

# Don't Miss

CURRENT RECORDS, TELEVISION PROGRAMS, FILMS, AND BOOKS, SELECTED BY THE CHRONICLE REVIEW'S EDITORS AND CONTRIBUTORS

## Classical Records

**Beethoven: The Creatures of Prometheus.** Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by David Zinman. Heard all too infrequently, this ballet has considerable charm and spirit. Those unfamiliar with it will doubtless recognize in its finale the tune used by Beethoven for the closing movement of his Eroica Symphony. The talented young Zinman leads animated playing that benefits from well-focused sound. Turnabout TV 34717 (\$3.98).

**Mendelssohn: A Midsummer Night's Dream, Overture and Incidental Music, Opp. 21 and 61.** Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam, conducted by



MENDELSSOHN BY AUBREY BEARDSLEY; GRANGER COLLECTION

**Bernard Haitink.** The well-known and less-familiar numbers from this score, performed with an appropriately relaxed grace and a virtuosity that convey all the atmospheric delicacy and joy of these magical pieces. Philips Festivo 6570021 (\$6.98). (Reviewed 10/16/78).

**Rachmaninoff: Concerto No. 3 for Piano and Orchestra in D Minor, Op. 30; Mozart: Concerto No. 12 for Piano and Orchestra in A, K. 414 (second and third movements only).** William Kapell, piano; Toronto Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Sir Ernest MacMillan (in Rachmaninoff); Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Pierre Monteux (in Mozart). Despite their poor sound, these recordings of live performances reveal the remarkable taste and expressive power of Kapell's playing. Here is an important document of a career that ended abruptly when Kapell died at the age of 31 in a 1953 plane crash. For those interested in great pianism, an indispensable disc. International Piano Archives IPA-507 (mono). Available with membership (\$15) in the International Piano Archives, Box 303, Ivor, Va. 23866.

## Popular Records

**Chuck Mangione: Children of Sanchez.** No matter how his sound is labeled, Mangione has created four sides of stunning music for his new release, billed as a soundtrack to the upcoming Hall Bartlett movie of the same title. With Mangione on flugelhorn and piano, backed by 15 top-notch players (including Kai Winding on trombone), the set opens with a burst of excitement in the "Overture," soothes us with the beautiful "Consuelo's Love Theme," then builds to a glorious conclusion in "The Finale." A&M SP-6700 (two discs, \$9.98).

**Peter, Paul, & Mary: Reunion.** The trio's folk-based vocal stylings and their inspirational lyrics remain unchanged with time. Instead of singing of the evils of war and the urgency of civil rights, Peter, Paul, and Mary now sing of the need for women to come to grips with their identities before settling into relationships with men, and the importance of maintaining faith that social change is still possible. Warner Bros.

BSK 3231 (\$7.98). (Reviewed 10/16/78). **Linda Ronstadt: Living in the U. S. A.** Ronstadt covers a lot of ground in this new set, with the ballads working best. She offers pleasing renditions of such oldies as Bill "Smookey" Robinson's "Oooh Baby Baby," Elvis Presley's "Love Me Tender," and Doris Troy's "Just One Look." For variety, she sings (beautifully) the old Oscar Hammerstein lullaby, "When I Grow Too Old to Dream," and performs several songs by contemporary rockers. Asylum 6E-155 (\$7.98).

**Neil Young: Comes a Time.** After a half-dozen musically harsh and lyrically difficult (though critically acclaimed) albums, Young returns to the calmer sounds of his first solo LP (1969) with this pleasant folk- and country-flavored set. Newcomer Nicolette Larson provides gentle vocal backing to Young's typically eerie voice. Warner Bros. MSK 2266 (\$7.98).

## Jazz Records

**Art Blakey: In this Korner.** A dauntless preacher of the jazz spirit, fiery percussionist Art Blakey's newest combo keeps up the Blakey tradition of hot, driving solos in a cauldron of collective explosions. Of special interest and import is the presence of Valery Ponomarev, a Russian exile who plays trumpet as if he had been born in Georgia (U. S. A.). Concord Jazz CJ-68 (\$7.98).

**Ray Brown/Jimmy Rowles: As Good as It Gets.** The title is not hyperbolic. Brown is a bass player of flawless time, taste, and tone. Rowles, a pianist of sly wit and a lyrical sensibility that owes much to his mentor, Ben Webster, does not know how to be dull. Concord Jazz CJ-66 (\$7.98).

**Gary Burton: Times Square.** Three-fourths of this quicksilver quartet are solid jazz names: vibist Burton, bassist Steve Swallow, and drummer Bob Moses. The incisive surprise is trumpeter Toru Okoshi, originally from Osaka, Japan, and part of the American jazz scene for the past six years. Both with mute and open horn, Okoshi signals the arrival of a significant new trumpet voice. ECM-1-111 (\$7.98).

