

Harrison lyrics, melody compete; album 'bearable'

George Harrison, *Living in the Material World*, Apple (SMAS-3410).

Not counting *Bangladesh*, it's been a long time between albums for George Harrison. While his ex-Beatle counterparts have been busy, Harrison has been content to sit, meditate and do an occasional charity gig. Now *Living in the Material World* brings Harrison back in focus.

Out of the dismal piles of new rock records, this one stands out as being bearably listenable. There is no major change of style or direction from *All Things Must Pass*. Evolution is the goal of transcendental mediation (which Harrison has been practicing for a number of years), but there is no evidence of Harrison's evolution here.

Although the familiar "Give Me Love" is one of the better cuts on the album, the others don't fall far short, if at all. Other stand-outs include the rolling "Don't Let Me Wait Too Long" and the appealingly gentle "Be Here Now."

The title cut, "Living in the Material World," contrasts the material and spiritual aspects inside the music by a softening of the tune and tempo which is echoed by the Indian instrumentation. At the end of the song, Harrison trades riffs with Jim Horn on saxophone.

Horn has his own album out called, obviously enough, *Jim's Horns* (on Shelter), where he plays his predictable sax and flute and sings his way to obscurity. His playing on *Material World* is, thankfully enough, brief.

Harrison has never been renowned for his lyrics (consider those to "Bangladesh"), and this album proves further his ineptness at the wordy part of music.

Several times he has trouble fitting the

words into the melody, which burdens his singing. Many times the lyrics are just plain bad, such as these lines from "The Lord Loves The One (That Loves The Lord)":

*While the leaders of nations
They're acting like big girls
With no thoughts for their God*

Big girls? I'm afraid this isn't just an isolated case.

But lyrics aside (and putting them aside is difficult), the album as a whole is enjoyable. The playing is tight and if any of the musicians stand out it is Harrison, who easily assumes different moods with his guitar. If you've liked George in the past, you're sure to like this album.

Puccini: *La Fanciulla del West* (Seraphim SIC-6074, three discs).

This album represents a re-release of the La Scala production of Puccini's opera based on David Belasco's play, *The Girl of the Golden West*. The recording has been unavailable and a collector's item for several years.

Birgit Nelson stars in the role of Minnie, with Brazilian tenor Joao Gibin as the fugitive-turned-hero Dick Johnson. The cast is unusually large, but a fine one.

The setting of the opera is California redwood country during the Gold Rush and is peopled by Mexican bandits, Indians and homesick miners. Minnie is the shy heroine, a friend to the men of the mining camp.

She falls for Johnson, alias Ramerrez, and almost loses him to the jealous sheriff, played by Andrea Mongelli, and his party of vigilantes. But by cheating at cards and persuading her friends to give Johnson a second chance, Minnie goes off with her man to music of heart-breaking beauty, for one of opera's most surprising happy endings.



George Harrison's new album ends a long layoff.

calendar

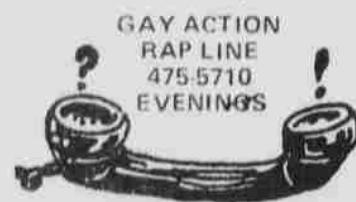
Thursday
 12:00 p.m.—Dr. BANDING Luncheon—Nebraska-Union
 4:30 p.m.—Builders Red Coats-Union
 5:30 p.m.—Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia-Union
 5:30 p.m.—Council of American Indian Students-Union
 5:45 p.m.—All University Fund executives-Union
 6:15 p.m.—All University Fund-Union
 6:30 p.m.—Christian Science Organization-Union
 7 p.m.—Council on Student Life-Union
 7 p.m.—Hockey Club-Union
 7 p.m.—Math Counselors-Union
 7 p.m.—Rugby Club-Union
 7:30 p.m.—Women's Action Group-Union
 8 p.m.—Union Program Council-Model U.N.-Union
 9 p.m.—ASUN Legislative Liaison-Union

Weekend cinema

Love Story, a famous sob movie with Ryan O'Neal and Ali McGraw, is about a poor Catholic girl who marries a rich Protestant jock. They share a few moments to remember, the girl gets a terminal disease and dies beautifully in his arms. This movie grossed millions, in more ways than one. Henzlik Hall Auditorium Friday and Saturday at 7 and 9, 75 cents.

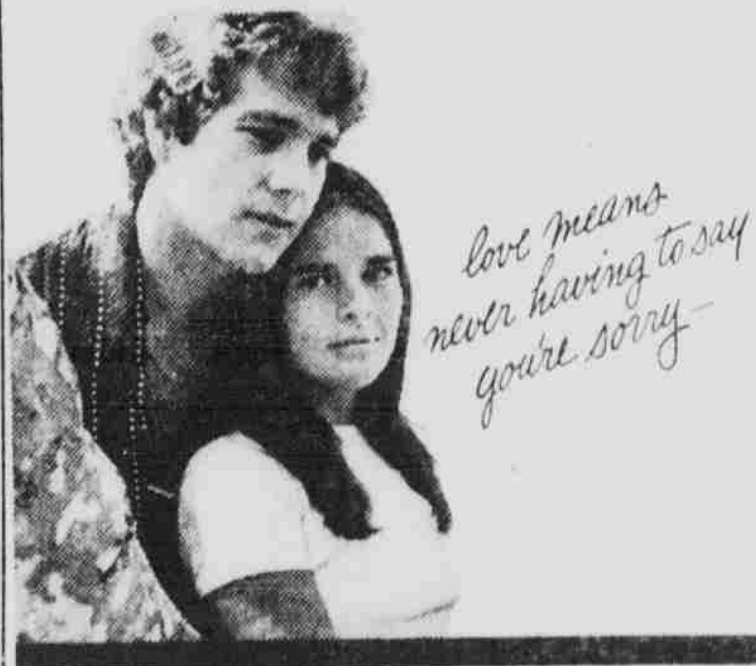
Sheldon showing posters, photos

Naked women, intense faces and bright colors capture your attention in posters by John Sorbie and Philip Risbeck, now on display in Sheldon Art Gallery.



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 VENICE FILM FESTIVAL
 HURRY—ENDS THURSDAY

Weekend Films



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7 & 9 p.m. Friday & Saturday
 Henzlik Hall Auditorium
 Admission: 75c - student ID

Elkhorn canoe trip scheduled

The Recreation Department is sponsoring a camping and canoe trip down the Elkhorn River. Interested students should sign up before 4:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 10 at 1740 Vine St., Recreation office. There will be a preliminary meeting Sept. 13 at the Recreation office at 4:30 p.m. To buy your ticket or for more information call 472-3467, or visit the Recreation office.

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