



David Hansen/Daily Nebraskan

Dave London and his wife, Linda, in the background, in their shop at 2639 N. 48th St.

Lincoln shop gains reputation for repairs, custom-built instruments

By Mark Lage
Senior Reporter

It was in 1967 that Dale London, then a commercial electrician, built a guitar for his wife. By 1969 the interest had so consumed him that he opened London Stringed Instrument Repair, located in Lincoln at 2639 N. 48th St.

"But sometimes I think I should be doing that (working as an electrician) again," London said, "so I could make some money."

The shop, which London runs with his wife Linda, is known by musicians throughout the country for its custom instrument-making, and, especially, its repair work.

"It's the repair business that keeps us going," Linda said. "The custom building is just the icing on the cake."

The shop does repairs for musicians from all over the country, often receiving calls from either Denver or Des Moines, depending on which way bands happen to be touring, London said.

"They drop 'em off at our place at 3 a.m. sometimes," London said.

The only times when any musician receives priority from Lon-

don's shop is when they only are going to be in Lincoln for a day and need the repairs quickly, London said.

"We've had some big-timers in," London said -- Linda was able to recall Luther Ellison, and The Marshall Tucker Band -- "but we don't treat them any differently."

"We've had some big-timers in, but we don't treat them any differently."

--London

"The reason is this: everybody deserves good work. We build the instrument the same for everybody," he said. "Even if I lose money, we don't let a bad job out of here. A bad job is just like handing someone a piece of paper that says 'I'm dog doo-doo.'"

"When you don't do a lot of advertising," Linda said, "your best advertiser is a satisfied customer." She added that when a person meets musicians out of town and mentions Lincoln,

they've heard of the Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St., and they've heard good things about London Stringed Instrument Repair.

A great deal of time, study and effort has gone into making London's shop known for the quality of its work.

"I've read just about everything that's been published on the subject," London said. "I've read every Masters thesis on the violin that are written in English and German."

He also has visited most of the best instrument shops in the country, including, by their invitation, making an extended tour of the Gibson Factory. While there, he spent a day on its assembly line, and spent the rest of the time in its repair shop.

London's shop works on all stringed instruments, and even some that aren't stringed, like giving assistance on pipe organs.

"Whatever the hell there is to make a buck in," London said. He said he has built mostly banjos and guitars, although he also has built violins, cellos, hammered dulcimers and mountain dulcimers. Since 1975, the Londons have

See LONDON on 13

Art League revitalizes, seeks student members

By Gretchen Boehr
Senior Reporter

The Art League at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is trying to revitalize itself by recruiting underclassmen, said President Reggi Jenkins.

Last year the student art club was all but dead, Jenkins said, and no one came to the officer elections in spring.

"The league was full of juniors, and seniors who were graduating," said Jenkins, a junior art major.

"Freshmen and sophomores weren't being invited to the meetings and if they went they felt left out."

Jenkins, who wasn't in the league last year, became president after talking to an art professor, she said.

Pat Rowan told Jenkins the Art League was dying and asked her to be president, Jenkins said.

This year Jenkins and vice president Ed Uhart have been active in recruiting underclassmen.

"We want to make them feel welcome and get some new blood in the league," Jenkins said.

Jenkins and Uhart have made announcements at art classes and put up posters.

The league had a display at Freshman Friday for the first time.

The league is important because it's in charge of planning the shows in the Art League Gallery in Richards Hall, Jenkins said.

"This gallery gives students a place to show their art."

The league is planning a benefit concert for Oct. 13, Jenkins said. This

will be the first fund-raiser ever held by the league, she said.

About five local bands will play at the Culture Center, 333 N. 14th St. Admission prices still are pending, she said.

Money from the concert will go toward the purchase of new track lighting for the student gallery.

Other social events may be planned throughout the year, she said.

The league is important because it's in charge of planning shows in the Art League Gallery in Richards Hall.

--Jenkins

A T-shirt design contest will be held this fall, she said. The winning design will be used for the official Art League T-shirts, which will be sold on campus.

The league determines which shows will be in the gallery by student applications.

"We call everyone and look at their artwork and decide what type of show we'll have," she said.

"So far there's been a lot of interest."

The gallery, located in 205 Richards Hall, currently is having an open show to get things going, Jenkins said.

entertainment

SHORTS

Author to give free reading

David Michael Kaplan will give a free public reading of his work at 3:30 p.m. Thursday in the English department lounge, 228 Andrews.