**Jack Teagarden: "Big T" & the Condon Gang.** A rare festival of 1944 sessions led by the possessor of the most glorious of all jazz-trombone sounds. It also has titans Pee Wee Russell and Max Kaminsky. Pumpkin 106 (Pumpkin Productions, Inc., P. O. 557963, Miami, Fla. 33155) (\$6.98).

**Fats Waller: One Never Knows, Do One?/The Best of Fats Waller.** The best single Waller cross-section available, focusing on his formidable piano improvisations as well as on his amiably satiric vocals. This four-LP set is available to members of the Book-of-the-Month Club (Book-of-the-Month Club Records 50-5255; \$17.95 plus shipping). (For details, write to Book-of-the-Month Club Records, Camp Hill, Pa. 17012.)

## Television

All times are Eastern. But Public Broadcasting Service schedule-makers operate on a wave-length all their own, so it's wise to check local listings for broadcast dates and times in your area.

**NBC Theater: Summer of My German Soldier.** NBC, Oct. 30, 9 p. m. Inspired by a Betty Green novel, this World War II drama recounts the life of a small-town Jewish girl who makes friends with a young German prisoner-of-war interred in a camp near her home in the South, and finds her life marred because of that friendship. Kristy McNichol plays the girl.

**Cinema Showcase: Seven Beauties.** PBS, Nov. 7, 9 p. m. Lina Wertmuller's extraordinary film of an Italian ladies' man whose bizarre experiences in Nazi Germany turn him into a cynic.

concerts this fall. (216/791-5165).

**DALLAS:** Rossini's comic opera "The Barber of Seville" gets the Dallas Civic Opera season going. Nov. 3, 7:30 p. m., Nov. 5, 2 p. m., and Nov. 8, 8 p. m. Verdi's "A Masked Ball" will follow, beginning Nov. 17 (214/528-3200).

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.:** A voice/dance/music world premiere, "Sonetto del Petrarca" designed for the Kansas City Ballet's 22nd season, will be performed Nov. 3 and 4, 8 p. m., along with another world premiere, "Symphonic Dances," also scheduled for Nov. 5 at 2:15 p. m., all at the Lyric Theater (816/276-2705).

**NORFOLK, Va.:** New York City Opera star Sandra Walker will sing and strut as "Carmen" for the Virginia Opera Association's opening, with performances at the Norfolk Center Theater Nov. 1 and 3 at 8 p. m. and Nov. 5 at 2:30 p. m. (804/627-9545).

The Chrysler Museum is the first to benefit from the Greek legislature's permitting art treasures to leave the country, and so presents an exhibit of Greek statuettes, jewelry, amorphas, vases, marble heads, icons, and embroidery from the Golden Age (around 500 B. C.) to

## IN THIS ISSUE

### Interviews

- James MacGregor Burns: Some thoughts on leaders—of children, students, and nations 3
- Vicente Aleixandre: Elderly and blind, the poet infuses his world with spirituality and grace 14
- Aaron Bell: In downtown Newark, Duke Ellington's former bassist now teaches the subtleties of jazz 18

### Reviews

#### BOOKS

- Leadership, by James MacGregor Burns 5
- Inventing America, by Garry Wills; The Philosophy of the American Revolution, by Morton White 6
- Karl Marx: an Intimate Biography, by Saul K. Padover 8
- Robert Lowell: Life and Art, by Stephen Gould Axelrod 10
- Now and Then: Poems 1976-78, by Robert Penn Warren 11
- Blue Evenings in Berlin, by Marina Naumann; Nabokov: The Dimensions of Parody, by Dabney Stuart; Vladimir Nabokov: America's Russian Novelist, by G. M. Hyde; Nabokov: His Life in Part, by Andrew Field 12

#### MUSIC ON RECORDS

- Jazz: Scott Hamilton, Bob Wilber, and Kenny Davern 20
- Classical: A basic library of piano concertos 22
- The symphonies of Brahms 23

#### FILM

- U. S.: "Death on the Nile" and "The Big Fix" 24
- Foreign: European films at the New York Film Festival 25

#### TELEVISION

- "Lou Grant" on CBS 27

#### Departments

- DON'T MISS 2 BOOKSTORES 16 IN PRINT 17
- DILETTANTE: Iceland 28

Cover Illustration by George Shaffer

**First You Cry.** CBS, Nov. 8, 9 p. m. Mary Tyler Moore plays NBC News Correspondent Betty Rollin, who found out at the height of her career that she had to have a cancerous breast removed. Anthony Perkins portrays her husband, and Richard Crenna a former suitor. The script is the first television writing assignment for Carmen Culver, who, while teaching English literature at U. C. L. A., took a writing class at Sherwood Oaks Experimental College, won a writing contest there, and was recommended by her agent to Philip Barry, who produced "First You Cry."

