

business over there — I miss my farm and the horses and I miss being in America — sitting with my feet up on my coffee table relaxing.

GM: I find that you can walk into an American hotel room and in terms of attitude, it's like a completely different planet

DC: Why?

GM: *(Laughing)* You're not supposed to be asking me questions — but I find it very much more self-centred in America

DC: It's pretty slick.

GM: Tell me what you hate and/or love about London.

DC: The weather — that's a definite hate! What I love about it is that it's like a big small town to me. I feel safe here, I'm not paranoid when I walk down the street for the most part.

GM: And you're saying that you are in New York?

DC: Oh yeah. I lived in New York for six months — almost as long as I'd lived here, a couple of years ago. I love New York.

GM: As the car sticker says!

DC: Honestly, it's a great place. It's the capital of the world. Everything to be found on this planet can be found there except some green grass and fresh air! It's a very exciting city and I think London has the best of what New York has and a lot less of the worst that New York has, which is the filth and the poverty and the frightening screaming sort of loneliness you see people walking around New York with. The thing that strikes me every time I go there is that there are thousands and thousands of homeless people.

GM: Unfortunately too there are a hell of a lot more here in London than there used to be.

DC: I've noticed more this time, not having been here in eight years. I think London has changed in that

respect. I am a lot more aware of it now than I used to be. New York is such an intense city that it is almost like a drug. Once you get hooked on it as I have been, I need to go back there often to get a fix of it.

GM: Some people don't take to it and in a large number of cases there's a certain danger to New York which is in fact exciting.

Somebody may come up and say hello but they might also come up and blow your head off!

DC: I once saw a guy walk by in New York with a bullet in his head and his head bleeding. I have experienced that in New York and it does frighten the shit out of you. You think if you just happened to turn the corner 10 seconds earlier you could have caught that bullet.

GM: I remember the first time ANDREW and I went to New York, I was absolutely paranoid for the first two days but by the third day, I started to feel at home and more relaxed. I sat there saying to ANDREW, "It's great here and I can't understand why I was so shit scared of it," but then somebody got stabbed outside the hotel we were eating in!

DC: It slaps you in the face.

GM: I saw Harlem a couple of weeks ago because we were playing at the Apollo, and I've never been in a Western high street where there was not one white face other than my own and that was half-way down the seat in the back of the car!

DC: It does make you feel a little insecure because we've all been told we should be frightened.

GM: I do have a strong sense of the fact that there shouldn't be ghettos. There's no need for them. That was my feeling in the back of that car. I was amazed at the warmth that I received as one of the few white

artists at that event — it knocked me over!

Coming back to London for a minute. What about other areas of London that are not connected with music in terms of eating, etc?

DC: With the restaurants here, I've found that you often have to join these clubs which I find a little unusual. You have to be a member to eat there and I've gone to a couple of them. The Ritz and the White Elephant are some of the better places. I feel comfortable there — people don't come up to me or hassle me and I feel like I'm in London when I'm in those places. I feel like I'm at home. You probably know more about this than anyone as you came from the clubs and spent most of your youth in the clubs...

GM: Most of the nights — most of my waking hours!

DC: I found a couple of clubs that I've been to, I haven't been to the . . . *(censored!)* as you told me not to go...

GM: Not unless you want to pick up a secretary...

DC: *(Laughing)* I don't think that I need to do that for my image this week — maybe next week. I don't ever go to the clubs in LA because they're very posey. I don't feel comfortable if there's the exciting "let's have a good time" attitude. In Europe, in Italy and Germany, I went to a few clubs and found myself really having a good time etc. People notice me and they come up to me occasionally...

GM: *(Amazed)* You had a good time in Germany? I can't think of a worse place to have a good time, but I suppose I don't know Germany well enough.

DC: Well, I went to a club in Munich that I thought was great — everyone was in there drinking and laughing — having a good time. They all knew who I was and they'd look at me — a

couple of people came up and asked for my autograph but that didn't really bother me. It was like, he's here, but let's have a good time.

GM: I think the truth is that in most capitals and with the clubs you're talking about in America — if you go past a certain age group then you're going to get into that really posey bracket. I mean, there's young posers but they can't really keep it up after the first couple of drinks you know! That's the basic difference and so if you go out at a reasonable time of night to any of the young clubs in London, everyone's going to be pissed out of their heads!

DC: Yeah, but that's alright.

GM: Yes, but if you go to Tramps or Stringfellows or Blondes or any of those places, you're expecting people to stand there and assess you, you know?

DC: Well, that to me is not a good time out. I don't enjoy that so I don't go and partake in that experience. I just don't enjoy myself, I'm not relaxed and can't have a good time. So I tend to stay in a lot and in that respect I think it's more like LA. I've just sold my house in LA but I've lived there for the better part of 20 years and in LA people come to my house.

GM: That tends to be what you end up doing, doesn't it? Even now, I think I'll be the same, as the night life generally is not that good in London at the moment, so I've started to do that.

(A telephone rings)

DC: That's my call to say I have to go now.

GM: Well, I'd better finish with a concluding question or a statement from you...

DC: *(Laughing)* I still think it's a pity we didn't get it the first time round!!