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Strauss' 'Don Quixote' is emotional work

Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, Herbert von Karajan, cond./
Richard Strauss: *Don Quixote*, Op. 35/ Angel Records.

In recent Angel releases of major tone poems by Richard Strauss ("Ein Heldenleben" and "Sinfonia domestica"), Herbert von Karajan and the Berlin Philharmonic have revealed the symphonic splendors of these great scores.

Expanded instrumentation and virtuoso technique are brought into play to depict the characters and ideas of Strauss' vivid imagination. In "Don Quixote" (1897) the composer turned Cervantes' familiar tale into a series of musical pictures, formulated as "variations on a knightly theme," of the adventures of the Knight of the Doleful

Countenance and his long-suffering squire, Sancho Panza. The tilt with windmills and the imagined ride on the flying horse are only two of the scenes Strauss cleverly describes in music; the demise of Quixote is told in a finale of deeply felt emotion.

The important solo cello part, played with finesse by Mstislav Rostropovich, characterizes Quixote, while a secondary viola part, played by Ulrich Koch, represents his squire.

The reunion of Karajan and Rostropovich recalls the summit level of their performance in Beethoven's "Triple Concerto." This is a definitive recording for the connoisseur.

Aldo Ciccolini (Piano), Orchestre de Paris, Jean Martinon, cond./ Ravel: *Orchestral Music, Album 5; Piano Concerto in G; Concerto for the Left Hand/Seraphim Records.*

Aldo Ciccolini first became known by this reviewer because of his great recordings of music by Eric Satie. He also has recorded some Debussy, Chopin and Saint-Saens, of which he can be very proud.

This recording is the fifth and concluding album in Jean Martinon's definitive series from Paris.

The "Concerto in G" (1932) is a light and flashy display piece, with a dollop of American jazz and a lyrical slow movement that Gershwin must have admired.

The one-movement "Concerto in D" (1931) was written for Paul Wittgenstein, who lost an arm in World War I. It has a darker, more dramatic side, but makes a dazzlingly brilliant effect within self-imposed technical limits.

Ciccolini does an outstanding job, and outside of a few questionable, but certainly acceptable, areas, so does the Orchestre de Paris. If you're into Ravel, don't pass this up. London Symphony Orchestra, Andre Previn, cond./ Berlioz: *Overtures/Angel Records.*

Hector Berlioz's magic with the orchestra is best illustrated by these five short pieces in which brilliant instrumentation is combined with quick musical effect.

Beatrice and Benedick is Berlioz's short opera based on *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Benvenuto Cellini* is a large-scaled operatic drama about Italy's legendary sculptor. "Roman Carnival" is based on music from Cellini, but is actually an independent concert overture, as is "The Corsair." "Les Francs-Juges" ("The Judges of the Secret Court") is the overture to an unfinished early opera.

All five overtures benefit from the skill and enthusiasm of the London Symphony players, and from Previn's compelling energy and precision. This is a very entertaining album, and for Berlioz fans, it can be an introduction to some more obscure pieces.

Agustin Anievas/Rachmaninoff: *The Complete Preludes; Three Nocturnes; Polka on a Theme by W.R./ Seraphim Records.*

Naturally following his popular recordings of the complete Rachmaninoff piano concertos, Agustin Anievas offers the major works for piano solo, including the two great sets of "Preludes."

Besides the familiar C sharp minor, 23 others explore the varied aspects of modern piano technique as only the fertile imagination of virtuoso-conductor-composer Sergei Rachmaninoff could do.

The three "Nocturnes" are a first recording and the short "polka" also is a novelty.

Anievas, of course, scales these peaks with confidence and style, in his most spectacular recorded performances to date. He is one of the greatest living interpreters of Rachmaninoff.— Diane Wanek.

arts & entertainment



Photo courtesy of Pryor-Menz Attractions, Inc.

Banjoist Bookmiller Shannon, fiddler Seth Mize and guitarist Lonnie Avey of the Rackensack Folklore Society will be on UNL's City Campus Thursday as part of the American Folk Arts Festival, sponsored by the Union Program Council's Contemporary Arts, Concerts, and Jazz and Java Committees.

Plenty of picking and grinning will be featured at folk festival

Banjo playing, old-time fiddling, folk dancing and folk-lore lectures will be featured in the American Folk and Arts Festival, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at UNL.

On the third day of the festival, sponsored by the Union Program Council's Contemporary Arts, Concerts, and Jazz and Java Committees, Jimmy Driftwood and the Rackensack Folklore Society of Mountain View, Ark., will play.

