



Judy Garland

Recordially Yours

by Norman Weiser

WITH THE FOURTH of July behind us and the vacation season officially under way, we'd like to offer some listening hints for the lazy Summer days ahead.

TOPS ON THE RECORD SHELVES: It has been said that Judy Garland is to the ballad what Ella Fitzgerald is to jazz, and now "Miss Versatile" has come up with probably her best waxing effort. Titled simply "Alone," this Capitol package is a must.

VOCALISTINGS: A number of excellent vocal albums have appeared recently, and here is the cream of this musical coffee. First, listen to Frank Sinatra's "A Singing Affair," on Capitol, then try "Steady Date" featuring Tommy Sands on the same label. "Bergen Sings Morgan" is Columbia's contribution, with talented Polly Bergen singing songs of the great Helen Morgan. Finally, spin Nilla Pizzi's RCA package, "Love Me If You Want To," a dreamy treat.

MUSIC FOR FAMILY LISTENING: Let's kick off the family hi-fi gathering with Buddy Bregman and his orchestra playing selections from the motion picture "Funny Face," on Verve. Then, maintaining the instrumental motif, follow with "Golden Trombone," a Mercury winner featuring Buddy Morrow and his fine band. Mom and Pop will dream to "Swing and Sway," the Sammy Kaye etching on RCA-Camden, and the finale will leave everyone happy if you play "Isn't It Romantic?" a Vik LP featuring Rolf Blomquist's orchestra.

The entire family will enjoy "The Gold Record," a Capitol release featuring Nat Cole, Peggy Lee, Ernie Ford, and Sonny James singing their biggest hits. Now, while the folks watch, the kids can bounce to Ray Conniff's "Dance the Bop." Columbia has included instructions with this biscuit. Back to the soft lights and "Drifting and Dreaming," a Camden winner with Raymond Legrand and the Lemanian Orchestra, then wind up with "Two Tickets to Paris," a Richard Hayman masterpiece on Mercury.

THE SPOKEN WORD: It isn't often that special mention can be made of a non-musical record, but Decca's great new

Parnassus Series must fall in this category. Six LPs in this group, truly a "Treasury of the Spoken Word," feature top literary works recited by some of today's most exciting voices. It will be well worth your time to investigate this series.

COVERING THE CLASSICS: One of the most controversial pieces of music to be presented in recent years is Gian Carlo Menotti's madrigal fable, "The Unicorn, the Gorgon, and the Manticore." Sometimes bizarre, this Angel recording, conducted by the most capable Thomas Schippers, is never dull. In fact, we predict it will join your collection once you've heard it.

Nathan Milstein, Russian-born violin virtuoso, is featured by Capitol on three LPs, "Bach Partitas and Sonatas," and lovers of the violin will most certainly want this set. Also on Capitol is "Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra" and "Variations on a Nursery Tune," played by the Concert Arts Symphony Orchestra. This is a fine introduction to the classics for youngsters.

JAZZOMANIA: Jazz buffs are already eulogizing the late Clifford Brown, and Mercury's new release, "Clifford Brown All Stars," recorded in 1954 but not pressed until now, will certainly prove an eloquent argument for Brown boosters.

Like your jazz on the trombone side? Well, with the slider enjoying great popularity now, Vik has released some of the stars on this instrument in a package called "Trombone Scene." We think you'll like it. Another real ear-pleaser is "Fair and Warmer," June Christy's latest Capitol effort. Also on the distaff side, Barbara Carroll, the swinging 88er, appears on two labels this week, first playing selections from "Funny Face," on Verve, then "It's a Wonderful World," on RCA. Both are tops.

CALYPSO CARNIVAL: In some quarters the word is out that calypso is capsizing, but the records continue to roll out and sell. Among those now available, spin "Calypso Holiday" starring the Norman Luboff Choir and "Calypso Carnival" with a variety of artists, on Columbia. For kicks, try actor Robert Mitchum's "Calypso—Is Like So."

PHILIP MORRIS

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