

**took no time at all. What had begun as a fun night out materialized into this solid debut album, Ska-Ba.**

**The Japanese response to JWJ's blend of authentic swinging ska was incredible, especially at their live shows where they were joined on stage by a number of original ska-maestros -- their heros -- Roland Alphonso, Laurel Aitken and Ernest Ranglin.**

**I traveled with Jump With Joey on several Japanese Ska Explosions; it was great to ride the Bullet train and see members of the Skatalites and JWJ reading music sheets and enjoying the music as much as someone who might listen on a walkman. The spectacle of Gaz and Joey clubbing and shopping in Shibuya with a trail of young females scurrying along behind them was amazing -- Joey with an Atom Boy record bag and a Hermes silk baseball jacket and Gaz ten feet tall with spear in hand looking for "raw, wild food." Hanging out with the ska originators Tommy McCook, Rico Rodriguez, Lloyd Knibbs, Brevett and Lester Sterling and playing to hundreds of jumping Japanese skanksters left the band reeling with stardom. But what about the rest of the world? I couldn't believe that such a good record was unable to find a release outside Japan.**

**Almost six years have passed and Rykodisc has seen the light. Today is a happy day for me as you put on this disc, dance the ska and move your feet to the bongo beat!**

**Your Friend  
Jason Mayall  
November 22nd 1996  
London, England**