## ESO enters its twentieth season

Well, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra is now into it's twentieth season.

Having survived everything from apathy to stock-yards to madmen to love affairs to near bankruptcy, our own beloved if abused symphony orchestra is embarking on its most monumental season to date.

And it would appear that Master (literally) Lawrence Leonard has lost none of the almost Quixotic daring that has characterized his plans in past years.

For this year's ten regular programs (plus one guest concert by the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra) will include, among other things, two Beethoven symphonies (the 1st and 3rd) plus the Egmont Overture (a little pun for all you theory freaks), twp symphonies and a concerto by Mozart, four pieces by Brahms including the Violin Concerto in D , Bach's Brandenburg Concerto VI, and selected pieces by Stravinsky, Kodaly, Schumann, Strauss (Richard), Handel, Haydn, Bizet, Tchaikovsky, Rossini, Villa-Lobos and others.

Now, take the list immediately preceding and add to it: individual trips to Saskatoon, Prince George, Whitehorse and several Alberta communities; an exchange concert with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra; the "B" series of Wednesday pops concerts commencing in January; one or two special fund raising concerts with Jack Benny this spring (he has kindly consented to charge only his expenses to the orchestra); a world premiere performance of a new piece; and (this one's for you, freaks) a full concert with Procol Harum, the dates for which are yet to be announced. Now that's a season!

But it's not going to be just the good 'ol ESO. Because, as we

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Busy-Bee

there is a featured artist. And, in keeping with the other plans, this year's list is truly "star studded" (isn't that just a great little phrase? Boy oh boy, I'll be writing for the London Times On piano we'll have Geza

all know, with every concert

Anda on October 16 and 17 (the Swiss pianist who almost single-handedly jolted the western world into a re-discovery of Mozart in the fifties and sixties. This culminated with his recording of Mozart's K. 467 concerto which topped the Billboard classical best seller list in 1968); Abbey Simon on November 13 and 14 (another Swiss pianist (hmmmmmm, strange) who started as a child prodigy and managed to keep in sight); and Claudio Arrau on January 15 and 16 (whose career started in 1908 so he's been around for a while-he'll play, with the ESO, the WORLD PREMIERE of Manus Sasonkin's Symphony 11).

On violin we'll have Henryk Szervng on November 27 and 28 (a Polish born Mexican who has visited Edmonton before. He has won the coveted "Grand Prix du Disque" six times); Lorand Fenyves on February 12 and 13 (a true cosmopolitan now living in Toronto, he is acknowledged as one of the best musicians living in Canada today); and on March 18 and 19 the featured artists will be none other than our own Charles Dobias (Concertmaster with the ESO and one of the best musical influences to hit this city in a long time) playing co-star with our own Peter Worrall on cello (the principal cellist in the ESO and definitely a young man to

We will also see two guest conductors: David Atherton on December 11 and 12 (an English specialist in contemporary music, he co-founded the London Sinfonietta chamber orchestra-a group that concentrates on contemporary music. In Edmonton he will conduct, among other things, Ligetti's Ramifications); and

Piero Gamba with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra on March 4 and 5 (whom many of you will remember from his remarkable performance in Edmonton last

But the prize for the most guest artists must go to the final concert of the season on April 16 and 17. At that time the ESO will get together with the Richard Eaton Singers and the Symphony Chorus for a concert of choral music.

So it's going to be quite the

But, as we all know, life is no bowl of cherries (gee! Maybe I'll try for both the London Times and the News of the World). And with the good news of the great season there goes some bad news.

Our poor beleaguered symphony orchestra is short of money. Like \$90,000 short. Mr. Benny's concert in the spring is expected to help somewhat but it alone cannot wipe out the deficit. That responsibility falls to YOU-the citizens of Edmonton.

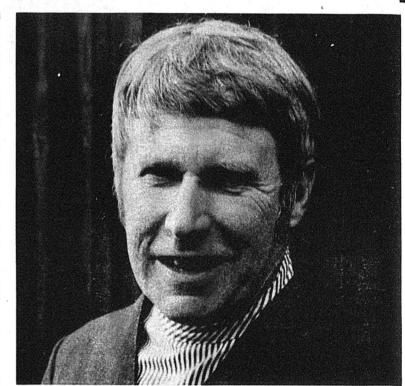
How? you ask. Simple. Buy some seasons tickets.

Now seasons tickets are not cheap-I never said they were. They run from \$27 to \$48 and that's a fair chunk of money. But consider: The Edmonton Symphony Orchestra is now considered, even in the East, to be at least the third best orchestra in Canada. And that's good. And the season planned is damn good. So couldn't vou folks out there find it in your hearts to eat spaghetti and beans for a week so that you can hear 11 great concerts? It would be worth it-honestly.

Well, anyway, that's what we can look forward to. And I think that Lawrence Leonard and Company deserve a resounding round of applause for the work they've done this far and for the work that they'll be doing now and in the future (Mr. Leonard has signed on for at least two more years).

CLAP! CLAP! CLAP! CLAP!

See you at the symphony.



LAWRENCE LEONARD

. . . Conductor and Music Director for ESO

## DEEP END good very

Jerzy Skolimowski is a brilliant young Polish director who, like his compatriot Roman Polanski, has been moving steadily and successfully westwards. In Poland he made the fascinating BARIERA, a symbolic drama of resurrection in a surrealist atmosphere. In Belgium he made LE DEPART, a delightful comedy about a hairdresser who wants to be a racing driver. And now in Britain, he has made DEEP

The tone here is predominantly comedy, though it shifts progressively into a much blacker tone. Set in a public bath-house, it traces the relationship of a 15-year old boy (played with a rather predictably appealing sensitiveness by John Moulder Brown) and a more cynical, experienced girl (sharply played by Jane Asher, who might just earn the right to be referred to as an actress, rather than Paul McCartney's ex.)

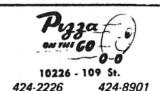
DEEP END is best in two long central sections in which the boy harasses the girl and her "swinging" fiancee through the sexual attractions of London. A long sequence centring on a Chinese hot-dog seller is one of the most finely articulated comic sequences I have ever seen, and it alone makes the whole film worthwhile. (Skolimowski has an obsession with posters and cardboard figures, here as in other films.)

Repeated shots of naked bodies underwater lead into the final sequence, where the film rather overreaches itself, though the closing image is a stunning blend of all the more serious themes which have been lurking not very far under the surface of the comedy.

But alas, DEEP END will play only one week, and then be replaced by a Disney double bill. That's the way things go, in Edmonton.

Stephen Scobie

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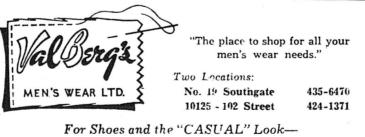


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