

# Mahler symphony performance 'enchanting'



"Pickin' " ... Alvin Lee of Ten Years After.

Despite a damp and uncomfortable Sunday—the type of night when that raindrop seems to almost spiritually find the space between your coat collar and your neck and run down the length of your back—a pretty good crowd turned out for a concert at Kimball Recital Hall by the UNL Symphony Orchestra featuring Grant Johannesen, visiting artist-in-residence.

The orchestra, conducted by Emanuel Wishnow, devoted the first half of the program to a delightful Gustav Mahler's "Symphony No. 1."

Larry Kubert

The Mahler work was enchanting, conjuring up images which had my imagination jumping from a magnificent ball to Robin Hood and Sherwood Forest. The orchestra reached a sparkling high that was impossible to match the rest of the evening.

In the second part of the concert, Johannesen joined the orchestra for Camile Saint-Saens' "Concerto for Piano and Orchestra No. 4 in C minor." Unfortunately, he seemed more interested in putting on a performance for the audience than in playing with the orchestra.

Although this portion of the concert was entertaining, there was no way it could compare with the previous Mahler work.

As usual, the orchestra and Johannesen got a standing ovation. It's a pity when an audience feels it has to over-commit itself to keep any visiting artist-in-residence happy.

Acacia fraternity, along with several sororities, is putting on a mellerdrummer at the Gas Light Friday

and Saturday with two shows a night. Titled *The City Slicker and Our Nell*, show times are 7 and 10 p.m. with admission only \$1.

In addition to the mellerdrummer, there will be two short skits, a magician and the ol' piano player. According to Mike McLaughlin, show director, a portion of the money raised will go to a charity.

As usual at a mellerdrummer, the ole devil hooch will be available for purchase. In fact, it's probably a pretty good idea to get something to soothe your throat. I've found that whenever I do that I enjoy the mellerdrummers much more.

THX1138 is this week's weekend flick. Friday and Saturday in the Nebraska Union Small Auditorium and Sunday at the East Campus Union.

The Native Cultural Activities is presenting its International Night on Friday at 8 p.m. in the Union Ballroom.

Muddy Waters, blues guitarist extraordinaire, will give a free concert in the Union Ballroom Saturday at 3 p.m. On the same night, Tzigane, a gypsy folk spectacle, will be at Pershing Auditorium.

The UNL Marching Band will present a benefit concert in memory of Arthur Sexton, a UNL band member who died of cancer, at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Nebraska Union Centennial Room. The concert will include marching and Big Eight school songs as well as popular songs. All proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society.

Explosive English rock group Ten Years After, featuring guitarist-vocalist Alvin Lee, is making a return engagement at Pershing Auditorium Sunday. Another English group, Wild Turkey, is backing up Ten Years After. Wild Turkey was formed just last year by former Jethro Tull member Glen Cornick.

The day after Thanksgiving finds Rare Earth, Poco and Ballin' Jack at the Omaha Civic Auditorium.

## Review by Bart Becker

It's been a year-and-a-half since James Taylor, the good ol' boy, released *Mud Slide Slim*. His fourth and latest release, *One Man Dog*, is good and consistent.

If one of these songs comes on the radio, you will know right away that the new Taylor record is released. It's kind of a *deja vu* with horns, an extension of the familiar Taylor style.

The album includes three tunes that were written by other people—the traditional "One Morning in May," plus Danny Kootch's "Back On the Street Again" and "Someone" by John McLaughlin (who plays acoustic guitar on the track.)

Most of the album was recorded at James' Martha's Vineyard home and at Clover Recorders, a small Hollywood studio. Taylor is backed by The Section (Danny Kootch, Russ Kunkel, Lee Sklar and Craig Doerge, who also have just released their own album). A four-piece horn section also provides musical help.

Besides that, James has his usual

bunch of friends (Alex, Hugh, Kate, Carole King, Carly Simon, Linda Ronstadt) to provide some sweet inspiration.

A couple of the songs have been heard at the Taylor concerts of the past year or so. "Chili Dog," a nice ode to a frankfurter ("Don't try to fool us with no Orange Julius") also gives the album its title.

And "Mescalito" carries the liner warning that "the opinions expressed... are not necessarily those of the supporting musicians and background vocalists." The opinions expressed: "Mescalito has opened up my eyes." Oh, James. Tsk, tsk.

The end of the second side is a bunch of nicely-strung-together tunes of only a minute or two each. James and producer Peter Asher call the segment a "conglomerate."

The only slight departure from the comfortable Taylor sound is "Little David." It features a chain saw, hammer, 4 x 8 and cross cut saw among the

Good ol'  
James—  
same ol'  
thing



instruments.

As with the other Taylor albums, *One Man Dog* is one you'll probably pull out and put on once in a while. But, as with the other Taylor albums, it'll be kind of hard to get really close to.

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