

Chips Off the Old Bach

The McLeyvier has two keyboards and a computer. It is a new musical instrument, the most revolutionary since the pianoforte.

It consists of a 61- or 88-key piano style keyboard, a typewriter terminal, a video screen, a printer, assorted optional controls such as foot pedals, an independent housing for the computer and voice cards.

It can produce the sound of any conventional musical instrument, and these can be combined in practically an infinite number of ways. It can also produce a publishable score.

Here's how a composer can use the McLeyvier:

He writes a score. How will it sound when played by, say a trumpet? He punches out WRI CH (for Write Channel) 1, USE TRT on the typewriter and plays the melody on the piano keys.



He then hits the RET(urn) key and types GO. The McLeyvier trumpets the melody back with the same dynamics with which he played it on the keyboard. If he likes what he hears he gives his composition a name, say MELODY, and writes SAVE MELODY. The melody is now in the computer's memory. How would it sound with a full orchestra? He copies the score in two other channels and orchestrates it for twenty different instruments. He hits RET and writes GO and hears the whole works.

If he hears a clash between instruments, he isolates the offenders and prints their scores on the screen, spots the problem and corrects it.

If he is now satisfied he types SCO-P MELODY, and the McLeyvier prints the complete conductor's score as well as all the instrumental parts, each with the title, his name, the copyright notice and the tempo, dynamic phrasing and metronome markings he needs. He can then transmit the entire score to his publisher over the telephone if the publisher is properly equipped.

This amazing device was composed by David McLey, a 35-year-old Toronto musician and inventor. It sells for \$25,000 to \$50,000, depending on the options. In Hollywood and New York, composers can rent them for the day. The deluxe model can reproduce 4,000 sounds, imitate the sound of 128 instruments at once and store up to 15 million notes. David says that if Franz Schubert had had a McLeyvier, the *Unfinished Symphony* might have had a happy ending.

U.S. sales are being handled by David Wilson, Vice President, Hazelcom Industries Inc., 218-04 40th Avenue, Bayside, N.Y. 11361, (212) 224-6660.