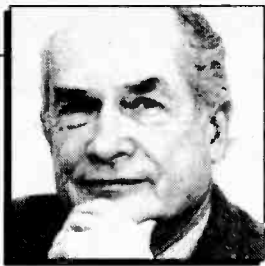


Classical KEEPING SCORE



by Is Horowitz

MIDLINE MARKETING: RCA Red Seal enters the midprice compact disk sweeps this week with the first release of Erato's Collection Bonsai, a line already available in Europe. And next month the label debuts its own midprice CD series, the Papillon Collection. In both cases, material is drawn from catalog and features artists still prominent as performers, even if, in some cases, on other labels.

All the Bonsai CDs run more than 60 minutes in playing time and the 20 disks that make up the initial release are imported from France completely packaged. It's anticipated that there will be additional quarterly, 10-title releases, says Red Seal director of sales & marketing Peter Elliott. The cover art on the see-through insert has a consistent theme (each portrays a different Bonsai tree), and the booklet unfolds to picture all titles on the release. There are no descriptive liner notes or texts.

Among the artists are such Erato stalwarts as organist Marie-Claire Alain, trumpeter Maurice André, flutist Jean-Pierre Rampal, Claudio Scimone & I Solisti Veneti, and conductor Jean-Francois Paillard. In a number of cases, selections issued on CD in recent years on Erato are used on Bonsai but always (so far) in different couplings and mostly with cumulative playing times that exceed the original release.

Like the Bonsai series, the Papillon midprice CDs will all exceed 60 minutes in playing time. Unlike the Erato entries, however, all will contain full liner notes, as well as texts and translations where appropriate, says Elliott. There will also be cassette versions; LPs, of course, will be by-passed.

Red Seal views the "novice collector" as its prime market for Papillon, says Elliott. Repertoire, unlike

much that is on Bonsai, is standard but often in unconventional couplings.

Papillon artists are described as "high profile" and include such luminaries as James Galway, Itzhak Perlman, Julian Bream, Sviatoslav Richter, Kyung-Wha Chung, and Vladimir Ashkenazy. Among the conductors are Erich Leinsdorf, André Previn, Charles Munch, Eugene Ormandy, Pierre Monteux, Fritz Reiner, and Arthur Fiedler.

Why "Papillon" as a series name? No ready answer is given, except that it makes for attractive cover art. Each cover is dominated by a full-color illustration of a different butterfly. Largely a creation of Red Seal

RCA Red Seal bows two midline CD series in U.S.

marketing executives, the line was shaped by Elliott, senior international vice president Don Ellis, and European marketing chief Hans Van Woerkens.

Like Bonsai, Papillon will have quarterly releases of 10 new titles. Both will be supported by advertising, dealer aids, and, perhaps, television, says Elliott. No crossover product is planned for Papillon. A midprice Gold Seal CD series will accommodate such material, much of it seasonal in nature, says Elliott. This Christmas, for instance, a release of Menotti's "Amahl And The Night Visitors" is scheduled.

PASSING NOTES: The Baltimore Symphony and its music director David Zinman are back from a month-long tour of the Soviet Union. Next year the orchestra and Zinman will make their first recordings for Telarc, Nonesuch, and CBS Masterworks. Cellist Yo-Yo Ma will be soloist on the CBS album.

Julian Rice, president of Fanfare Records, is mailing out special samplers to mark the Canadian label's third anniversary. The albums are also available for sale at under \$10. Recent and future selections are included.

Indie GRASS ROUTE



by Linda Moleski

WE WERE DISAPPOINTED to discover that the New Music Seminar panel "Independent Labels & Distribution: The Big Comeback," held at Manhattan's Marriott Marquis hotel July 15, had little to do with what the title implied.

Though the forum was well-attended, it amounted only to an elementary discussion on the panelists' various methods of breaking a record, which, needless to say, made for a less-than-controversial session.

