life In The Bush Of Ghosts* and Peter Gabriel's *Passion* – but we also both wanted to travel and..." Explore the unity in the diversity? "Yes." And so, armed with a laptop and a digital camera, off they set.

The result is *1 Giant Leap*, "a CD, a DVD, a film and a unique snapshot of our planet at the turn of the 21st century". As an artistic undertaking, it's huge, the mother of all collaborations. The CD brings together populist stars such as Robbie Williams, Michael Stipe and Neneh Cherry, cult figures like



**JEREMY NOVICK**

**CD PICK:**  
**1 GIANT LEAP** (Palm Pictures)  
★★★★

Maxi Jazz, DJ Swamp and Horace Andy, and global icons such as Baaba Maal, Asha Bhosle and Mahotella Queens.

It sounds fascinating, but also there is also the potential for disaster – so many voices, so many influences, but the result is remarkably coherent. There are few more useless labels than

"world music" (so what's Atomic Kitten then? Martian?), but if we can apply the term anywhere, we can apply it here.

The film is equally intriguing. Such seemingly diverse voices as Davina McCall, Brian Eno, Jerry Sadowitz, Dennis Hopper and Anita Roddick speak out about subjects which are easy to be disparaging about, but which affect our daily lives: time and space and our place in it all: universal value systems. It might be fortune cookie philosophy, but it's important fortune cookie philosophy.

How did you get so many people involved? Are you just fantastically well-connected?

"No, we're world champion cold-callers. Most people were great about it. Dennis Hopper immediately got on the phone to Meryl Streep and Harvey Keitel to get them involved."

*1GL* is more than a fab record (which it is) and more than a thought-provoking film (which it also is). It is – and no apologies here to those of you with sensitive bull detectors – a manifesto for a better world. And you can dance to it.

● *1 Giant Leap* is released on February 11.

#### STAR RATINGS

- ★ Awful
- ★★ Mediocre
- ★★★ Worth a listen
- ★★★★ Uncommonly good
- ★★★★★ Unmissable