

Records in review

MUSIC TO STUDY BY
By W.L. MEYER

Instead of providing the usual weekly record review, I've decided to present a few records designed to calm ones nerves during exams. At this time of year, loud rock music is not conducive to efficient studying. If you're a habitual music listener like I am, you will, however, require some form of music to listen to while studying that does not hinder your train of thought.

Brian Eno's "Discreet Music" is probably the best record to listen to while 'hitting your texts.' The music is very sedate and Eno recommends that it be played at a very low volume, his reason being that the music will form a "natural" ambient background level. Subconsciously one knows the music is there, but at the same time it does not interfere with more important thought processes. Also when your mind does revert to the music, the subtle shifts of tone have been so well done that you believe you have missed nothing in the music and you go back to your studying again. To listen to this record for pleasure defeats its purpose, since its meant to be "background" music and succeeds excellently as such. With this record, its hard to believe Brian Eno once played for Roxy Music. "Discreet Music" is a very mood specific lp and I find myself playing it only when I require a calm, untensioned atmosphere. Its perfect for the exam seasons.

David Bedford's "Instructions for Angels" is another record in a similar mode as Eno's. Unlike Eno's lp, Bedford's "Instructions for Angels" lp is much more listenable during the off-season (ie. non-exam time). There is more of a concept developed by Bedford and the themes of heaven, peace and angels are reflected in the dreamy mood created by synthesizers and choirs. You will find yourself taking a few breaks from your studying whilst playing Bedford's records due to their less subtle shifts in tone and of course, Mike Oldfield's screeching guitar work. These breaks in your concentration should be few and when they do occur they are quite short.

Over the past two years I've been experimenting with the use of classical music for studying to. Of my collection I find about three excellent lps to listen to during exams: Gustav Holst's "The Planets", Mozarts "Requim" and Beethoven's "Pastoral Symphony". Of the three, I find the "Requim" the most relaxing as the choral voices are very soothing and tension free. Similarly an album of Gregorian chants may help calm some people. For me, though, I usually get curious and try to understand what they are saying and this distracts me to no end. I find also that if I play "The Planets" or the "Pastoral" at high volumes it also distracts me from my work. So, during exams I tend to keep the volume low. Thus good quality vinyl also helps and I recommend the Deutsche Grammaphone Resonance series for excellent quality and low price.

The German synthesizer artists such as Tangerine Dream, Manuel Götting and Klaus Schultz also provide excellent music to study by. The Tang's "Zeit", "Atem" and "Alpha Centauri" lps are very calming but at the same time interesting during the off-season. The more "lively" Tangerine Dream lps such as those following these lps are much to distracting to

study by. Similarly their first lp and their "Ossiach Live" cut are much too tense and nerve racking to listen to during such a troubled time as exams.

In a similar vein, Klaus Schultz's "Timewind" and "Blackdance" lps are great to have on while studying but his other lps are a bit too interesting and "lively" to listen to while trying to concentrate. "Cyborg" and "Body Music" I & II involve the listener a bit much if you require your thoughts for something else.

Manuel Gottshings Ash Ra Temple music is probably the best of the lot (of German synthesizer bands) in calming your nerves and not distracting you. There are few wild synthesizer orgies on these lps and a steady music progression is generally the norm. Gottshings & Schultz's collaboration on the "Galactic Supermarket" lp is excellent as it combines both calmness and a wide variety of synthesizer music.

So far, most of these records have been import music. Records bit more accessible for dwellers of this city and that are tension relieving for myself during exam time include the following:

1. Santana's "Abraxas"
2. Richard Wright's "Wet Dreams"
3. Neil Young's "Journey Through the Past"-version of "Words"
4. Yes's Tales from the "Topographic Ocean" (if you don't get sidetracked to the other side of infinity by the lyrics)
5. Pink Floyd's "Ummagumma" (it might be wise to skip Careful with that Axe, Eugene)
6. Any of the Chieftans lps, provided you don't start doing jigs and reels at times.
7. Any Keith Jarrett or Chick Corea lp.
8. the Moddy blues "On the Threshold of a Dream"
9. Synergy's Cords lp
10. and finally the Eagles "One of these Nights".