**Global Papers.** PBS, Nov. 12, 8 p. m.; Nov. 13, 8 p. m.; Nov. 16, 9 p. m. In 3½ hours, this program, produced by WQED-Pittsburgh, will explore the issues of food production and distribution: land reform, land use, water management, population, and aid programs.

**The Long Search.** PBS, Saturdays, 9 p. m. London director Ronald Eyre traveled 150,000 miles in search of the world's great religions for this 13-part series. Nov. 4: "Catholicism (Rome, England, Spain)." Nov. 11: "Zen: Land of the Disappearing Buddha (Japan)." Visions. PBS, Mondays, 9 p. m. A series of original dramas by American authors. Nov. 6: "Liza's Pioneer Diary," by Nell Cox. Nov. 13: "Blackout," by Naomi Foner. (Reviewed 10/2/78).

**The Paper Chase.** CBS, Tuesday nights, 8 p. m. Based on John Osborn's successful novel and 1973 film of the same name, the series depicts the pressures

of grade-grubbing at Harvard Law School and one student's revolt against them. John Houseman recreates his contract-law professor role from the film, and he plays as a man you love to hate. James Stephens is the student. (Reviewed 9/18/78).

**Marie Curie.** PBS, Wednesdays, 8 p. m., through Nov. 8. Filmed in France and Great Britain, this five-part series documents the frustrating barriers Curie had to overcome working in an archaic lab to discover radium. Jane Lapotaire is Curie. (Reviewed 10/16/78).

## Films

**Autumn Sonata.** Ingmar Bergman's most powerful film since "Cries and Whispers" is a searing study of a mother and daughter finally confronting their resentments, each caught in the throes of a self-consuming blindness to the other's human needs. Ingrid Bergman is brilliantly cast as a concert pianist who has placed career before family, and Liv Ullmann is equally impressive as her wounded daughter. The movie is intermittently static, especially in its expository opening. But when the two actresses unleash their characters' pent-up frustrations during the climactic confessional scene, the dramatic clash between them is brutal and overwhelming.

**The Buddy Holly Story.** Gary Busey has come up with an appealing, authentic characterization of the 1950's rock 'n'

roll star who never strayed far from his hard-working, boy-next-door background and his driving determination to make music his own original way. The film follows Buddy Holly's rise from composing and playing in his Lubbock, Tex., garage to the big time of record companies and tours—a route, all too brief, that led to his death in a plane crash at age 22.

**Days of Heaven.** Set amid the sweeping wheat fields of Texas in 1916, the film's narrative follows a trio of itinerant farm workers: an impetuous young man, his girlfriend, and his tomboyish sister. Writer-director Terrence Malick has fashioned a poignant tale that is almost classically pastoral in design. (Reviewed 9/18/78).

**Interiors.** Woody Allen's first "serious" movie film has been hailed as a masterpiece and mocked as ersatz Bergman. Focusing on a domestic crisis in a family of upper-crust WASPs, Allen demonstrates an uncanny ability to get under the skin of people who are, ostensibly at least, quite unlike himself. There are awkward moments, particularly in the scenes-from-a-marriage interludes involving Diane Keaton and Richard Jordan, but most of the relationships are handled with tact. (Reviewed 10/16/78).

**Stevie.** Based on the life and works of British poet Stevie Smith, this modest little film suffers from a stagey setting, a literal-minded script, and the pedestrian direction of Robert Enders. But Glenda Jackson's performance is so accomplished that she brings even the most distended monologues to life. The relationship between the poet and her aged aunt (Mona Washbourne) is sensitively drawn and offers a compelling insight into the ways in which bonds of affection can transcend the barriers of intellect.

**Violette.** The true story of Violette Noziere, center of a scandal in France in 1933 after she poisoned her parents, killing her father. Director Claude Chabrol concentrates on Violette's "double life," showing the 18-year-old living an apparently normal family life, yet late at night sneaking out to indulge in casual prostitution. Isabelle Huppert is brilliant as Violette. (Reviewed 10/2/78).

## Books

**A Distant Mirror: the Calamitous 14th Century,** by Barbara W. Tuchman (Knopf, 677 pages, \$15.95). A magnificent achievement that fulfills all of the author's dicta for writing good history: It must be readable, it must be tied to the present, it must synthesize without distorting, and it must be selective. She supplies a rich and warm narrative of the age of the Black Death, madmen, and butchers. (Reviewed 10/2/78).

**Heraclitean Fire: Sketches from a Life Before Nature,** by Erwin Chargaff. (Rockefeller University Press, 252 pages, \$13). In this book, disguised as an autobiography, Chargaff deploys the withering fire of his satire against modern science, its aims, its methods, and its practitioners. He is a satirist, a stylist, and a scientist of eminence. (Reviewed 10/16/78).

