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LAB REPORT ON STEREO CARTRIDGES An unbiased appraisal

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GOVERNMENT AID FOR THE ARTS Why, When, and How HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM YOUR TAPE RECORDER

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THE FISHER XP-4

The First New Speaker Development In Years!



■ The X-101-B is easily the most powerful and versatile Master Control Amplifier in its range. Its many unusual design features make it an ideal choice as the foundation of a stereo system of exceptional quality. It has ample reserve power to drive even the most inefficient of speaker systems. With the X-101-B's Center Channel Power Output you can enjoy the special pleasure of a center-channel speaker system without the added cost of an additional amplifier. Tape recording enthusiasts will be oelighted with the exclusive tape-monitoring circuit. This is the only system that permits the user to monitor tapes and still make full use of the entire range of audio controls and switches during subsequent playback—without changing cable connections. Input and output facilities for the Fisher Spacexpander are located before the tape recorder output, so that all types of programs, as well as recordings, may have reverberation added if it is so desired.

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\$359.50

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OUTSTANDING FEATURES

Its FM sensitivity is a remarkable 0.7 microvolt for 20 db of quieting with 72-ohm antenna. Its total of FOUR I. F. stages assures increased dynamic range, high selectivity and markedly superior suppression of noise and interference. Special phase-linear, wide-band circuitry is used throughout to achieve minimum distortion and maximum stereo separation over the entire range of audible transmitted frequencies. There is a separate sub-channel noise filter that eliminates noise and hiss on stereo FM programs without impairing the full tonal frequency range.

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65-Watt <u>AM</u>-FM Multiplex Receiver





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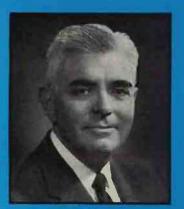
OUTSTANDING FEATURES

The FM-section has a sensitivity of 0.9 microvolts for 20 db quieting on 72 ohm antenna. AM-section has a sensitivity of 5 microvolts for 2 watt output. Features three FM-IP stages for increased dynamic range, high selectivity and highly improved AM suppression. In addition, phase linear wideband circuits retain lowest distortion and highest stereo separation throughout the full audio band. A special switchable noise filter will reduce hiss and background noise on stereo programs without affecting the frequency response. 17 inputs and output jacks to accommodate every type of monophonic and stereo program sources.

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Avery Fisher



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EXCEPT IN THE ENTHUSIASTIC RAVES OF THE EXPERTS. The Buddha listens to the incomparable performance of the New Empire Troubador with silent pleasure. But other users are more communicative. ¶ "I tound speed variations-that is flutter and wow-to be inaudible," writes top equipment reviewer, Larry Zide, in the American Record Guide. "Total rumble, vertical plus lateral," he continues, "was lower than any turntable I have ever tested." ¶ As Don Hambly, Station Manager of KRE AM/FM, Berkeley, Cal., puts it-"We have long realized that belt driven tables would be the best to use, but had not been impressed with those on the market. The Empire Tables, however, have all the basic requirements of design and simplicity of operation and maintenance that we sought." ¶ It's small wonder that the most exacting listeners lavish such praise on the Empire Troubador. With its 3 speeds, 33½, 45 and 78, hysteresis-synchronous motor; calibrated stylus force adjustment and perfect dynamically balanced arm; sensational Dyna-Lift* self lifting device that eliminates stylus abuse and undesirable run out groove sound at the end of the record. ¶ Empire Troubador consists of: Empire 208 "silent"

turntable. Empire 98 perfect dynamic balance arm. Empire 108 mono-stereo cartidge, Dyna-Lift* attachment and handsome walnut base Complete price \$200. *Porent Pending



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Mercury announces the first Living Presence recording made directly from 35-mm. magnetic film

RACHMANINOFF: Piano Concerto No. 3. Byron Janis, pianist; London Symphony, Antal Dorati.

SR90283—stereo; MG50283— monaural.

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SR 90218—stereo; MG 50218—monaural. CHABRIER: España; Suite Pastorale; Danse Slave; Fête Polonaise; Detroit Symphony, Paray. SR 90212—stereo; MG 50212—monaural.

SOUSA ON REVIEW: Twelve Marches; Eastman Wind Ensemble, Fennell.

SR 90284-stereo; MG 50284-monaural.





EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

by FURMAN HEBB

THIS ISSUE is a rather special one for us here at HIFI/STEREO REVIEW. To begin with, this is the first of our issues to be printed on the modern high-speed presses at the McCall Corporation plant in Dayton, Ohio. And while we were making a number of other changes, we decided to make one that we have been considering for some time : the use of slightly different printing types. Thus you will notice that throughout this issue the types are larger and, we hope, casier to read than they have been. In the record-review sections, particularly, we think that the added measure of legibility will be appreciated.

The second special thing about this issue is that it contains the results of our first annual reader poll, which invited you to cast your votes for the best records of the year. From a total of 161 records that were nominated by record companies, by our record reviewers, and by our staff, thirteen records were chosen as being the best of the year in their categories.

While we might argue about one or two of the choices, we feel that the thirteen award-winning records were certainly deserving of the honor. Almost all of them, incidentally, had previously been singled out by our record reviewers for Best-of-the-Month or Special-Merit ratings. With the thought in mind that some readers would like to have a copy of the ballot for use as a reference for future record purchases, we have had extra copies printed, and if you would like a copy, just drop us a note. We will be happy to send one to you.

> Coming Next Month In HIFI/STEREO REVIEW

WHAT IS WRONG WITH CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

by Winthrop Sargeant

WHAT IS RIGHT WITH CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

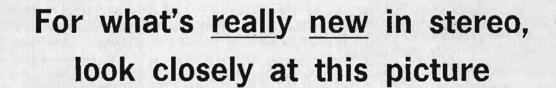
by Jay S. Harrison

CHOOSING A LOUDSPEAKER SYSTEM

by John Milder

THE MAN BEHIND STEREO FM

by Lawrence Lessing



BELL

Those who have been watching for a major advancement in components to up-date their stereo systems, instantly recognize it in the Bell "2445."

Notice, first, that without any compromise in their individual performance, Bell has integrated a 2channel, 44-watt stereo amplifier and sensitive stereo tuner on one chassis. For the first time you have everything needed to play stereo from all sources (and ready for future multiplex reception), with every advanced stereo feature, in one master component no wider and but little deeper than an individual amplifier or tuner.

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The Model 2445 is one of a complete line of Bell stereo amplifiers, PM/AM stereo tuners and combinations, all matching with the famous Bell Stereo Tape Transport. New Bell speakers complete your matched stereo system. See them, hear them, at your Bell dealer's. Or write us for catalog.



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HiFi Soundings



by DAVID HALL

2

LESSONS FROM THE METROPOLITAN CRISIS

BY THE TIME you read this, the Metropolitan Opera, the nation's showcase for grand opera, will have opened its 1961-62 season. But the road to that opening was a rocky one indeed, resulting in the nearest thing this country has yet known to a national cultural crisis. A historic precedent was set for this country when the U.S. Government felt it necessary to step into the dispute between the Metropolitan Opera and its orchestra musicians.

Why all this ruckus? Two reasons seem crystal clear: First, we have arrived at a point in our development where we are sick of hearing ourselves described by Europeans as a "nation without culture." Therefore the prospect of closing down our one full-time major opera house is completely incompatible with the way we want the rest of the world to think of us. Second, the Metropolitan has long since ceased to be the private plaything of a small circle of wealthy New Yorkers. Because of its annual tours and its Saturday afternoon broadcasts, the well-being of the Metropolitan is a matter of national concern.

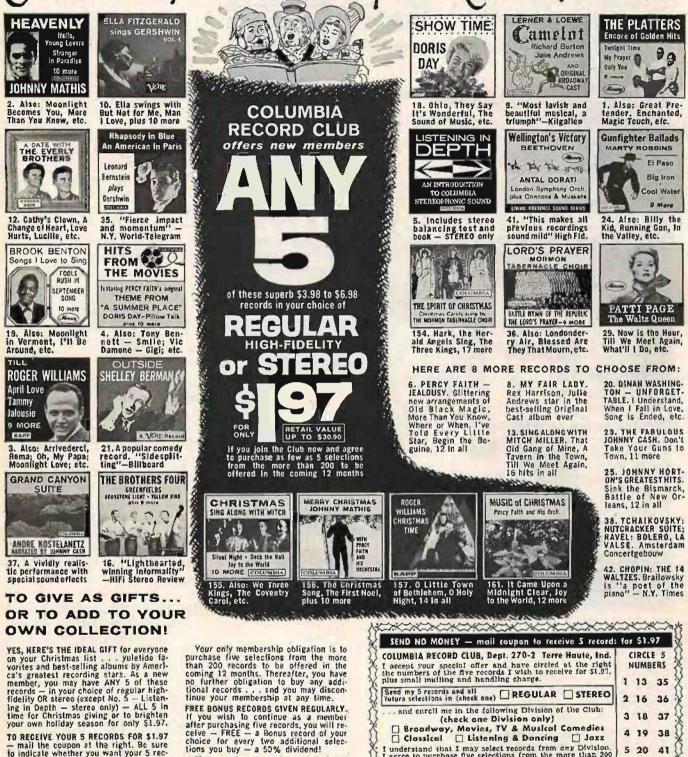
Last year the operating costs of the Metropolitan ran to nearly \$7,000,000, leaving a deficit of \$840,000. All but \$63,000 of this was covered through private contributions, many of them from the thousands of loyal radio listeners. This being the case, it has hardly seemed fitting for the Metropolitan administration to adopt a the-public-be-damned attitude in announcing the cancellation of the season before it had exhausted the means of negotiating a peaceful settlement of the wage dispute with its orchestra players. To borrow a phrase from Irving Kolodin, it is one thing for Mr. Bing to fire his artists if he wants to, but it is quite another for him to fire the public.

It is generally agreed that the musicians of the Metropolitan Opera orchestra had a strong case in their demands for better pay, though hardly to the extent of the ninety-eight-dollar weekly increase that they originally asked for. It is also recognized that the Metropolitan, under its present scheme of financing, is in no position to provide a salary increase for its musicians unless it has some guarantee that the inevitable deficits will be made up. These days there are no millionaires willing to write out a six-figure check each spring, as did financier Otto Kahn in the 1920's. On the other hand, an appeal to radio listeners, subscribers, and Opera Guild members is scarcely a satisfactory fund-raising device. As for the great private foundations, their general policy has been to make grants for specific projects rather than for the covering of operating expenses. Thus it has become clear to most observers that some form of government subsidy -national, state, or municipal-seems to be the only feasible solution to the deficit problem of the Metropolitan.

More is at stake than just keeping the opera company going. Over the past few years, budgeting has been so tight that adequate rehearsal time has been cut to a bare minimum, with the result that

6

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it is something of a miracle that performances turn out as well as they do. So the Metropolitan is faced with the problem, over and above that of survival, of keeping its standards up to the highest level—in competition with La Scala, the Vienna Staatsoper, Covent Garden, and the Bolshoi Theatre, all of which receive government subsidies.

T IS TRUE that the Metropolitan will have to mark time to some extent until it moves into its new quarters in 1964 at Lincoln Center. But now is the time to begin laying the groundwork to make the Metropolitan a model for the rest of the world. Because the Lincoln Center will



include the Metropolitan Opera, Philharmonic Hall, a dance-operetta theater, and a group of concert and recital halls, and because all of the auditoriums will be air-conditioned. it would seem likely that the musical season at Lincoln Center will be a year-round affair, and with virtually continuous employment thus guaranteed, the musicians who would be playing there regularly would presumably accept more moderate salary terms than those named in their original demands to the Metropolitan three months ago. It should also be possible for the various performing organizations at Lincoln Center to carry out some degree of administrative and artistic consolidation with a free interchange of talent among such groups as the Metropolitan Opera, the New York City Center of Music and Drama, and the New York Philharmonic, A Boris Godounoff conducted by Leonard Bernstein, a Le Sacre du Printemps with the combined forces of the New York City Ballet and the New York Philharmonic. Strauss operettas with Metropolitan Opera guest stars these are wonderful things to anticipate. And they are things that can surely be if those who have the say so in the development of Lincoln Center will view their task as a public and community trust,

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HIGH FIDELITY

Revolutionary Kit-Building Methods Insure Factory Wired Performance

Now you can have the fun of building a genuine H. H. Scott Wide-Band FM Stereo Tuner in just a few hours . . . and save money, too. Revolutionary Scott-developed kit building techniques including full-color instruction book, mistake-preventing Part-Charts, pre-cut wires and unique Ez-A-Line alignment system assure you of performance equaling Scott factory-wired units. The LT-110 performs so perfectly and has such a professional appearance you'll be proud to use and display it in your stereo system.

The new LT-110 Scottkit features a pre-wired and tested multiplex section plus the famous silver-plated factory-built and aligned front end. Sensitivity of this magnificent new tuner is $2.2 \ \mu v$ (IHFM). There are special provisions for flawless tape recording right "off-the-air."

Scott multiplex circuitry has become the standard of the industry. Scott Wide-Band multiplex tuners have been chosen by leading FM stations from Boston to San Francisco. Here is a proven, accepted multiplex tuner you can now easily build at home. Choose the finest . . . choose H. H. Scott.

Choose from these Superb ScottKits



3

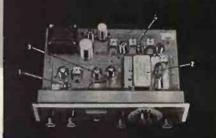
New LK+48 48+watt Stereo Amplifier Kit. A real best-buy in kits. All the features you need. \$119.95*



LK-72 80-watt Stereo Amplifier Kit. Enough power for any system. Famous H. H. Scott quality. \$159.95*



New LM-35 Multiplex Adaptor Klt. For use with any H. H. Scott tuner. Pre-wired multiplex section. \$79,95



Outstanding features of this easy-to-build Scottkit include:

- 1. Factory-wired multiplex section.
- Pre-wired, pre-aligned Scott silver-plated front-end.
- 3. Unique filtering circuits for flawless tape recording.
- 4. Wide-Band IF's and detector assure distortionfree reception of even weak multiplex signals.

Technical Specifications:

Sensitivity 2.2µv, IHFM. 10 Tubes, 11 Diodes. Switchable AGC. Separate Sub-Channel Noise Filter; Illuminated Precision Tuning Meter; Special Front Panel Tape Recorder Facilities. Five Front Panel Controls. Logging Scale. Exclusive Copper-Bonded Aluminum Chassis.



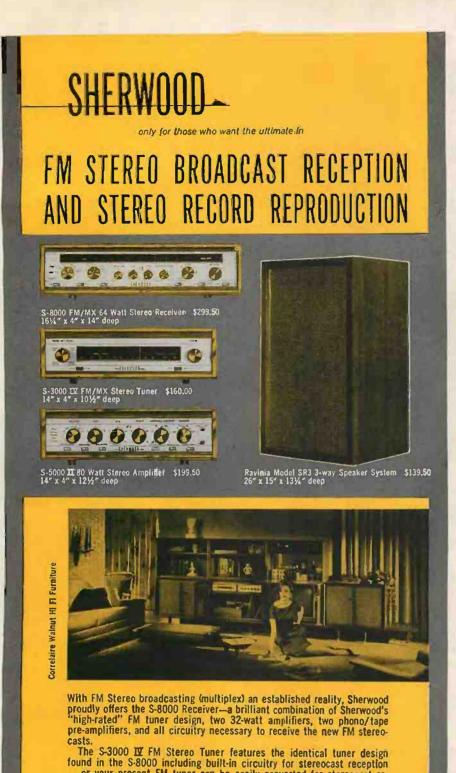
H. H. SCOTT, INC., Dept. 245-11 111 Powdermill Road, Maynard, Mass. Send me your new Scottkit catalog and complete information on FM Stereo.

1	Y	a	r	n	

Address ____

City _____ State____ Export: Morhan Exporting Corp., 458 Broadway, NYC. Canada: Atlas Radio Corp., 50 Wingold Ave., Toronto.

* Case extra. Slightly higher west of Rockies



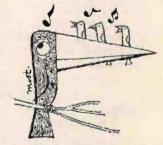
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Alpha Centauri by 1981?

• "Music in 2061," the piece by Edward Cole and Bernard Sceman in the August issue, was highly interesting, but as is a common failure with the majority of science fiction (or, in this case, musicscience fiction), the situation was not extrapolated far enough in a socio-technological sense and yet too far in a time sense. Many of the technical achieve-



ments in the article that concern music reproduction are either here now, are already in the works, or will exist within the next ten to twenty years. For example, the authors' "Indocast" communications system is well within the grasp. of the twentieth century. Also, General Electric's thermoplastic tape will put an entire encyclopedia on a five-inch reel of tape. Even this will give probably way to a system whereby the world's entire library of literature, music, scientific treatises, etc. can be reproduced from a one-inch cube.

What with research being done on organic semi-conductors, complex molecules can very likely be tailor-made to reproduce music and literature, and this within the not-too-distant future. To-



morrow, new instruments, by virture of electronics, will be devised that will issue forth a fantastic new array of tonal colors. Stockhausen and his contemporaries are already laying the groundwork for future composers who will be able to manipulate the emotions by the use of subsonics and ultrasonics, the former for feelings of sadness and melancholy, the latter for vibrance and elation. And, this, in turn, will become an integral part of the so-called "feelies," much as film music is today.

In the light of the ever-increasing rate of technological advancement, I think that the author's date of 2061 might

casts. The S-3000 IV FM Stereo Tuner features the identical tuner design found in the S-8000 including built-in circuitry for stereocast reception ... or your present FM tuner can be easily converted for stereocast re-ception with Sherwood FM Multiplex Adapters (\$49.50 and \$69.50). The S-5000 II Amplifier provides the ultimate in stereo amplification. Also available—the excellent S-5500 II Amplifier, with 64 watts music

power at \$164.50.

Sherwood's newest contribution-the exciting Ravinia Model SR3 Sherwood's newest contribution—the exciting Ravinia Model SR3 3-speaker system consisting of 12" high-compliance woofer, 8" mid-range, and 2½" ring-radiator tweeter. The Ravinia features extremely low intermodulation distortion and unusually flat frequency response (± 2½ db) to 17 KC. Cabinet is hand-rubbed Walnut. The perfect setting for hi fi components is Sherwood's Correlaire contemporary furniture modules—in hand-rubbed Walnut and Pecan.

Sherwood Electronic Laboratories, Inc., 4300 N. California Ave., Chicago 18. Illinois.

For complete technical details, write Dept. 11R



Wharfedale

COMMANDING NEW SYSTEMS

We are pleased to present the new W40 Achromatic—Wharfedale's remarkable ultra-compact two-speaker system. This is a full range instrument built around a newly developed 8½ inch low frequency driver with an extremely high flux density magnet; and Wharfedale's outstanding 5 inch tweeter. Its size (24" x 12" x 10"), and its unobtrusive, clean, modern design, make W40 the ideal speaker system to fit "anywhere," providing the greatest enjoyment of music in today's modern apartments, the den of a country home, or in larger rooms. True Wood \$79.50, Unfinished \$69.50



The inert sand filled panel (exclusive in all Wharfedale systems), damps all vibrations, eliminates false resonances. The speakers perform with the enclosure as a single unit. The full range of sound is exceptionally smooth; transient response in bass and treble is exceptionally clean. A perfectly pure "Achromatic" musical image is achieved without acoustical coloration.

Sand Filled

Pane

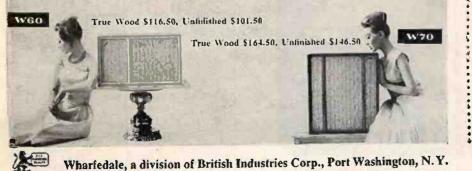
Achromatic speaker systems are available in enclosures skillfully executed in true wood veneers: Oiled Walnut, Polished Walnut, Mahogany. (Provincial Style in Fruitwood, only.) Unfinished utility models in Sanded Birch Hardwood do not have curved molding or dividers.



Wharfedale has combined the excellence of W60 and W70 reproduction with handsomely crafted pieces of period furniture. We are sure you will welcome the addition of these authentic Provincial designs in genuine Fruitwood to the Achromatic Series.



The W60 and the W70 continue to provide the distinguished performance which has won phenomenal acclaim for all the speakers in the Wharfedale Achromatic Series. The decorator designed cabinets will complement modern decor...look "at home," anywhere.



NEW B67 The new B67, the Universal Mounting Base-in matching woods-for W60 and W70 systems. Simple to install. An effective addition to the beauty of these enclosures. Utility Model \$8.95 True Wood \$9.95 Mail Coupon Dept. WS121 British Industries Corp., Port Washington, N. Y. Please send me literature regarding

Name	
Address_	
City	ZoneState

the Wharfedale Achromatic Series.

NOVEMBER 1961

No other record changer provides the record handling care of the new GS-77T. 'Turntable Pause' makes it gently automatic. For this 9 second pause before the next record in the stack drops gently into play eliminates the grinding action between the record surfaces caused by one record dropping on another that's still spinning ... a disadvantage of all other record changers.

There is so much more to make you want the new GS-77T. A new professional size 11-inch turntable provides better record support and contributes to smooth, constant speed. Add to this an arm so precisely counterbalanced and suspended that it assures uniformly low stylus pressure from the first to tenth record in a stack.

The GS-77T is probably the finest automatic record changer available today . . . and it looks the part. The white changer with brushed gold trim mounted on its attractive oil finish walnut base is strikingly handsome. The Glaser-Steers GS-77T, less cartridge and base, \$59.50 at your high fidelity dealer—or write for descriptive literature.



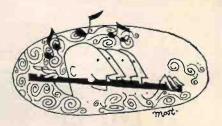
Glaser-Steers Company/A division of American Machine & Metals, Inc./155 Draton St., Newark 4, N. J.

more accurately be replaced with 1981, which would still leave eighty years in which to blast off for Alpha Centauri or even to Procyon—bringing back news of music as it is heard around the galaxy.

F. B. Jueneman San Jose, California

Manners and Mores

• The article "Animal Actors on Stage" (September, 1961) reminds me of an incident I witnessed at a performance of



Cavalleria Rusticana at the Vienna Volksoper when the horse that accompanied the entrance of Alfio quite obviously forgot his manners. The absurdity of the situation was that, though it happened before a packed house, everyone pretended not to notice. Never have I seen a more convincing demonstration of the delicacy of human feelings.

> Alois Huber Palisades, N.Y.

Basic Chamber Music

• Now that the Basic Repertoire has finally ventured into the purlieus of chamber music with the Brandenburg Concertos (September, 1961), how about



going all the way and tackling the Beethoven quartets or Mozart's chamber works? Surely, the cornerstones of music are not to be found only in the symphonic literature.

> Francis McKee Bound Brook New Jersey

A critical survey of the chamber-music literature is being planned.

Background Music

• "Good Music for Background Listening" points up what is to me the most important aspect of musical experience via records. No longer need I sit stiffly and silently in forbiddingly formal surBRING 'EM BACK ALIVE!

Now, Electro-Voice offers the finest acousticallycorrect enclosures for your home music system ... and at a saving to you of up to 50%!

In just a few short hours, you can assemble an E-V KD6 Aristocrat or KD9 Marquis kit - without special tools or previous woodworking experience. And you'll obtain the same full sound as the factory-assembled models ... yet you'll save up to one-half!

Carefully pre-cut and complete with easy-to-follow instructions, each E-V enclosure kit features handsome birch veneer that can be easily finished to match any decor, with complete E-V Finishing Kits. For the final sparkling accent, an AK6 Grille can easily be added.

The KD6 and KD9 are each scientifically designed, acoustically correct enclosures that will add up to an extra octave of performance to any full-range speaker. The folded-horn KD6 uses the corner of the room as part of the horn, to increase performance without increasing size. The KD9 with its rear-facing ducted port provides similar range extension for along-the-wall applications.

Each kit is pre-cut for any 12" speaker. KD9 also accepts 15" speakers. For superb results, choose one of the six E-V 12" speakers ranging in price from \$19.50 to \$125.00. There is the precise model for your requirements. Both kits are also designed for simple addition of any E-V Building Block Kit. You can start with a coaxial speaker and easily build to a complete 3-way system in step with your budget.

For the perfect combination of performance and economy, put your high fidelity loudspeaker in an Electro-Voice kit enclosure. You'll bring 'em back alive -every favorite musical performance, and at lower cost than you Fidelity! dreamed possible! Write for your free E-V catalog today!

Now! Build the **Biggest** in High

MODEL KD6 ARISTOCRAT KIT Finest corner enclosure for any 12" full-range or 3-way speaker.

MODEL KD9 MARQUIS KIT Superb response from 12" or 15" speaker when used along the wall. (shown with AKB grille)

Bargain

MODEL KD6 ARISTOCRAT KIT For any 12° speaker. Also pre-cut for E-V Building Block components and Wolvenne Step-Up Kits. Uses folded horn plus corner of room to extend range—save space. Size: 29% inches high, 19 inches wide, 15% inches deep.Shipping weight 36 pounds. Net each \$39.00.

MODEL KD9 MARQUIS Similar to Aristo-cral at left, but for 12" or 15" speakers. Ducted rear port design provides optimum bass re-sponse in along-the-wall installations. Size: 29% inches high, 19 inches wide, 14% inches deen. Shipping weight 38 pounds. Net each reach \$36.00

E-V FINISHING KITS Complete with stain, filler, sealer, shellac, high gloss and satin varnishes, linishing papers, brushes and easy-to-follow instructions. Available in Walnut, Cordovan Mahogany, Fruitwood, Cherry, Golden Oak and Ebony, Net each \$6.00.

AK6 TRIM KIT Add a sparkling brass grille to KD6 or KD9. Net each \$4.80.

E-V DO-IT-YOURSELF INSTRUCTION BOOKS Complete, concise instructions help the home workshop enthusiast to build E-V high fidelity enclosures. Available for Aristocrat, Marquis, Regency or Baronet. Nel each \$1.00.



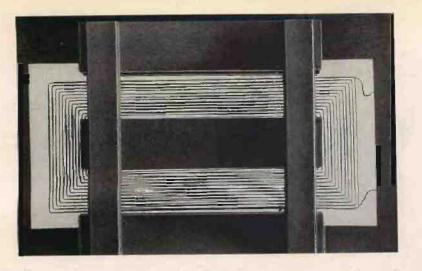
ELECTRO-VOICE, INC., Dept. 1114F Buchanan, Michigan Please send my free copy of the E-V high fidelity catalog Name Addres3

City.

Siale.



EV ELECTRO-VOICE, INC., Consumer Products Division, Buchanan, Michigan



This is one of the reasons^{*} why Audio Experts have acclaimed the RICH 20/20 as the first basic advance in loudspeaker design in a generation...

The unique RICH 20/20 Reproducer System employs three elements, each of which represents a complete innovation in theoretical concept and in execution. The result is a loudspeaker system which sets new standards of excellence: Unequalled transient response in all tonal registers, flat frequency response over the entire audible spectrum and a complete absence of distortion even at low frequencies.

No wonder that the astonishingly life-like sound of the RICH 20/20 is creating a sensation in the audio field.

No wonder a leading technical magazine recently devoted 4 full pages to this revolutionary breakthrough in speaker design . . for here, through the severing of conventional limitations, perfection in audio-fidelity is finally approached.

Enjoy this revelation in sound quality. Hear the incomparable RICH 20/20 at your dealer or mail coupon today for literature.

A	BOGEN and RICH, Inc. 28 School Street – Yonkers, N. Y.
	Bogen and Rich Inc., 28 School Street — Yonkers, N. Y. Please send illustrated free literature. Dept. 2 Enclosed 10% in stamps. Please also send me a reprint of the RICH 20/20 story from ELECTRONICS Magazine.
	Name
	Address
* U.S. & Foreign Patents Pending	CityState

roundings with a lot of strangers if I want to hear classical music. Thanks to high fidelity, music is now a regularly used household article. Maybe I'm not typical, but Mozart is Mozart to me regardless of whether I'm sitting in the dress circle or drying the dishes.

