



# JAPAN

Toshiba Records held its chief-conference (Mar. 11-12) where its sales achievement in the latter half of the fiscal year (Oct. 1 '65-Mar. 31, '66) was announced. In the announcement, sales showed a 27% increase over that of the last period, and also showed 17% increase over the fixed sales target. These achievements were reportedly due to the favorable sales in both local and foreign product. Locals showed a 9% increase, compared with that of last period, while the ration on local-popular as usual was 20% to 80%. In the pop section, Ventures with "Caravan," "Diamond Head," "Cruel Sea," "Jingle Bells." The Beatles with "Help," Cliff Richard with "Dynamite," Claude Chiari with "La Playa" and "Dannies Theme," Herman's Hermits and Beach Boy's LPs are among the strongest.

The Thelonious Monk Quartet will arrive here (May 2) after a three year absence, by the invitation of Taiheiyo TV for a fortnight tour of Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Nagoya and other main cities. Modern jazz is on boom now in Japan, as evidenced by the many successful performances by Oscar Peterson this past January, by the M.J.Q. at present, and as evidence by the good advance sales for the Jimmy Smith Trio's performance scheduled for Apr. To honor Monk Quartet's touring here, Nippon Columbia will release "Monk Mystery Autho" on May 1.

Due to the imminent reform of the Japanese Copyright law, the Nippon Broadcasting System has entered into a co-publishing arrangement with Pacific Music Publishing Co. This is the second case of a station-publisher synthesis, the first being of the Tokyo Broadcasting System and Nichion Music. This type of joint production is becoming increasingly popular, especially in Tokyo.

Nippon Columbia released the LP "Batman" by the Al Caiola Orchestra on April 1, with a strong push, while Fuji TV plans to broadcast "Batman" every Sunday evening. The theme music is so attractive that every record company here plans to release the tuncs. The firm released SP "In Un Fiore"/"Cosi Come Viene" with vocals by Les Surf who were among the San Remo Festival prize winners.

While Simon and Garfunkel are popular now, in Japan, with their recent hit "The Sounds Of Silence," their second recording "Homeward Bound" released by Nippon Columbia in May, shows good sales and is recommended by paper and magazine critics.

The Ventures, scheduled to have a tour here, are reportedly said to include "O.K. With The Beat" in their repertoire which they will introduce in Japan. Toshiba Records, released this tune with "A Taste Of Honey."

The much-awaited Edmondo Ros, arrived here (Mar. 16) for the first performance of a tour covering a fortnight. At a press conference held Mar. 17th at the Hotel Otani, Tokyo, the artist said he would introduce several Japanese locals such as "Konnichiwa Akachan," "Koino Vacance," "Hana," "Sakura," "Defune," etc. New arrangement should be the most interesting for the fans.

Japans top Latin singer, A. George, will leave Japan on June 14 for a one-man tour, taking him throughout the world. This tour is scheduled for six months.

King Records released, at the end of March, "Wakaitte Subarashii" (To Be Young Is Splendid) with vocal by Marisol who is now staying in Japan. She is very popular now with her recent hit "Me Conformo" sung in Spanish, while "Me Conformo" was cut on record by the lark in Japanese on March 24.

## Japan's Best Sellers

### ALBUMS

This Week	Last Week	
1	1	The Sound Of Music—Sound Track (RCA)
2	2	Mary Poppins—Sound Track (Disneyland)
3	4	Help!—The Beatles (Odeon)
4	3	Ventures A Go Go—The Ventures (Liberty)
5	5	Karelia—The Spotnicks (Polydor)

### LOCAL

This Week	Last Week	
1	1	Kimi To Itsumademo—Yuzo Kayama (Toshiba)
2	2	Honemade Aishite—Takuya Joh (Toshiba)
3	6	Nishi-Ginza Goban-Gai—Teruhiko Saigo (Crown)
4	3	Tokyo Nagaremono—Hiroko Takegoshi (King)
5	4	Ame No Naka No Futari—Yukio Hashi (Victor)
6	8	Naniwabushi Komori-Uta—Hitohushi Taro (Crown)
7	5	Aitakute Aitakute—Mari Sono (Polydor)
8	7	No No Boy—The Spiders (Philips)
9	—	Aishu No Yoru—Kazuo Funaki (Columbia)
10	9	Karajishi Botan—Ken Takakura (King)

### INTERNATIONAL

This Week	Last Week	
1	1	We Can Work It Out—The Beatles (Odeon) Sub-Publisher/Victor
2	2	Kungsleden—Sound Track (Seven Seas) Sub-Publisher/Seven Seas
3	4	L'Amour, C'Est Pour—Enrico Macias (Odeon) Fubuki Koshiji (Toshiba) Yoko Kishi (King) Yoichi Sugawara (Polydor) Sub-Publisher/Toshiba
4	3	Pel Un Pugno De Sollari—Ennio Morricone (RCA) Sub-Publisher/Victor
5	5	You And Me—Johnny Tillotson (MGM) Publisher/Shinko
6	7	The Last Train In The Space—The Spotnicks (Polydor) Sub-Publisher/Shinko
7	8	A Must To Avoid—Herman's Hermits (Odeon) Sub-Publisher/Victor
8	6	Karelia—The Feenades (Philips) The Spotnicks (Polydor) Sub-Publisher/OMP
9	10	The Ballad Of The Green Berets—Srgt. Barry Sadler (RCA) Sub-Publisher/Shinko
10	11	Sound Of Silence—Simon & Garfunkel (CBS) Sub-Publisher/Shinko
11	12	The Man From U.N.C.L.E.—Clee-Chays (Union) Sub-Publisher/—
12	9	Namida-Kun Sayonara—Johnny Tillotson (MGM) Kyu Sakamoto (Toshiba) Publisher/Shinko
13	14	Dans Le Mame Wagon—Marjorie Noel (Seven Seas) Yukari Itoh (King) Sub-Publisher/New Orient
14	15	I Can Never Go Home Anymore—Shangri-Las (Red Bird) (Sub-Publisher/Shinko)
15	13	Go Go Slow—Sound Track (Philips) Sub-Publisher/Toshiba



