

## **Townes Van Zandt:** A lonesome cowboy

Ride the blue wind high and free -Townes Van Zandt, "Rex's Blues"

By Mark Swartz



the blues as only a country Western singer can. Direct and sad, ironic and self-deprecating, the veteran Texas singer/songwriter's career stands as an archetype of the lonesome cowboy poet.

\*\*Townes Var at the Ark instrumental and vocal prowess—though starkly affecting if given a chance—may account for the lack of platinum on his walls. Album tisof want of platinum on his walls. Album tisof platin

on him as a songwriter, "Working around a poet like him, you learn not to throw away a phrase for a rhyme, or a word for a pattern. You learn to keep your work clean." "Songwriters like my songs a lot," Van Zandt acknowledges. His syndaysier for this pheapment on the

explanation for this phenomenon is typically overly modest. "I'm a gen-eration before a lot of those guys, so I would have been the right age," he guesses. "I was lucky enough to hit upon my own style. I had to do something. I couldn't compete on

the blues as only a country Western singer can. Direct and sad, ironic and self-deprecating, the veteran Texas singer/songwriter's career stands as an archetype of the lonesome cowboy poet.

Since his debut record, 1968's own up to his status as a cult figure. The closest he's gotten to topping the charts is when among other songwriters. You can hear his influence in several more "popular" artists; John Prine, Lyle Lovett, Randy Travis. Guy Clark summed up the effect Van Zandt has accumulated.

Music

Townes Van Zandt will be singing his poetic lyrics this weekend at the Ark

Thanks to some attention from Rolling Stone magazine and continued endorsement by other artists, Van Zandt's latest release, At My Window, has been racking up some more impressive sale figures. Encouraged by this belated attention, Idea of the case of th

Blues

programs

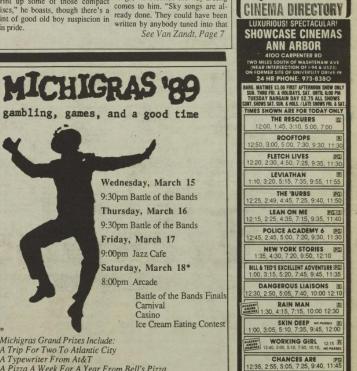
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shine in

todav's

radio

By Jed Thompson



KOREAN CUISINE Kana Korean Restaurant is offering a delightful lunch

and dinner Buffet -- so many authentic samples to enjoy for those who like dining and carry out.

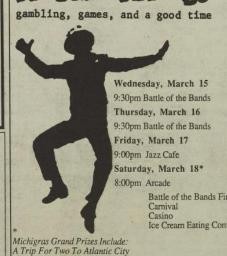
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## **Passover Meals**

First Seder: Wednesday, April 19, 8:45 pm Second Seder: Thursday, April 20, 8:45 pm

Second Seder: Thursday, April 20, 8:45 pm
Hillel Seders can only accommodate 150 people. Make your
reservations by March 31 for all Passover meals (lunch, dinner
& seders). Home hospitality for seder meals with Ann Arbor
families can be arranged if requests are made with Hillel by
April 12. Haggadahs for group seders available at Hillel as
well. Graduate and Professionals group seders will be coordinated through Hillel. Please call for more information.
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