

On the Town**The Making of
A Vocal Pacifist****John L. Wasserman**

LIKE THE YOUNG MAN who headed "Youth for Nixon" some years ago but altered his political loyalties after both his arms and legs were blown off in Vietnam, Carol Feraci didn't know from nothing when she started.

Miss Feraci is, of course, the girl who should be "torn limb from limb," in the words of that great humanitarian, Martha Mitchell, for her unscheduled remarks during a White House performance by the Ray Coniff Singers. Miss Feraci suggested that the President should stop the Vietnam killing; a recommendation that continues to be abhorrent to certain members of the lunatic fringe.

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IT WAS NOT the action one would have expected from Carol Feraci a few years ago. In 1964, she joined the Young Americans, a touring singing group which was so clean-cut they made Bossy the Cow look like a pervert. The Young Americans were the kind of group which had exactly 22 per cent black members, equally divided between males and females, and wore pleated skirts. The Young Americans should have been the house band for Up With People.

"I've always been the kind of girl who wanted to please everybody," Miss Feraci said on the phone from L.A. the other day. "I never really spoke up for anything, I didn't want to make waves.

"But things changed, and I changed, and now I feel a responsibility to speak out and take action. Ninety-eight per cent of the people in show business don't make any sense. It's about time that the entertainers who are performing for the Nixons of this country speak up. So many entertainers say 'we really are against the war' because it's fashionable today, but then they go and buy \$300,000 homes in Beverly Hills while people are starving. So do they believe in humanity or in their own careers and comfort?"

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MISS FERACI is the second girl singer to kick out some jams at the White House. Eartha Kitt, a lady of at least equal volatility, made herself quite clear to Lady Bird Johnson at lunch there in 1968. It is, of course, usually the women who exhibit the courage of their convictions in matters of this nature. John Lennon is one of the painfully few male pop performers who consciously uses his efforts and abilities politically. If you took all the militance exhibited by Bob Dylan, Elvis Presley, Grand Funk Railroad, Flip Wilson and Glen Campbell and laid it end to end, you would have a domino.

Carol Feraci is 30, beautiful, Canadian-born and not the slightest bit amenable to an argument that she has no right to criticize the United States because she is not a citizen of the United States. "What people seem to be forgetting," she said, "is that the whole history of this country has been that people have come here seeking freedom, and for somebody to say that—because I wasn't born in this country—I don't have freedom of speech just shows how far down this country's come."

Her career has consisted almost exclusively of what she refers to as being an "oobie doobie doo" girl. Like so many equally unknown singers, she is a Los Angeles studio and chorus singer, popping up now with Ray Coniff, or maybe on the old Smothers Brothers Show, a Danny Thomas Special here, a Hollywood Palace there, on the road singing background for Connie Stevens or Nancy Sinatra.

It's a strange little world where a great deal of money can be made by singers who have good instruments and ranges, flexible timbre and can read music. Miss Feraci worked in the Young Americans with Fairfax's Buffy Ford, and on the Smothers Brothers show with the redoubtable Orriell Smith. She doesn't think she'll get too many more Danny Thomas specials.

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BILLY GRAHAM was quoted as saying that she "was very rude." She sounded exasperated. "You know, that's really incredible. Billy Graham supposedly lives by the teachings of Christ, but it sounds like he depends more on Emily Post. More people should be more aware of what kind of a person he is. A lot of people believe in him. Expose him, I say. A missile and a Bible really don't go together."

(Miss Feraci will be guest of honor at a reception in Los Altos tomorrow, presented by the Emergency Committee Against Escalation, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Temple Beth Am, 26790 Arastradero road, Los Altos Hills. Proceeds will be divided between the American Friends Service Committee, the Committee of Responsibility and the Berrigan Brothers Defense Fund.

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THE SCHEDULED appearance of singers Mimi Farina and Tom Jans at the Marshall Tavern tomorrow night has been canceled.