Of course many chronic music listeners are at the opposite end of music during exams than I am. "Teach their own" I suppose, but just don't let me hear "Rip this Joint" or "Born to Run" till after I'm finished exams otherwise I'd never get anything done.

Well, here's the best of luck to everyone on exams, hoping also you'll have happy holiday season once you've weathered your tests. And seeing how this is the end of the decade, don't let anybody tell you that the 70's music is "crap" especially since the excellent music produced this year. With all the magazine and TV coverage expected about the 70's there's bound to be aged hippies longing for the 60's.

Westminster Books
presents

Dalton Camp
autographing his new title
Points of Departure

Friday, December 7 12-2 pm

"just across from King's Place"

Nitecap

By ROSS A. LIBBEY

This may seem a relatively strange time to start a weekly column, but as you'll all soon see, there is a madness to my method: or rather a method to my madness.

Having run a feature spot on liquor and cocktails earlier this year (you may have noticed) da Bruns was deluged with fan mail, phone calls and telegrams (not to mention western Union's singing telegram service-boy, did that guy make a fortune in tips down here): all requesting a repeat performance. Well, you fans of the firewater, you buddies of booze, you pals of the picklet juice—HERE IT IS!!!

This being the Xmas issue and the last of the year, I felt we might try out a cocktail that may be utilized by one and all during the festive holidays.

+++++

THE BRANDY EGGNOG
(or Santa's Jovial Joy Juice)

The following items are to be combined in a blender:

1 oz Brandy	6 drops Vanilla
1 tsp Sugar	1 Egg
	8 oz. Cereal Cream

Blend thoroughly and pour into a beer glass (preferably chilled) and sprinkle with nutmeg.

+++++

For those of you who normally don't partake of the saucy swampwater this could well prove an interesting invitation to the inebriative influence.

TOM FORRESTALL RETROSPECTIVE
EXHIBITION 1957-1978

Dec. 5, 1979-Jan. 6, 1980

Forty paintings spanning the years 1957 to 1978 comprise this retrospective exhibition of Tom ForreSTALL's work organized by Owens Art Gallery, Mount Allison University, Sackville, New Brunswick for circulation across Canada. Mount Allison University has been referred to as the spawning ground for a group of important realist painters in Canada today which includes Christopher Pratt, D.P. Brown, and ForreSTALL, all of whom studied under Alex Colville. The example of Colville's own work was a stronger catalyst in propelling his students into the area of high realism, as their mentor was not a proselytizer of this style of painting in his teaching and indeed, ForreSTALL's own work upon graduation indicated a greater affinity with the expressionists than the realists.

Although many graduates of Mount Allison University are working in the realist idiom, their own particular aesthetic concerns are widely divergent. ForreSTALL evokes the pastoral tradition in his work, glorifying nature in its many facets. Some of his most compelling compositions are those in which the human presence is implied but not included due either to a momentary absence or one of considerable duration.

In conjunction with this exhibition, Tom ForreSTALL will give a guided tour of the exhibition at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery on Friday, Dec. 7, 1979 at 12:30 Noon.

TNB

HANSEL AND GRETEL, Theatre New Brunswicks musical holiday treat for the entire family, will open the New Brunswick tour in Fredericton on December 1. HANSEL AND GRETEL, the first offering of TNB's twelfth season, has already played to packed houses in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Malcolm Black, Managing Director of TNB and director of HANSEL AND GRETEL, states, "We are delighted to start the 1980 season early this year in order to bring our audiences this exciting holiday performance."

In each tour centre, a chorus of twenty local children will perform with the professional cast. Trained by teachers and musicians from their school districts, the children will appear as Angels and Gingerbread Children.

ATTENTION:

All Grads.
We need your
Head in
Our Business
call
JOE STONE
Photographer

Grad photo taken up to
the 1st week of Dec.

Ready for Christmas giving

Phone for an
Appointment 455-7578

480 Queen St.

fun

THE
BY
HE'S
THE
STAGE
TEACH
THING
THAN

stu
nig

Sunda

Stud

THE
WEEK
THE
CLUB C

Ther
for th
Offic