

## THE LILAC TIME



### **THE LILAC TIME 'The Lilac Time' (Swordfish SFLP 6)**

It's pretty much a well-known fact that the Lilac Time are the latest guise for one Stephen Duffy. You'd be right in thinking too, that much of this album takes up from the cue given with the 'Return To Yesterday' single.

With a heavy dash of the Simon & Carbuncles, old Steve cleverly adds in a bit of Smiths here, a bit of Suzanne Vega there and comes up with a record guaranteed to cure insomniacs nationwide. Although terribly pleasant and 'naice', an entire album of folksy ditties and clever, lyrical gymnastics only becomes horrifically tedious with extended plays. Perfect for doing the ironing to, it's inoffensive, easy listening and, save for the single and 'Black Velvet', rather unremarkable. ■■■

**Nancy Culp**