

Classic films, TV best-sellers shown this week

A 1967 Yugoslavian release will be the first film this semester in the Union Program Council (UPC) Foreign Film series.

Love Affair or The Case of the Missing Switchboard Operator will show at 7 and 9 tonight and Tuesday night. Admission is by Foreign Film Series ticket only, and tickets may be purchased at reduced rates from UPC.

Sheldon Film Theatre will present an independently produced American film beginning Wednesday. Entitled *Loose Ends*, the film chronicles the lives of three middle-class Americans. Directed by David Burton Morris and

Victoria Wozniak, *Loose Ends* was well-received by critics, including Vincent Canby of *The New York Times*, who called the film one of the best locally produced films he had ever seen.

Loose Ends will show through Saturday, with screenings at 7 and 9 p.m. and 3 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Admission is \$2.

Two classic film programs are being shown this week in the Sheldon Theatre for film study classes. A compilation of short films, including *The Great Train Robbery*, *A Trip To the Moon* and a collection of short films by the

Lumiere brothers will show at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday and 10 a.m. Wednesday.

The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari, a classic German horror film will be shown at 10 a.m. Tuesday and 1:30 p.m. Wednesday.

All film study screenings are open to the public free of charge.

Roots, one of television's most ambitious efforts, will be shown on eight consecutive nights, ending next Sunday. Based on Alex Haley's best-selling book about the search for his ancestors, *Roots* is being presented in one- and two-hour segments every night this week on ABC (channel 7 and cable channel 4).

Also this week, CBS will repeat one of its smash made-for-TV movies, *Helter Skelter*. Detailing the Manson-Tate murders and trial, *Helter Skelter* will be shown in two parts. Channel 10 will air the film at 10:30 p.m. Monday and channel 6 will present it at 11 p.m. Monday and 8 p.m. Wednesday.

arts and entertainment

Stereo and record preservation—sound advice

By Douglas R. Weil

Taking good care of phonograph records is becoming more important with increasing record prices.

Last month Elektra Records released the new Queen album, *A Day At the Races*. The album's \$7.98 suggested retail price may be an indication of prices to come. Depending on who you talk to, this dollar increase should effect the price of all records, possibly by late summer, surely by the end of the year.

Cleaning records is not as simple as taking them to the bathroom sink armed with kitchen cleanser and scrub brush.

Records, by their very nature, are fragile objects. Fingerprints strangle sound quality. Dust and dirt causes intermittent popping during playback and eventually cause uneven record wear. Sharp objects, especially a damaged stylus, are lethal.

Clean records are groovy

The first step to record care is keeping the record clean.

With cleaning the most visible phase of record care, it's not surprising that all audio and record store spokesman questioned recommended the Discwasher as the best product in the area of record products.

Dwight Koehler, a World Radio salesman, explained the Discwasher as "a specially-designed brush that gets inside the grooves of the record. When used with the accompanying Discwasher 3 solvent, you can remove chemical stabilizers and residues from the record."

"The Discwasher also helps eliminate static electricity which attracts dust and bonds it to the record surface," Koehler said.

The Discwasher, manufactured by Discwasher Inc., Columbia, Missouri, sells for \$15.00.

The Discwasher, though effective, does not touch all bases of needed record care.

The zerostat

In addition to the Discwasher, Robin Mulder, manager of the Gateway Stereo Studio store, recommends the Zerostat, a \$24.95 pistol-shaped object manufactured by Discwasher Inc.

"The Zerostat works electrically," said Mulder. "When you pull the trigger on the Zerostat, it deposits positive and negative ion charges on the record surface. These positive and negative charges function to neutralize the record surface."

Removal of static is important because static causes interference noise during play. Static also makes dust cling to record grooves. When the Zerostat is used with the Discwasher there is a better chance of getting the record clean than if only one-product is used.

Sound Guard

Another popular product is Sound Guard. Sound Guard is a new product manufactured by the Ball Corporation (the same company that manufactures fruit jars). Different from Discwasher or Zerostat, Sound Guard is a record preservative, designed to reduce friction and toughen the record surface.

The Sound Guard system is a squirt bottle of dry lubricant and a plush brush which sells for \$6.95. According to the company's advertising, Sound Guard was developed during the space program era.

Mark Feldman, a salesman at Custom Electronics, said Sound Guard is selling well and customers are generally satisfied with the performance of the product.

However, Karen Richardson, manager of Natural Sound, said she is unsure how wise the Sound Guard system is.

"I'm playing a waiting game on Sound Guard," Richardson said. "It might cause deterioration or it might cause records to last 1000 times longer, I'm just reluctant to recommend it."



Photo by Ted Kirk

Richardson said she is reluctant about Sound Guard systems because the lubricant must be evenly distributed over the entire record surface, or it may ruin the record.

Sound advice

Other advice given by Lincoln audio store spokesman included:

—Keeping the stylus clean and periodically checking it to see if it needs replacement.

—Do not stack records on top of one another whether they are on the turntable or in the album cover.

—Handle records carefully. Fingerprints and the oil from them traps dirt and dust onto the record. Scratched records do very little to enhance a sound system, whether it's a \$35 record player or a \$5000 super system.

Richardson also said albums should be rested between playings. She believes (and many authorities agree with her) that a record should not be played more than once in a 24-hour period.

Resting records is recommended because when the stylus passes through the record groove it stretches the vinyl walls out of shape. Thus the record vinyl needs time to recapture its shape.

Record quality down

In the case of badly manufactured records none of these products or advice will be helpful. Record quality has gone down consistently since the oil crisis in 1973 because petroleum is used to make records and when it

became high-priced and scarce, record companies began using recycled vinyl instead.

This has caused poorer sounding recordings. Recycled records are of poorer quality because the chemicals used in vinyl break-down.

A badly pressed record should be returned to the store where it was purchased. This is an occurrence that record stores are experiencing with increasing frequency.

Cecilia Lawson, a clerk at Dirt Cheap Records, said for every 100 records that leave the store, between 30 and 50 are returned because of defects.

"That number could be even higher," Lawson said. "The nicer the turntable someone has the easier it is to notice the defects in a record."

up & coming

Sheldon Art Gallery
Continuing exhibits:
Paintings from Sales-
Rental Gallery (Art Shop)
Arthur B. Davies, Paint-
ings, Prints and Drawings
Photographs by Chris-
topher James.

Faculty exhibition
Film and TV
Foreign Film: *Love
Affair or The Case of the
Missing Switchboard
Operator* 7 and 9 p.m.
Monday and Tuesday

Sheldon Film Theatre:
Loose Ends 3, 7, and 9
p.m. Wednesday through
Saturday.

Film Studies Free Films:
The Great Train Robbery
and *A Trip to the Moon*,
plus a collection of short

films by the Lumiere
Brothers, Tuesday at 1:30
p.m. and Wednesday at 10
a.m. *The Cabinet of Dr.
Caligari*, Tuesday at 10 a.m.
and 1:30 p.m. Wednesday.

ABC TV *Roots* Sunday-
Sunday
CBS *Helter Skelter*
Monday 10:30 p.m.,
(Channel 10), 11 p.m.
(Channel 6); Wednesday
10:30 p.m. (Channel 10) and
8 p.m. (Channel 6)

UPC
Monday-Friday Visual
Arts presents prints by
Warrington Colescott in the
Nebraska Union Main
Lounge.
Friday Walpurgisnacht,
all night Nebraska Union.