Equally disappointing was the panel's one-sided representation: The only delegate from the distribution end was Amherst Records/Action Music's Lenny Silver—other panelists were TVT's Steve Gottlieb (the moderator), Edge Records' Al Bell, Enigma's William Hein, 4th & Broadway's Kathy Jacobson, Tommy Boy's Monica Lynch, Macola's Don McMillan, Rykodisc's Don Rose, and Luke Skyywalker's Luther Campbell. Given the lineup and the fact that it was a great year for independents, it's a shame the panel didn't prove to be more exciting.

SEEDS & SPROUTS: Caroline has entered into a special joint venture with Megaforce Worldwide for the release of "U.S.A. For M.O.D.," the debut album from hardcore outfit Method Of Destruction. The group is fronted by Billy Milano, former lead vocalist for the popular underground band Stormtroopers Of Death. Other Megaforce product will continue to be distributed through Atlantic. The record is due in late August and will be supported by an extensive tour... 4th & Broadway is red hot with three new releases: Amazulu's self-titled album and 12-inches by Eric B. & Rakim and Noel, titled "Paid In Full" and "Silent Morning," respec-

tively. "Montego Bay," the leadoff single on Amazulu's album, is reportedly breaking on pop stations across the country; a video for the song is being aired on VH-1. Because of the action on the record, the label called in its parent company, Island Records, to help out with promotion. At press time, sales on Eric B. & Rakim's single were said to be more than 158,000 units, while Noel's totaled 42,000... Hightone's Joe Ely delivered an outstanding set recently at Manhattan's Lone Star Cafe, where he showcased material from his latest release, "Lord Of The Highway" (See On The Road, page 39)... GNP/Crescendo is putting the finishing touches on a

NMS panel fails to capture excitement of indies' year

new album from '70s blues-rock outfit Savoy Brown, which features original members Kim Simmonds and Dave Walker. According to label spokesman Neil Norman, the logo hopes to repeat the success it had earlier this year with guitarist Robin Trower. Watch for an Oct. 1 release... Rockville Centre, N.Y.-based Dutch East has added the newly formed Giant Records to its roster. According to label chief Steev Riccardi, the new logo plans to release two titles per month and is an "alternative" to Dutch East's progressive in-house imprint, Homestead Records. Initial signings are the Washington, D.C.-based pop/rock band Government Issue and the Positive Force label, which houses Vermont-based bands Screaming Broccoli and Hollywood Indians... American Gramophone has signed a licensing deal with A&M Records Canada Ltd.... Newcomer TSE Records of Manhattan continues to make inroads with its debut release, "You're A Sensation," by Furrever Friends. The record is reportedly still strong in the Southeast, and the label just finished remixing a 12-inch dance version that's definitely worth checking out. Call 212-243-7836... Chicago-based Touch And Go has graced us with its latest tastefully packaged release, "Tritonian Nash—Vegas Polyester Complex" by No Trend.

FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 1, 1987

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TOP CLASSICAL ALBUMS™

THIS WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WKS. ON CHART	Compiled from a national sample of retail store sales reports.	
			TITLE LABEL & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	ARTIST
1	1	40	★ ★ NO. 1 ★ ★ HOROWITZ IN MOSCOW DG 419-499 (CD)	38 weeks at No. One VLADIMIR HOROWITZ
2	2	20	CARNAVAL CBS IM-42137 (CD)	WYNTON MARSALIS
3	3	72	PLEASURES OF THEIR COMPANY ANGEL DS-37351 (CD) KATHLEEN BATTLE, CHRISTOPHER PARKENING	
4	4	10	POPS IN LOVE PHILIPS 416-361 (CD)	BOSTON POPS (WILLIAMS)
5	5	12	HOLST: THE PLANETS LONDON 417-553 (CD) MONTREAL SYMPHONY (DUOIT)	
6	7	52	KATHLEEN BATTLE SINGS MOZART ANGEL DS-38297 (CD)	KATHLEEN BATTLE
7	6	50	HOROWITZ: THE STUDIO RECORDINGS DG 419-217 (CD)	VLADIMIR HOROWITZ
8	8	12	DANCE PIECES CBS FM-39539 (CD)	PHILIP GLASS
9	10	8	ADAMS: THE CHAIRMAN DANCES NONESUCH 79144 (CD) SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY (DE WAART)	
10	14	6	GROFE: GRAND CANYON SUITE TELARC 80086 (CD)	CINCINNATI POPS (KUNZEL)
11	12	10	HANSON: SYMPHONY NO. 2 ANGEL DS-47850 (CD) SAINT LOUIS SYMPHONY (SLATKIN)	
12	9	76	HOROWITZ: THE LAST ROMANTIC DG 419-045 (CD)	VLADIMIR HOROWITZ
13	11	14	MUSSORGSKY: PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION RCA 5931-RC (CD)	BARRY DOUGLAS
14	NEW ▶		WHITE MAN SLEEPS NONESUCH 79163 (CD)	THE KRONOS QUARTET
15	13	142	AMADEUS SOUNDTRACK FANTASY WAM-1791 (CD)	● NEVILLE MARRINER
16	15	44	DVORAK: CELLO CONCERTO CBS IM-42206 (CD)	YO-YO MA
17	18	8	MAHLER: SYMPHONY NO. 8 ANGEL DSB-47625 (CD) LONDON PHILHARMONIC (TENNSTEDT)	
18	NEW ▶		CBS MASTERWORKS DIGITAL SAMPLER CBS MK-42070 (CD)	VARIOUS ARTISTS
19	17	58	THE KRONOS QUARTET NONESUCH 79111 (CD)	THE KRONOS QUARTET
20	20	10	TCHAIKOVSKY: 1812 OVERTURE LONDON 417-400 (CD) CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (SOLTI)	
21	NEW ▶		BUTTERWORTH/PARRY/BRIDGE NIMBUS NI-5068 (CD) ENGLISH STRING ORCHESTRA (BOUGHTON)	
22	NEW ▶		PART: ARBOS ECM 831-959 (CD)	GIDON KREMER
23	21	34	TCHAIKOVSKY: PIANO CONCERTO NO. 1 RCA 5708 RC (CD)	BARRY DOUGLAS
24	24	16	ROTA: CONCERTO/BARBER: ADAGIO PHILIPS 416-356 (CD)	I MUSICI
25	RE-ENTRY		HOLST: THE PLANETS TELARC 10133 (CD)	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

TOP CROSSOVER ALBUMS™

1	1	18	★ ★ NO. 1 ★ ★ TRADITION ANGEL DS-47904 (CD)	14 weeks at No. One ITZHAK PERLMAN
2	3	20	BOLLING: SUITE FOR FLUTE & JAZZ VOL. 2 CBS FM-42018 (CD) JEAN-PIERRE RAMPAL, CLAUDE BOLLING	
3	2	22	IN IRELAND RCA 5798-RC (CD)	JAMES GALWAY & THE CHIEFTAINS
4	6	10	BASIN STREET CBS FM-42367 (CD)	CANADIAN BRASS
5	5	46	OPERA SAUVAGE POLYDOR 829-663 (CD)	VANGELIS
6	8	26	ROUND-UP TELARC 80141 (CD)	CINCINNATI POPS (KUNZEL)
7	7	12	ATMOSPHERES CBS FM-42313 (CD)	VARIOUS ARTISTS
8	4	16	NEW YORK COUNTERPOINT RCA 5944-RC (CD)	RICHARD STOLTZMAN
9	11	50	DOWN TO THE MOON CBS FM-42255 (CD)	● ANDREAS VOLLENWEIDER
10	10	20	ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER: VARIATIONS PHILIPS 420-342 (CD) JULIAN LLOYD WEBBER	
11	13	50	BACHBUSTERS TELARC 10123 (CD)	DON DORSEY
12	9	36	STRATAS SINGS WEILL NONESUCH 79131 (CD)	TERESA STRATAS
13	12	10	WE KNOW WHAT WE LIKE - MUSIC OF GENESIS RCA 6242-RC (CD) LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	
14	14	50	BEGIN SWEET WORLD RCA AML1-7124 (CD)	RICHARD STOLTZMAN
15	NEW ▶		POMP & PIZAZZ TELARC 80122 (CD)	CINCINNATI POPS (KUNZEL)

(CD) Compact disk available. ● Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for sales of 500,000 units. ▲ RIAA certification for sales of 1 million units.