Baltimore, Md. Albert Kern

• Lewis Harlow's article on dinner music might as well have been entitled "Music for Not Listening." If we abuse good music by giving it the casual in-



attention suggested in the article, we shall soon be unable to differentiate between Mendelssohn and Muzak.

> Robert Malnik Atlanta, Georgia

A Bid For Scherchen

• I have long admired Hermann Scherchen for his penetrating if sometimes unconventional musical insights. But I was surprised to learn from your article "The Wizard of Gravesano" (September, 1961) of Scherchen's technical activities in the field of electro-acoustics.

Much to my regret, Scherchen has never conducted in this country. Isn't it high time that we had an opportunity of hearing this outstanding musician?

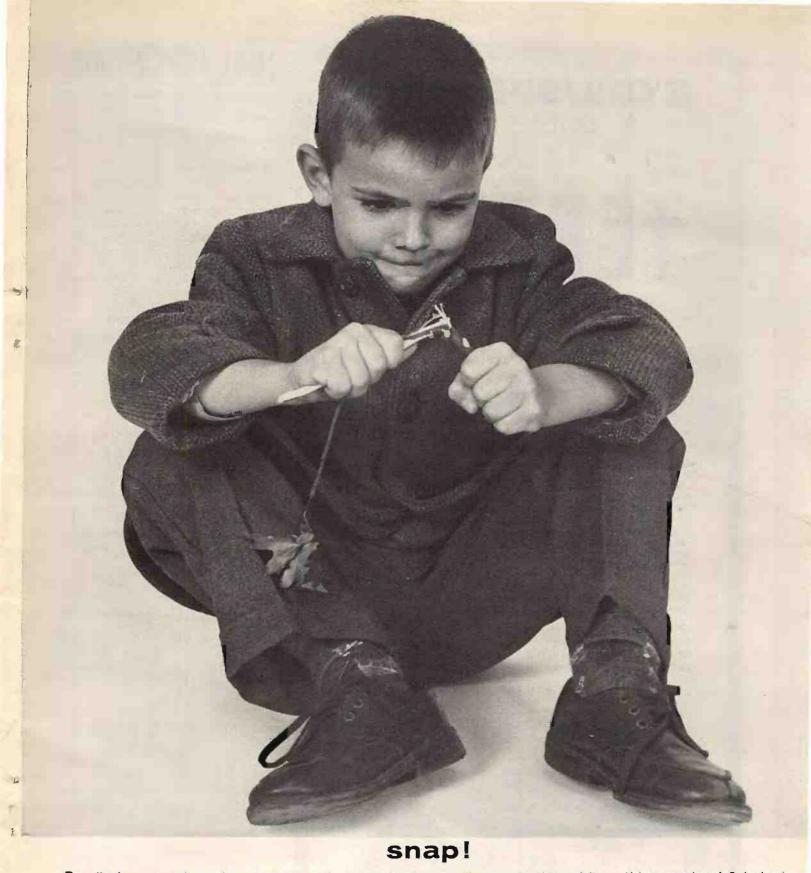
David Holberg Worcester Mass.

Music from the Horse's Mouth

• When a composer conducts his own works on records, would not his recording take precedence over all other interpretations, no matter how good they may be? The composer, after all should know his own work and his own mind better than anyone else.

Tommy Wheeler Port Lavaca Texas

Not necessarily. Composing and conducting are two different aspects of the musical art. A composer, though possibly a genius at creating music, may lack the technique and personality to communicate to the performers his idea of the music in terms of tempo, coloration, phrasing, and tonal balance. To use an analogy: the architect who designs the building is not necessarily the best mason.



Recall when sound ... almost any sound ... was fun? Pure, clear, fresh sounds are part of the fountain of memory. Nothing can ever equal that first awareness of rain on a window, or a distant train whistle, or the silence of falling snow.

But there <u>are</u> some special delights reserved for adult ears. Audiotape, for example.

This tape is unique. It gives you greater clarity and range, less distortion and background noise. Make it your silent (but knowledgeable) partner in capturing memorable moments in sound—from junior's nonstop chatter ... to the spirit-soothing music of Schubert. Remember: if it's worth recording, it's worth Audiotape. There are eight types ... one exactly suited to the next recording you make.





AUDIO DEVICES INC., 444 Madison Ave., N.Y. 22, N.Y. Hollywood: 840 N. Fairfax Ave., Chicago: 5428 N. Milwaukee Ave.

HOLDS THE **TENSOR**

The exclusive ESL Gyro/Spension motor mounting method assures steady unchanging tension on the drive belt. The usual vibrations of the motor and its mounting are dynamically annulled. Only uniform rotational motion is transferred through the belt to the turntable. Gyro/Spension is an exclusive ESL development which makes the T-200 the highest quality 4 speed turntable that you can own.

For the ultimate in record playing togetherness, ask your dealer for the ESL Concert Series playback unit—the new exciting Gyro/ Spension turntable, laboratory mounted with the famed S2000 Super Gyro/Balance arm and the triumphant new Redhead stereo cartridge—all packaged for your instantaneous pleasure. This harmoniously engineered combination assures you the finest reproduction obtainable... just plug it in.

ESL-61 Concert Series playback unit, complete, \$99.50

ESL-T200 Series Gyro/Spension turntable four-pole induction motor, \$49.95 ESL-T200H Series Gyro/Spension turntable, hysteresis synchronous motor, \$69.95 ESL-T200 Lustrous Oiled Walnut Base, \$10.00



just IOOking

...at the best in new hi-fi components

 Electro-Voice, whose many audio products range from microphones to loudspeakers, now applies its electroacoustic experience to the manufacture of an unusual electric organ. Based on an invention by the French physicist Dr. Jean Dereux, the "Series D" organ does not use conventional electronic sound generators. Instead it employs electrostatic storage devices-similar to those used in computers-in which the basic sound patterns of pipe organs are retained. These are modified electronically to provide different organ "registration," but, unlike many electronic organs, the over-all character of the instrument is claimed to be similar to that of a pipe organ. Price: \$3,475.00. (Electro-Voice, Inc. Buchanan, Michigan).

• Fisher has come up with the most powerful of currently available integrated stereo amplifiers, the X-1000, which is a dual 55-watt (music power) unit.

The X-1000 delivers its rated output with a frequency response of 20 to 20,000 cps ± 0.5 db at 0.5 per cent harmonic distortion and intermodulation distortion of 0.8 per cent (the latter measured



at 50 watts rms per channel). Hum and noise are -66 db on the magnetic phono input, -80 db on the auxiliary input. Channel separation is better than 55 db at 1,000 cps, and a 3.3-millivolt signal at the magnetic phono input drives the amplifier to full output. The sensitivity of the tape-head input is 1.8 millivolt.

A center-channel output allows additional speakers to be connected without the need of another amplifier, and the tape-monitor system permits the user to operate all playback controls while monitoring tapes.

Dimensions: 16-15/16 x 13¼ x 5¼ inches. Price: \$339.50 (less case). (Fisher Radio Corp., 21-24 44th Drive, Long Island City 1, N.Y.)

• Harman-Kardon has announced a complete line of multiplex adapters for (Continued on page 22)

HIFI/STEREO





Compare the new University Classic Mark II to all other systems – regardless of price.

We could list the new CLASSIC's complete specifications. We could commission a poet to describe the sound and the cabinet. Both good ideas, but quite inadequate to the task, for the new CLASSIC is a *living* instrument. You must *hear* it to know why it is the most important speaker system available today. You must compare it to *all* other makes to eliminate any doubt that here is the only system you will ever want.

For large rooms, small rooms—for today and tomorrow—here is the first sensibly designed big sound system in years. It creates a sense of spaciousness typical of yesterday's massive systems—but without making their space demands, and without sacrificsing the intimate sonics and texture necessary for the full enjoyment of soloists and small musical ensembles. A "major acoustic achievement,"

A "major acoustic achievement," as many experts have declared. But you decide for yourself. At any quality high fidelity dealer. \$295.00.

3-WAY SPEAKER SYSTEM: high compliance 15" woofer; 8" direct-radiator mid-range; Sphericon super-tweeter. RESPONSE: 20 to 40.000 cps. POWER REQUIREMENTS: any quality amplifier rated from 10 to 60 watts. DIMENsions: $35'' \times 28'4''$ and 17'2''' deep!

Write for the fully-documented CLASSIC MARK II brochure and University's "Informal Guide to Component High Fidelity." Desk D-11 University Loudspeakers, Inc., 80 S. Kensico Ave., White Plains, New York.

Timeless Beauty and the Sound of Truth





EXCLUSIVE with FAIRCHILD

TARLE BELT PETISTUNG

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ST. MC

OL PLATA

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Chiat LA

Only the FAIRCHILD 412 has a DOUBLE BELT DRIVE system. Result: the world's finest turntable with the lowest possible rumble and inaudible and immeasurable wow and flutter... characteristics that cannot be detected even on the most sensitive measuring instruments! The FAIRCHILD double belt drive provides **couble isolation** between

- 59.2713

NOTER DE

MALLET"

the turntable and the "locked in speed" of the synchronous motor.

The low, low rumble characteristics of the 412 can be understood by referring to the electrical

equivalent diagram of the 412 shown here. This diagram illustrates how the double belt drive system actually provides a series of low pass filters. rumble filters. These built-in mechanical rumble filters eliminate the need to use rumble filters in your amplifier with their resultant restriction of the low frequencies in playback

And, the double belt drive allows more Illustrated above: 412, 4128F and the new FAIRCHILD anti-skating arm Model 500 with SM-2 Cartridge.

gradual step down ratios between motor and turntable. Single-belt systems have a step down ratio of 1:54 with a serious chance of wow flutter due to this great difference. The double-belt 412 has two step-down ratios of 1:4 and 1:13.5. These two gradual step-down ratios, instead of one severe stepdown, account for the

immeasurable wow and flutter characteristics of the 412.

 Complementing these two features is a robust, sturdy overall design en-hanced with an 8 lb. aluminum-filled turntable. The entire belt system of the 412 is hidden from view, coupling

professional performance with appearance acceptable to the most discriminating. The 412 exceeds all professional stand-ards by at least 100%. Each 412 is individually tested and a graph of turntable performance is included with each unit. No wonder the 412 is the most sought after turntable. Priced at \$87.50



NEVER FAIL - ZONE YOUR MAIL

The Post Office has divided 106 cities into postal delivery zones to speed mail delivery. Be sure to include zone number when writing to these cities; be sure to include your zone number in your return address-after the city, before the state.

its tuners and receivers. The MX500 adapter mounts on the chassis of Models F-500, ST360A, ST360, and ST350; the MX600 adapter fits the TA224, TA230, and TA260, fastening to the rear of their chassis, Both the MX500 and the MX600 draw their power from the units to which they are attached. An adapter is also available to mount directly on the chassis of the Citation III tuner.

In addition, a self-powered, independently housed multiplex adapter, the MX700, is for use with any Harman-Kardon tuner that is equipped with a multiplex output. The MX700 is automatically activated whenever a multiplex signal is received, and its escutcheon lights up to indicate multiplex operation. Price: \$39.95 (MX500), \$49.95 (MX-600), \$59.95 (MX700), \$89.95 (Citation III adapter). (Harman-Kardon, Inc. Plainview, Long Island, N.Y.)

• Heathkit has a new integrated amplifier kit that offers moderate power at low cost. Rated at 121/2 watts per channel, the AA-181 has four inputs: magnetic phono, crystal or ceramic phono,

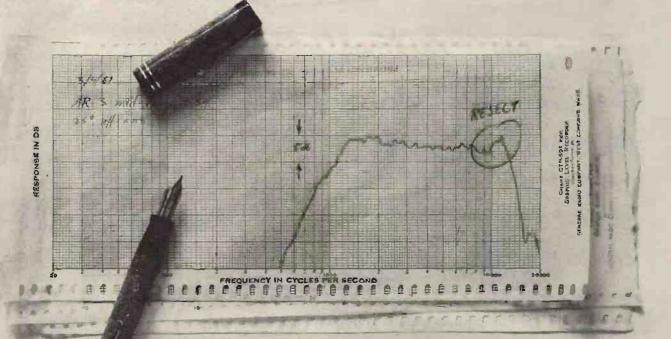


microphone, and auxiliary. Tone-control range is 15 db boost or attenuation on both treble or bass. Output impedances are 4, 8, and 16 ohms. Price: \$42.95. (Heath Company, Benton Harbor, Michigan).

 Jensen introduces a miniature loudspeaker for use as an extension speaker in various parts of the house or in extremely compact sound systems, The Model X-10 employs a small long-travel woofer that is mass-loaded and matched to the euclosure to compensate for its diminutive size. In addition, a 3-inch cone tweeter is used to provide treble response to 14,000 cps.

For convenience in use, the X-10 has a built-in volume control, operated by a knob on the front panel. The speaker comes in an oiled walnut cabinet and may be used with any amplifier having 4, 8, or 16 ohms output, providing the listening level does not exceed the speaker's 6-watt power rating. Dimensions: 13 x 71/4 x 45/8 inches. Price: \$29.75. (Jensen Mfg. Co., 6601 South Laramie, Chicago 38, Ill.)

 Kersting is offering slide-out record holders for installation in cabinets. These "Quick-See" slides hold up to 125 LP's and feature a tilting front to let the user flip through his records in search of a particular one. The slides also come in



THIS IS THE RECORDED FREQUENCY RESPONSE Curve of a rejected AR-3 mid-range tweeter

Although this curve does not depart from the ideal by more than 2 decibels at any point, the sharp peak at 11,500 cycles is evidence of transient distortion.

The frequency response of all AR-3 tweeters and AR-2a super-tweeters is recorded and examined critically before installation. One out of fifteen never makes it to the cabinet.

AR speakers are priced from \$89 to \$225. They may be heard at AR Music Rooms, on the west balcony of Grand Gentral Terminal in New York City, and at 52 Brattle Street in Cambridge, Massachusetts. No sales are made or initiated at these showrooms.

Literature, including a list of AR dealers in your area, is available for the asking.

ACOUSTIC RESEARCH, INCI, 24 Thorndike Street, Cambridge 41, Massachusetts

7 - 400Most authorities look to the Jans Ten Electrostatic as the standard of comparison for mid + high frequency sound reproduction. Other manufacturers, either by recommendation of independent research organizations or by their own choice, advocate or include the Jans Ten " as an integral part of their best speaker systems. The Z-400, however, integrates the Jans Ten Electrostatic with our own complementary woofer. Result. the best possible speaker system, already assembled and, naturally, at a far better price -- from # 134.50 send for literature and name of nearest dealer * incorporating designs by arthur A. Janszen and made only by NESHAMINY ELECTRONIC CORP. Neshaminy. Pennsylvania.

a smaller size for holding 7-inch tapes. Price: \$6.95 and up, depending on size.

In addition, Kersting has complete record storage cabinets finished in a choice of fine hardwood vencers. Dimensions: $22\frac{1}{4} \times 32 \times 16$ inches. Price: \$49.95. (Kersting Manufacturing Co., 504 South Date Avenue, Alhambra, Calif.)

• Mercury makes its entry into the londspeaker field with two new designs based on a device called the Doublet. This is an airtight chamber, constructed of opposed surfaces of thin flexible rubber on a rigid frame that, according to the manufacturer, dissipates the back pressure of the loudspeaker cone, leaving the cone free to undergo greater excursions for more effective bass projection.

The CR-1 Grescendo, with a dual-cone 10-inch woofer and a 4-inch tweeter, has a frequency response from 25 to 18,500 cps and measures 24 x 12 x 12 inches. A smaller model, the MA-1 Maestro, covers the range from 30 to 16,500 cps with a single 8-inch dual-cone speaker and measures 21 x 11 x 9½ inches. Price: \$79.95(CR-1), \$59.50 (MA-1). (Mercury Electronics Corp., 111 Roosevelt Avenue, Mincola, N.Y.)

• Pilot's Model 380 FM multiplex tuner includes a built-in multiplex adapter that automatically goes into action when the station runed in broadcasts in stereo. Sensitivity is 3 microvolts (by IHFM standards). The circuit employs three i.f. stages, a gated-beam limiter, a wide-band ratio detector, and a cathodefollower output stage. Dimensions: 143/8 x 5/18 x 103/4 inches. Price: \$169.50. (Pilot Radio Corp., 37-06 36th Street, Long Island City 1, N.Y.)

• Tall, the firm that makes the wellknown professional EdiTall tape-editing block, recently announced a smaller version of the same design.

Only four inches long, the S-2 block can be mounted directly on the machine by means of pressure-sensitive adhesive tape. Price: \$6.50. (Also available as the KS-2 Kii—for \$7.50—including a chinamarking pencil, a roll of splicing tape, and an instruction booklet.) (The Tall Co., 27 East 37th Street, New York 16, N.Y.)

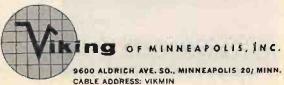
• University introduces two low-cost dynamic microphones—Models 70 and 71—that have usable responses to 18,000 cps. The pickup pattern of both models is onmidirectional, and either can be connected to provide impedances of 30, 50, or 20,000 ohms. The output level into a high-impedance input is 28 mv/10 dynes/cm². Model 71 incorporates an on-off switch. Price: \$29.95 (Model 70), \$34.95 (Model 71). (University Loudspeakers, Inc., 80 South Kensico Avc., White Plains, N.Y.)



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BEGINNERS ONLY

by HANS H. FANTEL

WHEN I first became interested in audio, I was puzzled for a long time by the uncanny notion of music running through a wire. To me, the change of sound to electricity and vice versa always seemed profoundly marvelous, even though it was a commonplace that happened every time I picked up the telephone.

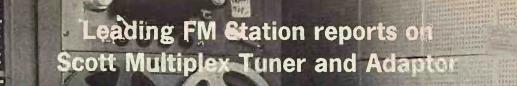
What is involved here is the transformation of acoustic energy into an electric equivalent that retains certain characteristics of the original sound. The question thus arises : what are the important characteristics?

Sounds are simply changes in air pressure brought about by the vibrations of a source, as, for example, a violin string. The air gets bunched up in a series of pulsations that strike the ear. One of the first things you notice when you hear a musical note is whether it is high or low; the tone, you say, has a certain pitch. This sense of a tone's being high or low is the way the human brain interprets the frequency of the vibration picked up by the car. Frequency is simply the number of vibrations within a given time. Each vibration is called a cycle, and the frequency of a sound is usually expressed in terms of cycles per second, generally abbreviated as cps. The average human ear hears its lowest sound at about 20 cps, its highest at about 20,000 cps. A sound without definite pitch, consisting of a mixture of unrelated frequencies, is perceived by the brain as noise, as, for example, the sound of water rushing full force into a bathtub or of wind rattling the shutters.

Every sound also has a certain loudness. You knock on a door, Nobody answers. So you bang harder. By this ordinary action you have unwittingly demonstrated the physical difference between soft and loud sound. Loud sounds are produced by a greater expenditure of energy. Or, to say it the other way around, louder sounds have greater contents of acoustic energy.

Pitch and loudness can be represented as wave patterns. Think of sound pulses as being roughly similar to waves on the surface of a lake. Each wave is then a single pulse, or one cycle. Waves spaced at long intervals (low frequency) would represent low notes. Short ripples would correspond to treble sounds. The height of each wave, which corresponds to its energy content, would represent loudness. In the language of physical measurement, the height of a wave is called its amplitude. And it is the amplitude of the wave, principally, that determines whether we perceive sound as being loud or soft.

Keeping in mind this concept of pitch and loudness as wave patterns, we can more easily make the mental jump from sound to electricity, for the acoustical wave pattern of any music or speech can be imparted to an electric current. The details of this process, which is called modulation, will be discussed in a future column. For the present, we only need to understand that this current, once it has been modulated, carries a representation of the frequency and amplitude of the sound. Thus, sound rides piggy-back on the electric current, which can be amplified, transmitted along wires, imposed on magnetic tape, and broadcast by radio transmitters.



Richard L. Kaye, Station Manager of WCRB, using Scott Multiplex Tuner for station monitoring.

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Richard L. Koyo Station Manager

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"I am 50 miles from transmitter and get perfect recep-tion with just my TV antenna. I had (competing brand) multiplex but it didn't work." John Flower, Concord, California

John Flower, Concord, California "... Here in Newburgh I am 100 miles from WGFM. I receive them every evening from 8 to 9 PM.... My hi-fi equipment is all H. H. Scott. My 310C tuner is 21 months old and has had no maintenance... not even tube replacement. My 272 Amplifier and 335 Multiplex Adaptor have been trouble-free. Your quality control must be nearly perfect. In my opinion you offer the finest hi-fi components than can be purchased." Walter L. Bachman, Newburgh, New York "Finest separation I ever heard." Daniel M. Walfe, Jr., San Francisco, California "All other acquipment is H H. Scott Becontion 40 miles

"All other equipment is H. H. Scott. Reception 40 miles from station is very good." W. A. Moss, Mountain View, California

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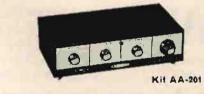
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THE

BASIC REPERTOIRE

by Martin Bookspan



BEETHOVEN'S "PASTORAL" SYMPHONY

GETTMANN AUCHIVE

When BEETHOVEN's first three piano sonatas were published in Vienna in 1796, the printed edition carried an advertisement for a "Grand Symphony" subtitled "A Musical Portrait of Nature" by a Swabian composer named Justin Heinrich Knecht. The symphony by Knecht had first been published about a dozen years earlier, and Sir George Grove has speculated that Beethoven "must often have read Knecht's suggestive titles on the cover of his own sonatas. If so, they lay dormant in his mind ... until 1808." This was the year in which Beethoven turned from the tension and drama of his Fifth Symphony and composed his own musical portrait of Nature the Sixth, or "Pastoral," Symphony.

There would seem to be little doubt that Beethoven was influenced, at least subconsciously, by the general programmatic scheme that Knecht had outlined for his five movements:

(1) A beautiful countryside where the sun shines, the soft breezes blow, the streams cross the valley, the birds twitter, a cascade murmurs; a shepherd pipes, the sheep leap, and the shepherdess lets her gentle voice be heard.

(2) The heavens are suddenly darkened, all breathe with difficulty and are afraid; the black clouds pile up, the wind makes a rushing sound, the thunder growls from afar, the storm slowly descends. (3) The storm, with noise of wind and driving rain, roars with all its force; the tops of the trees murmur, and the torrent rolls down with a terrifying sound.

(4) The storm is appeased little by little; the clouds scatter, and the sky clears.

(5) Nature, in a transport of gladness, raises its voice to heaven, and gives thanks to its Creator in soft and agreeable song.

Beethoven's program is considerably less detailed in its reference to particular sights and sounds, but it does have a similar pattern:

(1) Awakening of serene impressions on arriving in the country.

(2) Scene by the brookside.

(3) Jolly gathering of country folk.

(4) Thunderstorm; tempest.

(5) Shepherd's Song : Gladsome and thankful feeling after the storm.

It is interesting to note that Beethoven scaled his instrumental forces in the "Pastoral" Symphony to suit the basic mood of each movement. The first two movements, with their screnity and unruffled calm, call into play only the woodwinds and strings, with no brass except for the horns and no percussion. In the scherzo the texture is brightened by the addition of a trumpet. Piccolo and two trombones, instruments that Beethoven used in a symphony for the first time when he

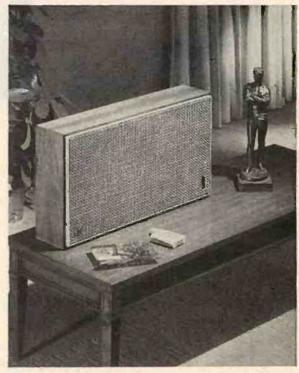
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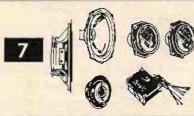
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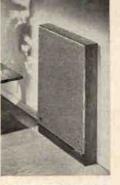


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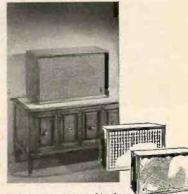
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Bruno Walter's magnificent interpretation of the "Pastoral" Symphony for Columbia is the preferred recording of the work, but the readings by Monteux on RCA Victor and Klemperer on Angel are also worthy conceptions.

wrote his Fifth, heighten the effect of the storm music in the fourth movement of the "Pastoral," and the trombones are retained, but used sparingly, in the final movement. The timpani make their only appearance in the "Pastoral" in the fourth movement, where Beethoven uses them to evoke the rolls and claps of thunder. Beethoven was later, in *Wellington's Victory*, to indulge in blatant pictorialization, but in the "Pastoral" Symphony his means are at once more subtle and more effective.

T

LHE HISTORY of the "Pastoral" Symphony on records is, in its most significant aspects, a chronicle of Bruno Walter's way with the score. There used to be a Victor black-label 78-rpm album (G-20; long-discontinued), recorded in the mid-1930's, that preserved a performance in which Walter conducted the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. His reading of the music was ideal: screne and simple, and obviously the product of loving identification with the music. About a decade later, in 1946, Walter recorded the score for Columbia with the Philadelphia Orchestra; his reading was basically the same as the earlier one, but the Philadelphia players were not so sensitively responsive to his beat as the Viennese had been, nor was the recorded sound anything exceptional. Nevertheless, Columbia ML 4010, to give it its LP number, had values that made it the best available "Pastoral" recording until just about two years ago, when Walter recorded the work yet again, this time in stereo with the orchestra that Columbia recruited for him on the West Coast.

When I reviewed that recording (Columbia MS 6082, ML 5405) in the January, 1959 issue of this magazine, I wrote: "No other conductor now before the public can so successfully deal with the gentle, lyrical aspects of this score without making them sound slightly namby-pamby."

And in listening to the recording several times again for the purposes of this evaluation, I was struck even more forcibly by the supreme nobility and lyric flow of Walter's performance and the superb clarity and definition of the recorded sound.

Another fine performance of the symphony, though not quite on the same exalted level of inspiration as the Walter, is that in which Pierre Monteux conducts the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra (RCA Victor LSC/LM 2316). Monteux is sensitive to the subtle shadings of nuance and balance, and his reading is distinguished by serenity and sure command. The orchestra plays the music magnificently, as it probably always has, but the recorded sound is neither as vivid nor brilliant as that in the Walter recording.

Just below the Walter and Monteux recordings in my affections is that in which Otto Klemperer conducts the Philharmonia Orchestra (Angel S 35711). Klemperer adopts what now seems a perversely slow tempo in the scherzo, but otherwise he gives a most satisfying account of the score and stamps every page with his own special authority. The reproduction is luminous and full-bodied. Incidentally, both Klemperer and Monteux observe the repeat of the first movement's exposition, while Walter does not.

A radical tempo, but in the opposite direction, also mars Hermann Scherchen's account of the "Pastoral" for Westminster (WST 14049, XWN 18801), for his first movement moves along at such a rapid clip that the music loses much of its relaxed charm. The rest of the performance is perfectly adequate, with wellbalanced sound.

Most recently, Epic issued a "Pastoral" in which the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra is conducted by Wolfgang Sawallisch (BC 1134). The performance is easy-flowing, well played, and well recorded, but Sawallisch cannot yet match the sense of deep commitment to the score that makes Walter's supreme.

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With stylus mass lowered and heavy damping eliminated, high compliance and linear suspension are achieved. This results in tone arm resonance so low it is of no consequence. Only the undistorted recorded bass tones come through.

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causes distortion and record wear. But high compliance and low stylus mass permit Audio Dynamics' cartridges to track at an extremely low force. Tested by Hirsch-Houck Laboratories the ADC-1 registered a tracking force of % of a gram. You can forget about distortion and record wear!

