

Mitchell's new album 'sparks' surprise

*Court and Spark*, Joni Mitchell  
 Joni Mitchell never ceases to surprise her listeners. Her newest album is always her best, and she's always trying new things.

Several approaches are used on *Court and Spark*; heavy orchestration, for example. The lyrics are much more personal, and, disappointingly, Mitchell is singing in a lower key.

But the biggest surprise is the inclusion of a song not written by Mitchell, which probably is a first. "Twisted" is an old jazz classic once made famous by Annie Ross of Lambert, Hendricks and Ross. Mitchell does a superb job with it, changing the approach but retaining the humor.

It's natural to contrast "Twisted" with the preceding cut, "Troubled Child." Both deal with madness, and Mitchell uses the contrasts effectively. In fact, the whole album gets into dualities—sanity and insanity, trust and paranoia, security and insecurity. Ambivalence seems to be the prevailing theme of this record.

But the lyrics aren't the only part of the album that is good. Mitchell's taste, knowledge and use of music are as good as anyone's. She utilizes her musicality, instrumentally and vocally, to the extent that her guitar and piano seem to acquire voices and her voice attains an incredible instrumentality.

It's beautiful, lyrical and, once more, her best album.

*The Saxophone*, Various artists

Impulse Records has been releasing so much good jazz in the last three months, there is hardly time to review all the new albums.

But this one can't be overlooked; it's a super collection of important sax players doing some dynamite music. Featured are Coleman Hawkins, Charlie Parker, Sonny Rollins, Gato Barbieri, Sam Rivers, John Coltrane, Ben Webster and many more.

The 3-record set covers the trends of the saxophone and music during the last 12 years. The liner notes are extremely educational, giving biographies of individual performers, saxophone history and evolution of styles.

The music ranges from old favorites to two entirely new cuts. All but four of the cuts are taken from previous Impulse recordings. The exceptions are the cuts by Lester Young, Charlie Parker, Gato Barbieri and Sam Rivers.

It's a marvelous collection of superstars and their music.

diane waneke out of my head

'Dolphin' reminiscent of Rin Tin Tin?

It is amazing, almost appalling, that *The Day of the Dolphin* was directed by Mike Nichols. That's right, Mike (*Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, *The Graduate*, *Carnal Knowledge*) Nichols.

Certainly there has been a recent trend away from message films to more stable, audience capturing entertainment. But why would a director noted for his portrayals of a decaying middle class turn to a story of two talking dolphins who are deceived into an attempt to kill the president of the United States?

Remember those old 6-part Rin Tin Tin or Lassie TV specials when the dog would be separated or stolen from its master and put through all kinds of adventures before working its way home? *The Day of the Dolphin* fits into that genre. It's so melodramatic that if it were chopped into parts, it would be the greatest movie serial ever made.

Nichols took a great actor (George C. Scott), put him in a Ranger Corey Stewart role and added some scientific garble and a lot of underwater photography. The best things in the film are, of course, the two dolphins, Alpha and Beta (Pha and B for short). We can forgive them because they knew not what they were doing. Or did they? Dolphins are extremely intelligent.

greg lukow key grip

It is said that when the film was being shot, the two dolphins could distinguish, by name and position, various actors, the writer and the director. Some of their perceptions are so human like (despite their ridiculous dubbed voices) that they seem exploited.

Even though the rest of Buck Henry's script is bad enough, by the end of the film nearly all the dialog has lapsed into things like "Pa (Scott) love Pha. Pa love B. Pha go stop B. Bring B to Pa." Pity an actor like Scott having to say lines like that, or, worse yet, an innocent dolphin having to listen to them.

In a silly sort of way, *The Day of the Dolphin* is an entertaining movie. Like the *Poseidon Adventure*, it is a good, dumb film. But Mike Nichols.....???

If ever there was a cartoon with imagination, it is *Fantastic Planet*. This animated science fiction film shows the necessity for peace between two different life forms who become equally dominant.

Created by Rene Laloux, this Czech film won the 1973 Grand Prix Award at Cannes. The story tells of a planet ruled by Drogs, a race of blue-skinned giants who domesticate Oms, tiny human beings, and use them as playthings.

The animation in *Fantastic Planet* is adequate, but stilted. It's not half as good as the 1937 *Krazy Kat* cartoon that precedes it which, by the way, makes this program worth seeing.

Arts program advice sought

UNL students now have a chance to voice their preferences for which performing arts groups they would like to see brought to campus.

The Cultural Affairs Committee currently is planning the 1974-75 series. It specifically wants recommendations of dance troupes, theater companies and musical soloists or ensembles.

Ron Bowlin, cultural affairs coordinator, has

asked that suggestions be given to him at Westbrook 113. Bowlin said recommendations should be made within three weeks.

The Cultural Affairs Committee, organized in 1972, is an all-campus committee composed of students, faculty and staff members. During 1973-74, it has sponsored the Performing Arts Series and will sponsor the St. Louis Symphony Residency and a 1-woman show by actress Viveca Lindfors later this spring.



Sheldon Art Gallery  
 12th & R Sts.

 sunseed by Frederick Cohn

The sudden yearnings of the West for the spiritual teachings and wisdom of the East have put many on a search for their own guru. SUNSEED is the first feature film which provides a fascinating overview of the many approaches that are available, introducing us to ten influential and respected spiritual teachers: Swami Satchidananda, Baba Ram Dass, Murshid Samuel L. Lewis, Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach, Swami Muktananda, Yogi Bhajan, Lama Anagarika Govinda, Sri Bhagavan, Maharaji Virsa Singh, and Pir Vilayat Inayat Khan. From Yoga, Tibetan Buddhism to Sufism, these teachers give us their own personal approaches to spiritual enlightenment.



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