**The Horse of Pride: Life in a Breton Village,** by Pierre-Jakez Hélias (Yale University Press, 351 pages, \$15). The author restores to life the Breton peasant culture in which he grew up. His excellent storytelling centers on a society dependent upon weather and the energy of men and animals, a society dominated by work and with a passion for the ownership of land. (Reviewed 10/2/78).

**The Starship and the Canoe,** by Kenneth Brower (Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 270 pages, \$8.95). A double biography of a bespectacled theoretical physicist, Freeman Dyson, and his son, George, who lives in a treehouse. The father is obsessed with space travel, and the son with building canoes—two amazing mortals. (Reviewed 9/18/78).

## Traveler's Advisory

IRISH MARVELS IN BOSTON, A LIBRARY BAZAAR IN NEW YORK, FILMS IN SAN DIEGO, AND OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST, COAST TO COAST

**BOSTON:** The glorious, illuminating Book of Kells, along with 70 other masterpieces spanning 3,000 years, has come from the Emerald Isle to the Museum of Fine Arts and will be on display through Jan. 21 (Telephone: 617/267-9300). Sarah Caldwell directs Soprano Magda Olivero in the role of the beautiful singer "Tosca." Puccini's opera comes to life Nov. 1, 3, and 8 at 8 p. m. and Nov. 5 at 3 p. m. at the Orpheum Theatre (617/267-8050).

**BUFFALO:** If you'd like to see electro-mechanical devices develop "mutual relationships" and static images "set in motion through rifting-turning-switching" coupled with moving images "set to a relative standstill by freeze framing and fast switching," then stop by the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. Woody and Steina Vasulka have installed their experimental video show, which will flicker through Nov. 26 (716/882-8700).

**CLEVELAND:** Thad Jones's jazz "Suite for Pops" (Nov. 3, 8 p. m.), Erb's "Concerto for Trombone and Orchestra" (Nov. 8, 8 p. m.), and Samuel Barber's "Overture to the School for Scandal" (Nov. 10, 8 p. m.) are among the Cleveland Institute of Music's numerous free

the end of the Byzantine period (around 1000 A. D.). The loaned show stays through Nov. 19 (804/622-1211).

**NEW YORK:** Nov. 11 and 12 bring fall house-cleaning to the New York Public Library at Lincoln Center, and up for grabs (or at least for 25 cents to \$100) are thousands of records, autographed photos, posters, scrapbooks, opera libretti, musical scores, and 18th-century English and early-American playbills. Oh yes, and books (212/799-9600).

Tired of waiting for Godot? Look for him at New York University's Beckett Festival, where the playwright's films, plays, recordings, and exhibits run through Nov. 4 (212/598-2838).

**OAKLAND, Cal.:** The Oakland Museum has an abundance of openings. "Welsh Miners and Black Diamonds: the Ghostly Coal Mines of Mt. Diablo" (through Dec. 10), "The Many Mizners: California Clan Extraordinary" (Nov. 7-Feb. 5), "Early Black Performers on the Northern California Stage" (Nov. 3-Jan. 14), and "George Inness Landscapes: His Signature Years 1884-1894" (Nov. 28-Jan. 28), are among them. The museum also salutes Katherine Dunham, a strong influence in the world of African-Haitian

dance, on Nov. 19 at 2 p. m., with a dance by the Harambee Dancers and a film. (415/273-3401).

**SAN DIEGO:** Take two films a day and call us in the morning if you don't feel better: That seems to be the prescription of the La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art, helping out the San Diego Film Festival by showing international films, all new to the city, along with some local film-makers' works, at 7 and 9:30 p. m. through Nov. 4 (714/454-9400).

**SAN FRANCISCO:** A collection of 400 rare photographs that provide glimpses of Jewish life in Poland from 1864 to 1939, when the largest Jewish community in Europe was destroyed, will be displayed through Dec. 3 at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. The first Yiddish "talkie," "Yiddle with His Fiddle," will also be shown, Nov. 9 at 8 p. m. (415/863-8800).

**ST. LOUIS:** Carved wood and other art from the Northwest Coast American Indians and photographs of travelers in China from 1860 to 1912 are two new exhibits of the St. Louis Art Museum. They'll be on display from Nov. 10 through Dec. 31 and Jan. 7, respectively (314/721-0072).

**WILLIAMSTOWN, Mass.:** The youngsters from the Marlboro music-making community will play Schumann and others, Nov. 9 at 8:30 p. m. at the Clark Art



MUSIC FROM MARLBORO PHOTO

Institute. On Nov. 8, novelist John Irving (*The World According to Garp*) and poet Linda Pastan (*A Perfect Circle of Sun*), will give readings there (413/458-8109). —D.S.

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