# MEXICO

Salvador Suarez, general manager of the biggest record chain in town, "Mercado de Discos," gave his "Discometro" trophy to the most popular Mexican artists and, of course, the best sellers in the past twelve months. Here is the list:

Female Folk Singer: Lucha Villa; Male Folk Singer: Jose Alfredo Jimenez; Female Tropical Singer: Sonia Lopez; Male Bolero Ranchero Singer: Javier Solis; Modern Female Singer: Angelica Maria; Modern Male Singer: Enrique Guzman; International Artist: Olga Guillot; Revelation: Pepe Jara; Female Duet: Hnas. Aguila; Trio: Los Panchos; Tropical Combo: Sonora Santanera; Dance Orchestra: Pablo Beltran Ruiz; Rock And Roll Group: Los Rockin Devils; Composer: Alvaro Carrillo; Revelation Combo: Mike Laure; Special Singer: Estudiantina de Guanajuato; Special Folk Singer: Chavela Vargas.

The trophies were given in the main store with a big party and the attendance of the most important executives of the record labels, disc jockeys and newspapermen.

Antonio Prieto, the Chilean singer who is now in Mexico City doing a TV series, will soon leave town to fulfill several contracts in Central and South America. Meanwhile he is finishing an LP at RCA Victor. Antonio leaves for Spain with his wife and his five children.

Andre Midani staged a house party for all the new artists of his Capitol catalogue. Among them were Monica, Las Castillon, Maria Bravo, Nacho Mendez, Oscar Green, Julissa and others.

Los Panchos, the most popular Mexican trio, (and well known around the world), left for Tokyo and will perform in the cities of Yokohama, Nagoya, Hiroshima, among others. Also fresh from Japan is another young Mexican trio, Los Galantes, who are currently recording several Japanese themes in Spanish at Orfeon.

Bolero singer Alejandro Algara, cut an LP at RCA named "El Show De Alejandro Algara," where he includes songs like "I Left My Heart In San Francisco," "The Girl From Ipanema," "More," "Somewhere In Your Heart," "Is It Really Me" and some Mexican songs like "Yo Sin Ti," "Llorando Por Dentro," "Azul," "Pa Todo El Ano," "Mi Amor Por Ti," with the musical accompaniments of Chucho Ferrer and Arturo Castro.

Martha Duhalt appeared on CBS records as the first young singer in several years with that company, releasing a record with the songs "These Boots Are Made For Walkin'" and "Sixteen Reasons". Before her another femme singer who used to sing for CBS was Julissa, who now records for Capitol Records.

Los Yorsys, the sensational Mexican duet who is right now doing several pictures in Spain, recorded at Musart Records before leaving, the themes "Managua Nicaragua" and "La Escoba" in "ska" rhythm.

Gamma Records released, on the Reprise label, two albums: one with the Nelson Riddle titled "Movie Themes," including melodies like "Charade," "Stairway In The Sky," "It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, World," etc. The other album is played by the Sounds Orchestral, playing James Bond themes like "Thunderball," "Moonshot," "From Russia With Love," "Goldfinger" and others.

In the classic field, CBS released an album by I Solisti Veneti entitled "Conciertos Para Ocasiones Festivas," with music composed by Antonio Vivaldi.

Among the latest releases made by Orfeon Records are "Si Soy Graciosa" and "Mi Gorda Fea" with the Rockin' Devils, "El Knack" and "La 77 Bu" with Julian Bert and his orchestra, "Do You Wanna Dance" and "Memphis" with Los Locos del Ritmo, "Feeling Happy" and "Corina 66" with Big Joe Turner, "All Right" and "Nena Ye Ye" with Los Crazy Birds, "All My Loving" and "Rescue Me" with Ela Laboriel. This label is promoting the music a go-go of the Mexican "New Wave" harder every day.

Trini Lopez, the popular Mexican-American singer, released a new Reprise album with songs like "Return To Me" (in Spanish), "You Are My Sunshine," "Smile," "Put Your Arms Around Me, Honey," "When The Saints Go Marchin' In," "You'll Never Know," etc.

## Mexico's Best Sellers

1	La Banda Borracha—Mike Laure (Musart)—Los Polivoces (Orfeon)
2	Rondando Tu Esquina—Julio Jaramillo (Peerless) (Brambila)
3	Mide Tus Pasos—Sonora Santanera (CBS)
4	Amarrado—Los Belmonts (Orfeon)
5	Una Limosna—Javier Solis (CBS)—Antonio Maciel (Musart)—Duetto Miseria (RCA)—Las Norneitas (Del Norte)
6	Un Hombre Respetable (A Well Respected Man)—Los Hiters (Orfeon)—The Kinks (Gamma)
7	Te Amare Toda La Vida—Sonia (RCA)—Imelda Miller (Orfeon)
8	039—Mike Laure (Musart)
9	Celosa—Flor Silvestre (Musart)—Eva Garza (CBS)
10	Esas Botas Son Para Caminar (These Boots Are Made For Walkin')—Nancy Sinatra (Reprise)—Martha Duhalt (CBS)

### Dr. In The House?

New York's G. Schirmer recently filled their window and store with original sound track LP's from the recently released "Dr. Zhivago" flick. MGM saw to it that background material and lots and lots of posters were on hand for the project.

