

# NEW BAND HELPS JOHNNY WINTER

Guitarist and Trio Heard  
Twice at Fillmore East

By MIKE JAHN

If the recent blues revival served only to unearth Johnny Winter and his various associates, it might have been worth it for that alone.

Mr. Winter, a blues-rock guitarist of immense ability, presented his new band here Friday and Saturday at the Fillmore East. The new group, called Johnny Winter And, is made up of three members of the old rock group, the McCoys: Rick Zehringer, guitar; Randy Zehringer, drums, and Randy Hobbs, bass. It is a considerable improvement over Winter, the previous band.

Through a long second set on Saturday, Mr. Winter and Rick Zehringer (who has taken to calling himself Derringer; his brother has shortened the family name to Z) played solos back and forth at each other, simultaneously and in alternation. Mr. Winter played his familiar blues-based, hard-rock guitar. Occasionally he used the new band to liberate himself from the old blues format and indulge in various effects and ideas of larger scope. Rick Zehringer provided a needed second guitar and fine counterpoint in the several guitar duels that emerged during the evening.

Johnny Winter And shared the bill with Tin House and the Buddy Miles Express. Several standing ovations showed the Miles group beginning to get the attention it deserves.