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TECHNICAL TALK

HERE ARE a number of ways to measure an amplifier's power output. The most common method is to increase the output of the amplifier until a certain distortion level, such as 2 per cent, is reached at the frequency of 1,000 cps. This output is then taken as the rated power output of the amplifier. Matters are complicated, however, by the fact that some manufacturers advertise the *peak* power of their amplifiers. Peak power is arrived at simply by multiplying the continuous power by a factor of two, so it can be seen that it has no practical significance.

Just to confuse the situation a bit further, we now have what are called music-power ratings. Let me take a minute to review what music power is-or is supposed to be. On many amplifiers, full-power operation causes a decrease in the supply voltages to the output tubes. This slightly reduces the available continuous power output, as compared to the power that the amplifier can put out in very short bursts. Some manufacturers reason that because the peak levels in musical material are usually of brief duration, the maximum power of an amplifier should be measured under conditions with the supply voltages at their nosignal levels. This, then, is music-power output, and on a given amplifier it may be 10 per cent or so higher than the same amplifier's continuous-power output. The better the regulation of the amplifier's power supply, the more nearly the music-power and continuous-power ratings will coincide.

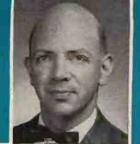
Much music contains sustained high-level passages that place demanding requirements on an amplifier for extended periods of time, and so, in my opinion, the music-power concept, as it presently exists, does not have much to do with the realities of the situation. Consequently, all of the amplifier power ratings in these equipment reviews will be continuous-power ratings. Further, because most stereo program material has little separation at low frequencies—and thus calls upon both channels to deliver full power simultaneously—I evaluate an amplifier under what I consider to be realistic conditions : with all measurements being made while both channels are driven simultaneously. To be sure, some amplifiers will appear to have less than their rated output when such stringent test standards are applied. This does not necessarily disparage the reputation of the amplifier or its maker, since totally different criteria may have been used to derive the specifications.

ALTEC Lansing Model 353A



• THE ALTEC LANSING Model 353A is relatively bulky and heavy as integrated stereo amplifiers go these days, weighing some 35 pounds. In it are two 25-watt channels with complete control facilities. Altec supplies rather detailed specifications on the performance of this amplifier in the instruction booklet, and measurements confirmed them in practically every detail. Each channel delivered 25 watts over most of the audio range, from 30 cps to nearly 10,000 cps. Below 30 cps the available power fell to 9 watts at 20 cps, and the high-frequency power response rolled off gently to 15 watts at 20,000 cps. These measurements were made at 2 per cent harmonic distortion, with both channels being driven simultaneously. A clue to the listenability of the 353A was the fact that the intermodulation distortion was very low at normal listening levels-0.2 per cent at 1 watt and 0.65 per cent at 10 watts. At 25 watts per channel, IM reached 1 per cent.

The tone controls, although perfectly adequate for their purpose, had somewhat less range (about 10 db of treble and bass boost and cut) than many I have used. Personally, I consider this a virtue, since excessive boost at the frequency extremes is a common cause of distortion and muddiness. Any program material or listening environment that cannot be corrected with the tone-control range provided in this amplifier is probably incapable of being corrected. The rumble filter had most of its effect at frequencies below 30 cps and was too gradual in its slope to be



by JULIAN D. HIRSCH

of much value. The loudness compensation, which can be switched out, is rather mild, affecting both highs and lows, but it does its job, if you find such compensation desirable, without the boominess that is characteristic of some loudness controls.

The 353A had unusually low hum levels on all inputs, and the hum was inaudible under any conditions, even with maximum volume and bass boost on the phono input. Few integrated amplifiers do as well.

Like most integrated amplifiers, the 353A generates a great deal of heat that must be dissipated. The output tubes are located in a row at the open back, separated from the other tubes and components by a metal shield that deflects their heat rearward. The cabinet has a unique double-walled construction on its top that helps exhaust the warm air. As a result, the cabinet never becomes unduly hot, provided the necessary ventilation is provided at the rear.

I would describe the Altec 353A as a rugged, wellconstructed, and honestly rated stereo amplifier, capable of delivering excellent performance in the highest-quality stereo or mono systems. Its price is \$225.00, including cabinet.

FAIRCHILD MODEL 510 COMPANDER



• THE FAIRCHILD Model 510 Compander, which is a combination volume compressor-expander, is a passive device—it contains no tubes or transistors that is inserted in the signal path at almost any point between the program source and the input to the power amplifier. Its input signal can be of any impedance from 100 ohms to 100,000 ohms and of any level from less than a millivolt to over a volt. Its output should be loaded with 47,000 ohms for maximum expansion of about 8 db. Higher loads, such as 470,000 ohms, will reduce the maximum expansion to about 5 db, but they will not otherwise affect performance.

The control signals for each channel of the Compander are taken from the outputs of the power amplifier. Threshold controls that determine the volume level at which expansion takes place are provided for each channel, and a fraction of a volt is sufficient to operate the unit.

I tested the Compander by connecting it to the tape-monitor inputs of a preamplifier so it could be used on all program sources and yet be switched out at will. The unit was loaded with 47,000 ohms to achieve maximum expansion. Insertion loss, and maximum expansion, was 8.5 db. Expansion took place rapidly, at a level controlled by the threshold controls. Compression occurred at the same level and was greater than 20 db at its maximum. The unit was not frequency-selective, and it had no measurable distortion. Full expansion took place when the lower light was lit, and the lighting of the upper light was not accompanied by further expansion. Turning the threshold control up too far actually caused a slight reduction of gain.

In listening tests, the expansion proved very effective on most orchestral music. The attack was so rapid as to be inaudible, and the decay was usually masked in the music. The reproduction of solo instruments and voices was less satisfactory, however, because the abrupt expansion caused an unnatural increase in volume if the program level had increased gradually to the threshold level. The compression mode worked extremely well, and I found it more useful than the expansion mode. It is possible to compress program material to the point where it is clearly audible during soft passages even though the over-all volume is very low. As an aid to the reproduction of background music the Compander is hard to beat.

The Compander, which is priced at \$75.00, is definitely more than just another gadget, but it must be used with discretion if its potentialities are to be realized. One design change that I would like to see would be the inclusion of some means of controlling the amount of expansion; this would add greatly to the Compander's effectiveness.

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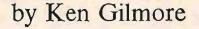
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TODAY practically every city of consequence in Italy and Germany has an opera company that is complete with orchestra, musical and administrative staff, and adequate production facilities. In some theaters there is a regular eleven-month schedule of opera performances, concerts, and plays—all at prices scaled modestly enough to fit the purses of their large and stable audiences. If there are deficits, government funds make them good.

Pretty much the same is true in France, in Austria, in England, in Denmark, in Sweden, in Spain, in Greece, in Switzerland, in Brazil, in Mexico, in Canada, and in a number of other countries. Details differ as to the way, how much, and for precisely what purposes money is allocated, but the pattern is constant: governments—national, state, and municipal—consider support and encouragement of the arts to be one of their important responsibilities.

Yet this viewpoint, so well established as to be taken for granted elsewhere, has not by any means won general acceptance in the United States. In fact, to a good many conservative-minded Americans the idea of government sponsorship of the arts is so unfamiliar, so far out-



PHOTOS BY FRANCIS Y. DUVAL



GOVERNMENT AID FOR THE ARTS

side the national tradition, as to seem downright sinister. In the past few years, though, the climate of public opinion seems to have been undergoing a gradual change, with increasing numbers of prominent citizens committing themselves to the proposition that the arts, both visual and performing, are a part of our human resources that ought to be conserved and cultivated through appropriations by the Federal Government.

Discussion has been energetic and many-sided, and no doubt it will soon become even livelier, for there are now three separate bills awaiting action by Congress that would in varying ways and degrees involve the Government as a patron of the arts. It may be that even at this early stage "Should the Government support the arts?" is already an academic topic. Perhaps it would be more to the point to ask "When?" and "How?" But none of these questions is settled —surely not the first one—and no decisions are likely to be reached without plenty of open conflict among the holders of a wide range of strong opinions.

AT ONE extreme are those who believe that the Government should be willing to pick up the tab for all of the country's cultural activities. At the other are those who are convinced that Government money would inevitably mean Government control — and "control" in this context serves as an all-purpose doom word that covers every ill from mere philistine kibitzing to the baneful censorship of Big Brother.

The boards of directors of various symphony orchestras are of this second persuasion and have put themselves on record as being grimly opposed to Federal aid in any form. It is easy to scoff that this attitude has less to do with realities than with the board members' collective vanity over their status as arbiters of artistic policy. Nevertheless, there is impressive evidence that when art does come under close bureaucratic supervision the results are often deplorable.

The prime example today is in the Soviet Union, where all art is regarded as a medium for propaganda, and the product of any experimentation that deviates from officially approved manners of glorifying the Communist ideal is automatically excluded from favor, if not banned outright. As might be expected, much of the music composed and brought to public notice under such conditions has turned out to be sterile and repetitive. The performing arts, nourished on the repertoire of the past, have fared better, it is true; but not even the brilliance of a Sviatoslav Richter or the superb ensemble of a Bolshoi Theatre Ballet can make up for the creative restrictions imposed by a totalitarian system on painters, writers, and composers. Matters are little better in the other countries behind the Iron Curtain.

Pessimists to the contrary, however, it seems most unlikely that the Soviet model would be likely to be reproduced in this country, however entangled the Government might become in the financing of the arts. There are simply too many, and too diverse, points of view for any such rigid codification to be agreed on. But a subtler danger would have to be guarded against, an example of which is provided by the case of Austria.

At first glance, Austria might seem to be an artistic utopia, and many consider it just that. In 1958, the government spent some \$5,800,000 on its four state theaters in Vienna—a substantial bite out of its national budget of a billion-and-a-half, and more than it spent on its foreign service. Because they are liberally supported with government funds, the Vienna and Salzburg opera houses know no restrictions on production expenses and rehearsal time. As many as seventy-five rehearsals for an important production are not considered excessive, and other production elements are treated with the same lavish hand.

But all is not happy in this outwardly idyllic picture. Since the government finances music, political machinations inevitably seem to make themselves felt in matters that should be subject to artistic judgment alone. Once appointed, the director of the Vienna Staatsoper is responsible only to Parliament and the Ministry of Finance for the use he makes of the funds placed at his disposal, and when he is a man of such drive and ability as Herbert von Karajan, extremely high levels of performance can be reached. But when the men appointed to such powerful positions are merely politically acceptable mediocrities, as happened immediately after the Second World War, the musical life of the city is liable to sag into the same sort of doldrums as any other petty bureaucracy.

DUCH a mixture of politics with art has other manifestations that result in both good and bad effects. Under the Austrian system, for example, many orchestra musicians are civil servants. This gives them the security of a steady, year-round job from which they cannot be discharged. Thus nothing outside their artistic conscience prevents them from goldbricking on the job. Although the morale—and consequently the level of performance—of an orchestra like the Vienna Philharmonic is presently very high, it has not always been so over the past decade and a half.

This tendency of the mixture of politics and art to produce a mediocre if not downright bad product is not unique to Austria. But neither is the Austrian approach the only one to government support for the arts. In England, for example, politicians are models of restraint when it comes to artistic matters. The British Parliament appropriates several million pounds annually to the Exchequer (Treasurer of British Government) for allocation by the Arts Council of Great Britain to the various fields of the arts. The Arts Council, which is composed of citizens with experience in the arts, is responsible for its decisions to the Exchequer and not to Parliament. Its members are not government employees who are subject to political pressure or who have vested interests in retaining their office. Parliament may vote against future grants, but it cannot interfere with the ways in which the money is spent.

Under this system, the British support the London Philharmonic, the Liverpool and Birmingham symphonies, the Royal Ballet, the Old Vic, and several other orchestras and traveling theater companies that take theater to Britons who live in rural areas.

F COURSE, such a system still contains dangers, no matter how conscientiously it is administered. In the visual arts, particularly, government support tends to breed "committee" art. Commenting on this particular danger, Russell Lynes, the editor of Harper's magazinc, expressed these views during a television debate earlier this year: "Direct government subsidy mevitably means a ministry of fine arts. It means a committee of experts to administer, to advise, to plan programs, to initiate surveys, and to do those other things that government committees are committed to do. Let me make myself clear. I am not afraid of creeping socialism in the arts. I am afraid of creeping philistinism and creeping mediocrity. It would be considered important on such a commission that not only all arts be represented but all shades of artistic opinion. What would be the result of this? 'I'll give you one abstract painting if you will give me one Vermont landscape and a still life.' This is committee art. It promotes compromise. It tends to perpetuate the correct and the conservative."

It is true that someone must choose which art to buy, which to support. Even a committee composed of artists is no guarantee of good results. Usually the judges are older, respected artists who look askance at progressive or abstract work. In some countries the fine-arts officials have almost autocratic control and are inclined to play it safe to retain their positions. The "angry young men" of the arts who seek new forms of expression are likely to be considered misfits. Yet from these artists the creative genius of tomorrow is most likely to spring.

The problem, though difficult, is not insoluble. One approach that would go far toward eliminating—or at least minimizing—the dangers of such a system in this country would be to set up a decentralized system for distributing support—the equivalent of a separate Arts Council on the British pattern for each state.

A NOTHER QUESTION that is often raised by opponents of Federal aid to the arts is: Do we really need such support? Our widely publicized "cultural explosion" is apparently evidence that art is doing quite nicely without government help. We have more than one thousand symphony orchestras, over half the world's total. Concert attendance is at an all-time high. Local ballet groups by the score have been formed across the country. Tours by professional groups attract standing-room-only crowds. We have so many Sunday painters that American firms find it expedient to turn out only the cheaper grades of pigments, forcing the professional artist to buy the higherquality paints he needs from foreign sources.

The total picture, however, is far from being as bright as it seems on the surface. The fact is, the professional artist, to whom we must ultimately turn for the continuing richness of our national artistic life, is frequently hard pressed by the economic structure that surrounds the arts. Symphony musicians, for example -with the exception of those who are employed in the top half-dozen orchestras-carn an annual average income of only \$1,800. The financial plight of most of our orchestras affects the cultural life of the community and the nation in another way. With short seasons and lack of rehearsal time, few orchestras can afford to premiere new works, thus stifling the initiative of our young composers. Even our glamorous, successful institutions are in a jam. Said Rudolf Bing, even before the recent crisis at the Metropolitan Opera: "What we need is a Marshall Plan for the Metropolitan."

In other fields the situation is equally dismal.



NOVEMBER 1961



GOVERNMENT AID FOR THE ARTS

Amateur theaters have recently sprung up in great numbers, but professional theater has gone steadily downhill. In 1880, for example, some 250 theater companies were operating in the United States. Today, less than a dozen exist. New York City, the theatrical center of the country, hasn't seen a new theater being built since 1928.

BACKERS of Federal aid to the arts are aware that the very term "subsidy" sounds vaguely un-American to many people. Yet we as a nation are surrounded by subsidy. Our Government subsidizes farmers to the amount of some \$3.5 billion a year because it feels that they are vital to the nation. Businessmen are subsidized in the amount of more than \$500 million a year by the Post Office Department. Airlines and maritime carriers are subsidized to almost the same extent.

Why should Government support these groups, not to mention libraries, museums, and historical exhibits, but not symphony orchestras? Is a ballet company less of a national treasure than a national park or monument? Are the arts not a valuable part of our national heritage and culture?

Apparently many people in this country are finally coming around to the idea that the arts are treasures indeed—that music, dance, and painting are not simply diverting escapes from reality but are an essential part of a full life. The slowness with which this concept has been accepted in this country is perhaps best explained by Peggy Wood, President of the American National Theater and Academy (ANTA). "The real trouble, I fear," says Miss Wood, "has been the result of the blight of the Puritans who considered all art frivolous and the performing arts but manifestations of the devil. We may not be consciously aware of our former reluctance to accept the arts as vital to our society, but it is there in the unconscious just the same. Congress cannot subsconsciously justify subsidizing the arts because its atavistic conscience cannot justify spending the taxpayers' money on frivolities."

VVE ARE, of course, cracking out of the old Puritan shell. Our "cultural explosion" is one manifestation of this new feeling of liberation. There is little doubt that the next step will be the bestowing of official blessing—and support—on the arts.

Even within the last four years, the shift in both private and public opinion has been dramatic. To illustrate this, five years ago, in the summer of 1956, more than three hundred prominent men and women in the arts-many of them internationally famoussigned and sent to Congress a document that urged the establishment of a Federal Advisory Commission on the Arts. Had a comparable document on practically any subject at all been presented to the lawmakers by a similarly distinguished group of Americans representing business or sports, it would have probably been headline news. Yet the artists' petition made no visible impression on either Congress or the newspapers. "It bombarded the ears of the populace with all the stridency of a feather falling on velvet," said theater director Tyrone Guthrie.

Since then, public and congressional opinion has been changing rapidly. Harold Weston, Chairman of the National Council on the Arts and Government, which is probably the most influential organization involved in the fight to gain Government support for the arts, observed recently in his annual report to the group: "The climate in Washington has noticeably improved for the arts. New frontiers in the relationship of government to the arts in the United States seem to be close at hand."

President Kennedy, by inviting Marian Anderson and Robert Frost to participate in his inauguration, did much to establish the connection between art and Government in many American minds. Last year, in a letter to Equity magazine, then-candidate Kennedy placed his position on the record: "When so many other nations officially recognize and support the performing arts as part of their national cultural heritage," he wrote, "it seems to me unfortunate that the United States has been so slow in coming to a similar recognition." The President also has before him a proposal to call a White House Conference on Government and the Arts. It would plan how Government could best encourage the arts without stiffing individual initiative.

Although our Government has tended in the past to remain aloof from direct support for the arts, it has supported various endeavors indirectly for many years. Both the Federal Government and some state governments have contributed billions of dollars to the arts through special deductability provisions in income-tax laws. Many of our museums, symphonics, art centers, and art schools owe their existence to these provisions.

Even the principle of direct Government aid has begun to take root in recent years. We have been sending artists abroad as a propaganda maneuver for several years now, thus helping to support individual performers. Congress has laid the groundwork for a National Cultural Center in Washington and has set aside the land on which it can be built. Although the money must be privately raised, the gift of the land established a principle.

Now, at least three major proposals that would involve the Government even more directly in aid to the arts are before Congress. The first would create a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts. This was proposed by former President Eisenhower in 1955, unanimously approved by the Senate in 1956, but rejected by the House. Last fall, both presidential candidates supported the measure, and a plank in the Democratic Platform endorsed it. Such a council, composed of citizens experienced in the arts, would advise both Congress and the Administration in matters relating to the arts. Because it would have no funds for direct aid, there would be little danger of its wielding too much control.

The second measure under consideration is the proposed National Cultural Development Act, which would encourage and stimulate art activities on the local level. It would authorize an appropriation of up to \$100,000 a year for any state that had a suitable art agency and that proposed specific plans for using the money. The state would have to provide matching funds, and more if possible. This plan would leave to the state agencies just what should be done and how, and it is hoped that it would lead to a situation, similar to that in Italy and Germany, whereby most opera houses would be supported by local, rather than national, bodies.

A third proposal would set up a United States Art Foundation, which would promote live performances and art exhibitions in areas where they would otherwise not be available. A ballet company, for example, could make a tour of smaller cities and towns, and the Foundation would make up the difference between receipts and expenses. As a starter, the Foundation would have \$10,000,000 a year to work with.

Of these proposals, the first two seem to have the greatest support at this time. An advisory council to survey the need in various areas and to coordinate activities on a national level would be a worth while first step. The National Cultural Development Act would, by dispensing its aid through state commissions, help insulate recipients of the aid from national political pressures.

WEANWHILE, the drive for support of the arts continues on other levels. Last March, the Washington State Legislature authorized and the Governor appointed a State Art Commission. New York State has established a State Council on the Arts; this year, \$450,000 was appropriated for the Council, primarily to allow it to bring art exhibitions to up-state areas that seldom see them. Some fifteen other states have recently set up art commissions of one kind or another.

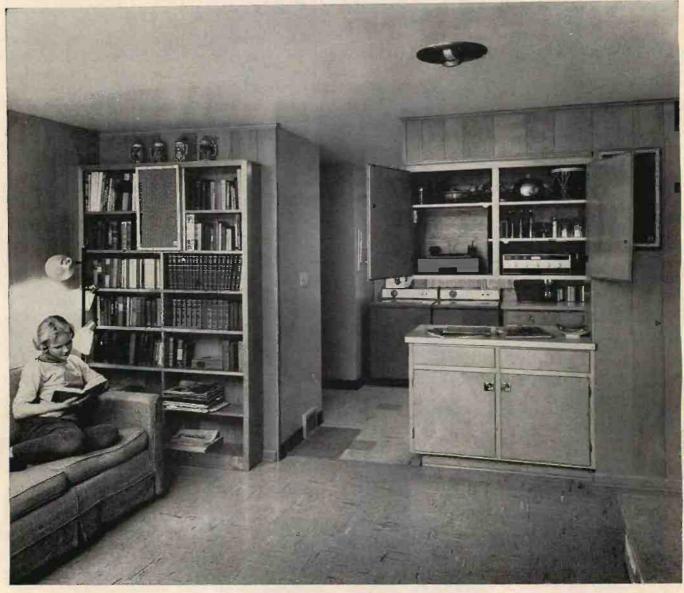
What effect will this movement ultimately have on the cultural life of our country? Already, the answer is beginning to appear. Because of the help of municipal and state governments we already see an occasional tour by a repertory theater company, the strengthening of a local symphony and the establishment of others. Undoubtedly the pace will accelerate. Traveling art exhibits will show up in areas that have rarely had the opportunity of viewing original works of art at first hand. With increasing interest in the field, more young people will be drawn into artistic careers. Music, theatre, and the other arts will make appearances in the many sections of our country that are at present cultural deserts.

Gradually, over a period of years, a well-planned, efficiently run program will create a different artistic climate in America—a climate where the arts will flourish vigorously in every corner, where creativity will come to full flower, and where music, dance, painting, poetry, and all the arts will assume their proper places, not as window dressing, but as one of the basic necessities of a civilized society.

Ken Gilmore, who combines an engineering background with an informed interest in the arts, may be remembered by our readers for his articles on transistor hi-fi (January, 1961) and the Siena piano (September, 1960). A highly versatile free-lance writer, he contributes to such diverse publications as Reader's Digest, Popular Science, and Popular Electronics.



INSTALLATION OF THE MONTH



Stereo from a Bookcase

THE STEREO sound system in the Edwin Sherrys' Columbus, Ohio, home had its origin in Mrs. Sherry's desire for a radio that would allow her to listen to a background of good music while she did homework for her classes in painting at the Columbus Academy of Art and Design. At first they considered installing an elaborate cabinet in the living room, but dropped the idea when a piano for their oldest daughter took up the available space. Then they decided on a component installation in their informally decorated family room, where most of the equipment could be built into an existing cupboard.

Not until Mr. Sherry set himself to build bookshelves

in the family room, however, was he able to find a convenient location for his AR-2 speakers, which he had at first placed on the floor on either side of the fireplace. Mr. Sherry's solution was to build one speaker into the bookshelf and, by cutting into the rear of a kitchen cabinet, to set the other into the dividing wall between the family room and the kitchen.

The Sherrys play their records on a Garrard RC88 record changer that is equipped with a Shure M7D stereo cartridge. For the most part, however, the family listens to the AM and FM programs picked up by their Bell 2425 stereo receiver, which regularly brings in all the stations within fifty miles of Columbus.

THE PLACE OF BEL CANTO TODAY

by Joan Sutherland

W HAT IS bel canto? I believe that it is the essence of opera. The mere words mean "beautiful song," but in speaking of bel canto we evoke two centuries of great singers and the art of pure singing—an art that we today inherit, an art for which years of study are necessary, an art in which perfection is never reached. But bel canto does not belong only to the past. I am sure that today we are on the verge of a wonderful new era of singing, and that the opera audience wants more than ever to hear great singing, being no longer content with fantastic spectacles indifferently sung. And singers themselves, knowing this, want to learn more than ever about their art.

Every period has had its famous singers. In the eightcenth century there were Farinelli, Francesca Cuzzoni, Aloysia Weber; in the nineteenth century, Angelica Catalani, Giuditta Pasta, Maria Malibran, Giulia Grisi, Jenny Lind, Pauline Viardot-Garcia, Adelina Patti; and earlier in our own century, many others whose names are still well known. As for the singers of today, the public of today, and especially of tomorrow, will decide their reputations.

There are, of course, many critics who look only to the past, but, personally, I doubt that the singing of the past was more lustrous than that of the present. Certainly singers in the eighteenth century cultivated a far more florid technique, but, then, they had much smaller orchestras to contend with, so that there was no need to sacrifice flexibility and quality of tone in favor of extreme volume.

The rise in importance of the orchestra, culminating in the decadent Romanticism of the late nineteenth century—as differentiated from the great tradition of the early nineteenth century—might well have meant the ruin of bel canto; but there have always been disciples to keep the art alive. I think that the greatest dangers to singers today are the overlarge orchestra and the insensitive, autocratic conductor who neither understands nor loves the art of song. Did Malibran or Rubini ever have to sing against an orchestra of eighty or one hundred players? Of course not. Today we are



THE PLACE OF BEL CANTO TODAY

expected to sing the same operas that these people sang, but with twice or three times as much noise coming out of the pit. If we complain, we are told sarcastically that we are behaving like prime donne. I say: Long live the prima donna.

or my part, I feel a loyalty to the public. They pay a great deal of money to hear me sing, and I certainly do not want to disappoint them. However, the public should learn to realize that singers, no matter how beautiful their voices, how great their technical skills, are human beings. Under the best of circumstances, it is not always casy to sing one's most beautiful, but when an opera becomes a fight in public between the singer and the conductor, that performance becomes an impossibility. The conductor must be an accompanist. My very dear Maestro Tullio Serafin said to me one day when I asked his advice concerning a tempo in I Puritani : "My dear, you are an artist. Sing whatever tempo you feel to be correct, and I will accompany you." And how he accompanied! He inspired and helped and never made me do anything I did not feel was perfectly natural. How I have loved singing with him in Donizetti's Lucia di Lammermoor, in Bellini's I Puritani and La Sonnambula-wonderful, unforgettable experiences.

On the other hand, last May I took leave of the Tea-

tro Le Fenice in Venice because of disagreement with a conductor. The opera was La Sonnambula, one of the greatest bel canto scores in the entire soprano repertoire. When I arrived at the opera house I found that the first night had been set forward three days. I thereupon asked the conductor to rehearse with me at the piano before we rehearsed with the orchestra. He refused, saying there was no need.

But at the orchestra rehearsal the tempos were different from mine for all the major numbers of the opera. I asked the conductor to try to see whether we could compromise a little, but his reply was, "I am the maestro here." So I left, preferring to disappoint the public in that way rather than to sing what I believed to be incorrect.

So some elements of the press called me "La Capricciosa," and so on. If being unwilling to sing my roles at all unless I can sing them in what I feel to be the spirit of the composer is being capricious, then I am indeed capricious,

At La Scala, I sang Bellini's *Beatrice di Tenda*, the opera in which I had made my New York debut last March, a work that had remained virtually unperformed for a hundred years. A little before arriving in Milan, I was informed that the final caballetta for soprano, the heroic bravura closing of the opera, just before Beatrice goes to the scaffold, was to be cut; the



In the title role of Donizetti's Beatrice di Tenda, Miss Sutherland made her debuts in New York and at La Scala. LONDON TRECORDS



Joan Sutherland responds to the rapturous applause of a London Promoudience in Royal Albert Hall, following her singing of arias by Handel and Donizetti.

LONDON RECORDS

conductor did not like it, and he had provided for another ending. I was told also that a duet, not in the original score, was to be inserted in the final scene. Bellini, it is true, sketched a few fragments of melody after the first presentation of the opera, but he had never orchestrated or even harmonized them. For this Milan production these sketches had been scored for the occasion with harmonies that I felt were better suited to the French Impressionists than to Bellini. I then told the management of La Scala that I would prefer not to sing at all rather than agree to such a version of this beautiful work. The opera house authorities this time took my part, and the opera was performed as Bellini wrote it, but with another conductor.