Over twenty members of the Society will appear in the Nebraska Union Centennial Room as a part of the nation's leading folk show, "Music of the Ozarks." Comprised of mountain singers, musicians, dancers and craftspeople, the show will be emceed by composer/folklorist Driftwood.

Driftwood composed the Grammy winning "Battle of New Orleans" and several other songs, including "Tennessee Stud." Formerly a Grand Ole Opry star, Driftwood returned to Rackensack (the Arkansas river and Ozarks mountain area) to form the society in an effort to preserve mountain music and crafts.

Stories of the Ozarks

Performing hill music on such traditional instruments as the dulcimer, autoharp, fiddle and banjo, Driftwood sings and tells stories of the Ozarks.

The touring performers have recorded their own albums or appear in various collections. An album featuring most of the touring ensemble was produced last year by the National Geographic Society.

Craftspeople will demonstrate weaving, spinning, apple and cornhusk doll making, woodworking and violin making, with some handcrafted items for sale.

Following is a schedule of events:

Tuesday

—Wooden music in the Union South Crib 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

—"Story and Song on the Pioneer Plains," a talk by Roger Welsch, UNL English and anthropology professor, Union Small Auditorium 2:30 p.m.

—Free outdoor bluegrass concert, by the Blue Eagle String Band, Union Memorial Plaza, 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday

—Demonstrations and displays by local folk artists, Union Memorial Plaza 12 to 4 p.m.

—Playhouse Puppeteers present "Cowboy Jake," Union Memorial Plaza 1 to 1:30 p.m., and "The Bagman" 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

—University Folk Dancers, Union Memorial Plaza, 3:30 p.m.

—Omahan William Couch on the banjo, Union Memorial Plaza, throughout the afternoon.

—"Traditional Arts on the Plains," a talk by Roger Welsch, Union Small Auditorium, 2:30 p.m.

Thursday

—Jimmy Driftwood and the Rackensack Folklore Society, free concert, Lincoln Foundation Garden, 12 to 1 p.m.

—Jimmy Driftwood speaking on "Folklore of the Ozark Mountains," 12:30 p.m.

—Frailing-style banjo playing, Centennial College, 3:30 p.m.

—Old-time fiddling, Burr-Fedde Residence Hall, 3:30 p.m.

—Jimmy Driftwood and the Rackensack Folklore Society, "Music of the Ozarks" concert, Union Centennial Room, 8 p.m. Tickets are \$2 for UNL students, \$3 for others.

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This week's television and movie highlights.

Monday

Monday Night Baseball. (NBC, 7:30 p.m.) New York Mets vs. St. Louis Cardinals.

Fonda: An American Legacy. (ABC, 11:50 p.m.) A tribute to Nebraska native Henry Fonda and his family.

Tuesday

The Adams Chronicles. (NETV, 7 p.m.) Charles Francis Adams II ultimately loses the battle of control of the Union Pacific Railroad to Jay Gould.

Mr. Rooney Goes to Dinner. (CBS, 7 p.m.) CBS News studies the American way of eating out.

Inside Public Television. (CBS, 9 p.m.) CBS News studies public television.

Wednesday

Bob Hope Olympic Special. (NBC, 7 p.m.) Hope is joined by an array of stars in a benefit performance for the American and Canadian Olympic teams.

Thursday

Stop! Thief! (CBS, 9 p.m.) Drama about the efforts to

stop the corrupt political system in New York City a century ago.

Friday

Jenny. (CBS, 8 p.m.) Marlo Thomas and Alan Alda star in the story of an unwed mother who agrees to a marriage of convenience which becomes complicated when she falls in love with her husband.

Saturday

Wide World of Sports Anniversary Show. (ABC, 4 p.m.) The fifteenth year of programming is celebrated with highlights of events through the years.

This Property is Condemned. (ABC, 10:45 p.m.)

Tennessee Williams story of a free-spirited girl looking for adventure. It stars Natalie Wood and Robert Redford. On Cablevision this week: *Zorba the Greek*, with Anthony Quinn; *Morgan* with Vanessa Redgrave and David Warner; and *Marjoe* featuring Marjoe Gortner.

Sheldon Film Theater will show *Yo Soy Chicano* and *Broken Treaty at Battle Mountain* on April 20, 21 and 22.



Photo courtesy of the Union Program Council

Artist Rainbow Touraine and musician Phillip White Hawk will give a free performing workshop, "Introspections on Symbolic Americans," today at 7:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union Ballroom. Touraine and White Hawk, both of Scottsdale, Ariz., synchronize their collection of paintings and songs. The workshop is part of the Symposium on the Wisdom of the West.