

& Ampersand

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New Contributors

GLENN ABEL (On Disc) is the editor of *New Look* magazine, lives in Gainesville, Florida, and types very neatly.

GILBERT ASAKAWA (On Disc) is a senior at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, majoring in painting; upon graduation he will settle in native Boulder, Colorado, "snug, happy and poor."

TERRY ATKINSON (On Screen) is a top-notch free lance writer who contributes regularly to *The Los Angeles Times*.

BRAD FLORY (On Tour) attends Central Michigan University and cites, as evidence of his up-against-the-wall radicalism in the Sixties, "several unsuccessful attempts to burn down the ROTC building."

DAVID HANCOCK (On Tour) lives in Tucson, Arizona, and says he's lead guitarist with hot new local group, the Dog Nuts. We don't believe him.

ED WARD (On Disc) is an extremely famous free lance type who lives in Sausalito and writes for magazines we haven't even heard of as well as many that we have.

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IN ONE EAR...

Elves?

Those so-called elves in the December, 1978, issue of *Ampersand* were actually Brownies and they were penned by Palmer Cox back in the late 1800s. The Brownie books were a series of children's books and a large line of souvenirs, figurines, and toys was developed because of those books. They are now quite valuable antiques.

ERIC ANDERSON
MUSKEGON, MI

Right

Three cheers to Judith Sims for her oh-so-true review of the so-called "hit musical," *The Wiz*. As a lover of musicals, I have never seen one musical yet, except *Grease* and *The Wiz*, that has made such a mess with talent and creativity. I'd like to thank Judith Sims for writing exactly what I would have written—the truth!

MARTHA L. OLIVAS
EL PASO, TX

Wrong

This letter is in reference to a critique of the movie version of *The Wiz* by one Judith Sims in your December, 1978, issue. I found the "critique" in exceptionally bad taste! As a theatre and journalism enthusiast, I cringed

at such ignorance and obviously subjective reporting. Besides its poor taste, the article was blatantly racially prejudiced and therefore inexcusable. I am not a person who, by any means, thinks in racial terms, but even I could not miss the unmistakable undertones in this "critique." It is very apparent that either your writer has a personal dislike for black-oriented films or she should go back to journalism school, if she went at all. I don't understand what gave her the right to so brutally crush something of tremendous beauty and creativity just because *she* did not care for it!

Remarks that were made about Ms. Diana Ross, whom I personally consider a fantastic singer and actress, Michael Jackson, Nipsey Russell, and Ted Ross were personally insulting to me. Miss Sims obviously does not recognize great talent even when it is staring her in the face. Other derogatory remarks were made, such as "every black dancer west of Gibraltar is in the movie." What Judith Sims fails to realize is that this film gave a hell of a lot of talented black actors and dancers the exposure that they wouldn't have been able to attain otherwise in such a crowded theatrical world.

I suggest that before Ms. Sims attempts to write another objective critique she learn how to do so, or keep her personal likes and dislikes to herself!

KAREN STEPHENS
GAINESVILLE, FL

Missing Mac

I have tried to find the two books you reviewed, *Fleetwood Mac—Rumours 'n' Fax* and *The Authorized History of Fleetwood Mac*, but I have had absolutely no luck whatsoever.

PAULELLE OLSON
CHICAGO, IL

The publishers of each book—Warner Books for *The Authorized History* and Harmony Books for *Rumours 'n' Fax*—expressed concern over this

problem, but said "Don't call us." Demand that your local bookstore order the volumes for you.

Misc.

What has become of Charlie Martin, the former drummer with Bob Seger's band? His backup singing on "Heavy Music" on *Live Bullet* made me an ardent fan. But when Bob's latest album was released, woe is me, Charlie had been replaced (?) by David Teegarden.

KIM SMILEY
CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

This is the kind of question that we wish had a happier answer. Martin was hit by an automobile and quite seriously injured before the Stranger in Town sessions. Dave Teegarden, who'd played with Bob on 1972's *Smokin' O.P.'s*, was asked to rejoin the band. According to a representative of Seger's management, Charlie continues to live in Detroit and joins Bob during hometown appearances. During this summer's sold-out week at Pine Knob, he sat in on organ for each night's encores.

Bless you, Davin Seay! It's high time someone recognized C.S. Lewis' importance (In Print, November). Lewis was one of the finest prose stylists of this or any other century, and his contribution to the fantasy genre is phenomenal. Thanks, too, for recognizing that Lewis wrote fantasy fiction in the best sense of the phrase, not science fiction, as the Great Unwashed persist in saying.

JANA OYLER
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Write to Us

Many of you have been writing to your local school papers telling them what a swell publication *Ampersand* is. Don't tell them, tell us! Send epistles to *In One Ear*, c/o *Ampersand*, 1680 N. Vine Street, Suite 201, Los Angeles, CA 90028. We need all the affection we can get, but we're also grateful for comments, jokes and nasty cracks.

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OUR COVER

Handsome British actor Malcolm McDowell stars as H.G. Wells in *Time After Time*, which could be subtitled "Victorian England Meets Modern San Francisco Since 94."

This month's *Ampersand* has a hangover, much like certain members of our staff. It was drawn quite nicely by Carl Partridge of San Diego, California, who will receive \$25.00 one of these days.

If any creative artist types out there would

like to contribute to *Ampersand of the Month*, follow these rules: draw your squiggles in black ink on white paper, be neat, and print your name and address on the artwork; several nameless *Ampersands* are floating around our office. Very embarrassing.