Kaplan is a young fiction writer whose first collection of short stories, "Comfort," recently was published by Viking Penguin.

UPC films start Thursday

Movie-goers may be disrupted by the silence this weekend at the Sheldon Film Theatre for the debut of the University Program Council's American Films division.

The movie "U2: Rattle and Hum" will be featured Thursday.

"U2: Rattle and Hum" will be shown at the theater at 7 and 9 p.m. Admission will be \$2 for students with student identification cards and \$3 for non-students.

The UPC Foreign Films will be showing "King Lear" Friday and

Saturday at 3, 6 and 9 p.m. This movie, a twist on the original version, stars Woody Allen, Peter Sellers and Molly Ringwald. Admission for "King Lear" will be \$3 for students with student IDs and \$4 for the general public.

UPC also will be featuring some upcoming sneak previews. "Look Who's Talking" will be shown Oct. 11 and "Immediate Family" starring James Woods and Glenn Close will be previewed Oct. 26.

Isolated group gets exposure

Yanomamo Indians featured at Morrill Hall

By Jeff Engel
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska State Museum of History is presenting a look at the Yanomamo Indians of Northern Brazil now through Oct. 13 in an exhibit titled "Spirits of the Rain Forest."

The exhibit includes photographs, drawings and English translations of Yanomamo myths, which often serve as explanations of drawings made by the Yanomamo. Three-dimensional objects from the State Museum's own collection supplement the traveling show from the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh.

Curator and Associate Professor of Museums and Anthropology Thomas P. Meyers said, "If we had ten people come out and say 'I want to learn more about the Yanomamo, and more about these cultural survival groups,' and then went and did it, I would consider that exhibit a resounding success. We are dealing with very small numbers."

The Yanomamo was a culture largely out of contact with the rest of the world until the 1920s, and then it was contacted only by missionaries and local fortune hunters.

With a growing interest in forest commodities, land, and protection of borders, the Brazil-

ian government is building a northern perimeter highway. The highway enters Yanomamo reserve land, and brings Western culture into contact with the Indians.

One can't help but think of the U.S. American Indian situation.

art

REVIEW

"It's a very parallel situation now, except the technology is so much superior now to what it was then, that the mentality in Brazil toward conservation and toward Indian peoples is very similar to what it was here a hundred years ago," Meyers said.

"The fact of the matter is, we are going to be in contact, and the question is what do we do about it now? It is not a question of 'Can we take these people away?' They want all of the things that modern culture has to offer now."

Elements of this problem that the exhibit deals with come from different perspectives. Photos taken by Giovanni Saffirio, a missionary and anthropologist, reflect the Yanomamo's traditional lifestyle from 1968 to the present, as seen by an outsider.

"The traditional photos tend to do as many

museums do. We tend to say 'This is the way the people were,' and you and I have an image of them in our minds that this is the way they'll always be. But, in fact, the changes come rapidly," Meyers said.

Missionaries supplied the Indians with paper and felt-tip markers and the results, which are part of the exhibit, are illuminating. The Yanomamo drew representations of mythical figures and emotional states, such as anger and pain.

"One of the interesting things about their artwork now is that it is indicative of the way these people are dealing with some of the problems."

"Now we understand that toothaches are probably also a product of Western civilization because they didn't have the sugar cane before."

Underlying the entire exhibit is a sense of the inevitability of cultural contact with these people. Cultural contact, in the long run, has time and again proven devastating to these small, once-isolated cultures.

They are willing to welcome, if not us, the technology, medicine and vision of the much-elevated standard of living that Western culture represents.

They may abandon an age-old way of living to become farmers competing with other Brazilians, a competition in which rules the Yanomamo are singularly ill-versed. An entire culture will be lost to the world.

"I think the Yanomamo can benefit from Western, technological society without throwing away their own culture," said Ronald Young, curator of special programming at the museum.

"A person can spend five or ten minutes in the Yanomamo exhibit and come out perhaps a little more sensitized to the fact that this planet is full of all kinds of people, of cultures," Young said. "Maybe he or she might walk away a little bit changed, a little bit more willing to accept a person."

Meyers said, "One of the things that people might do when they go to the exhibit is just try to take a look at one or two labels and the associated artwork and try to think about the relationships, try to deal with them. Often museum exhibits are overwhelming unless you stand there and contemplate what's in front of you, deal with it on a one-to-one basis. That's probably the way to look at any exhibit: don't go to a museum once, go to a museum a dozen times."