

New Brahms Recordings Belong in Basic Collections

By MARY CAMPBELL
Of the Associated Press

Angel has pasted stamps reading "This recording recommended for your basic library of classical music" to its new releases of Brahms First Symphony and the Brahms Violin Concerto.

These two works certainly do belong in a basic classical collection. And the new recordings, the former by the Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by Carlo Maria Giulini, and the latter by David Oistrakh with the French National Radio Orchestra, Otto Klemperer, conductor, both are excellent.

Brahms wrote at the same time as two important innovators. The flamboyant Wagner was rocking the world of opera with his vast "music dramas" and the charming Liszt was composing symphonic poems accompanied by program notes explaining story idea and mood.

Brahms Cautious

But Brahms was cautious. He worked only in forms which had been successful in the past. He tackled no form until he was sure he could handle it. And he destroyed anything he wrote which he considered unworthy.

He wrote canons and fugues, serenades and sonatas, concertos and variations, and finally, in 1876, at 43, worked up to his Symphony No. 1—in the grand manner of Beethoven.

A dramatic introduction leads into a powerful first movement whose themes suggest epic conflict and stress. The second movement is romantic and melodic, the third gentle. The fourth again shows conflict, plus tragedy, but has a triumphant conclusion.

The Violin Concerto appeared in 1879. Symphonic in length and difficult to perform, its mood for the listener is one of serenity.

Notes on the album cover help the listener find the three main themes of the first movement and guide him through their development.

The violin, as played by David Oistrakh, dominates the orchestra—even though Brahms, writing just after his First and Second Symphonies, did not stint the richness of the orchestral part.

Another Angel introduction record, without the "basic library" notation, is Mahler's Fourth Symphony. Otto Klemperer conducts the Philharmonia Orchestra and Elisabeth Schwarzkopf is soloist.

In the Fourth, Mahler is concerned with the idea that fear of death is terrifying but death itself is serene. He uses many cheerful peasant tunes and a serene, soaring song, beautifully performed by Miss Schwarzkopf.

Record collectors interested in firsts will find two new piano albums of interest.

One, by Byron Janis, on Mercury, is "the first record-

ing ever made in Russia by American technical and music staff and equipment." It was recorded in Moscow in June of this year with four and a half tons of shipped equipment.

The other, by Robert Pritchard, on Spoken Arts, is "the first recording anywhere of a Negro concert pianist" and "Spoken Arts' debut in the field of music."

