Garry Sherman Sees New Role For Music in Film

NEW YORK — Garry Sherman, a composer,arranger who has worked on such major feature films as “Midnight Cowboy,” “Alice’s Restaurant” and “Swinging with the Kid,” sees music in a new creative light in feature film production.

“For about three years ago,” Sherman says, “a composer could screen a color photo, call it ‘Help!’ and then go off and write X minutes of background music. ‘Love Story’ is an example of the traditional Hollywood or supportive mood genre. Today, directors are using music in a compositional role rather than in a supportive role. Music has been discovered, and is more and more often used in a key role to define plot sequences or to capture the abstraction of a scene. In Alice’s Restaurant, music became an extension of Arlo Guthrie’s character, and in some numerics music is almost a character in itself. Working on ‘Heartbreak Kid’ with Elaine May, Sherman used music to punctuate certain points in the film. For example, in the transaction between Charles Gordin’s first marriage and the rest of his life in the film, the music was used as a writer might use a semi-colon. The music is vital to the mood of the ending scene...In a film like ‘The Enigrants,’ says Sherman, “it uses music to set the canvas on which the director is painting his film. The composer here, Erik Nordgren, painted his music in tender moods, rather than melodic sequences, using music sparsely, for the 1800’s music was not a part of everyday life. This is an example...”

Hookfoot Tour Signals Expanded Dick James Music

NEW YORK — As part of the company’s planned expansion in the U.S., Dick James Music, Inc., has set a national tour for their British group, Hookfoot. Beginning Mar. 23, the group has arranged for A&M Records to issue their album, “LIF Communication,” according to Louis Ragona, general manager of the company.

Dick James Music, Inc. has been expanding its operations to include songwriting and management in both Great Britain and the United States. Among the projects it is recording are Elton John, Phillip Goodhand-Tait, Hookfoot, Blackfoot, Soldier, Staple, Mar-Mac, Apple Pie, Esprit de Cern, and Coulson, Dun, McGeusin and Flint.

Hookfoot, which consists of Caleb Quaye, Jon Talbot, Roger Pope, drums; Ian Duck, guitar and vocals; and Fred Gandy, bass will be touring in concert with one of the following artists on the same date: Thundertones, Flash, Paul Butterfield and Frank Zappa. The booking of the tour is by East-West Talent.

Test ‘Hitmakers’ Trading Cards

HOLLYWOOD — Art Laboe, owner of Original Sound Record Company, which released the popular Goodies record album series now in its 18th year, is test marketing the first set of tradable ‘Hitmakers’ Trading Cards in several cities.

Each 3 1/4 x 5 1/2 inches, come packaged 18 to a set. Each card features a color photo of a major recording artist’s artwork, along with information about the artist on the back.

Laboe has been developing the “Hitmakers” idea for three years, acquiring trading card rights to over 600 recording artists in the pop, rhythm and blues, country, and Western categories, as well as a “behind the scenes” category in which key music industry insiders are profiled. Artists represented in the first sets being distributed include such top artists as Three Dog Night, the New Seekers, Leon Russell, Kenny Rogers and the First, Country Joe McDonal, the Carpenters, The Staple Singers, and the Byrds.

Kingsmen To Capitol

HOLLYWOOD — Capitol Records has signed the Kingsmen to a long term exclusive recording contract.

Mauri Lathower, a. & P vp states that the Kingsmen’s repertoire deals will be “You Better Do Right” b/w “That’s What He Said” releasing this week.

After a five-year separation, band members Barry Curtis, Steve Friedson, Mike Mitchell and Dick Polito have decided to reunite and add bassist Fred Dennis.

The group is also currently planning a return to the concert stage.

Gimbel Deals For Pub Rights To ‘Softly’

NEW YORK — Norman Gimbel, in New York recently with Capitol artist, Lori Lieberman, promoting her album, which contains the original version of “Killing Me Softly With His Song,” has announced that he is currently reviewing a possible developing deal with David Platts of England to handle the song for the U.K., Australia, Spain, Holland, Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Germany, Mexico and Venezuela. The song is also controlled by Anne Murray and by a British company, to be released in Great Britain.

Butler-Field record is currently sizzling the charts in Great Britain.

Point rights for the song have gone to The Big Three. According to Herman Steiger, who made the agreement with Fov-Gimbel Productions to print the sheet music, sales of the sheet music has already exceeded 50,000 copies. Because of the demand for the sheet music, the song is being printed for the school market and there is also a children’s edition being printed. Steiger expects the sheet music to sell in excess of 250,000, making it “one of the most exciting songs of the year.”

Darryl, Bergman Open Music Co.

NEW YORK — Songwriter-producer Ted Darryl in association with Barry Bergman has announced the formation of Darryl-Bergman Advertisers.

He also announced the signing of 10 year old Realinda to a long term recording contract. She is currently appearing in the hit Broadway musical, “Jesus Christ Superstar.”

The team has recently concluded a long term recording pact for the art, with Perception Records Inc. Her initial release, just sent to distributors, is “Hey Mr. Paul,” a reply to the recent Grammy winner and his top one song, “Me & Mrs. Jones.” A planned national promotion effort is currently underway.

Berman stated that he and Darryl are seeking artists and material for their new independent Free Enterprise Music Co. They can be reached through their attorney, Richard J. Spoffito. (212) MA 4-2988.

Wardell Ends U.S. Promo Trek

NEW YORK — Don Wardell, general manager of UK Records American office, has just completed a four week promo trip on the behalf of the new company. The purpose of the tour was to visit Stations in primarily British label distributed in the U.S. and Canada by London Records, Rock to radio station program director, also, to generate excitement for the label’s two current singles, “Shut Up Wedding” by Roy C and “April Love” by Ricky Wilde.

The cities Wardell has visited include Boston and the New Hampshire area, Chicago, Minneapolis, Atlanta, Nashville and Memphis. He already reports that many of the stations he has visited are picking up the records.

ATI, 3 Dog Settle Suit

NEW YORK — American Talent International, Ltd., the talent management and rep organization, says that all pending law suits between Three Dog Night and ATI have been dismissed.

ATI’s president Jeff Franklin revealed that the discontinuance of the litigation was “amicable.”

The agreement was worked out through mediators, attorney David S. Trusman for ATI, and Michael L. Robins, of the law firm of Polock, Hedin and Pay, for Three Dog Night.

REVIVAL TIME — The Springfield Revival made its first trip to America from England, which prompted released the group’s single version of “Come Follow, Follow Me,” nominated for a Best Song “Oscar” by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. The group, managed by the Gem-Toby Organization, found time to visit Cash Box’s West Coast offices. (From left) Mick Finn, Cash Box’s publisher George Albert, Daryll Jones and Ray Martin.

IT'S FROM THE BAG — Brown Bag Records announces the release of the茅’s, “The Second Suites”/“I Want To Be Free” in an extremely unusual situation, having the inter-

Cash Box — March 24, 1973