EVERY AGE tends to overstate the glories of the past and to belittle the present. However, as Tosi, in his fascinating book *Opinions on Singers Ancient and Modern*, published in 1723, says, "Whoever will study must seek out the best and find it wherever it is without giving importance as to whether it be the style of fifteen or twenty years ago or the style of today. Because good, like bad, exists in all periods—it is enough to know this, and find it and profit by it."

Still many critics of today delight in writing articles about the great singers of the past, and many of these are nothing but eulogies from start to finish, full of judgments based on wishful thinking and wishful hearing rather than on what is actually to be heard. For example, a certain critic, writing of my recent recording of Queen Marguerite's aria from Meyerbeer's Les Huguenots, wrote that my interpretation was not as brilliant as Melba's. I don't doubt for an instant that this may be so, but what I object to is the fact that this particular critic is younger than I am and therefore certainly never heard Dame Nellie in person, and the only memento she has left us of this aria is an ancient Mapleson cylinder recorded from the flies at the Metropolitan. I have a copy of this recording myself, and I defy anyone who hasn't read the title to even tell what aria she is singing, so scratchy, noisy, and ancient is the sound.

In our century we are still suffering from the effects of the music of Wagner and Strauss, who almost brought about the downfall of bel canto with their enormous orchestras and inhumanly heavy scoring. As for myself, I have no desire to sing either Wagner or Strauss, because I see no point in screaming every other night against such odds. If I really had my way (and, believe me, I should like to have it far more often than I do) I would never sing with an orchestra of more than fifty players. Of course there are conductors who can maintain perfect control of very large orchestras, but they are few. What a blissful life it would be for a singer to always be able to sing with sympathetic conductors! Happily they do exist.

Then there are many other problems for singers. At Covent Garden recently, an internationally famous soprano was severely booed after a performance. I am not suggesting that her performance was above criticism, but I do suggest that the public might think well before showing disapproval in this manner. Withholding of applause indicates disapproval quite as effectively. Women singers, especially, have their problems; there are inevitably times when one does not feel well, but it is not always possible to cancel a performance simply because a singer knows that for the time being her voice is not in top form.

Today, also, there is the problem of recording. This, to me, is the most tiring part of a singer's life. Most people seem to think that making a recording is all very easy, since if one makes a mistake that particular section can be repeated. What they don't realize is that when, for instance, the soprano sings well the tenor

THE PLACE OF BEL CANTO TODAY

may make a mistake (or, of course, vice versa), that when both sing well the balance between singers and instruments may be technically faulty, and that when everything appears to be going perfectly a violinist may drop his bow. And so everybody has to do the same passage over and over again, and the repetition becomes most exhausting.

Last year I recorded the Mad Scene from Thomas' Hamlet in the Kingsway Hall, London, and in a cadenza I sang a high E natural that was probably the best E natural I shall ever sing in my life. But just at the crucial moment a plane flew over the hall and was distinctly audible throughout the note. So I had to do it again. The second E wasn't bad, but it wasn't the same, either, and I really felt heartbroken.

PERHAPS I've been grumbling too much. Actually I do find my bel canto life fascinating, and I feel honored to be able to contribute to the revival of the great glories of the past. Handel's Alcina and Rodelinda, Bellini's Beatrice di Tenda-what glorious works they are! And I find so much more pleasure in breathing life once again into these wonderful masterpieces than



Joan Sutherland in one of her javorite bravura roles-Amina in Bellini's La Sonnambula.

in repeating Madame Butterfly or Aida for the thousandth time. I could not begin to describe the emotion I felt when I sang the original finale to I Puritani for the first time since the days of Malibran.

Part of the art of bel canto is, of course, decoration

-the addition to the melody of certain fieriture. This can be very dangerous, but it can also be unbelievably beautiful. I am about to record Handel's Messiah, and I intend to decorate the vocal line as I believe Handel intended to be done, and as certainly was done in the eighteenth century. Many people will not like the unfamiliar effect, but I hope many others will, and I do believe that only through such ornamentation can singers begin to capture the true spirit of music of Handel's time.

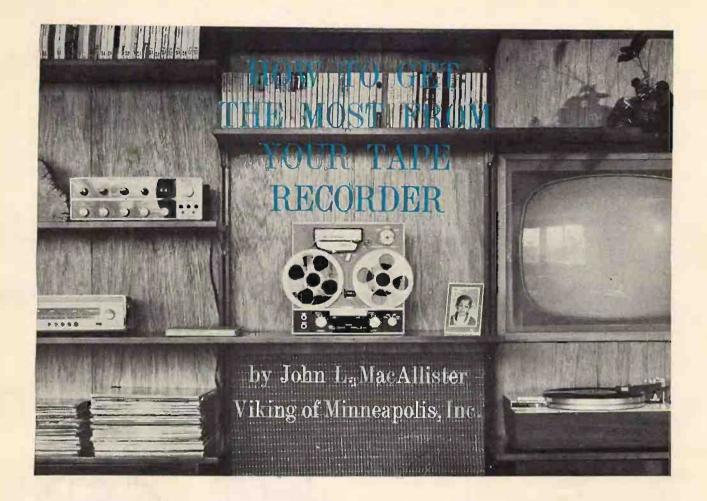
I SHOULD like to encourage younger singers to be adventurous in this matter of decoration, but first they should study the instrumental music of the period and the performances of its great exponents. Above all, I would urge them to retain their own individual styles; if they make mistakes in trying, no matter ; keep trying. What distinguishes one great singer from another is the individuality of the voice and the style. So all young singers should first study books, then study famous models, and then think for themselves.

The greatest period of bel canto writing has, of course, been the eighteenth century and the first half of the nincicenth century, and there remains much of this superb literature yet to be explored. The multitude of Handel operas remain relatively unknown, and there are many works of Vivaldi and Cimarosa that are completely unheard of, many neglected masterpieces by Donizetti and Rossini. Probably the reason for this neglect is the decline in florid technique among singers with the larger and more dramatic voices, especially male singers. In Handel's day, a bass voice was expected to be as agile as a coloratura soprano-that is, as what we now call a coloratura soprano. In earlier times there were no such subclassifications of the soprano voice. These came later, in France, during the Second Empire.

I now seem to be writing only about the past, but we must of necessity study the past in order to emulate its greatness.

I hope that in the future I shall be able to participate in bringing to new life many of the vanished glories of bel canto. Also, I hope that composers of our own time will study intensively the old vocal writings, especially those of Handel and Bellini. I would be so very happy to sing again in a modern opera where there would be a vocal line that was beautiful and that was not destroved by an overbearing orchestration.

So there is much to which I can look forward. The one frustration in my life is that I shall never attain the perfection I seek.



WHEN THEY FIRST became available, only a little more than a decade ago, home tape recorders were mostly regarded as novelty toys that provided a bit of self-conscious fun at parties and perpetuated junior's first pronouncements. In view of their limitations of fidelity, they were of little use to the person who had a serious interest in music, and as soon as their novelty had worn off, they were usually stored away at the back of the closet, in company with aging tennis rackets, fishing rods, and the autographed football.

Today's tape recorder is a wholly different affair. Its level of performance entitles it to a status of equality with the most prestigious high-fidelity components. In fact, it is often regarded as the crowning touch to a music system because it acts as a memory for a highfidelity installation. It lets you copy records borrowed from your friends or from lending libraries or broadcast on the air, and its potentialities for live recording are limited only by your imagination. And if you are learning to play an instrument or to speak a foreign language, a tape recorder is a patient and effective teacher. There is no question that you can get a lot from a tape recorder ; but to get the most, you should keep in mind a few basic procedures and suggestions.

The first requirement for getting optimum performance from any recorder is that you hook it up properly to the rest. of your sound system. In some installations, the playback head feeds the signal from the tape directly to the tape-head inputs of the highfidelity system. This playback arrangement is satisfactory if the audio amplifier or preamp has the necessary gain and if it provides the correct playback equalization. Some amplifiers or preamps have a switch for choosing the correct equalization for either $7\frac{1}{2}$ - or $3\frac{3}{4}$ -ips tape. If your system is not so equipped, the equalization for the tape-head inputs is probably for $7\frac{1}{2}$ -ips tape, which is now standard for highquality tape recordings.

Tape recorders that have built-in playback preamplifiers usually provide the correct output equalization at either speed. Being equalized, the output of such tape recorders should be connected to an input that has a correspondingly flat response (usually marked "Tape In"). In addition, tape decks usually also have output connections directly from the playback heads that bypass the internal prcamp. You can thus experiment with both methods of connecting the

HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM YOUR TAPE RECORDER

tape playback to your sound system, determining by trial which works best in your particular case.

As for input connections to the recorder, most audio amplifiers and preamplifiers have outputs marked "Tape Out." A cable from these to the recorder's input feeds any program that is playing over the highfidelity system—radio, disc, or TV—to the tape recorder.

IN INSTALLING your recorder, the right sort of ground connection can help reduce hum. Running a ground wire from the chassis of the tape recorder to a convenient pipe or linking the chassis of the recorder with the chassis of the other components, may reduce hum. On the other hand, either procedure may cause a socalled ground loop, which will greatly increase the hum level. An AC voltmeter can be connected to the tape-recorder's output to measure the amounts of hum that result from different kinds of grounding. This is a convenient method of determining the conditions for minimum hum.

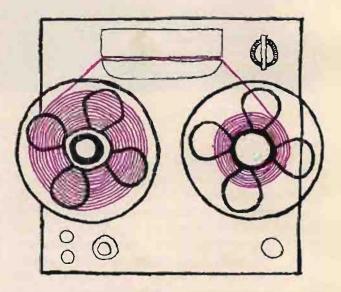
Remember that the signal voltage taken directly from the tape head is extremely low—approximately one thousandth of a volt—and is susceptible to the intrusion of hum. The use of shielded connecting cables to the audio amplifier is necessary to preserve a quiet background, and the cables should be kept at a distance from possible hum sources, such as power cords, transformers, and so on.

If you want to play both two-track and four-track tapes, it is an advantage to have a machine that provides for vertical adjustment of the playback head. By moving the head up and down about 1/32 of an inch, you can align it to the slightly different track positions of two-track or four-track tapes. Separate playback heads for two-track and four-track tapes are preferred by highly critical listeners who have a considerable number of two-track tapes because they provide greater dynamic range with less hiss when played with two-track heads. On tape recorders that allow room for mounting additional heads, you can add an extra playback head so that each kind of tape can be played through the type of head best suited to it.

The number of heads a tape recorder has is, in

fact, a good index of its capabilities. Two-head models combine record and playback functions in a single head (the second head is the crase head), while three-head models have separate record and playback heads, which allows the gap dimensions of each head to be optimally designed for its task. One of the most important operating advantages of a three-head tape recorder, however, is that it permits you to monitor your tape during the recording process. The separate playback head plays back the tape that was recorded a moment carlier. By flipping the "Tape Monitor" switch on the amplifier back and forth, you can alternately listen to the signal as it appears at the tape-recorder input and as it appears on the tape itself. Any discrepancy in quality between the original signal and the final recording is then immediately apparent, and you can make corrective adjustment of the controls. For instance, the recording bias can be altered until it corresponds precisely to the requirements of the kind of tape being used.

Aside from its ordinary uses, a tape recorder lends itself to various special applications. For instance, you



need not always listen to the program you are recording. If a broadcast takes place at a time when you are busy, just let your recorder take it down with the loudspeaker mute. Later, when your attention is free, you can listen to the tape.

Actually, you can carry absentee recording a step further by including an electric timer in the system. Simply connect the timer to the main power switch of your installation, preset all the controls, and your sound system will record radio programs while you are away. On returning home, you can then listen to programs that you would otherwise have missed. A tape recorder so used can make any broadcast schedule suit your convenience. If you have a multitrack recorder with at least three heads, you can explore the possibilities of sound-onsound recording, which means recording on one track while listening to another. Later you can combine the two tracks onto a composite track and, perhaps, start all over again, this time adding new material to the composite track. You can become a one-man band, a quartet, or a chorus. Or if your ambitions are more modest, you can play duets with yourself.

Aside from such amusing stunts, sound-on-sound recording also offers the possibility of making interesting sound montages or of adding comment or narration to musical passages, and it can also serve as a valuable teaching device in learning to play an instrument. Put Rubinstein on one track and then try to match him on the other. The results may be discouraging, but they will surely be instructive.

An adaptation of this technique can be employed in studying languages. The usual practice is to record the lesson on one stereo track and the student's responses on the other. Then, for evaluation of progress, or for comparison, both channels can be played simultaneously. Also, in the process of transferring a language record to tape, the pauses on the record can be lengthened at will simply by stopping the turntable at the appropriate times.

The introduction of FM stereo broadcasting opens new horizons for the owners of stereo recorders. Of course, recording stereo off the air has previously been feasible in localities where AM-FM stereocasts were available, but the use of dissimilar transmission methods made it difficult to obtain matched channels. FM stereo allows you to tape stereo broadcasts in which both channels are equal in frequency response, dynamic range, and signal-to-noise ratio. Filters that operate in the ultrasonic range are included in most tuners and recorders to prevent interference of the multiplex subcarrier with the bias frequency of the tape recorder.

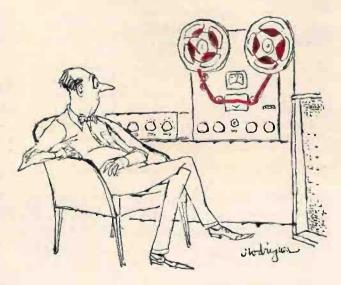
HE SECRET of quality tape recordings lies perhaps less in recording procedure than in proper maintenance of the equipment. Fuzzy sound is often caused by oxide particles that rub off from the tape and foul the heads. To prevent this, set up a cleaning schedule for the record and playback heads. The importance of this cannot be overstressed. If your recorder has four-track heads, which have tiny gaps, it might be a good idea to clean them after every other reel with a bit of gauze or a cotton applicator swab that has been moistened with alcohol or a head-cleaning fluid. And while you are at it, clean the capstan, the roller that holds the tape against the capstan, and the various tape guides on which oxide particles may have been deposited.

Also demagnetize the heads regularly, because a magnetized head increases noise level. The record head may become magnetized by strong surges of current, such as switching transients, and the playback head gradually becomes magnetized by the tapes themselves. Demagnetizing, or degaussing, as it is sometimes called, is quite simple and requires no mechanical skill whatever. There are special head demagnetizers available, but the job can also be done with a bulk tape eraser. Simply place the tape eraser against the head cover—no need to remove the cover—turn on the eraser, and then withdraw it slowly. Be sure you don't have any recorded tape near the recorder while you are doing this because it might be erased.

If high-frequency response is chronically lacking, inspect the heads for evidence of extreme wear. Because of the small dimensions of the gaps, they should be viewed through a magnifying glass. The tiny gap of a four-track playback head is barely discernible when using a five- to seven-power magnifying glass. The gap of a half-track playback head is visible to the extent that the pole pieces and the edge of the foil separating them are well defined when examined with a glass of this power. A ragged appearance of the gap does not adversely affect its functioning, but a head that shows an obvious opening between the core sections (an air gap) should be replaced.

Azimuth realignment of the record and playback heads is seldom necessary, since in most cases the original factory alignment will remain true for years. However, you can periodically check the head alignment by means of a test tape and an AC voltmeter connected across the tape recorder's output. The exact procedure is usually described in the instruction booklet furnished with a recorder.

For only a small effort at routine maintenance you will be repaid in the consistent quality of your recordings—ultimate proof that you are indeed getting the most from your tape recorder.





THE ILLEGITIMATE daughter of a great pianist and a countess, she became the wife of a great conductor-pianist. Then she became the mistress of a great composer and, after divorcing her first husband, married him. When he died, she cut off her hair and laid it on his breast as a tribute. She devoted the remainder of her life to the presentation of his masterpieces, building traditions and legends around them till her death in 1930, at the age of ninety-three. Who was she?

THE BOLERO is associated with Spain and the Tarantella with Italy. With what countries are the following dances associated: Galliard; Fandango; Allemande; Polska; Dumpe?

THE ANACHRONISTICALLY chivalrous Don Quixote de la Mancha of Cervantes' novel is one of the great characters in literature. As such, he



has been the subject of several musical portraits. How many can you name?

BELA BARTOK'S Bluebeard's Castle and Arnold 4 Schoenberg's Pierrot Lunaire, representative works by two modern composers, had their first performances a year apart. Do you know when that was?

AMONG THE earliest consciously nationalistic 5 composers were a group known as The Five, whose objective was to write music that would have a character distinctive of their native Russia. They were only partly successful, but their idealism did stimulate interest and respect. Who were they?

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH'S monumental The 6 Well-Tempered Clavier offers, in Book 1, a prelude and fugue in each of the twenty-four major and minor keys, and then, in Book 2, offers another twenty-four pairs. No other composer seems to have essaved quite the same feat. However, there is one who has written a full set of twenty-four preludes and a further set of twenty-four preludes and fugues. There have also been at least three who have written full sets of twenty-four preludes. Name the four composers.

WHAT TWO jazz orchestras made international 1 reputations playing at the Cotton Chub in New York?

IN 1709, a practical piano was invented. Called 8 at first a "gravecembalo col piano e forte," it could produce all gradations between loud and soft



tones. Here is a photograph of the oldest piano in existence, built in 1720 by the inventor of the instrument. What was his name?

IN THE early 1920's, Vicente Blasco-Ibañez's novel The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse was made into a powerful motion picture, in which handsome young Rudolph Valentino appeared in a sensational dance. As a result, the dance affected popular music by becoming the rage in the ballrooms of the world. What sort of dance was it?

TCHAIKOVSKY'S Sixth Symphony is called the 10 "Pathétique." His Fourth Symphony and Fifth Symphony are known by their numbers, but his first three also have names. What are the names for Tchaikovsky's first, second, and third symphonics?

ANSWERS

- r. Cosima Wagner, daughter of Franz Listz and Countess Marie d'Agoult: wife of Hans won Billow; mistress, and later wife of Richard Wagner. Gallaird: France. Fandango: Spain. Al-
- Bunnde: Germany, Polska: Sveden, Dumpe: England. Jules Massenet's opera Don Qnichotte; Georg Philipp Telemann's chainber suite

Don Quichotte; Richard Strauss' tone poem Don Quixote; Léon Minkus' ballet Dou Quichotte; Maurice Ravel's song cycle Don Quichotte à Dulcinée.

- Bluebeard's Castle in 1931 and Pierrot Lu-naire in 1932, the same year as Stravinsky's Le sucre du printemps—a half-century ago. How does one define "modern"?
- Mili Balakirev, Alexander Borodin, Cesar Cui, Modeste Moussorgsky, and Nicolai 5. Rimsky-Korsakoy.
- 6. Dmitri Shostakovich: Twenty-four Prel-Judes, Op. 34; Twenty-four Preludes and Fugues, Op. 87, Frédéric Chopin: Twenty-four Preludes, Op. 28. Abram Chasins: Twenty-four Preludes, Omitri Kabalev-sky: Twenty-four Preludes, Op. 38. Duke Ellington's and Cab Calloway's.
- 7. Bartolomco Cristofori.
- 9. to.
- A Tango. No. 1 "Winter Dreams"; No. 2 "Little Russian"; No. ; "Polish."



(please turn page)

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2

The outstanding records of 1961

BEST RECORDING: SYMPHONIC Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6 (Columbia)

EUGENE ORMANDY'S musicianship reaches an extraordinarily high peak here, as does the playing of his magnificent Philadelphia Orchestra and Columbia's recording. This is a superb and dignified performance, with a final movement of rare spirituality.

TCHAIKOVSKY: Symphony No. 6, in B Minor, Op. 74 ("Pathetique"). Philadelphia Orchestra, Eugene Ormandy cond. COLUMBIA MS 6160 \$5.98, ML 5495 \$4.98.



COLTOFRIA RECO

BEST RECORDING: CONCERTO Brahms's Piano Concerto No. 2 (RCA Victor)

ONE OF THE great piano recordings of the age, this disc documents a memorable interpretation of the most imposing piano concerto in the literature by the most-discussed pianist to come to America since Josef Hofmann. © ® BRAHMS: Piano Concerto No. 2, in B-flat Major, Op. 83. Sviatoslav Richter (piano); Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Erich Leinsdorf cond. RCA VICTOR LSC 2466 \$5.98, LM 2466 \$4.98.

BEST RECORDING: SOLO INSTRUMENTAL Moussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* (Columbia)

THE SPECIAL THRILL of a live concert performance by Sviatoslav Richter is captured on this disc, recorded in Sofia, Bulgaria, in 1958. While the sound is not of the best, the incredible intensity of the playing provides more than adequate compensation.

MOUSSORGSKY: *Pictures at an Exhibition*. Sviatoslav Richter (piano). COLUMBIA ML 5600 \$4.98.



HIFI/STEREO

BEST RECORDING: CHAMBER MUSIC "The Beethoven Middle-Period Quartets" (Columbia)

FAMED the world over for more than a quarter of a century for its readings of the string quartets of Beethoven, the Budapest String Quartet communicates with remarkable insight the greatness and exaltation of this music on these discs, the second installment of the group's recordings of the complete Beethoven quartets in stereo.

© @ BEETHOVEN: String Quartets: No. 7-10. Budapest String Quartet. COLUMBIA M4S 616 four 12-inch discs \$23.92, M4L 254 \$19.92.



BEST RECORDING: OPERA Puccini's *Turandot* (RCA Victor)

PUCCINI'S operatic swan song, with its superspectacular choruses and gorgeously colored orchestra fabric, here receives the stereo engineering it richly deserves. This, together with the casting of Birgit Nilsson in title role, Jussi Bjoerling as Prince Calaf, and Renata Tebaldi as Liu, makes it one of the most thrilling opera performances on discs. ⑤ ● PUCCINI: Turandot. Birgit Nilsson, Renata Tebaldi, Jussi Bjoerling, and others; Rome Opera House Orchestra and Chorus, Erich Leinsdorf cond. RCA VICTOR LSC 6149 three 12-inch discs \$17.94, LM 6149 \$14.94.

BEST RECORDING: UNACCOMPANIED CHORUS Vaughan Williams' Mass in G Minor (Capitol)

ONE OF THE most sublime and moving religious works of the twentieth century, this music is given a loving performance by the Roger Wagner Chorale, one of the most polished of American choruses. This is a major contribution to the still slim literature of a cappella choral music on discs.

S & VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: Mass in G Minor. Roger Wagner Chorale, Roger Wagner cond. CAPITOL SP 8535 \$5.98, P 8535 \$4.98.



The outstanding records of 1961 BEST RECORDING: CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA Bloch's Sacred Service (Columbia)

ERXEST BLOCH'S choral-orchestral setting of the Jewish Sabbath Service stands as one of the late Swiss-American composer's masterpieces. Using the traditional Hebrew text in the sung portions, Leonard Bernstein conducts the New York Philharmonic and an excellent chorus, with Robert Merrill as the cantor, in a performance that is full of nobility and exaltation. The recorded sound is rich and luminous. ⑤ ● BLOCH: Sacred Service. Dr. Judah Cahn (rabbi), Robert Merrill (barlione); New York Philharmonic and Choirs of the Metropolitan Synagogue and Community Church of New York, Leonard Bernstein cond. Columbia. MS 6221 \$5.98, ML 5621 \$4.98.

BEST RECORDING: SOLO VOICE AND ORCHESTRA "The Beloved Bjoerling," Vol. 1 (Capitol)

MANY VOCAL COLLECTORS feel that the late Jussi Bjoerling never surpassed his early 78-rpm records for sheer vocal splendor and musical taste. Thanks to Capitol's reissues of these remarkable performances, listeners of the LP era can now hear for themselves what Bjoerling's singing was like iff the early years of his career.

Ø JUSSI BJOERLING: The Beloved Bjoerling, Vol. 1. Jussi Bjoerling (tenor); Stockholm Concert Association Orchestra, Nils Grevillius cond. CAPITOL G 7239 \$4.98.



BEST RECORDING: SOLO VOICE AND PIANO "Eileen Farrell Song Recital" (Columbia)

ALONG WITH the wonderful richness of her voice, Eileen Farrell displays an astonishing versatility in her command of the German and French art-song idioms. She is suitably majestic in Schubert's *Dem Unendlichen*, airy and charming in Schumann's *Volksliedchen*, languorous in Debussy, and by turns haunting and ironic in Poulenc. In sum, this is a masterly accomplishment in vocalism and artistry. © EILEEN FARRELL: Eileen Farrell Song Recital. Schubert: An die Leier; Fischerweise; An die Laute; Du liebst mich nicht; Dem Unendlichen. Schumann: Volksliedchen; An den Mond; Mein schoner Stern; Die Soldatenbraut. Debussy: Beau Soir; C'est Fextase; Fleur des blés; Noel des enfants; L'Ombre des arbres. Poulene: Hotel; "C"; Voyage a Paris; La Reine des mouettes; Fleurs. Eileen Farrell (soprano); George Trovillo (piano). Columbia MS 6151 \$5.98, ML 5484 \$4.98.

BEST RECORDING: JAZZ Miles Davis: "Sketches of Spain" (Columbia)

IN COLLABORATION with arranger Gil Evans, the great jazz trumpeter Miles Davis produces here an exquisite synthesis of jazz and flamenco. This release ranks as a major milestone of the jazz art, along with the finest recordings by Ellington, Armstrong, Billie Holliday, and Charlie Parker. Solea; Will O' the Wisp; Concierto de Aranjuez. COLUMBIA CS 8271 \$4.98, CL 1480 \$3.98.

BEST RECORDING: FOLK MUSIC "Carlos Montoya" (RCA Victor)

THE VETERAN GUITARIST Carlos Montoya chooses the way of cool flamenco in this album as contrasted to the hot-blooded ways of most of his colleagues, and what the listener gets, superlatively recorded, is a revelation of the soul of the Spanish gypsy in all its tenderness, melancholy, and poetry. © © CARLOS MONTOYA: Carlos Montoya. Carlos Montoya (guitar). Granaina, El Vito; Duende Flamenco; Madrid 1800; Regional Potpourri; and five others. RCA VICTOR LSP 2551 \$4.98, LPM 2251 \$3.98.

BEST RECORDING: BROADWAY MUSICAL, FILM, TV Camelot (Columbia)

THE SONICALLY SUMPTUOUS Loewe-Lerner musical of King Arthur and his court makes a splendid effect in recorded form, thanks particularly to the now wistful, now captivatingly cheerful work of Julie Andrews as well as to the unabashedly romantic fairy-tale atmosphere of Frederick Loewe's music in Robert Russell Bennett's rich scoring. © CAMELOT (Frederick Loewe, Alan Jay Lerner). Original-cast recording. Richard Burton, Julie Andrews, Robert Goulet, Roddy McDowell, and others; orchestra and chorus, Franz Allers cond. Социмыл KOS 2031 \$6.98, KOL 5620 \$5.98.

BEST RECORDING: POPULAR Frank Sinatra: "Nice 'n' Easy" (Capitol)

WITH FRANK SINATRA doing the honors, the American popular song can become, in the words of Nat Hentoff, "a poem with meaning and reality that transcends its original triviality." There are a dozen fine songs in this album, like *Embraceable You* and *That Old Feeling*, and Sinatra gives classic performances of every one of them.



S FRANK SINATRA: Nice 'n' Easy. Frank Sinatra (vocals); orchestra, Nelson Riddle cond. CAPITOL SW 1417 \$5.98, W 1417 \$4.98.