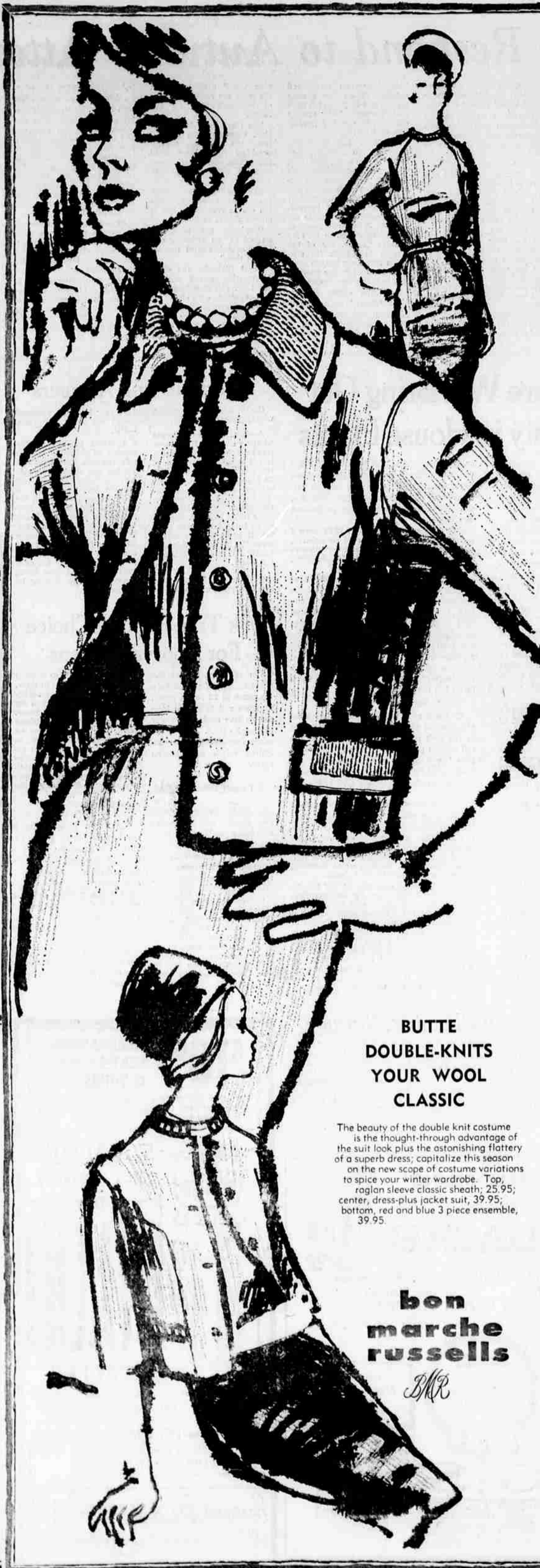
Exciting, Sentimental

Byron Janis, appearing on his second tour of Russia with the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Kyril Kondrashin, performs Prokofiev's brilliant Third Piano Concerto and Rachmaninoff's First Piano Concerto.

The two are widely different. The Prokofiev is modern, exciting, with the piano used like a percussion instrument while Rachmaninoff is sentimental. Janis plays them in appropriately different styles.

Pritchard performs nine shorter selections evidently selected to exhibit versatility. He begins with Bach and Mendelssohn and ends with Chopin. In between are found two compositions by the pianist and "Le Banjo," by Gottschalk, which has banjo-like passages and includes a smattering of "Camptown Races."

Pritchard's interesting compositions contain the feeling of much motion (despite static bass) and modernity—yet absolutely no jazz or dissonance.



BMR
reporter

As you know we're completely back to normal after the big storm and it could be that Columbus Day will become better known as the Day of the Big Wind. All of us learned one lesson—never be without a transistor radio. It was an eerie feeling out there alone in the universe with no inkling of what was going on in the world, if it was still there.

We have a complete new stock of transistors and we're not predicting another catastrophe but we do suggest that you'll find one comforting in even a minor emergency. And, of course, they're great fun to take with you on outings.

Another household necessity for any such problem is the candle. Fortunately, they don't have to be put away on a shelf but can be elegantly decorative to use and enjoy constantly. Our gift shop has a magnificent collection and the staff was interested in the comment a male customer made. "My wife looked so pretty eating dinner by candlelight that I've suggested we do it every night." Get the hint, girls?

Candles automatically remind us of the great variety of placements we have to give sparkle and originality for all your fall and winter entertaining. You can be your own artist, creating with color for smashing effects. To help you in your compositions are napkins in every hue as well as prints. First floor.

The witches are getting ready to fly again—with great verve. Halloween is one of those wonderful, magical occasions that no one ever seems to outgrow. The perennial joy of scaring yourself has the perfect outlet in a delightfully harmless way. For children, it's a never-to-be-forgotten party time and we do hope you're planning a spooky and utterly devastating shocker of a gathering.

To help you with the festivities and to inspire you, you'll find a whole section in our stationery department devoted to Halloween party accessories from the ghoulish invitations to the favors and paper napkins.

Also fun are the Halloween cards that will bring a chuckle of pure pleasure to your friends. This, in turn, reminds us of the Christmas card albums, conveniently arranged for your leisurely browsing and early ordering. First floor.

So you're expecting! And you're casting a wistful look at the chic fall clothes. Come now, never has maternity wear been designed with greater flair and imagination. We'll let you in on a little secret—many customers who are not enceinte, are buying some of the toppers just because they're so attractive.

In our maternity section, you'll find the current fashion trends interpreted skillfully and the in-vogue colors rampant. You can choose clothes for every hour of your busier-than-ever life—dresses, suits, capri pants, active and spectator sports and marvelously contrived after-five glamour wear.

Just for you, we have a booklet with information about all the new maternity styles which is yours for the asking. Or, just write in and we'll mail it to you.



FRANCES DENNEY METERS FLUID MAKE-UP

Three precious drops are released automatically for you to blend evenly to a perfect complexion compliment; a luminous mask of glowing color. 3/4 oz. metered bottle of Viva Fluid Make-Up, 5.50 plus tax.

bon marche russells

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SNIP-IT TAFFETA SLIP FOR YOUR KNITS

No tiresome measuring, sewing or taping—all you need are scissors to shorten this amazing slip to the exact hem-height you wish—it takes only a matter of minutes. "SNIP-IT," of luxurious no-iron TAFREDDA® 50% Nylon, 50% Dacron® polyester that launders like a hankie... in black, white, red or beige, sizes 32 to 44, 4.00.

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BUTTE DOUBLE-KNITS YOUR WOOL CLASSIC

The beauty of the double knit costume is the thought-through advantage of the suit look plus the astonishing flattery of a superb dress; capitalize this season on the new scope of costume variations to spice your winter wardrobe. Top, raglan sleeve classic sheath, 25.95; center, dress-plus jacket suit, 39.95; bottom, red and blue 3 piece ensemble, 39.95.

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