

Monument LP Release Set

NASHVILLE — Monument Records has announced the release of nine new LPs for Sept. Included in the release are four pop LPs, two C&W LPs, and three new LPs for the Monument Artistry series. Monument president Fred Foster said the nine LPs represent a significant addition to the label's growing catalog. Stressing the label's interest in building a diverse catalog, Foster said, "The September releases feature a variety of product from the authentic C&W music of Grandpa Jones to the international renditions of Charles Aznavour."

In the Pop category releases are "Boots Randolph," by the leading sax artist with the Knightsbridge Strings and Voices, "Burning Sands, Pearly Shells and Steel Guitars," by Jerry Byrd, "Bravo! Bravo! Aznavour!," by Charles Aznavour, and "That Man, Robert Mitchum Sings," by Robert Mitchum. The new Boots Randolph LP follows his current chart album, "Boots With Strings." The Aznavour LP release was scheduled to coincide with the French artist's current tour of the United States. The Mitchum LP marks the actor-singer's first album release for Monument, and follows the artist's "Little Ole Wine Drinker Me" outing.

In the Country field, Dolly Parton and Grandpa Jones combine to offer two outstanding LPs. They are "Everybody's Grandpa," by Grandpa Jones and "Hello, I'm Dolly," by Dolly Parton. Parton, one of the more successful new female acts of 1967 in the country field, has recently been added as a regular to the Porter Wagoner TV'er which is syndicated weekly from coast to coast. The label developed 1966's Most Promising Female Artist in Jeannie Seely, the Grammy-winning thrush, and in view of Dolly Parton's sudden success this year she may be a strong contender for similar honors in the year-end polls.

Three new releases for the Monument Artistry series include "Reverie," "Hawaii," and "Gilbert & Sullivan" by the Knightsbridge Strings. These releases bring to seven the number of LPs in the Monument catalog by the Knightsbridge Strings.

Track's Lambert Makes 'Solid' Deal; Plans More

NEW YORK—Kit Lambert, co-owner with Chris Stamp of the independent, London-based Track label, and also co-manager and co-producer with Stamp of the successful English rock group, the Who, has just completed a deal with the R&B-oriented Solid Hit-Bound Productions in Detroit for the international release (the U.S. and Canada excepted) on Track Records of all product issued by Solid Hit-Bound's Revilot, Groovesville and Solid Hit labels. Solid Hit-Bound's biggest act at the moment is the Parliaments (Revilot), whose "(I Wanna) Testify" single climbed to the #20 spot on the Top 100 earlier this month.

Lambert's deal with Solid Hit-Bound is the first of many he hopes to make with small U.S. R&B labels for the international release of their product. Concentrating on England and the Continent, he plans to introduce abroad an array of American R&B artists, giving them a "collective identity" through Track Records. He feels that there is a vast market for R&B in Europe and points to the great success there of the Motown and Atlantic artists.

Track Records was formed in London in January of this year. Besides the Who, the label boasts such acts as the Jimi Hendrix Experience, John's Children, and the Crazy World of Arthur Brown. Track's headquarters in the States are located at 888 Eighth Avenue here in N.Y. Heading up the label's U.S. operation is Nancy Lewis, who did public relations for Tamla-Motown in England.

Kit Lambert came to the U.S. recently when the Who were winding up their nation-wide tour with Herman's Hermits. He brought with him the Who's new single, "I Can See For Miles," which is being released here on the Decca label. "I Can See For Miles" received its American debut on the "Smothers Brothers" TV'er on Sunday, Sept. 17.

'Take Me Along' Rushes To Market

NEW YORK—The Ray Charles Singers' new Command label waxing of "Take Me Along" was recorded and released at a fast pace indeed.

On Tuesday, September 12th, the decision was made to record the single. The session was held on Wednesday. . . . mastered the same day. . . . parts and labels ordered. . . . and finished records were ready on Thursday. Samples and deejay stock were shipped in large quantities on Thursday. By Friday, all distributors had received the new single and Command began accepting orders for their latest release.

"Take Me Along" was written in 1959 by Bob Merrill for the Broadway show of the same name. The song is the current musical vehicle around which United Airlines is basing a multi-million dollar advertising campaign.



THE BISHOP'S DAY—Lionel Hampton is flanked by Bishop Perry, Archbishop of New Orleans, and John Lindsay, Mayor of New York, at a reception held at Bishop Perry Auditorium adjacent to St. Mark's Evangelist Church in Harlem. The Mayor declared a "Bishop Perry Day" and Hamp and his Jazz Inner Circle performed a benefit concert to raise funds for the recreation hall named for Perry.

Peer-Southern Holds World Meet

NEW YORK—The Peer-Southern Organization is holding a world meeting this week at its headquarters in the Brill Building in N.Y. Here for the meet are Peer-Southern managers and executives from seventeen countries including the U.S., Switzerland, Chile, Italy, Argentina, Holland, Puerto Rico, Canada, Great Britain, Germany, France, Colombia, Brazil, Spain, Venezuela, Mexico and Australia.

A packed agenda—to be discussed in English, French, German, Spanish—ranges from the relationship between music publishers and record companies to the current music scene in Southeast Asia, from the opening of a record factory in Panama to the demand in Japan for Argentine Tangos, and from the Nashville scene to sheet music for stage bands written for sixty musicians at college balls and to the sound of the sitar now echoing through Peer-Southern's outlets in Spain as well as Britain and America.