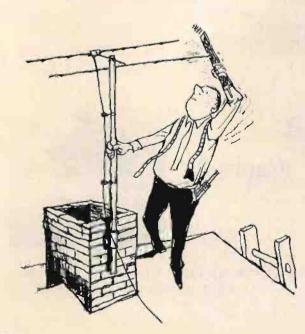
"... WHY WON'T THAT ARM TRACK AT LESS THAN 3 GRAMS, WHY? WHY? "



" DO YOU HAVE THIS FROM A MASTER CUT ON A SCULLY LATHE USING WESTREX CUTTING HEADS 1'"



"WE'RE MOVING TO AN FM FRINGE AREA. BILL SAYS THAT AROUND HERE PRESENTS NO CHALLENGE TO HIS TUNER."





TONE ARM AGAIN ! "

HJFI/STEREO



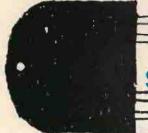
Cartridges covered this month: The Shure M7-N21D, the Audio Dynamics ADC-2, the Fairchild SM-2, the Elac STS-310-D, the Pickering 381A, and the ADC-1

The SECOND INSTALLMENT of this report covers the last six of twelve stereo cartridges that have been tested in our laboratories. Covered last month were, in order of increasing price, the Electrosonic Redhead (\$14.95), the Knight KN-500X (\$17.95), the Sonotone 9TSD-V (\$23.50), the General Electric VR-1000-7 (\$24.95), the General Electric VR-1000-5 (\$29.95), and the Dual DMS-900 (\$34.50). The price range of the present group of cartridges is from \$36.75 to \$49.50.

General conclusions, as well as a description of the way the tests were made, and of their meaning, were made in the first part of this article. Technically minded readers who did not see last month's issue may therefore want to borrow a copy of the October issue from a friend and read the first installment.

(Continued overleaf)

By Julian Hirsch and Gladden Houck



LABORATORY REPORT ON STEREO CARTRIDGES PART



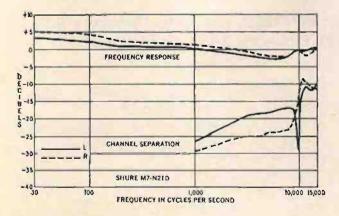
Shure M7-N21D



• The Shure M7-N21D is a combination of the M7 cartridge body, which was originally designed for the medium-price market, and the N21 stylus, which is used in Shure's top-quality Studio Dynetic pickup-arm combination. Thus, the M7-N21D offers, for \$36.75, most of the performance advantages of the Studio Dynetic pickup, and it may be used in any transcription arm or in the better record changers.

The high compliance of the N21 stylus calls for a tracking force not to exceed 2.5 grams, with 2 grams being the force recommended by the manufacturer. Since the M7-N21D tracked both the Cook 60 and Fairchild 101 test records easily at 2 grams, this force was used for the balance of the tests.

The frequency response of the M7-N21D was very smooth, with flat or slightly rising response at 15,000 cps, as compared to the drooping response that most



cartridges at the same frequency on the Westrex IA record. Channel separation was good but not exceptional, with at least 10 db of separation being maintained up to 15,000 cps. Needle talk was lower than the average for the cartridges tested. The cartridge was slightly more susceptible to induced hum than most, but this caused no problems in use.

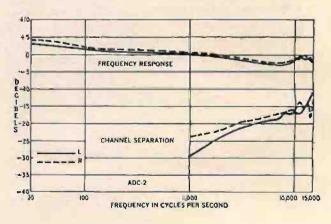
In the listening tests, the sound quality of the Shure M7-N21D was exceptionally smooth and sweet, with almost no background hiss in spite of the extended high-frequency response.



• The Audio Dynamics ADC-2 is a moving-magnet cartridge, similar in basic design to its predecessor, the ADC-1 (discussed on p. 60), but with a less compliant, more rugged stylus assembly and improved hum shielding. It is priced at \$37.50.

Although the ADC-2's instruction sheet does not specify its compliance, this is obviously very high, particularly for a cartridge intended for use in record changers. The ADC-2 tracked the Cook 60 record at 1.8 grams force, and at 4.5 grams it gave exceptionally low distortion from the Fairchild 101 record. The recommended force is from 2 to 4 grams, and 2 grams was used in the tests.

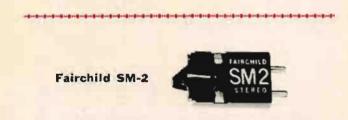
The frequency-response curve of the ADC-2 fol-



HIFI/STEREO

lowed the actual recorded velocity of the Westrex 1A faithfully over its entire range from 30 to 15,000 cps. The outputs of the two channels were within about 0.5 db over the entire range. Channel separation was good—better than 15 db up to 14,000 and well matched between channels. Needle talk was very low.

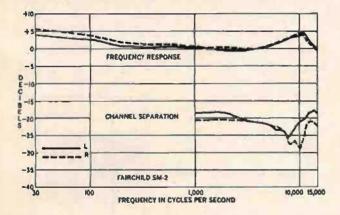
The sound of the ADC-2 was very transparent and clean, very much like that of the more expensive ADC-1.



• The Fairchild SM-2 is a moving-magnet cartridge that comes complete with a stylus-force gauge and a screwdriver, making installation in any standard arm a simple matter. The SM-2 is priced at \$37.50.

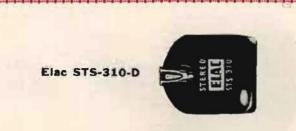
The SM-2 tracked the Cook 60 record at 3.5 grams and the Fairchild 101 record at 4 grams. It was tested at 2.5 grams, the force recommended by the manufacturer. Needle talk was low, and hum sensitivity was average.

The SM-2's frequency-response curves showed the two channels to be closely matched, with a slight, gradual peak at about 11,000 cps. The low-end boost



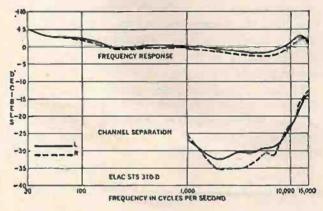
was slightly more accentuated than that of most other cartridges. Channel separation was unusually uniform, averaging 20 db or better over the frequency range from 30 to 15,000 cps.

The sound of the SM-2, despite the slightly peaked high end, was mellow rather than bright. It was smooth, clean, and a bit heavier in the bass than most other cartridges. The 2.5-gram tracking force seemed to be perfectly adequate for most records, and at 3.5 grams the SM-2 would track any record we tried.



• The Elac STS-310-D is a variable-reluctance cartridge, imported from West Germany by Benjamin Electronic Sound Corporation. It is priced at \$45.00.

Mechanically, the STS-310-D has some unusual features. The cartridge, which is fully encased in a mumetal shield, snaps into a clip that is easily installed



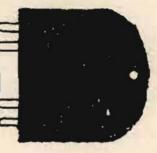
in the arm. The clip has slotted mounting holes, allowing it to be moved back and forth in the arm about a quarter of an inch. This is a very convenient means of adjusting for correct overhang, an important factor in obtaining low tracking-angle error. Also, there are two positions for the cartridge to fit into the clip, so the angle between the stylus and the record surface may be adjusted for optimum results in either recordchanger or transcription-arm installation.

The frequency-response and channel-separation characteristics of the STS-310-D were excellent. The frequency-response curves followed the true recorded velocity of the Westrex 1A record very closely. The channel separation was better than 30 db throughout the middle frequencies, and it was matched rather closely between channels. The mu-metal shielding made this one of the most effectively shielded cartridges we have tested, with a hum sensitivity of minus 17.5 db.

In two respects the STS-310-D did not measure up to some of the other cartridges in this group. Although its compliance for moderate-amplitude signals was good, its stylus could not follow the extreme excursions of the Cook 60 record grooves, even at 5 grams force. The high-velocity 1,000-cps bands of the Fairchild 101 record were also difficult for the STS-310-D



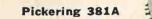
LABORATORY REPORT ON TEREO CARTRIDGES PART II



to follow, and there was noticeable distortion on the output waveform.

It must be said, however, that both of these records present unnaturally severe challenges to a pickup, and it is possible for a cartridge to fail to play them well and yet perform perfectly well with ordinary stereo discs. The STS-310-D furnished a demonstration of this, since it sounded excellent in the listening tests, and we were unable to find any stereo disc that it could not track well.

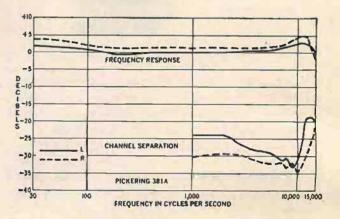
Because of its 3-to-4-gram optimum tracking force (we used 4 grams in our tests), its adjustable mounting position, and its excellent hum shielding, the Elac STS-310-D seems to be especially well adapted for use with the better record changers.



The Pickering 381A is a moving-magnet design in which the case of replacing the stylus assembly makes it one of the few cartridges that are practical for use by the record collector who plays 78-rpm records. Changing a stylus is no more difficult than operating a turn-over or turn-around lever, and much simpler than changing the plug-in shell of a tone arm. Available stylus sizes presently include 0.7-mil, 1-mil, and 2.7-mil. Furthermore, should future stylus improvements be made, the design allows replacements to be made without replacement of the cartridge. The price of the cartridge, complete with 0.7-mil stylus, is \$48.00.

The Pickering 381A is fully encased in a mu-metal shield, and the results of our test proved the effectiveness of the design. The measurement of minus 22 db showed the 381A to be less susceptible to induced hum than any other cartridge tested.

The 381A tracked the Cook 60 record at 2.8 grams and the Fairchild 101 record at 4 grams. A force of 3 grams was used in the tests. The frequency response was smoother, over-all, than that of many other cartridges, with only a slight rise at about 10,000 cps. Channel-separation characteristics were excellent, with separation measuring between 25 to 35 db over most



of the range. At its least good, channel separation was 18 db at 14,000 cps. Needle talk was very low.

Listening tests showed the 381A to be very smooth in response, with less coloration of the sound than most other cartridges. Because of the 381A's very flat frequency response, almost no record surface noise was discernible.

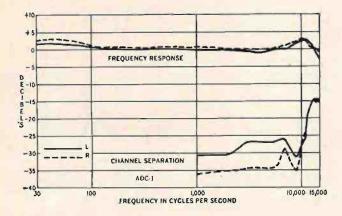
Audio Dynamics ADC-1



• The ADC-1, priced at \$49.50, is a moving-magnet cartridge that has the highest compliance, both lateral and vertical, of any magnetic cartridge that is presently available.

One consequence of this compliance was the ability of the ADC-1 to track both the Cook 60 and the Fairchild 101 records at 1 gram in our test arm. When the ADC-1 was used to play stereo records that did not have such exaggerated recorded levels, or when it was mounted in an arm that had exceptionally low friction, it tracked satisfactory at three quarters of a gram. We found lower forces acceptable from the listening standpoint, but air currents in the room tended to blow the stylus out of the groove.

Although our facilities do not permit accurate measurement of stylus compliance, even a casual inspection of the ADC-1 left no doubt that it is exceptional in this



respect. The stylus had a limp, almost floppy feel. A tracking force as small as 1 gram produced a visible deflection of the stylus when it was placed on the record. Although the stylus assembly seemed delicate, we did not experience any difficulty in handling the car-

tridge or in transferring it from one arm to another.

The frequency response of the ADC-1 was one of the smoothest we have measured. Its channel separation, in addition to being better than 30 db up to 10,000 cps, was quite uniform between the two channels. Needle talk was low.

In listening tests, the ADC-1 was smooth, balanced, easy-sounding, and almost entirely lacking in coloration. Careful comparison against other cartridges showed that the high-frequency response of the ADC-1 was exceptionally good; yet, without such comparisons, it did not give any particular impression of having extended highs. Its exceptional tracking ability was demonstrated by playing records that had sounded distorted when played with other cartridges. In a surprising number of cases the sound seemed cleaner with the ADC-1. This cartridge deserves—almost requires the finest loudspeaker systems for its qualities to be fully appreciated.

Julian Hirsch and Gladden Houck, a pair of engineers whose special interest is audio, have been testing high-fidelity equipment at their independent laboratory since 1954. Julian Hirsch also comments on audio equipment in his column "Technical Talk" that appears monthly in this magazine

Cartridge	Output (millivolts @ 5 cm/sec)	Relative Hum Sensitivity (db)	Low-Frequency Tracking (grams to track Cook 60 at 32.7 cps)	Mid-Frequency Tracking (grams to track Fairchild 101)	Weight of Cartridge (grams)	Stylus-to- Mounting Distance d (inches) ⁽¹⁾
SHURE M7-N21D	3.6	+4.5	2	2	8	3/16
ADC-2	6.0	-8	1.8	4.5	7	<u>• 15/32</u>
FAIRCHILD SM-2	5.4	+2	3.5	4	11	3/8
ELAC STS-310-D	9.8	- 17.5		5	11	5/16 to 9/16
PICKERING 381A	5.5	- 22	2.8	4	14	5/16
ADC-1	8.0	+3.0	1	1	7	15/32

SOUND and the QUERY

by J. Gordon Holt

a forum for eliminating the most common—and often most exasperating problems of stereo hi-fi

Hot-Stylus Cutting

I've read that all modern records are cut with a "hot stylus," but I've never been able to find out why.

What are the advantages of this, and how do they keep the stylus heated for such long periods of time?

> R. W. Harrins Detroit, Mich.

The cellulose nitrate material that surfaces mastering discs becomes soft when heated, so a hot stylus encounters less resistance to its vibration than would an unheated one. As a result, the disc's high-frequency response is improved, and the reduced friction between the stylus and the material yields a quieter groove and greatly extends the life of the cutting stylus.

The stylus is heated by a tiny coil just above its cutting tip, and enough current is passed through the coil to heat the tip to between 400 and 600 degrees.

Record Jackets

I would like to buy some plain record jackets for 45-rpm records as well as some plastic inner sleeves for LP records. Could you direct me to a dealer who sells these?

Robert Wesley McAfee Taylorsville, Ky.

Here's how you can locate your nearest source. Look in the classified telephone directory for the major city nearest to you (your local telephone office will have these books on hand), and look up Phonograph Supplies. Then write to one of the companies listed, asking for prices of the items you want, in the quantities you wish to buy.

Preamp Overload

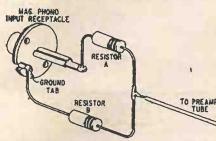
My stereo preamp has an extremely sensitive magnetic-phono input, with a rated sensitivity of 1.5 millivolts. The pickup I am using has a rated output of 15 millivolts, and judging by the horrible distortion I get during loudly recorded passages, it is overloading the preamp's input stage.

I would like to know if it is possible for me to install some sort of network at the phono inputs to reduce the cartridge's output to the point where the preamp can cope with it. If this can be done, how would I go about doing it?

Don Cameron Palo Alto, Calif.

Take the bottom plate off the preamp, disconnect the wire running to each magnetic-phono input's inner conductor, and remove the load's resistor from each input. (This connects between the chassis ground and the inner conductor, and is located either right at the receptacle or at the input-channel selector switch.)

The basic attenuator network (see diagram) consists of two resistors whose



total value adds up to the recommended load resistance for your pickup cartridge. Their individual values will depend upon how much you wish to reduce the pickup's output. To compute their values, determine what fraction of the pickup's normal output you want to feed to the preamp, and make the lower resistor (Resistor B) this fraction of the total load resistance required.

In your case, 1.5 millivolts is the preamp's minimum recommended input signal, so an ideal signal level for it would he about four times this value-about 5 or 6 millivolts. A level of 5 millivolts is onc-third of the pickup's normal output. so you'll want to make Resistor B equal to one-third of the total load resistance. Thus, if the pickup calls for a load of 47,000 ohms, Resistor B should be 15,667 ohms (one-third of 47,000), and Resistor A should be 31,333 ohms (the other twothirds of 47,000). The closest standard resistor values are 15,000 and 33,000 ohms, and they should be 1/2-wall carbon units.

Room Enough for Bass?

I understand that a listening room will not support a bass tone whose wavelength is greater than the room's longest dimension. Since a sound of 40-cycle frequency has a wavelength of about 27 feet and my living room's longest dimension is only 20 feet, what chance do I have of getting response down to 40 cycles from any loudspeaker system?

John N. Higgins Brooklyn, N. Y.

A room's "response" is diminished for tones whose wavelengths exceed the length of the room, but this doesn't mean that deeper tones won't be reproduced at all. They are progressively weakened, however, after their wavelength exceeds the room's length.

Since your room is 20 feet long, the lowest frequency it will support at full strength is 56 cycles. But while a 40-cycle tone will be enfeebled to some degree, it will still be definitely audible.

If, however, you use a loudspeaker whose response rises in the 40-cycle range (which is true of many speakers), you can still get practically linear response down to at least that frequency. And if you place the speaker in the corner, where it faces diagonally across the room, you should have no trouble maintaining healthy bass response to below 40 cycles per second.

Tape Hiss

My new stereo tape recorder seems to work fine in most respects, but I find that every tape I play on it—home-recorded or prerecorded—comes through with a loud hiss.

What can I do to correct this? B. L. Decker Burnt Hills, N. Y.

First, try demagnetizing the unit's record/playback head, using one of the special devices sold for this purpose.

If that doesn't help, your trouble may be due to exaggerated high-frequency response in some component in your system. A few simple tests by a qualified audio serviceman will serve to localize the affending component, and your next step will then depend upon whether the trouble is a remediable defect or is due to a built-in flaw in the component.

Incidentally, if you're using four-track tape, you may just be expecting too much of it. The hiss level of magnetic tape increases as the width of its playing track is reduced.

HiFi/STEREO

BESTOF THE MONTH

CLASSICAL

A NEW HAND AT THE HELM OF THE FLYING DUTCHMAN Antal Dorati's first operatic recording is a superlative effort

HE FORMULA for the new RCA Victor recording of Wagner's Der Fliegende Hollander could hardly have failed: Take the principal singers who turned the 1960 Metropolitan revival into one of the happiest achievements of recent seasons; add further strength to the cast; and entrust the direction to a conductor of authority who is fresh to the task. Imaginative, painstaking execution did the rest. What has resulted may



ANTAL DORATI Reveals a new talens for opera

well turn out to be the operatic recording of the year.

In fact, it has no very damaging weaknesses. The cast is better than any theater could muster. (Surely, to have an artist of Richard Lewis' stature in the role of Steersman is a luxury possible only on records.) George London's Dutchman is one of his most impressive characterizations —brooding, intense, filled with dark despair and melancholy resignation. It is to London's credit that he is able to create such a vivid impression with a subdued, dramatically understated performance, even though he is immensely aided by a dark tonal quality that seems to have been created for the role. Leonie Rysanek is an exceptionally accomplished Senta, a truly romantic figure of gentle dedication. In this recording she is vocally assured throughout and brilliant in her ballad and in the crucial ensembles.

There is a mellowness about Giorgio Tozzi's Daland that is not, as a rule, imparted to the characterization of that old mercenary. Outstanding, too, is Karl Liebl, a tenor of limited voice but considerable skill and persuasive artistry, who recognizes the Italianate quality of Erik's music and whose singing, accordingly, is free of what has aptly been called the Bayreuth bark. In his brief moments, Richard Lewis makes one completely forget that he has what is supposed to be a small (continued overleaf) role, and Rosalind Elias also makes much of her opportunities as Mary.

One can only hope that Antal Dorati's future schedule will keep him closely in touch with opera. The score of *Der Fliegende Hollander* is Wagner in ferment, and Dorati's reading is admirably flexible to its changing demands—massive and turbulent when needed, sensitive and lyrical in the music of Senta and Erik, crisp and sprightly in the lighter moments of the Spinning Chorus and the sailors' merrymaking, which are, for once, free of the leaden quality that many other hands seem unable ever to remove from Wagner. The Covent Garden Orchestra and chorus respond splendidly.

The technical work is worthy of every praise. Movement, space illusion, and balances are handled with sound judgment and great theatrical effectiveness. The cerie activities of the Dutch crew in Act III are projected with shattering immediacy, and there are other moments that will surely delight the stereo enthusiast, but the emphasis is always on dramatic and musical meaning, never on superficial effects.

Enthusiasm for this brilliant RCA Victor accomplishment need not imply a lessened esteem for Angel 3616 (reviewed in May, 1961). Technically, RCA Victor has the edge, and Dorati's more exciting leadership and Rysanek's absolute superiority over Marianne Schech are important factors. Otherwise, the Angel set is on the same lofty level, and Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau's interpretation of the title role—an artistic conception entirely different from London's—is, in some ways, even more remarkable. George Jellinek

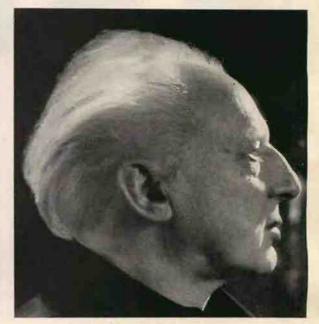
WAGNER: Der Fliegende Hollander. George London (baritone), The Dutchman; Leonie Rysanek (soprano), Senta; Georgio Tozzi (bass), Daland; Karl Liebl (tenor), Erik; Richard Lewis (tenor), Steersman; Rosalind Elias (mezzo-soprano), Mary. Orchestra and Chorus of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Antal Dorati cond. RCA VICTOR LSC 6156 three 12-inch discs \$11.98, LM 6156 \$9.98.

VIRGIL THOMSON, STOKOWSKI, AND STEREO

Masterful recordings of The River and The Plough that Broke the Plains

HROUGHOUT much of their creative work, Virgil Thomson (b. 1896) and his senior compatriot Charles Ives (1874-1954) share in common a preoccupation with the hymn tunes and traditional popular music of the United States. But where lves's sonatas and orchestral pieces in this vein seem to be hewn out of chunks of New England granite, Thomson's compositions are more like superbly worked samplers—miniature masterpieces of juxtaposed and montaged folk melody, wonderfully orchestrated, cunningly woven together, and superbly effective as essays in nostalgia.

Undoubtedly the truest classics that Thomson has produced in this manner have been the scores he



LEOPOLD STOKOWSKI In top form with Virgil Thomson film scores

composed for documentary films on the Midwestern Dust Bowl of the 1930's (The Plough that Broke the Plains, 1936), on power and flood-control developments on the Mississippi (The River, 1937), and on oil prospecting in the Louisiana bayous (Louisiana Story, 1948). The suites drawn by Thomson from each of these scores have enjoyed repeated performances, and deservedly so. It is difficult to understand, in fact, why it has taken so long for someone to record The Plough that Broke the Plains and The River in stereo and why there is still no stereo recording of Louisiana Story. After hearing Leopold Stokowski's masterful recorded performances of the first two, one can only hope that he will record Louisiana Story as soon as possible.

Shape-note hymn tunes and popular dance and folk melodies figure heavily in *The River*, in which the high point is Thomson's splendid variation treatment of *How Firm a Foundation*. The Plough that Broke the Plains is more atmospheric, almost impressionistic, in its evocation of the desolate, dusttormented prairies, reaching a poignant climax in the final episode in tango rhythm. The "Blues-Speculation" section is a fine bit of bitter satire, and in the "Cattle" section, Thomson has done a flawless and altogether beautiful bit of tonal interweaving of three cowboy tunes, complete with banjo and guitar coloration.

Stokowski has seldom been in better musical form than he is in these recordings done with the Symphony of the Air in the Manhattan Center, New York, and the sound can only be described as superlative—clean, with lots of good solid bass, and none of the excess reverberation that has all too often muddied up Manhattan Center tapings. Without elaborating further, it is enough to say that this recording is a must both for any representative library of American music and for anyone who wants to hear Stokowski at his best. David Hall

© • THOMSON: The River; The Plough that Broke the Plains. Symphony of the Air, Leopold Stokowski cond. VANGUARD VSD 2095 \$5.95, VRS 1071 \$4.98.

***** JAZZ ***** MILES DAVIS AT HIS BEST

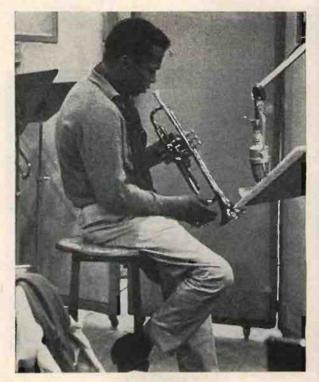
Just-released recordings from 1955-1957 show Miles in topnotch form

ORE firmly integrated than any other unit that Miles Davis ever led was the quintet, between 1955 and 1957, that included John Coltrane, Philly Joe Jones, Paul Chambers, and Red Garland. Prestige has already issued three indispensable albums by the group, and a superb new one, called "Steamin' with the Miles Davis Quintet," is the last that will come from the Prestige vaults. Like its predecessors, it is certain to remain a classic example of the best modern-jazz small-combo style, just as the Louis Armstrong Hot Fives and the small units of Jelly Roll Morton have endured as illustrations of the most cohesive combos of an earlier period.

With a hornman of John Coltrane's strength and restless imagination and a drummer of Philly Joe Jones's resourcefuness, Davis was free to explore his own musical imagination without having to worry about his musical surroundings. His playing on these tracks is enormously inventive but, at the same time, unhurried and unstrained. Coltrane's playing is passionate and daring, and is an intriguing complement to Davis's more ordered and mature ruminations.

Philly Joe Jones has never been equalled by Davis's subsequent drummer for surging boldness of cross-accents and his energizing beat, and bassist Paul Chambers works perfectly with Jones and Red Garland. As for Garland, who has so often sounded puffily bland since leaving the Davis band, he is in invigorating form here.

The group performs modern jazz standards by Thelonious Monk and Dizzy Gillespie, and three popular standards are also given the Davis treat-



MILES DAVIS His 1955-57 quintet was his greatest

ment. This is one of those few jazz albums that will be analyzed and enjoyed so long as jazz records are collected. Nat Hentoff

MILES DAVIS: Steamin' with the Miles Davis Quintet. Miles Davis (trumpet), John Coltrane (tenor saxophone), Red Garland (piano), Paul Chambers (bass), Philly Joe Jones (drums). Salt Peanuts; Diane; Well You Needn't; Something I Dreamed Last Night: Surrey with the Fringe on Top. PRESTIGE 7200 \$4.98.

JACKSON-COLTRANE SUMMIT MEETING

Startling contrasts in the finest modern jazz



Milt Jackson and tenor saxophonist John Coltrane, two of the most forceful and individual leaders in contemporary jazz, are brought together on Atlantic Records' "Bags and Trane." Both Jackson and Coltrane have had revolutionary and revitalizing effects on modern jazz, and each has blazed new paths for his particular instrument. Jackson's is *the* vibraharp style, and Coltrane's is *the* tenor approach today. Every other contemporary performer on these instruments has been influenced by their innovations, if only in reaction to the dominance of their styles and techniques.

In the matter of their approaches to jazz, however, Jackson and Coltrane are markedly different. Jackson's flowingly lyrical style on the vibraharp



JOHN COLTRANE Exorcism with a tenor horn

is one of unabashed but sinewy romanticism; his solos are fluid, spare, and graceful, the fruit of his long-time association with the tightly disciplined Modern Jazz Quartet. Tenor saxophonist Coltrane, on the other hand, has a grippingly emotional style that might be described as a sort of musical exorcism. He holds back nothing in his playing; his convoluted extemporisations often become personal expressions of a type seldom attempted, much less equaled, in jazz.

The startling contrast between the differing styles of these two major figures is best heard here in Dizzy Gillespie's *Be-Bop*. Coltrane, who during most of this summit meeting keeps hinself in check, suddenly breaks through with a blistering, tortured solo in his most *Angst*-ridden manner. Jackson is inevitably affected, and he turns in some of his best work. This is a beautiful, fully realized collection.

Peter J. Welding

S MILT JACKSON AND JOHN COLTRANE: Bags and Trane. Mili Jackson (vibraharp), John Coltrane (tenor saxophone), Hank Jones (piano), Paul Chambers (bass), Connie Kay (drums). Bags and Trane; Three Little Words; The Night We Called It a Day; Be-Bop; Late Late Blues. ATLANTIC SD 1368 \$5.98.

