

## Sunshine Puts Light on Twist

Our column on the "twist" the other day evoked a letter from one of the young disc jockeys at WROV, Ron Sunshine by name. (I once wrote "the unlikely name of Ron Sunshine"—or was it Freddy Frelantz?—and was taken to I ask for taking such a liberty with the fellow's real name).

Be that as it may, friend Ron has something to add to our remarks on the new dance craze:

"All genuine Twist lovers would be pained to know that their energetic new dance has replaced the Rock 'n' Roll. Far from it . . . the Twist IS Rock 'n' Roll, which is a form of music rather than a dance.

*"This form of music takes in many dances, starting with the Bop; from the Bop evolved the Stroll, Circle Dance, the Philadelphia Bob, The Fish, The Slop, The Twist, The Masked Potatoes, The Creamed Potatoes, The Hully Gully, The Mess Around, The Pony, The Fish Again, The Charleston (yes, even this popular dance of your era was brought back again in the Rock 'n' Roll era) The Bristol Stomp, The Continental, The Fly, and now the Twist back again stronger than ever.*

"In fact, the Twist is now enjoying a popularity that has not been accorded to any dance since the Charleston. Most significant is that this dance is being enjoyed not primarily by teenagers, (to them, the Twist is ten dances old) but by people well beyond their teen years . . . Zsa Zsa Gabor, Hermione Gingold, Hugh Downs, Senator Jacob Javits, Elsa Maxwell, The Duchess of Windsor, Dorothy Kilgallen and her producer-husband Dick Ko-



Chapman mar.



*"Variety Magazine credits the Twist with saving many a night club around the country, and with turning out something new in city life—day clubs. Top night spots in New York now include The Roundtable, the Camelot, Basin Street East, all featuring the Twist exclusively as the entertainment . . . not just the dance. Even the Stork Club, mecca of the non-rock 'n' rollers now features the Twist, and ran a recent ad in a New York paper explaining their viewpoint of the wholesome and fun aspect of the dance.*

"Reason for the popularity? I believe it is the sheer fun offered by the Twist. This new popularity merely dramatizes how easy it is for people to knock anything they don't understand. The Twist has a strong appeal, apparently, to adults who want to feel young, and this is the basic appeal of Rock 'n' Roll; regardless of what people say in public, in the privacy of their homes, it's Rock 'n' Roll that predominates.

"On behalf of the Twisters, may I welcome you aboard, and I hope you enjoy a Twisting good time in '62."