Peer-Southern's delegates will also critically audition demos and records of titles aimed to hit the world market in 1968 or earlier and inspect their printing plant, which supplies over a quarter of a million copies of sheet music yearly throughout the world.

Up and coming developments to be aired to the delegates feature the growing demand for Southern's Library of Recorded Music, started in 1964 and now offering and getting acceptances for over five hundred "mood" compositions, backgrounding feature films and documentaries as well as commercial spots and radio programs presently in over ten countries, but expanding to cover Peer-Southern's twenty-three nation "empire," a new form of packaging records complete with lead sheets, closer liaison with trade and national press, and, above all, quoting Mrs. Peer-Morris "The never greater importance of offering our maximum services to authors and composers, artists, music directors, disc jockeys and program producers whenever and wherever we can."



NEW CHART ADDITIONS

NEW TOP 100 ALBUMS

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| 81—DAY IN THE LIFE
Wes Montgomery (A&M 2001/SP 3001) | 94—BLAZE
Herman's Hermits (MGM E/SE 4478) |
| 84—LOOK OF LOVE
Claudine Longet (A&M 129/SP 4129) | 104—OUR SONG
Jack Jones (Kapp KL-1531/KS-3531) |
| 92—COME BACK WHEN YOU GROW UP
Bobby Vee (Liberty LRP 3534/LST 7534) | 121—BLUES PROJECT LIVE AT TOWN HALL
(Verve/Forecast FT/FTS 3025) |
| 93—UNITED
Marvin Gaye & Tammi Terrell (Tamla 277) | 124—SOULED OUT
Righteous Bros. (Verve V/V-6 5031) |

NEW TO TOP 50 IN R&B

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|---|---|
| 20—A NATURAL WOMAN
Aretha Franklin (Atlantic 2441) | 45—ODE TO BILLIE JOE
Bobbi Gentry (Capitol 5950) |
| 36—TO SIR WITH LOVE
Lulu (Epic 40187) | 48—TELL HIM
Patti Drew (Capitol 5861) |
| 40—PATA PATA
Miriam Makebe (Reprise 0606) | 50—WHERE IS THE PARTY
Helena Ferguson (Compass 7009) |

RCA Film Investments

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"Philadelphia, Here I Come," is writing the scenario.

For a label that is not tied-in corporately with a motion-picture company, RCA will be setting a precedent in lending a helping hand in the preparation of a musical score before a note has been written. It is known that the Broadway stage is also seeing the dawn of this concept, particularly in the close working relationship between United Artists Records and the creators of the musical version of "East of Eden," which is being backed by United Artists.

From RCA's standpoint, the deal, also involving an interest in the property, will provide the label with a major soundtrack, currently a tough item to obtain as film companies turn over LP versions of their musicals to their label subsidiaries.

The deal, announced by Norman Racusin, vp and general manager of RCA, raised the possibility that RCA might develop a film or theatrical production unit of its own. Racusin, however, told Cash Box that the company had no such plans at the present time.

"Miracles" is a satirical comedy about a man who gains super human power. A classic film was adapted from the story in 1935. While the film had a contemporary setting, the musical film will hark back to the original time-period of 1910.

Morton J. Mitosky, the Broadway theatrical investment counselor and RCA consultant, was instrumental in negotiating the deal between the label and Lewis. Lewis is a former vp of advertising and publicity at United Artists Pictures.

'Reflections' Retracted; Shorter Version Shipped

NEW YORK—As a result of requests from several radio outlets, Bell Records is rushing a shortened version of "Reflections Of Charles Brown" by Rupert's People.

The record, a hit in England, ran 3:24 in its original form and has been edited down to 2:58.

On The Rise

Rising Sons' Joe Simon (right) and manager Al Orange (left) stopped by the Cash Box offices recently with Monument's Mike Sheperd immediately prior to a cocktail party hosted in N.Y. for the songster's latest deck, "Nine Pound Steel," which the label states is his fastest seller yet. Simon, who just finished a ten-day stand at Philadelphia's Uptown Theatre, left Gotham immediately after the party for a tour in and around New Orleans.



Pincus To West Coast

NEW YORK—Irwin Pincus, vice president of Gil-Pincus pubberies is on the west coast visiting with Joe Mauldin, head of the west coast office. Appointments have been set with leading songwriters and A&R heads of west coast record companies for record sessions and future recordings. Pincus is staying at Gene Autry's Continental Hotel.

All-Stereo Chess Product

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mono form. And distribs seem to agree that jazz and classical LP's will be an all stereo business in a matter of weeks.

Ratio Guessing Game

However, the big guessing game of what ratio of stereo to mono a distrib should order of new product goes on.

One distributor at the Chess meet who also handles the Tamla Motown lines, said he ordered their new LP's in an 80% stereo to 20% mono ratio and sold out the mono long before he got rid of the stereo.

Cooperstein reported that on Chess overall orders at the San Francisco meeting only 6% of the labels new product was ordered in mono. The percentage of mono product at the Chicago meeting was higher. At the New Orleans meeting the mono percentage was the highest.

Sights On Xmas Sales

One distributor pointed to the upcoming Christmas season as the single most important event in resolving the mono-stereo problem. He said the heavy buying period would probably clean up a great deal of the huge amount of mono catalog purchased before the price change went into effect. And from then on the industry would definitely see a market decrease in the amount of mono product handled by large users, discount houses and the like.