ENTERTAINMENT

SONGS OF LOVE AND LOVERS

Sally Terri and Laurindo Almeida sparkle in a collection of English-language folk songs

EVERAL previous meetings between the Canadian-born mezzo-soprano Salli Terri and the Braziljan guitarist Laurindo Almeida that were arranged by Capitol Records produced extremely felicitous results ("Duets with the Spanish Guitar," on Capitol PAO 8406; and "For My True Love," on Capitol SP-8461). And once again the pair are happily united, this time in "I Know My Love," one of the most lyrical collections of concertized folk songs I have ever heard.

Miss Terri's pure, clearly articulated singing is perfectly suited to the material here, and the four-



SALLI TERRI Arthul simplicity, aural delights

teen selections on the disc make up a garland of affectingly melodious English-language folk songs about the joys and sorrows of love. Each song is interpreted with sensitivity and affection by Miss Terri, who, as a dedicated folklorist, has a thorough knowledge of her material. The selections are animated by a glowing sincerity and an effortless manner that could result only from long familiarity with each song. The sensitive settings, which range from Almeida's stunning lute accompaniments to a small recorder-accordion consort, have been provided by Miss Terri, who has acted in the past as an arranger for the Roger Wagner Chorale. Three tunes are sung unaccompanied, to very good effect. What we are given here is a dulcet program of lovely folk-song cameos that are constant delights. *Peter J. Welding*

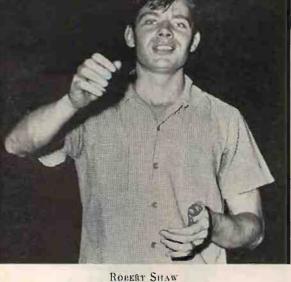
© SALLI TERRI: I Know My Love. Salli Terri (mezzo-soprano), Laurindo Almeida (guitar and lute), Gloria Ramsey and Shirley Marcus (recorders), Gwendolyn Koldowsky (piano), Jimmy Haskell (accordion). I Must and I Will Get Married; He's Gone Away; Come All Ye Fair and Tender Ladies; The Turtle Dove; Paper of Pins; When Adam Was Created; The Old Maid Song; I'm Sad and I'm Lonely; Cuckoo; Johnny Has Gone for a Soldier; O Waly, Waly; The Wraggle-Taggle Gypsies, O!; I Know Where I'm Goin'; I Know My Love. CAPITOL SP 8556 \$5.98.

THE REAL VICTOR HERBERT

The best of the American master's songs in their original versions

LIE tendency recently has too often been to "modernize" the music of composers who were popular during the first two or three decades of this century. Happily, no such tampering is evident on the altogether delightful RCA Victor disc called "The Immortal Victor Herbert." Arranger Robert Russell Bennett and conductor Robert Shaw apparently hit upon the revolutionary notion that Victor Herbert's songs are strong enough to carry the program without any hokey embellishments, and they have worked with such taste and affection that the selections seem fresh and new again.

This impression is partly created by the fact that all the songs are presented in the manner in which they were originally written. For example, Kiss Me Again, probably Herbert's best-loved melody, was not, as is generally supposed, a sincere love song when it was first sung in Mile. Modiste. It was part of a longer number, If I Were on the Stage, in which the heroine performed three different pieces that illustrated the kinds of parts she would like to play if her big break ever came. And this is just the way it is done here. Soloist Saramae Endich portrays first a country maid doing a gavotte, then



Victor Herbert without gimmicks

doing a polonaise, and then, finally, to show how she would play "a strong romantic role, emotional and full of soul," she glides into *Kiss Me Again*. It is a charming piece, and it is quite beautifully performed.

Quite a few of the selections are paired together. The combination of Ah! Sweet Mystery of Life and I'm Falling in Love with Someone, both from Nanghty Marietta, has the girls singing the first song and the men the second, with both groups joining voices at the end. If you are a collector of forgotten verses, you will have a field day here, particularly with such songs as Tramp! Tramp! Tramp!, I Want What I Want When I Want It, and Toyland. Herbert, master musician that he was, made sure that every part of a song was up to his high standards.

The soloists project their songs admitably—with the possible exception of Calvin Marsh, who has a tendency to swallow his tones in *Gypsy Love Song*. A special nod is due Miss Endich for the consistency of her work throughout. The whole package adds up, in all probability, to something that Victor Herbert himself would have thoroughly enjoyed.

Stanley Green

© **ROBERT SHAW:** The Immorial Victor Herbert. Saramae Endich, Florence Kopleff, Mallory Walker, and Calvin Marsh (vocals); Robert Shaw Chorale and Orchestra, Robert Shaw cond. The Streets of New York; Every Day Is Ladies Day with Me; Kiss Me Again; I Want What I Want When I Want It; Tramp! Tramp! Tramp!; A Kiss in the Dark; Thine Alone; March of the Toys; Toyland; Ah! Sweet Mystery of Life; I'm Falling in Love with Someone; Sweethearts; When You're Away; Gypsy Love Song; Italian Street Song. RCA VICTOR LSC 2515 \$5.98, LM 2515 \$4.98.















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classics

Reviewed by MARTIN BOOKSPAN . WILLIAM FLANAGAN . DAVID HALL

GEORGE JELLINEK . IGOR KIPNIS

Explanation of symbols: © = monophonic recording © = stereophonic recording

S BARTOK: Concerto for Orchestra. Houston Symphony Orchestra, Leopold Stokowski cond, Everest SDBR 3069 \$5.98, LPBR 6069 \$4.98.

Interest: Modern masterpiece Performance: Spirited Recording: Full-blooded Stereo Quality: First-rate

If the Houston Symphony Orchestra had first-desk wind players comparable to the finest in Philadelphia, New York, Boston, or Chicago, this performance of the Bartok *Concerto for Orchestra* would take its place alongside those of Haitink, Reiner, and Dorati as the finest available, for Stokowski's reading is one of extraordinary clarity and virility.

Twenty and thirty years ago Stokowski sought to elicit the sonorities of huge organs from the orchestra. Stokowski today seems to lean toward the terraced dynamics of the smaller Baroque organ. The result in this recording is a performance in which every contrapuntal line, especially in the polyphonic finale, stands out in boldest relief. The one drawback of the performance lies in the Houston Orchestra's apparent lack of ability to command a wide range of nuance in the ppp to mp range. On the other hand, Stokowski elicits string climaxes of terrific intensity in the opening of the first movement and in the middle of the slow movement.

The orchestra sci-up is somewhat unorthodox. The woodwinds are placed further to the right than is normal and are apparently miked more closely. The end result is to emphasize the antiphonal effects that Bartok wrote into his score and occasionally to bring the woodwind choirs into greater prominence than we are used to hearing in this music. D. H.

⑤ ⑧ BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 5, in E-flat Major, Op. 43 ("Emperor"). Van Cliburn (piano); Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Fritz Reiner cond. RCA VICTOR LSC 2562 \$5.98, LM 2562 \$4.98. Interest: Monorch of piono concertos Performance: Promising Recording: Piano prominent Stereo Quality: Good

To dispose of the negative elements of this recording first, the performance could have done with more advance rehearsal (there are several spots of untidy ensemble between piano and orchestra in the first movement), and the balance between piano and orchestra makes the soloist too prominent. What this release does demonstrate in a positive way is that in time Van Cliburn will be an ex-



VAN CLIMIRN His "Emperor" augurs great things

pert exponent of the "Emperor" Concerto. He does not yet have the complete absorption in the score and identification with it that distinguish the performances of veterans like Serkin, Backhaus, or Rubinstein, but his impulses are all in the right direction. The stentorian pages ring out in triumph, and there is plenty of melting lyricism in the slow movement. If this performance is not yet in the front rank of "Emperor" recordings, it is certainly not far behind them. M. B.

© BERLIOZ: Symphonic Fantastique, Op. 14a. Philadelphia Orchestra, Eugene Ormandy cond. Columbia MS 6248 \$5.98.

Interest: Repertoire rouser Performance: Strained Recording: Good Stereo Quality: Excellent

About a half dozen years ago, Eugene

Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra recorded an excellent performance of the Symphonie Fantastique for Calumbia. It was a taut, exciting reading, and the sound was excellent for its time. This new version is technically even better, with masses of well-defined orchestral sonorities, but Ormandy's reading has grown mannered and fussy, and the whole performance leaves the mental aftertaste of a heady champagne gone flat. In spite of prodigious playing by the orchestra and outstanding recording, Berlioz' score is better served elsewhere, especially by Beecham (Capitol G 7102) and Munch (RCA Victor LM 1900) in mono, or Monteux (RCA Victor LSC 2362) and Wallenstein (Audio Fidelity 50,003) in stereo. MR

© BERNSTEIN: Symphonic Dances from West Side Story; Symphonic Suite from On the Waterfront. New York Philharmonic, Leonard Bernstein cond. COLUMBIA MS 6251 \$5.98.

Interest: Attractive theatre music Performance: Obviously the McCoy Recording: Live wire Stereo Quality: Handsome

I guess the best description of this endeavor is "a fun record." Just about everybody knows the music from Leonard Bernstein's West Side Story by now, and, even though some may prefer to hear it with an orchestra smaller than the augmented forces of the New York Philharmonic, this is altogether hip show music, and the score is quite dazzlingly played.

The score for On the Waterfront is surely one of the better ones ever composed for an American film. There are those who complain about its symphonic version-"Not enough substance to stand by itself"; "Too loosely constructed to stand by itself"-but if you can accept music with a looser formal component than a Beethoven symphony and if you can indulge Bernstein in his disarmingly candid borrowings from Copland or Stravinsky, you might get as much fun from it as I have. The recorded sound is stunning; it contributes substantially to the emotional impact of the music. 147. F.

BLOCH: Schelomo (see SCHUMANN).

JOAN SUTHERLAND



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RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

S BRAHMS: Serenade No. 1, in D Major, Op. 11. Symphony of the Air, Leopold Stokowski cond. DECCA DL 710031 \$5.98, DECCA DL 10031 \$4.98.

Interest: The young Brahms Performance: Masterly Recording: Intimate Storeo Quality: Good

This bucolic first orchestral essay by Brahms can seem lengthy in ordinary performances, but under the hands of Stokowski as he is here it is sheer delight from beginning to end. The solo wind playing, especially in the famous minuet, is nothing short of miraculous in its dynamic subtlety. It is to be regretted, however, that record space did not permit the conductor to take the repeats in the brilliant fifth movement.

The recording was done in a studio of rather intimate acoustics, but the sound is appropriate to the music—crystal clear, with well-defined stereo localization. D. H.

BRAHMS: Violin Sonata No. 1 (see STRAUSS).

© CHOPIN: Piano Concerto No. 1, in E Minor, Op. 11 LISZT: Totentanz. Alexander Brailowsky (piano): Philadeiphia Orchestra, Eugene Ormandy coud. Columna MS 6252 \$5.98.

Interest: Virtuoso favorites Performonces: Impersonal Recording: OK Stereo Quality: Good

Alexander Brailowsky has been playing both these works for many years and has recorded them both before. These new performances present the mixture as of old: unsteady rhythmic definition in the first and third movements of the Chopin and bland detachment throughout. In former times, when many of his colleagues were indulging in the most shameless distortion in their approach to this literature, Brailowsky's readings probably fell as a tonic on the ears. Now, however, there are plenty of pianists who play the Romantic classics with dignified virtuosity and tasteful abandon. The recent Capitol recording (SG/G 7241) of the Chopin Concerto by Maurizio Pollini. for example, is far more exciting and emotionally committed than the version Brailowsky offers us. Similarly, Liszi's explosive show of histrionics needs more extroversion and unself-conscious personal involvement than Brailowsky is able to muster,

Ormandy and the orchestra accompany both works dutifully, and the recording, aside from some surface clicks in the last movement of the Chopin. is satisfactory. *M. B.*

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RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

© DEBUSSY: Images; Estampes; D'Un Cahier d'Esquisses; Bercuese Heroique. Daniel Ericourt (piano). KAPP KC 9061-S. \$5.98.

Interest: Debussy with authority Performance: Admirable Recording: Fine Sterea Quality: OK

For myself, I rather prefer Daniel Ericourt's reading of this segment of the Debussy piano repertory to his recent and musicianly recording of the admittedly more challenging préludes. Where the earlier recording was somewhat sullied by an inclination to clarify the intensely original formal experimentation of the pieces, thereby robbing them of a certain mystery, the pieces in the present release seem to be done with ease and a complete lack of self-consciousness. The playing, as before, is impeccable, and the piano sound is luxurious. The release is rewarding in every way. W.F.

ENESCO: Piano Sonata No. 3 (see MOZART).

RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

S RANCK: Sonata in A Major for Violin and Piano. MOZART: Sonata in E-flat Major for Violin and Piano. (K.481). Erica Morini (violin); Rudolf Firkusny (piano). DECCA DL 710038 \$5.98, DL 10038 \$4.98.

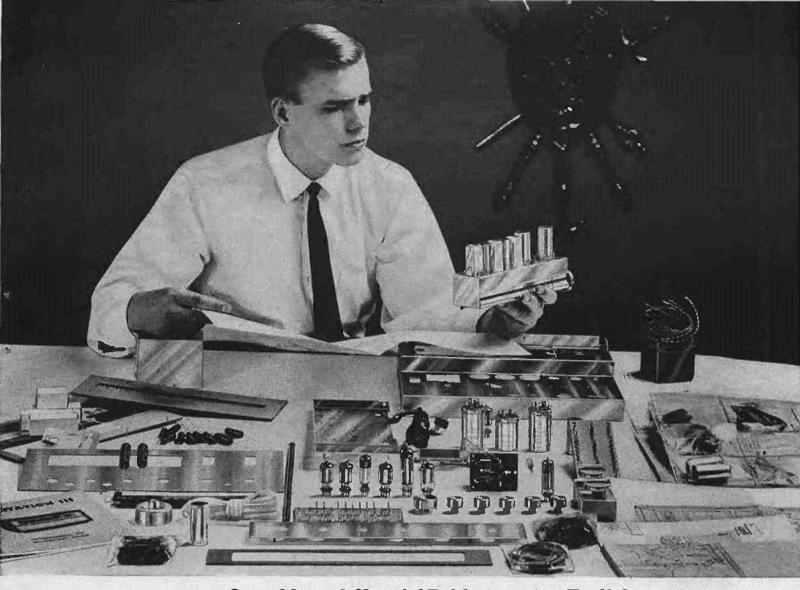
Interest: For chamber-music lovers Performance: Elegant Recording: First-rate Sterea Quality: Good

The old cliché about virtuoso soloists making unsatisfying chamber-music players seems less tenable with the passing of time. Surely, on the evidence offered here, Erica Morini and Rudolf Firkusny make an ideal sonata team, and the combination of their strong individual personalities results in music making of the highest order.

In the Franck sonata they stress expressive elegance and delicacy of phrasing, and they take a somewhat restrained approach toward the work's rhapsodic aspects. This is one of the most stimulating versions of a much-recorded sonata.

The Mozart K.481, a charming, lightweight piece, receives a similarly sensitive performance. The present version is preferred to its only current competitor, an oldish Westminster release. The Decca sound is warm and perfectly balanced; to my ears, the mono is every bit as good as the stereo. G.J.

IANACEK: Concertino for Piano and Chamber Orchestra (1925); Capriccio for Piano and Chamber Orchestra



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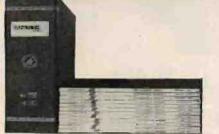
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(1926). Josef Palenicek (piano). ARTIA MK 1559 \$5.98.

Interest: A look at Janacek Performance: Sounds authoritative Recording: Good enough

Leos Janácek is a familiar enough name to those acquainted with the music of the first half of our century, but his music is seldom if ever heard in American concert halls. Both of these piano pieces are late works (the composer died in 1928 at the age of seventy-four) and are definitive of this curious composer's aesthetic.

Indeed, the music is curious-brittle, grotesque, unvielding, and unsentimental, yet, for all of that, a fun-house-mirror distortion of harmonics and melodies that we associate with the most romantic of Romantic music. It is, in sum, not music to elicit affection; it is nonetheless the work of a master craftsman. Palenicek projects the music with what I take to be the necessary toughness, and the accompanying musicians are excellent. 1V.F.

LISZT: Totentanz (see CHOPIN)

@ LYSENKO: Natalka Poltava (excerpts). Zoya Haidai (soprano), Ivan Kozlovsky (tenor), Mikhail Hriska (baritone), S. Ivashchenko (tenor), Jwan Patorzhinsky (bass). Chorus and orchestra of the Shevchenko Theater, Kiev, Boris Chistyakov cond. MONITOR MC 2053 \$4.98.

Interest: Little Russian opera Performance: Good Recording: Fair

These excerpts from what the jacket notes describe as the most popular Ukrainian opera are reminiscent of a typical program by any one of the many famous Russian song ensembles. Nikolai Lysenko (1842-1912) may not have been a very original composer, but he knew how to string together a series of appealing melodies. Ivan Kozlovsky, one of Russia's best tenors, is the special ornament of the good cast in the recording, and the sound is acceptable. The printed notes are less than crystal-clear, but, when it comes to Ukrainian operas, every little bit helps. G.J.

MOUSSORGSKY: Boris Godounoff: Coronation Scene; Boris' Monologue from Act II; Dialogue and Hallucination Scene from Act II: Farewell and Death of Boris from Act IV. George London (bass-baritone), Mildred Allen (so-prano), Stanley Koik, Howard Fried (tenors), Columbia Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, Thomas Schippers cond. COLUMBIA MS 6273 \$5.98.

Interest: First Boris in stereo Performance: Careful



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Make no mistake: Mr. London, who has sung the role to great acclaim in Russia, gives us a powerful portrayal of the guilt-ridden Russian Czar; the welltrained chorus and the ample orchestra under Schippers' baton make the most of the splendors with which Rimsky-Korsakoff adorned Moussorgsky's Coronation Scene; but still there are some things missing.

To begin wich, for all the glorious spread of stereo sound in the Coronation Seene and the Death of Boris, the recording could stand a good deal more bass. But more importantly, I sense an unwillingness on George London's part to cut loose in the big dramatic moments. Anyone who is familiar with the recorded performances of Chaliapin (Angel COLH 100), Alexander Kipnis (Camden 415), or Christoff (Capitol GDR 7164) will sense the difference. London's approach is lyrical and intensely musical, but in his effort to avoid the occasional hamminess of his predecessors, he loses the drama.

Let us hope that the time will come when Mr. London will be given the opportunity to sing the lead in a complete *Boris Godounoff*, recorded, say, in Leningrad or Prague, under a conductor for whom the Moussorgskian idiom is natural. Under these conditions, we might at long last get a definitive stereo version of this score. D.H.

• MOZART: Betulia Liberata (K. 118; 74c). Petre Munteanu (tenor), Ozia; Adriana Lazzarini (contralto), Giuditta; Emilia Cundari (soprano), Amital; Paolo Washington (bass), Achior; Laura Londi (soprano), Cabri, Carmi; Coro Polifonico di Milano; Angelicum Orchestra of Milan, Carlo Felice Cillario cond. HAR-MONIA MUNDI HM 30605/7 Three 12inch discs \$18.85. Available from Discophile, Inc., 26 W. 8th St., N.Y.C. 11).

Interest: Mozart's only oratorio Performance: Very good Recording: Satisfactory

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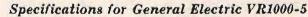
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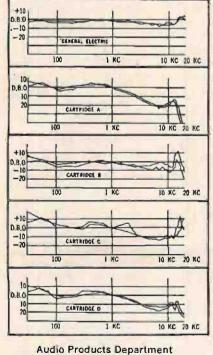
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advanced and ninest devinition of "concert halt" sound ever heard on records. Phase 2 stereo: "Separation of Sound." In this phase (1959 to 1961), stereo recordings proved that an orchestra could be "split in half"; that volces could be "full left" while the orchestra was "full right"; that a pingpong ball could be heard hitting the table on the left and then on the right, and that sounds could be reproduced "left-right" without any center "leakage." Sounds emanating from two loudspeakers lent themselves to a seemingly endless variety of juxtaposition, separation, and other strictly mechanical processes, and a fascinating display of unusual sound pyrotechnics it was that followed ..., bongos jumped from left to right speakers while saxophones and trumpets answered back and forth between speakers: it was the technical "gimmick" that was in command, the technique was the end-in-itself.

the end-in-itself. Phase 3 stereor "Moving Sounds." In this phase (1961), it was demonstrated that the sounds of a whole section of an orchestra or a single instrument could be moved and followed by the listener's ears as the sounds passed through the space from left to right speakers and back again electronically... In certain opera, drama and musical comedy recordings. the voices could be followed moving before one's ears as in a true-to-life stage presentation.

"phase 4 stereo": In this phase (1962), arrangers and orchestrators rescore the musically most desired at any particular moment and make use of direction and movement to place the instruments where they are musically most desired at any particular moment and make use of direction and movement to punctuate the musicality of sounds. The effect is more sound-more interest-more listening pleasure. "phase 4 stereo" recording (and this term is used in its broadest sense here to include the arrangements--the musicians--and the engineers) allows you to enjoy the musical actively. Recording in this fashion was made possible technically as a result of London's new 4 frack Master recording system. Now, for the first time, the musical arranger now has to envision the sounds he hears in his head as to envision the sounds he hears in his head as to envision the sounds he hears in his head as they relate to each other in the extra dimension of space afforded by stereo reproduction: the musical annotation and scoring to convey his full musical concept. Through a complete and true musical concept of the arranger form the 4 track Master tape, the complete and true musical concept of the arranger. From the 4 track Master tape, the four tracks of sound have to be carefully rebalanced in the reduction to two channels of sound which eventually reach and all instead arranger. From the 4 track Master tape, the four tracks of sound have to be carefully rebalanced in the reduction to two channels of sound which eventually reach and ultimately through his two loudspeakers.

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LONDON RECORDS, INC. 539 W. 25 SI., New York 1, N. Y. with a text by Metastasio. As it turned out, the work, based on the story of Judith, was to be Mozart's only oratorio. Aside from its historical interest, the music is astounding for its maturity. There is, however, nothing unusual about the form of the piece itself. Such action as is required by the plot—the killing of Holofernes, for instance—is related in the narration rather than depicted musically. The work naturally lacks the weight of the composer's later dramatic creations.

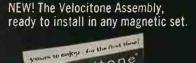
No small part of the impact that this composition makes on the listener can be ascribed to the excellence of the performance. None of the singers, to be sure, can match the best operatic celebrities, yet seldom does one hear such an integrated and convincing effort. The orchestra, which is appropriately small, plays with commendable precision. The quality of recording is quite satisfactory. The album contains program notes in both German and French, although the libretto is given only in the original Italian. *I.K.*

MOZART: Ascanio in Alba (K. 111). Ilva Ligabue (soprano), Venere; Anna Maria Rota (contralto), Ascanio; Emilia Cundari (soprano), Silvia; Petre Munteanu (tenor), Aceste; Eugenia Ratti (soprano), Fauno; Coro Polifonico di Torino; Angelicum Orchestra of Milan, Carlo Felice Cillario cond. HARMONIA MUNDI HM 30602/4 three 12-inch discs \$18.85. (Available from Discophile, Inc., 26 W. 8th St., N.Y.C. 11).

Interest: Early Moxart opera Performance: Thoroughly enjoyable Recording: Satisfactory

Hardly had the fifteen-year-old Mozart arrived in Salzburg from his Italian tour when he was commissioned to compose an opera-really a Serenata-for the marriage of Archduke Ferdinand and Princess Maria Ricciarda Beatrice of Modena, which took place in October of 1771. The opera, which was composed in little less than a month, was a typical pastoral in two acts with nymphs and shepherds, the goddess Venus, her son Ascanio, and his intended bride, Silvia. Nothing more serious occurs than Silvia's being in love with Ascanio without knowing that he is already ordained to be her spouse. In spite of the thin subject matter, Mozart's handling of his material and his ability to create a vocal line are simply amazing. Much of the score will strike listeners as a worthy forerunner to the later operas.

The performance is beautifully integrated and features much impressive singing, none wholly outstanding, but nevertheless perfectly enjoyable, even in the challenging display arias. The accompanying booklet includes the Italian libretto (differing in a few minor ip-



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stances with the recording) and a translation and notes in German. The sound is not superlative, but it is better than adequate. The set is heartily recommended to those interested in discovering the remarkable gifts of the lesser-known early Mozart. I.K.

MOZART: Piano Concerto No. 21, in C Major (K.167). ENESCO: Piano Sonata No. 3, in D Major, Op. 24. Dinu Lipatti (piano); Lucerne Festival Orchestra, Herbert Von Karajan cond. ANGEL 35931 \$4.98.

Interest, Lipoli Performance: Extraordinary Recording: Broadcast, derived

The jacket of this disc reads: "Newly discovered recording of Dinn Lipatti's last concert with orchestra." The date was August 23, 1950; he was to die on December 2 of that year, at thirty-three.

Because of the regulations of the Swiss Musicians' Union, the tapes of the broadcast concert had to be destroyed three weeks following the date of the performance. As Walter Legge explains in his brief preface, both he and Lipatu's widow searched for eight years in hopes of locating an off-the-air copy. Finally, in 1959, two separate tapes were located, the better of which was processed to produce the present disc.

It does not then come as a surprise that the recording is not up to today's standards, but it is far better than one might expect. The piano itself sounds remarkably clear. Lipatti's performance is wonderfully virile, yet delicate, and beautifully phrased and shaded, even in the fastest and most intricate runs. Technically he is immaculate, each finger a master of its notes; and musically he leaves the listener completely satisfied. To hear the final movement played as it is here-astonishingly fast, but with the most amazing clarity-makes one realize anew our great loss.

The disc is filled out by an earlier recording of the Enesco Sonata, a work written between 1933 and 1935. It is rather diffuse and eclectic but not unpleasant. The Lipatti performance is completely devoted (the pianist was Enesco's godson). Despite the murky sonics-derived from a 1943 broadcastthe brilliance of the performance comes through. I.K.

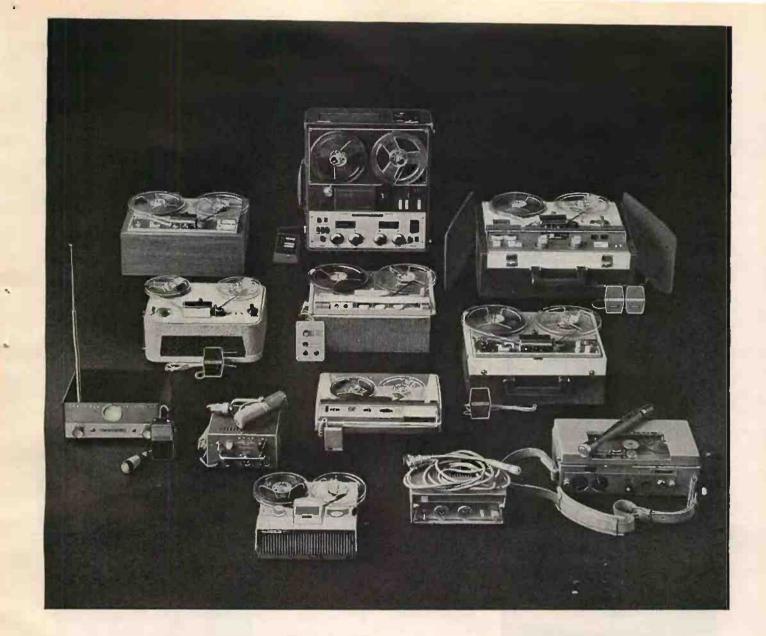
S MOZART: Symphonies: No. 35, in D Major. ("Haffner"), No. 11, in C Major ("Jupiter"). Columbia Symphony Orchestra, Bruno Walter cond. Colum-BIA MS 6255 \$5.98.

