

Recordially Yours

by Norman Weiser



Pier Angeli

WITH THE EMPHASIS now on stereo, we'd like to give you a review of some of the fine "new-sound" packages on your local record-shop shelves. So, here goes.

Two magnificently recorded packages, Mozart's "Le Nozze di Figaro" and Franz Lehar's "Giuditta," are available on London, and from Broadway comes Columbia's original-cast etching of "The Flower Drum Song."

In the classical field you will also find "Sibelius' Songs" by Kirsten Flagstad, and Grieg's "Peer Gynt" incidental music played by the London Symphony, both on the London label. Rondo has two fine examples of two-eared listening in Bach's "Brandenburg Concertos Nos. 3 and 4" by the Philharmonic Orchestra of Hamburg and "A Stereo Visit to Spain" featuring the Argenta Orchestra. From RCA comes Offenbach's "Gaité Parisienne" by the Boston Pops Orchestra.

If popular music is your cup of musical brew, try the following for size: "Holiday Music for Happy People," Bobby Roberts and his band, "Love Dances of Brazil," Emanuel Vardi's orchestra, and "Boppin' at the Hop," the Lawson-Haggart band, all on Decca; "Let's Face the Music and Dance," Eddie Bergman's orchestra, Coral; "Hugo Winterhalter Goes Latin," RCA; "Gems Forever," Mantovani and his orchestra, and "Ros on Broadway," Edmundo Ros and orchestra, London.

Finally, on the jazz scene, Decca offers "Cross-Section Saxes" by Hal McKusick, "The Fabulous Arrangements of Tommy Dorsey in Hi-Fi," and, introducing a bright new disc light, Sal Salvador, his quartet and added brass in "Colors in Sound," a real gasser.

music for family listening:

For standard phonographs, here are some of the better releases now available. On the vocal side try "A Long, Long Kiss," Canta Maya, and "Italia con Pier Angeli," both Roulette; "Little White Lies," Dick Haymes, Decca; and "Torch Time," Gogi Grant, RCA.

Instrumentally there's "Honky-Tonk Piano," Lou Stein, Mercury; "Smörgasbord for Strings," Helmut Zacharias, Decca; "Cafe Italiano," Jo Basile, accordion and orchestra, Audio Fidelity; "The Movies Swing," Jackie Cooper and combo, Dot; "The Enchanted Woods," Dennis Farnon's orchestra, RCA; "Pop Hits on Two Pianos," Arthur Whittmore and Jack Lowe, Camden; and "More of Les," Les Paul and his trio, Decca.

the dancing beat:

Now let's cut a bit of rug, starting off with "Dancing for Debutantes" by Pat Dorn and orchestra, Seeco; then following with "Havana Bound" by Rosendo Ruiz, Jr., Tico; "Memories of You," Roy Smeck, Decca; "We Three," Frank Sinatra with Tommy Dorsey's and Axel Stordahl's orchestras, RCA; David Bee's "Dancing at the Brussels Fair," Coral; and, on the same label, "Tea Dansero" by the Ramblers.

sampling the sound tracks:

"Goldilocks" may not be the greatest musical to hit Broadway, but Columbia's original-cast album is top-drawer all the way. Columbia also has issued the TV-cast album of "Wonderful Town" starring Rosalind Russell, another memorable performance you'll want for your library. From Warner Brothers comes the original film score of "Auntie Mame" directed by Ray Heindorf, while Audio Fidelity has caught the magic of Cinerama's "South Seas Adventure" in all its glory. Disneyland gives us "Saludos Amigo" from "South of the Border." Finally, from the New York stage comes "Broadway Spectacular" featuring hits from many top shows, played by Norman Leyden's orchestra on Camden.

jazzomania:

Mercury's Pete Rugolo has a fine package in "Percussion at Work," and, on the same label, "Harry Arnold Plus Big Band Plus Quincy Jones Equals Jazz" is really something to dig. Steve Allen is Manny Albam's inspiration in "Steve's Songs" on Dot, and "Zonky" with Buddy Charles and Ace Harris should have the buffs glued to the phono. Collectors will want Roost's "Operation Jazz" featuring some of the all-time greats, and Felsted's "Cozy's Caravan" should have a big listening audience among pop fans, too, due to Cozy Cole's current best sellers in that medium. "Jeri Southern Meets Johnny Smith" and "Sing Along with Basie" are two specials from the house of Roulette, while "Benny Golson's New York Scene" and "Portrait of Art Farmer" should maintain the usual acceptance of Contemporary's products. "The Great Artie Shaw" is a Camden issue of some of the licorice-stick man's all-time hits, and from RCA comes "Music from Peter Gunn!" featuring the jazz background from this TV show.



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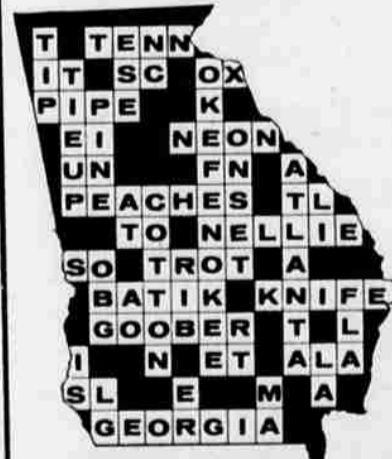
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