Interest: Mozart masterpieces Performances: Typically Wolter Recording: Good Stereo Quality: Fine

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Bruno Walter's way with both of these scores has been well known to record collectors for nearly a generation. The new performances offer what must be termed typical Walter Mozart—measured, relaxed and transparent. Indeed, it is this latter quality that is perhaps the most noteworthy feature of the new disc: each strand in the orchestral fabric is clearly exposed and related to the others.

At times, particularly in the outer movements of both symphonics, lack of urgency becomes a definite handicap, especially in the finale of the "Jupiter." These considerations, however, will probably not matter to the conductor's many admirers. The recorded sound is beautifully full and clear. *M.B.* **MOZART:** Violin Sonata (K.481) (see Franck).

RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

• SCHUBERT: Piano Quintet in A Major, Op. 114 ("Trout"). Artur Schnabel (piano), Claude Hobday (double bass), members of Pro Arte String Quartet. ANGEL COLH 40 \$5.98.

Interest: Supreme Performance: Excellent Recording: Excellent

It is probably to this recording of the "Trout" Quintet, made in London in November, 1935, that the music owes much of its current popularity. Thousands throughout the world were introduced to the quintet by way of this performance, and I'm sure it still occupies a place of honor in many collections of 78-rpm discs.

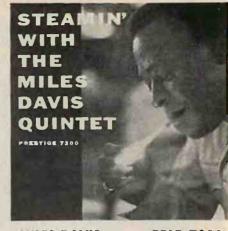
Angel's transfer to LP has been superbly accomplished. The performance still sounds amazingly good, with each of the five voices perfectly adjusted and balanced. In no other recording has the double-bass part been so clearly and richly reproduced.

Schnabel is obviously the leader in the performance, but all five players bring to it a complete dedication and devotion that is all too rare on today's musical scene. One could carp at the occasional sharp intonations from the first violinist, but the élan and sophistication of this music-making sweeps all before it.

Unless you insist on a stereophonic "Trout," this is still the version to own. M.B.

© SCHUBERT: Symphonies: No. 5, in B-flat Major; No. 8, in B Minor ("Unfinished"). Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Fritz Reiner cond. RCA VICTOR LSC 2516 \$5.98, LM 2516 \$4.98.

Interest: Young and mature Schubert Performances: Intense in No. 5; Relaxed in No. 8 Recording: Fine Stereo Quality: Excellent



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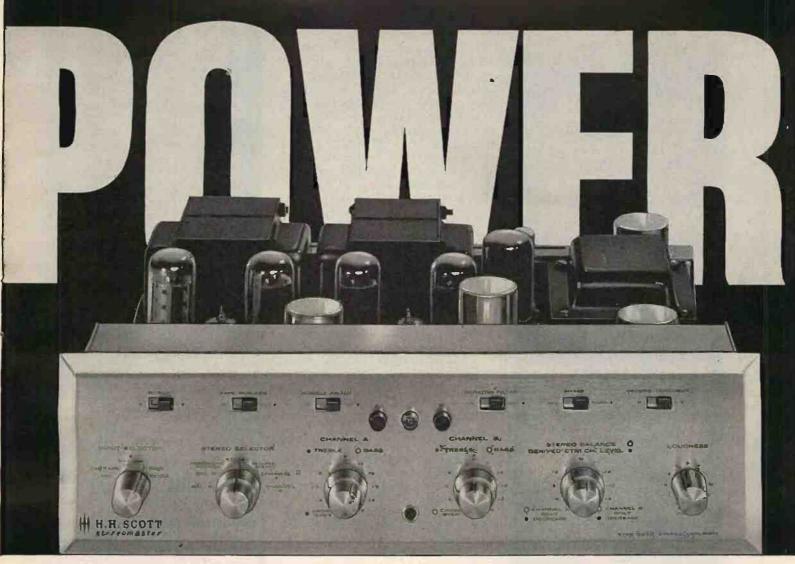
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Reiner bears down a little too hard on the comparatively frail Fifth Symphony, but his performance of the "Unfinished" is a model of warmth and insight. Beechant remains the conductor who ideally captured the shyness and charm of the earlier symphony, and his Capitol recording of it (SG/G 7212) is one of the treasures of the recorded literature. Reiner's "Unfinished," however, need bow to none. Both stereo and mono editions have clear, satisfying sound. M. B.

SCHUMANN: Cello Concerto in A Minor, Op. 129. BLOCH: Schelomo. Leonard Rose (cello); New York Philharmonic, Leonard Bernstein cond. (Schumann); Philadelphia Orchestra, Eugene Ormandy cond. (Bloch). Co-LUMBIA MS 6253 \$5.98.

Interest. Cello-orchestra classics Performances: Expert Recording: Very good Stereo Quality: Fine

With this release Leonard Rose returns to the active roster of Columbia recording artists, and a most impressive return it is. He plays both scores in the grand manner, with bold strokes, big sound, and impeccable phrasing. Columbia's engineers contribute wonderful recording, especially in the Schumann, with the cellist's tone sounding vibrant and vital.

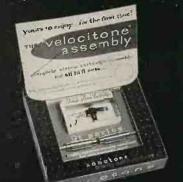
The Schumann emerges as the more satisfying performance of the two, in spite of an occasionally exaggerated ritard at the end of a phrase. In Schelomo, the approach is more refined than the raw, earthy one characterized in Rose's earlier recording of the score (Columbia ML 4425) with Mitropoulos and the New York Philbarmonic. But the earlier recording was the perfect expression of Bloch's passionate score; here the manner is just a little too smooth. M. B.

SCHUMANN: Symphony No. 4, in D Minor, Op. 120; Manfred Overture, Op. 115, New York Philharmonic, Leonard Bernstein cond. COLUMBIA MS 6256 \$5.98

Interest: Schumann staples Performances: Interesting Recording: Fine Stereo Quality: Good

Leonard Bernstein has revealed in the past a keen affinity for the music of Schumann, and during last year's Philharmonic season he conducted Schumann's four symphonies along with several other of the composer's orchestral scores. Many of the performances were subsequently recorded, and the present disc is the first to be released.

I have remarked in these pages previously about Bernstein's succession to the interpretive manule of Mengelberg. These NEW! The Velocitone Assembly, ready to install in any magnetic set.



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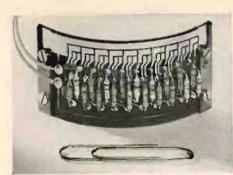
p1 2-348 This Eveny speaker system (12" woofer, 5" midrange and 2" tweeter) leaves oftling to be desired in a fine speaker system. Power handling capacity is 70 waits of program material. With two systems in tandem for sterre, dispersion (with reflecture) is 180°. Full crossiver network. Impedance: 16 abus. Size: 38° wide's 8° high x 16° deep. Available in utility form. Flut black fixes.

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performances, too, are strongly reminiscent of the late Dutch conductor in their individual phrasing, sharp dramatic effects, and occasional excesses. Bernstein does not hesitate to slow down when he wants more poetic expression or to speed up for the sake of contrast. The brisk tempo that begins the last movement of the symphony, for example, is out of character with his measured performance of the first three movements; but when the lyrical second theme arrives, the brakes are applied and the poetry appears. It's all very personal, to be sure, but I find it convincing; others may not. Therefore, I strongly urge that you make every effort to hear this disc before you buy it. The recorded sound in both works is full and resonant.

A note to those for whom such things are important: Bernstein observes the repeats of the expositions in both the first and last movements, M. B.

© SIBELIUS: Symphony No. 5 in E-flat Major, Op. 82; Finlandia, Op. 26, No. 1. The Philharmonia Orchestra, Herbert von Karajan cond. ANGEL S 35922 \$5.98.

Interest: Masterly Sibelius Performance: Expansive Recording: Rich Stereo Quality: Natural

Von Karajan's way with this dangerously perorative symphony seems to me altogether admirable and preferable to the usual manner of presenting it. He avoids scrupulously, for example, the superficial titillation that can be brought to the finale by fetting his climaxes come gradually and refentlessly out of somber, stolid, almost Wagnerian-expansive tempos. On the other hand, he elucidates the contrapuntal fabric of the work with a nearclassic concern for clarity of line. The symphony emerges, moreover, as a work of surprising formal cohesiveness.

The Finlandia reading is a good one and, again, is free from the usual interpretive vulgarities.

In sum, Sibelius gets his due without excess splash. Technically, the recording is fine. *W. F.*

 STRAUSS: Sonata in B flat major, Op. 18. BRAHMS: Sonata in G major, No. 1₂ Op. 78. Leonid Kogan (violin) and Andrei Mimik (piano). ARTIA MK 1561 \$5.98.

Interest: Brahms and near-Brahms Performance: Sensitive and lyrical Recording: Good

These two kindred products of German late-romanticism make a good recorded combination, although, in pitting Richard Strauss in his youth against Brahms at full maturity the cards are heavily stacked against the former. Kogan plays

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Artia Recording Corp. 38 West 48th Street New York 36, New York both works with technical assurance, tonal warmth, and sensitive, probing musicianship, and he is ably supported by his accompanist. His Strauss performance stands unrivalled today, since previous excellent versions by Heifetz (RCA Victor) and Fuchs (Decca) have been withdrawn. In the Brahms sonata there is competition aplenty, particularly from the bolder, more dramatically sweeping account of the Stem-Zakin team (Columbia ML 4912), but this new version rates with the very best. *G. J.*

THOMSON: The River; The Plough that Broke the Plains (see p. 64),

© VERDI: Aida: Ritorna vincitor; Un Ballo in maschera: Ma dall'arido stelo; Otello: Salce, salce; Ave Maria; Simon Boccanegra: Come in quest'ora bruna; Il Trovatore: Tacea la notte; D'amor sull'ali rosee; La forza del destino: Pace, pace, mio Dio. Eileen Farrell (soprano); Columbia Symphony Orchestra, Max Rudolf cond. Columbia MS 6254 \$5.98.

Interest: Dramatic soprano showcase Performance: Not Farrell's best Recording: Well-balanced Stereo Quality: Good

Contrary to my expectations, Eileen Farrell's earlier album of Puccini's arias is more satisfying than the present effort. The voice is, of course, a Verdi voice plush, pliant, powerful, and expressive. Unfortunately, it is not always under absolute control here. Breathiness mars those velvety tones, the phrasing sometimes facks the ultimate polish, and strain is evident in the upper register. Because of their comfortable range, the Otello scenes come off best. One may admire the artist's courage in undertaking Ma dall'arido stelo with its terrorizing tessitura, but the end result is unsatisfying.

The disc offers evidence of Miss Farrell's growing dramatic gifts, and it is not without impressive moments. Still, the over-all impression is a disappointing one, and the performances are not helped much by the somewhat perfunctory accompaniments. Callas, Milanov, Price, and Tebaldi (the order is strictly alphabetical) have reached higher plateaus on the same Verdian terrain. G.J.

WAGNER: The Flying Dutchman (see p. 63).

© ● WAGNER: Tannhauser: Overture and Venusberg Music; Die Walkure: Ride of the Valkyries; Tristan und Isolde: Prelude to Act 111; Das Rheingold: Entrance of the Gods into Valhalla. Symphony of the Air with Soloists and Chorus, Leopold Stokowski cond. RCA Victor LSC 2555 \$5.98, LM 2555 \$4.98.

Interest: Wagner highlights with trimmings

Performance: Clean and clear Recording: Needs Bass Stereo Quolity: OK

To hear Stokowski and the Philadelphia Orchestra play these Wagner highlights in concert during the 1930's with the Philadelphia Orchestra was an unforgettable experience in conductorial technique and orchestral virtuosity; and the two 78-rpm recordings that Stokowski made with the Philadelphians of the Tannhauser Overture and Venusberg Music proved pretty conclusively that he "owned" this piece. Regrettably, neither of Stokowski's two LP recordings of the music do justice to the intensity of his interpretation. Both RCA Victor LM 1066 and the present disc were done in New York's Manhattan Center, and both lack the sonic impact of the two Phila-



EMEEN FARMELI. Her Puccini was better than her Verdi

delphia Orchestra recordings of the 78rpm era. The miking seems too distant, and there simply is not enough of a solid bass line.

In keeping with Stokowski's manner of the past few years, these interpretations are considerably leaner in texture than was the case in the 1930's. The orchestral playing is brilliant in the extreme, and the soloists featured in the Ride of the Valkyries and in the Entrance of the Gods into Valhalla sing fresh and true. However, not even Stokowski's virtuosity can compensate for the weak bass of the recorded sound here, and those fisteners who own either the complete sets or the single-disc excerpts issued by London of Die Walkure or of Das Rheingold will not want to trade them in for this disc. Even the Dorati recording on Mercury must be reckoned as a better buy from the standpoint of sound. D. H.

COLLECTIONS

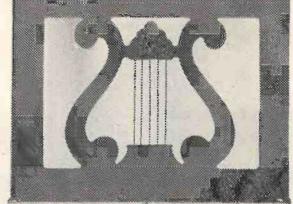
RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

© TRUMPET MUSIC-ROGER VOISIN. Fantini: Fanfares: Chiamata No. 3, No. 6. Purcell: The Fairy Queen: Symphony for Act IV. Stradella: Sonata for Trumpet and Two String Orchestras. Lully: Carousel Music (1686). Monteverdi: Sinfonia di Guerra from Il Ritorno d'Ulisse. J. K. F. Fischer: Le Journal de printemps: Suite No. 8. Petzold: Hora Decima: Sonata No. 30. Roger Voisin (trumpet), Kapp Sinfonietta, Emanuel Vardi cond. KAPP KC 9062 S \$5.98.

Interest: Baroque pomp and circumstance Performance: Brilliant Recording: Impressive Stereo Quality: Effective

This, the fourth LP to be issued by Kapp that features trampeter Roger Voisin in the cream of the literature for his instrument, is the most successful of the lot from the standpoint of both repertoire and stereo sonics. The fanfares by the seventcenth-century Tuscan trumpet virtuoso, Girolamo Fantini, are brief but exceedingly brilliant, as is Monteverdi's Sinfonia da guerra. Lully's Carousel Music is charmingly festive stuff, and is not for a merry-go-round as the title would have us believe but for a kind of knightly tournament popular at the court of Louis XIV. Alessandro Stradella's sonata is in the best Italianate lyrical tradition, with a last movement that bears a startling resemblance to the familiar Christmas carol, Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella. The Purcell Fairy Queen excerpt is a real thriller in stereo, with its paired trumpets sounding their antiphonal fanfares from left and right speakers. The Petzold (or Pezel) sonata is agreeable music, suitably extroverted; while the Fischer suite is a singularly beautiful example of German orchestral writing in seventcenth-century Franco-Italian vein, rich in melodic substance and zestful in rhythm. Those who may own the French Pathé recording of this suite, made available in this country a couple of years ago in a performance directed by Fernand Oubradous, will notice some startling differences between these two recordings in the tempo and metric patterns of some of the movements, in particular the opening French Ouverture. This is because of the careful observance in the new recording of the double-dotted patterning prevalent in musical performance during the Baroque period, thus lending the iambic meter of the slow introduction an even more stately aspect than we are accustomed to. It is interesting also to note that repeated sections of dance movements are played here in ornamented versions, also in accordance with Baroque performance practice.

Vardi's work is full of vitality in both rhythm and melodic phrasing, and he has a first-class body of players to work with. The recording, done in St. Paul's Chapel at Columbia University, achieves an ideal balance between presence and reverberation content; and the sterco sound, from the standpoint of both directionality and depth, is superb—it enhances an already incomparable performance. D.H.



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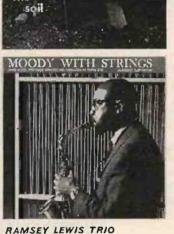


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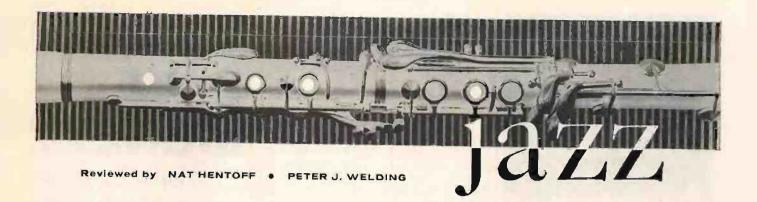
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BUCK CLAYTON AND BUDDY TATE: Buck and Buddy. Buck Clayton (trumpet), Buddy Tate (tenor saxophone), Sir Charles Thompson (piano), Gene Ramey (bass), Mousie Alexander (drums). High Life; Thou Swell; Kansas City Nights; When a Woman Loves a Man; Can't We Be Friends; Birdland Betty. PRESTICE 2017 \$4.98.

Interest: Top swing Performance: Fresh and shiny Recording: Fine and dandy

There have been a number of records that have successfully demonstrated the continued viability and contagious warmth that are characteristic of the music produced by the best of the survivors of the swing era, but seldom has there been so relaxed and rewarding a collection as Prestige's "Buck and Buddy" album, which is an easy-rolling series of conversations among trumpeter Buck Clayton, tenor saxophonist Buddy Tate, and a rhythm section consisting of Sir Charles Thompson, Gene Ramey, and Mousie Alexander.

Clayton's playing has never been more authoritative and personal than in the past few years. His tone is firm, singing, and crisp; his solos are paradigms of economical, logical structure; and there is an unmistakable individuality about everything he plays. Buddy Tate has also grown artistically in the past decade. His sound is large but thoroughly controlled, and he knows that one wisely chosen and firmly placed note is more eloquent than a rushing stream of sound.

Sir Charles Thompson may well be second among pianists only to Count Basie in his unerring ability to fuse a rhythm section, to spur soloists with a minimum of excess furbelows, and then to take spare, deeply pulsating solos himself. Bassist Gene Ramey is a strong anchor, and Mousie Alexander is also steady on the drums. The repertory includes resilient swingers, glowing blues, and soft-hued ballads. Throughout, the musicians show a commanding case of



BUCK CLAYTON Authoritative, personal, singing, crisp

execution and a joy in the act of improvising that reflect the confidence one achieves after decades in jazz. N, H.

MILES DAVIS: Steamin' with the Miles Davis Quintet (see p. 65).

MILT JACKSON AND JOHN COL-TRANE: Bags and Trane (see p. 65).

© WILBUR DE PARIS: On The Riviera. Wilbur de Paris (trombone); Sidney de Paris, Doc Cheatham (trimpets), Garvin Bushell (clarinet, bassoon); Sonny White (piano), John Smith (guitar), Hayes Alvis (bass), Wilbert Kirk (drums, harmonica). Fidgety Feet; Sensation; Tr2s Moniarde; and five others. ATLANTIG SD 1363 \$5.98.

Interest: One of De Paris' best Performance: Less stiff than usual Recording: Good Stereo Quality: Realistic

This recording, made at a concert appearance at the 1960 Antibes Jazz Festival, shows Wilbur de Paris' neo-New Orleans jazz combo considerably more relaxed than on most of their previous Atlantic albums. The solos are more hotly spontaneous, and even the leader's contributions are less lumpy than in the past. Many of the ensemble passages pulsate with ardor. Only the rhythm section remains rather arthritic. In sum, this set indicates that Mr. De Paris' group functions most vibrantly when recorded before a sympathetic audience. N. H.

RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

WALT DICKERSON: This Is Walt Dickerson! Walt Dickerson (vibraphone); Austin Crowe (piano); Andrew Cyrille (drums); Bob Lewis (bass). Time; Death and Taxes; Evelyn; and three others. PRESTIGE 8254 \$4.98.

Interest: Original new tolent Performance: Uniquely impressive Recording: Clean and clear

Prestige deserves commendation for taking a chance on this unknown Philadelphia vibist and allowing him to make his debut without the star-name support of established jazzmen. What's more, the program is made up entirely of his own compositions. Dickerson plays with markedly less vibrato than the majority of today's Milt-Jackson-influenced vibists. His conception, moreover, is much more probing than the currently fashionable funky approach and the highly romanticized ballad style often employed on the vibraphone.

Dickerson's supporting players equal his slicing intensity. Providing contrast is pianist Bob Lewis, who is more overtly blues-rooted than the leader but who avoids the more obvious soul clichés. Dickerson's originals are consistently provocative in structure and emotional content, and the playing is alive with warmth, rhythmic resiliency, and a capacity for sustained lyricism. An impressive start. N. H.

BERIC DOLPHY: Out There. Eric Dolphy (alto saxophone, flute, clarinet, bass clarinet), Ron Carter (cello), George Duvivier (bass), Roy Haynes (drums). Out There; Strene; The Baron; and four others. PRESTIGE 8252 \$4.98.

Interest: Adventurous experiments Performance: Uncompromising Recording: Superior



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The liner notes declare that "this is not the most easily grasped jazz album you are ever likely to hear." I, for one, am unable to derive much from this overcerebral music. The jazz-oriented listener finds little in it that speaks to him in familiar terms. Man-of-many-reeds Dolphy develops his often eccentric improvisations without a recognizable framework of chordal sequence or theme and variation. The austere blues Serene is a case in point. Dolphy's lines are provocative but often aimless, especially on those numbers wherein he employs alto saxophone or bass clariner, for on these he tends toward jagged, disjointed, and violent bellicosity. His flute work is quite often very lovely. In cellist Ron Carter, Dolphy has found a brilliant, sympathetic second voice. The rhythm support of bassist Duvivier and drummer Haynes is solid and sensitive.

This music does require a complete reorientation on the part of the listener, an effort that I feel is justified only in the lovely, too-short Eclipse and the poignant Feathers, as well as occasionally in the title piece and in Serene. P. J. W.

S BOOKER ERVIN: That's It! Booker Ervin (tenor saxophone), Felix Krull (piano), George Tucker (bass), Al Harewood (drums). Mojo; Uranus; Poinciana; and three others. CANDID 9014 \$5.98.

Interest: Minor-league Coltrane Performance: Rousingly correct Recording: Stunning Sterea Quality: Very good

What strikes me immediately on hearing tenor saxophonist Booker Ervin is the personal use he makes of John Coltrane's grippingly convoluted tenor approach. On the basis of his playing here, Ervin is an avowed romantic who has taken from Coltrane's impassioned, tortured style its surface shimmer and power without mining any of the depth or anguished intensity that lies at its core. What results is a sort of emotionally neutralized, prettified edition of Coltrane. One looks forward to Ervin's eventual maturity, for on the evidence of this album he may have much to offer. "Felix Krull" is a nom de disque for pianist Horace Parlan. P. J. W.

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S JAZZ ARTISTS GUILD: Newport Rebels. Roy Eldridge, Booker Little, Benny Bailey (trumpets), Jimmy Knepper, Julian Priester (trombones), Eric Dolphy (alto saxophone), Walter Benton (tenor saxophone), Tommy Flanagan, Kenny Dorham (pianos), Charles Mingus, Peck Morrison (basses), Max Roach, Jo Jones (drums), Abbey Linvoln (vocal). Mysterious Blues; Cliff Walk; Wrap Your Troubles in Dreams; and two others. CANDID 9022 \$5.98.

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HIFI/STEREO

Interest: Stimulating ageless jazz Performance: Burning bright Recording: Excellent Stereo Quality: Good, vivid presence

During the rioting at the ill-fated 1960 Newport Jazz Festival, a splinter group of dissident jazzmen, disenchanted with the low musical standards of the festival, organized a rival event at Newport's Cliff Walk Manor. Returning to New York, they formed themselves briefly into the Jazz Artists Guild, On this disc they reenact their revolutionary activities of the previous July. The chief asset of this disc, as it was at their Newport stunt, is the mixing of up-coming jazz musicians with established veterans of the jazz wars. Thus puckish swing-era trumpeter Roy Eldridge finds himself in the company of altoist Eric Dolphy and trombonist Jimmy Knepper, two of the more venturesome of the young modernists. The results of this cross-generation meeting are wholly delightful, with Eldridge especially coming across with some of his sprightliest, most pungently flaring trumpet work in some time. High spot of the disc is Cliff Walk, played misterioso by a finely-honed sextet, led by trumpeter Booker Little, that includes the combined percussion talents of ex-Basicite Io Jones and modernist Max Roach. Then there is an exultant vocal, 'Tain't Nobody's Business if I Do, by Abbey Lincoln. Jazz. needs more of these meetings between young and old; everyone profits by the exchange. P.J.W.

RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

© LONNIE JOHNSON: Losing Game. Lonnie Johnson (vocals, guitar, piano). New Orleans Blues; My Little Kitten Susie; Evil Woman; What A Difference a Day Makes; Losing Game; Moaning Blues; Summertime; New Years Blues; and lour others. PRESTIGE 1024 \$4.98.

Interest: Major blues stylist Performance: Ardent, assured Recording: Extremely good

Lonnie Johnson, the aging New Orleans blues veteran whose recent attempt at a comeback proved unsuccessful (he is back working as a hotel porter in Philadelphia), is here heard in a generally satisfying program of routine urban blues and some lovely ballad performances. This is the last of three recordings he made for Prestige during his short-lived comeback, and it is easily the best. There is a melancholy sweetness in his clear, dolorous singing, which is most effective on the three breathtaking ballads, Summertime especially. The blues numbers are somewhat marred by an unrelieved sameness of approach, though they are more thoughtful compositions than are the blues in his two earlier albums. His stunning guitar provides a parfect second voice. P.J.W.

© ABBEY LINCOLN: Straight Ahead. Abbey Lincoln (vocals), Coleman Hawkins, Walter Benton (tenor saxophones), Eric Dolphy (reeds), Booker Little (trumpet), Julian Priester (trombone), Mal Waldron (piano), Art Davis (bass), Max Roach (drums), Roger Sanders, Robert Whitley (conga drums). Straight Ahead; When Malindy Sings; In the Red; and four others. CANDM 9015 \$5.98.

Interest: Unusual jazz vocal fare Performance: Just misses Recording: First-rate Stereo Quality: Merely adequate

My attitude towards this provocative album is somewhat ambivalent. I am not predisposed toward Miss Lincoln because of her much-publicized decision to abandon a lucrative career as a slinky supper-



LONNIE JOHNSON Ballads of melancholy sweetness

club chanteuse to devote herself to the more demanding task of jazz singing. What concerns us here is just how successful she has been in her pursuit.

Miss Lincoln seems to associate lyricism and beauty with her former career, and, as a result, has jettisoned all traces of them in her singing here, replacing them with a purposeful hardness of tone and a strident aggressiveness of manner that I find particularly unpleasant. Her singing often sounds forced and strained. Even so, this is her best album to date, as her impressive work on the title tune and When Malindy Sings hears witness.

There are some encouraging aspects to this collection, the most conspicuous being the stimulating material employed. Three of the pieces represent significant additions to jazz vocal literature: the stirring title piece, Oscar Brown's setting of Paul Laurence Dunbar's When Malindy Sings, and Miss Lincoln's sensitive versifying on Blue Monk. Coleman Hawkins' saxophone playing has in great abundance the flame that Miss Lincoln seeks. She could listen to him with profit. P.J.W.



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© LES McCANN. Pretty Lady. Les Mc-Cann (piano); Herbie Lewis (bass); Ron Jefferson (drums). Django; On Green Dolphin Street; Little Girl Blue; and four others. PACIFIC JAZZ 25 \$5.98.

Interest: Glucoxe sentimentality Performance: Dull Recording: Very good Stereo Quality: Tasteful

Les McCann is a victim of his own excesses. He is either overfunky, as on most of his previous releases, or sentimental, as in this collection of rambling ballads. Although there are touches of his mechanical blues figures, the prevailing mood is a hazy, diffuse romanticism seldom pulled together by personal insights. An album of consistently slow-tempo numbers is a challenge to a jazzman's resourcefulness, and Mr. McCann fails the test. In his other role of blues-pounder, McCann has only the most elemental grasp of what makes a performance cohesive. N.H.

RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

S MARTIAL SOLAL. Martial Solul (piano), Guy Pederson (bass), Daniel Humair (drums). Ouin-Ouin; Thème a Ties; Bonsoir; Very Fatigué; and seven others. CAPITOL ST 10261 \$4.98.

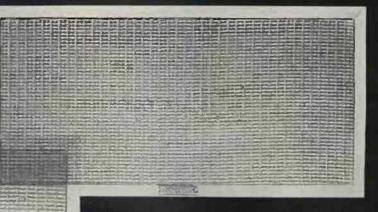
Interest: Europe's finest jozz pianist Performance: Distinctly individual Recording: Sharp and clear Storeo Quality: Adequate

Seven years have elapsed since the release of Algerian-born pianist Martial Solal's only previous long-play collection on an American label, an out-of-print ten-inch item on Contemporary. This is an unfortunate oversight, for Solal has developed into a strikingly individual, two-fisted jazz pianist of real originality. His approach is a brilliant amalgam of Art Tatum and Bud Powell. Thelonius Monk's influence is evident in his use of rhythm and space, as well as in his compositions, to which one side is wholly devoted. He is supported by a rhythm section that belies the notion that European jazzmen are incapable of swinging; the second side contains his thoroughly imaginative solo reworkings of four standards and two modern-jazz staples, including the first truly original handling of Round About Midnight since Monk's initial recording P.J.H. of it fifteen years ago.

© CHUCK SPEAS AND THE AMER-ICAN JAZZ SEPTET: The New Sound of College Jazz. Chuck Speas (drums), David Frishberg (piane), Sam Brown (guitar and banjo), Bill Stanley and Ken Fricker (bass, nuba), Lew Gluckin (trumpet), Mickey Gravine (trombone), Chasy Dean (clarinet). Jada; Jonjekian Jump; Lullaby of Birdland; and six others. CARLTON STLP 12/135 \$4.98.

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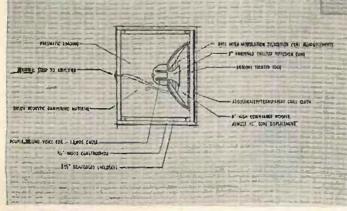
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Interest: Gimmickry Performance: Competent Recording: Sharp Stereo Quality: Too much hakum

Chuck Speas leads his men through a series of ponderous and uninspired arrangements that attempt to fuse three jazz approaches. The scores are miasmally dull efforts to synthesize Dixieland, swing, and modern styles. Contrary to the liner's claims, this is by no means a new concept. It has been done—for one example—with considerably more taste and success by Bob Wilber's The Six several years ago. The storeo gimmickry is not only tasteless but irritating. *P.J.H'*.

RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

LEM WINCHESTER: With Feeling. Lem Winchester (vibraphone), Richard Wyands (piano), George Duvivier (bass), Roy Haynes (drums). Why Don't They Understand; Butterfly; With a Song in My Heart; and five others. PRESTIGE 11 \$4.98.

Interest: Lovely ballad treatments Performance: Thoroughly delightful Recording: Topnotch

In the last few months before his senseless and untimely death, vibraphonist Lem Winchester had begun to move out of the shadow of Milt Jackson and towards the evolution of an individual approach of his own. This, one of his last recordings, finds Winchester spinning out a series of lovely, reflective, long-lined improvisations based on attractive, romantic themes. His solos, delivered with increasing authority, are models of flowing grace and lyric charm, yet they swing mightily. There is more solid, passionate jazz playing in this quiet, pensive album than in many ferocious hard-bop sets. P.J.IP.

© PHIL WOODS: Rights of Swing. Phil Woods (alto saxophone), Benny Bailey (trumpet), Cartis Fuller or Willie Dennis (trombone), Sahib Shihab (baritone saxophone), Julius Watkins (French horn), Tommy Flamagan (piano), Buddy Catlett (bass), Osie Johnson or Granville Roker (drums). Prelude; Ballad; Waltz; Scherzo; Presto. CANDD 9016 \$5.98.

Interest: Swinging small-band jozz Performance: Exhilarating Recording: Assured Stereo Quality: Very fine

In the company of several temmates from the Quincy Jones Orchestra, Phil Woods, a bristling alto saxophonist of the Parker persuasion, races his way with commendable spirit through an attractive and unpretentiously swinging jazz suite that owes to Stravinsky little more than its punning title. The chief interest is generated by the improvising, which is mellow and gently reflective. *P.J.W.*

HIFI/STEREO

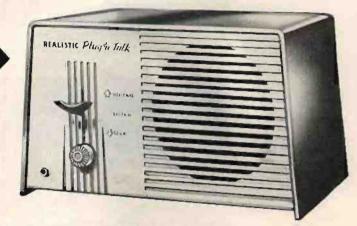
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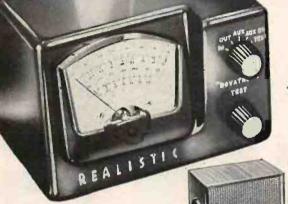
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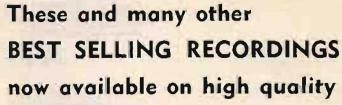
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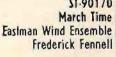


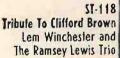
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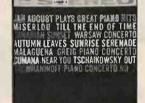
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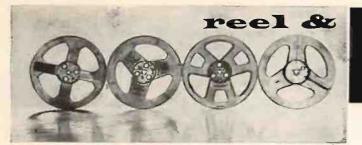


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4-TRACK CLASSICS

© BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 1, in C Major, Op. 15; Piano Concerto No. 2, in B-flat, Op. 19. Wilhelm Backhaus (piano); Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, Hans Schmidt-Isserstedt cond. LONDON LCK 80047 \$11.95.

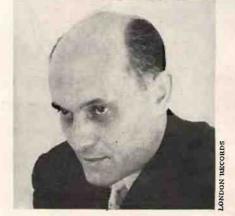
Interest: Sparking early Beethoven Performance: Affectionate Recording: Piano clangs Stereo Quality: Good

This is the first appearance of these works on four-track tape. Backhaus offers performances that are dignified, honest, and foursquare, a bit ragged in detail but attentive to the over-all plan of these two Beethoven concertos. There is neither high drama nor special delicacy here, but his is knowing, affectionate playing that often breaks into high spirits, as in the finale of the second concerto. Schmidt-Isserstedt, save for some pointless swellings in that same movement, seconds the elderly soloist well. The London stereo is serviceable, although the piano tone is inclined to clang unnaturally. The sound in the second concerto seems to have better separation and clarity. E. S. B.

© BEETHOVEN: Trio in D, Op. 9 No. 2. BACH: Three Sinfonias. SCHU-BERT: Trio No. 2, in B flat. Jascha Heifetz (violin), William Primrose (viola), Gregor Piatigorsky (cello). RCA VICTOR FTC 2076 \$8.95.

Interest: Triple entente Performance: Congenial Recording: Superior Stereo Quality: Unpronounced

There is precious little chamber music by either Beethoven or Schubert, or anyone else, currently to be heard on tape. These recordings make at least a minor contribution toward filling the gap. These trios find both composers at their sunniest and most carefree. And even the sterner outlines of Bach's three-part inventions, from which the three sinfonias are drawn, are softened in the string version played here. The Heifetz-Primrose-Piatigorsky team seems to have a rough time in the first movement of the Beethoven, often slipping into faulty intonation and occasionally wayward tempos (for some reason more evident in the tape edition than on the disc), but later the three celebrated artists seem to relax and en-



GEORGE SOLTI A vital reading of the Mahler Fourth

joy themselves, especially in the inner movements of the two extended works. The tape is beautifully engineered: bright-sounding, low in background noise, and judiciously miked, so that the three instruments emerge in cohesive ensemble. C. B.

© FRANCK: Symphonic Variations. LITOLFF: Scherzo from Concerto Symphonique No. 4, Op. 102. Clifford Curzon (piano); London Philharmonic Orchestra, Sir Adrian Boult cond. GRIEG: Piano Concerto in A Minor, Op. 16. Clifford Curzon; London Symphony Orchestra, Oivin Fjeldstad cond. LONDON LCL 80064 \$7.95.

Interest: Quality warhorses Performance: Gratifying Recording: Respectable Stereo Quality: Very good

These are loving and rather gentle performances of the Grieg and Franck works. But if Curzon does not scintillate by temperament he can play brilliantly when the music asks for it, and he confounds any lukewarm impressions with an exuberant shower of notes in the Litolff scherzo. Stereo depth and spread and instrumental balance are all that could be asked. The piano tone is respectable in the Franck and the Litolff, a bit glassy and distorted in the Grieg. There is tape hiss in the quieter passages. E. S. B.

© GERSHWIN: Rhapsody in Blue; Cuban Overture. Eugene List (piano); Eastman-Rochester Orchestra, Howard Hanson cond. MERCURY STA 90138 \$5.95.

Interest: For Rhapsody Performance: Longhair but OK Recording: Crystalline piano Stereo Quality: Very good

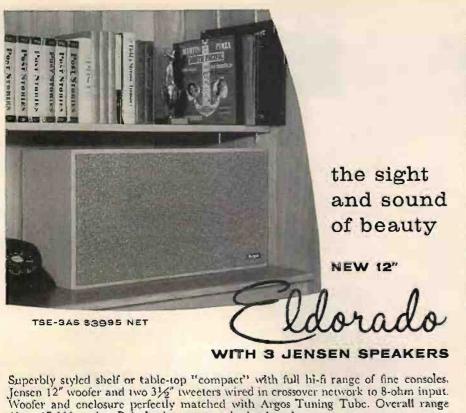
This newest stereo tape version of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue is the least expensive to date, and can be recommended as such, even though the performance is scarcely ideal. Hanson and List are not the ones to cut loose with much abandon in this piece, though List plays the solo part with well-groomed vigor, and the sound of his piano, well centered in Mercury's wide-spread stereo, is of crystalline beauty. On side two is that attractive nonentity, the Guban Overture, with maracas rattling happily out of the left speaker and with rich, deep over-all sound. Tape E. S. B. hiss is low.

RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

S MAHLER: Symphony No. 4, in G Major. Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra, Sylvia Stahlman (soprano), Georg Solti cond. LONDON LCL 80075 \$7.95.

Interest: Lyrical Mahler Performance: Vital Recording: Full-bodied Stereo Quality: Good

Georg Solti reveals more of the demonic aspects of the first two movements than any other conductor who has recorded the Mahler Fourth either on discs or on tape, and his soprano, Sylvia Stahlman, in the fourth movement, is by and large the most satisfying to have been recorded so far. The childlike naiveté necessary for the projection of Mahler's "vision of heavenly bliss" is present in full measure; and at the same time, the singer's phrasing is felicitous and beautifully controlled in the dynamic gradation of the melodic line. The serene slow movement, heart of the entire symphony, is the only element of the music that suffers by Solti's approach; for its single thunderous climax



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rushes upon the listener and fails to arouse the reverent mood of the composer's evident intent—the feeling of awe that one might have when, rounding a bend in a high valley and being confronted with a majestic sun-emblazoned panorama of snow-capped peaks. (The venerable Bruno Walter disc conveys exactly this impression.)

The orchestral playing is nothing short of superb from beginning to end of this tape. The sound is full and solid, and tape hiss is down to a reasonable minimum. D. H.

RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

© RIMSKY-KORSAKOFF: Scheherazade, Op. 35. New York Philharmonic, Leonard Bernstein cond. Columna MQ 388 \$7.95.

Interest: Russian arientalia Performance: Expansive Recording: First rate Stereo Quality: Exceptional

It takes showmanship to sell yet another Scheherazade, and Leonard Bernstein has what it takes. For sheer excitement, for dramatic exposition of detail and vivid display of instrumental sound in a richly tessellated work of this kind, Bernstein has few peers, and until Angel sees fit to release the elegant Beecham recording on tape, this version will do very nicely. The engineering is superb. C. B.

RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

SRICHARD STRAUSS: Don Quixote, Op. 35. Pierre Fournier (cello); Cleveland Orchestra, George Szell cond. Epic EC 815 \$7.95.

Interest: Wonderful score Performance: Vivid Recording: Tops Storeo Quality: Fine

With this recording, the Knight of the Sorrowful Countenance plants his standard in virgin soil, for this is the first Don Quivote to appear on tape. A high standard it is, too, and any future tape releases of the Strauss tone poem will have to be measured against it. Szell takes skilled advantage of the score's brilliant histrionics-bleating brass, wind machine, and all-deftly setting the stage for the interior drama of the Don's errant idealism. The crucial lines, as delivered by Pierre Fournier, combine wit with compassion, farce with ironic tragedy. His cello figures a little too prominently to integrate with the orchestra as well as it might in the concert hall, but it gains thereby a kind of heroic isolation that is in keeping with the meaning of the music. Certainly, in view of the overwhelming theatricality of the performance, it works. The recorded sound is clean, crisp, and other-

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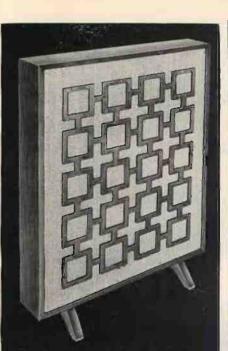
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S OPERATIC CHORUSES. Bizet: Carmen: Les voici! Offenbach: The Tales of Hoffmann: Presentation of Olympia, Gounod: Faust: Soldier's Chorus. Verdi: Nabucco: Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves. Otello: Dove guardi slendono raggi, Il Trovatore: Anvil Chorus. Rigoletto: Zitti, zitti. Wagner: Lohengrin: Bridal Chorus. Die Meistersinger: Wach' auf! Thomas: Mignon: Au souffle leger du vent. Mascagni: Cavalleria Rusticana: Gli aranci olezzano. I. Strauss: Dic Fledermaus: Bruderlein und Schwesterlein, Robert Shaw Chorale and RCA Victor Orchestra, Robert Shaw cond. RCA VICTOR FTC 2072 \$8.95.

Interest: Good selectión Performance: Sometimes outstanding Recording: Excellent Stereo Quality: Impeccable

This tape is worth owning if only for the Robert Shaw Chorale's glowing work in the choruses from *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Lohengrin*. These are the standouts in a collection that appears to have been prepared with much care, for all that one might disagree mildly with certain balances and tempos. In matters of hiss and cross-talk the tape is impeccable. *E. S. B.*

S THE ART OF THE PRIMA DONNA: Arne: Artaxerxes: The Soldier Tir'd. Handel: Samson: Let the Bright Scraphim, Bellini: I Puritani: Son Vergin vezzosa; Qui la voce. Norma: Casta Diva. La Sonnambula: Come per me sereno. Rossini: Semiramide: Bel raggio lusinghier. Gounod: Faust: Jewel Song. Roméo et Juliette: Waltz Song. Thomas: Hamlet: Mad Scene. Mozart: Die Entfuhrung aus dem Serail: Martern aller Arten. Verdi: Otello: Willow Song. La Traviata: Ah, fors'è lui; Sempre libera. Rigoletto: Caro nome. Joan Sutherland (soprano); Covent Garden Royal Opera House Chorus and Orchestra, Francesco Molinari-Pradelli cond. LONDON LOH 90035 \$12.95.

Interest: For Soprano buffs Performance: Brilliant vocalism Recording: Spacious Stereo Quality: Good enough

Two arias—from Delibes Lakmé and Meyerbeer's Les Huguenots—included on the disc version (OSA 1214/A 4241) of this Joan Sutherland program are omitted from the tape. Even so, it holds more than an hour and a half of fabulous soprano agility and beautifully focused voice production, much of it vitalized by first-rate musicianship. In the music of Bellini and Rossini, Miss Sutherland shows herself to be a sovereign artist of our day. If she ever achieves the dramatic depth necessary for full communication in the music of Mozart and Verdi, then she will truly deserve a place among the great sopranos with whom London rather pretentiously tries to equate her in the notes to this album.

But be that as it may, this is a tape worth having not only for its intelligently varied musical content, but as a document of an artist on the verge of supreme accomplishment. The orchestral and choral accompaniments are adequate, and the sound rich and spacious, except for slight overloading distortion in the Arme and Handel arias. There are indications that Miss Sutherland's seemingly indistinct enunciation is a result of excessive room reverberation rather than any obvious deficiencies on her part. D.H.

© THOMAS SCHIPPERS: Conducts Opera Overtures. Rossini: The Barber of Seville, D'Indy: Fervaal. Mozart: The Marriage of Figaro, Verdi: La Forza del Destino; La Traviata. Smetana: The Bartered Bride. Menotti: Amelia Goes to the Ball. Weber: Der Freischutz. Columbia Symphony, Thomas Schippers cond. COLUMBLA MQ 389 \$7.95.

Interest: Varied curtain raisers Performance: Crisp Recording: Full-bodied Stereo Quality: Good

That Thomas Schippers is a born opera conductor is as evident in his approach to this instrumental music as it has been



THOMAS SCHIPPERS Rousing operatic overtures on tape

in recent years at the Metropolitan and elsewhere. Many of the overtures he conducts, familiar as they are, are new to tape; the rather lugubrious introduction to D'Indy's *Fervaal* and the ebullient charm of Menotti's Overture to Amelia Goes to the Ball add novelty and balance to the collection as a whole. The performances in themselves generate a good deal of excitement, and the recording conveys every last decibel of it in rich, billowing sound. *C. B.*



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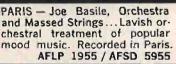
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AFLP 1957 / AFSD 5957 HiFi/STEREO Although I was not an enthusiast for Miss Horne's previous on-the-scene recording, "Lena Horne at the Waldorf' (RCA Victor LOC 1028), I find that either she or I has mellowed. Her latest night-club compendium from the Sands Hotel in Las Vegas indicates that though still an exceedingly mannered performer, she no longer seems to expend so much effort in delivering her message. The result is that the image of frosty, elegant, finger-tip sex comes across in far more appealing style than on the Waldorf-Astoria performance.

The songs are all well-suited to Miss Horne's reedy voice, with the possible exception of The Surrey with the Fringe on Top, which sounds more like a Thunderbird on the prowl. The singer is a great one for medleys, devoting groups of threes and fours to works of Jule Styne (to whom she refers as "Jules"), Rodgers and Hammerstein, and E. Y. Harburg. She also does an affected-and oddly affecting-Man I Lave, complete with a siren wail on the final word "love," a couple of songs by Van Heusen and Burke that she recently recorded for another album, and a double-entendre item called Don't Commit the Crime, for which she supplied the lyrics herself. Not bad either. S. G.

© JOHNNY MATHIS: Portrait of Johnny. Johnny Mathis (vocals); various orchestras. Starbright; How to Handle a Woman; Jenny; and nine others. COLUMBIA CS 8444 \$4.98.

Interest: Polished stylizations Performance: Smoothly confident Recording: Bright Stereo Quality: Well-balanced

Of all the durable pop vocalists in recent years, Mr. Mathis has developed the most distinctive musical personality. His work, in fact, is at times in danger of becoming too mannered as he exaggerates key words and phrases. All in all, though, he remains more tasteful and musically accurate than most of the balladeers who have our youngsters' ears. There are several tracks in this third collection of Mathis' most popular singles on which he displays a newly growing ease in crisp, medium-tempo arrangements that provide welcome relief from his usual N.H. rhapsodizing.

RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

© FRANK SINATRA: Come Swing with Me! Frank Sinatra (vocals); orchestra conducted by Billy May. Day by Day; Sentimental Journey; Almost Like Being in Love; Five Minutes More; American Beauty Rose; and seven others. CAPITOL SW 1594 \$5.98.

Intereste The master in top form

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Performance: Nonpareil Recording: Excellent Stereo Quality: Sharply defined

This exciting and pleasantly swinging collection, Sinatra's last for Capitol, can take its place with the best that the peerless balladeer has recorded. The tunes themselves date from the swing era -the late 1930's and early 1940's-and are sung with appropriate nostalgic reverence and burnished zeal by the one singer who so properly retains the stamp of that age. It's a delight, also, to hear such forgotten gems as Day by Day, Fige Minutes More, and I've Heard That Song Before restored to currency. Billy May's deft ping-pong orchestrations are designed specifically for stereo, a fact that at times distracts from the singing.

P. J. W.

FRANK SINATRA: Sinatra Swings. Frank Sinatra (vocals); Billy May Orchestra. Don't Cry, Joe; Granada; It's a Wonderful World. REPRISE R 1002 \$3.98.

Interest: Ring-a-ding-ding yourself! Performance: Lacks distinction Recording: Needs bass

This collection was originally released as "Swing Along with Me" but that title had to be abandoned because it was too similar to Capitol's Frank Sinatra-Billy May album, "Come Swing with Me!" They might better have scrapped the whole record. Sinatra's unquestioned musicianship is still apparent, but his well-worn voice seems forced as he tries to tear through May's sand-blasting background. It would be some relief, anyhow, to understand why he chose some of the tempos he did. Perhaps he did them on a dare, but swinging the trite tearjerker The Curse of an Aching Heart or Rodgers and Hart's lovely waltz Falling in Love with Love benefits neither the singer nor the songs. Nor is it exactly clear why the sincere approach should be reserved for such lamentable choices as Don't Cry, Joe and Moonlight on the Ganges. But the record is unique in one way: there are no contributions by Sinatra's court musicians, Jimmy Van Heusen and S. G. Sammy Cahn.

SALLI TERRI: I Know My Love (see p. 66).

RECORDING OF SPECIAL MERIT

© BOB SHARPLES: Poss in Review. Bob Sharples, musical director, Rule Britannia; Yankee Doodle; Dixie; Meadowland; Lili Marlene; and twenty others. LONDON SP 44001 \$5.98.

© TED HEATH: Big Band Percussion. Ted Heath and his Music. Poinciana; Drum Crazy; But Not for Me; and nine others. LONDON SP 44002 \$5.98. © EDMUNDO ROS: Bongos from the South. Edmundo Ros Orchestra. Carnival Procession; Maon Over Miami; In a Little Spanish Town; and nine others. LONDON SP 44003 \$5.98.

© ERIC ROGERS: The Percussive Twenties. Eric Rogers Orchestra; Eula Parker and Gerry Grant (vocals), Whispering; Me and My Shadow; Charleston; and nine others. LONDON SP 44006 \$5.98.

© INTERNATIONAL "POP" ALL STARS: Percussion Around the World. International "Pop" All Stars Orchestra. La Montana; Never on Sunday; Calcutta; and nine others. LONDON SP 44010 \$5.98.

Interest: Stereophile delights Performance: Heath and Ros tops Recording: Remarkably realistic Stereo Quality; For maximum effectiveness

London Records has now entered the world of percussive stereophony with a new line of releases under the rather cryptic over-all designation of "Phase 4 Stereo." The technique used is a fairly complex one, involving the funnelling of sound from four separate master tape tracks into two tracks going to both speakers, one track going exclusively to the left, and one exclusively to the right.

Judging from these five releases, the process is a highly successful one. Except for "Drum Crazy" on SP 44002 and "April in Portugal" on SP 44010, which were too closely miked, each musical selection benefits from the technique by the clarity, depth, and striking directionality of the sound.

The first album, "Pass in Review" (SP 44001), simulates the atmosphere of a large parade ground where different military bands pass in review in quick succession. All the while the cheers and the reactions of the crowds are heard, as well as the hoofbeaus of the cavalry horses during *She Wore a Yellow Ribbon*, and airplanes zoom by during the *Air Force Song*. After a while, I confess, I found these trappings a bit monotonous, but technically the results are very impressive.

Ted Heath's band is heard on SP 44002. After opening with a bright and crisp Johnny One-Note, the gentlemen settle down to the business at hand, which, apparently, is to blast you right out of the house. Blues in the Night, The Peanut Vendor, Poinciana, Mood Indigo —all get the wall-shaking treatment. But Mr. Heath is a man of ideas, and there is no denying that he provides a genuinely exciting package.

Edmundo Ros is another leader who knows how to take full advantage of sound. On SP 44003, the angle is to feature songs of the South—whether they



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There is validity, perhaps, in that identification. For there is a curious parallel in their careers. Both men were stricken by severe illness at the height of their musical powers. Both achieved preeminence in spite of great affliction.

Critics have hailed Dr. Klemperer as possibly the greatest living interpreter of Beetboven. Desmond Shawe-Taylor, the distinguished London critic, wrote in the New York Times: "Perhaps it is not overfanciful to think that his profound sympathy with Beethoven has been nourished by the similarity between the shattering experiences undergone by each. Both men have triumphed over misfortune, attaining to serenity on the far side of tribulations greater than fall to our ordinary lot."

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The Eric Rogers set (SP 44006) as too noise-prone in its spurious attempt to re-create the atmosphere of the Twenties. It won't bore you, but using the sound of a growling tiger on *Tiger Rag* or a cacaphonous evocation of the wild life in *Chicago* would seem to be going to extreme lengths to liven things up.

The International "Pop" All-Stars group never quite captures the flavor of the countries it visits on its around-theworld musical tour (SP 44010) because it is too busy concentrating on percussion. Moreover, the selections used to suggest the various locales are an odd mixture of indigenous pops (Mexico's *Cielito Lindo* and France's *Poor People* of Paris), movie music (*Children's* Marching Song, for China), and Tin Pau Alley (Japanese Sandman and Calcutta). S. G.

TV-FILM

© VICTORY AT SEA, Vol. 3 (Richard Rodgers). Victory at Sea Orchestra, Robert Russell Benneu cond. RCA Victor LSC 2523 \$5.98.

Interest: Still holds it Performance: Properly spirited Recording: Perfect Sterea Quality, Very high

Since the creation of a thirteen-hour musical score for the Victory at Sea television series set some sort of a mark for musical length, it is not too surprising that we now have a third album of themes from the score. Oddly enough, however, it seems that with each succeeding release, as the stereo engineers get more venturesome, we seem to be getting less music and more sound effects. Thus we now hear the guns bark, the airplanes roar, and the sirens scream on "Rings Around Rabaul"; torpedoes on "Full Fathom Five"; the sound of birds and planes taking off on "The Turkey Shoot"; foghorns on "Ships that Pass"; gunfire, missiles, and more birds on "Two by Sea" and "The Turning Point." Still, in spite of the distractions, the musical content of Rodgers' impressive score comes through, and Robert Russell Bennett, conducts very well indeed. The last track is given over to the main themes and a final, ear-shattering cannonades SG

ROBERT SHAW: The Immortal Victor Herbert (see p. 67).

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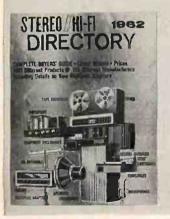
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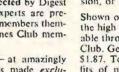
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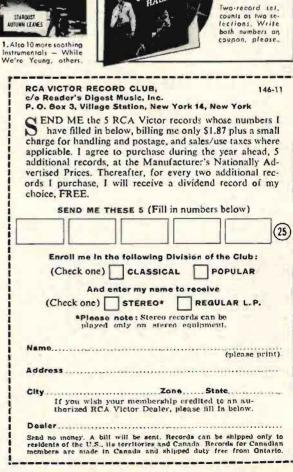
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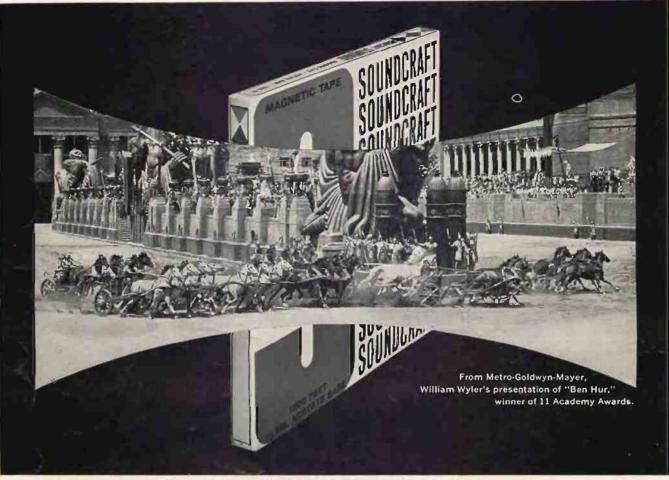
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