



The Golden Ear

Newsletter of the *Chicago Audio Society*

September 2001

Meeting Notice

Sunday, September 16th, 2:00 pm

Sedrick Harris - Immedia

Keith Herron - Herron Audio

Simply put, you don't want to miss this one. Sedrick has visited us on two previous occasions, while with Melos Audio and Pipedreams. And Keith visited us a while back to talk about and demonstrate the electronics he designs and builds, to great effect. Both of these gentlemen are music enthusiasts and very knowledgeable in audio, as well as a lot of fun.

Immedia distributes Lyra phono cartridges, Audio Physic speakers, the Immedia turntable and tonearm, Herron Audio electronics, Spider equipment racks, and A.R.T. resonance control products.

Bring records and CDs, and tell your friends.

Last Month

We listened to music on records and CDs brought by members. Thanks to Reed Rehorst for bringing his Zen amp, Bride of Zen preamp, and Sound Dynamics speakers and stands. Several who attended thought the system was musical and very enjoyable.

Future Months

October 7 - Audio Fair. Details below!

October 21 - Frank Van Alstine. A respected veteran of the industry, he will demonstrate his electronics

(many of them based upon Dynaco equipment) as well as speakers and other products he sells.

The Classical Corner

Len Cronin

Please excuse me while I wipe some egg off my face. It was brought to my attention that in my last column I neglected to mention the record label or CD number. "Elegies" by Richard Danielpour is on Sony SK60850. You sometimes wonder what a company like Sony is thinking about when they recorded this album. They are spending millions to launch their SACD format but they did not record this music using DSD (SACD) technology. I degress. In the future I will try to remember to mention such things as label name, number, composer, and artist.

Now that I've turned over a new leaf, I'd like to write about a new release on Delos (DE 3283), Shostakovich Symphonies No. 6 & No. 10 with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra conducted by Andrew Litton. Delos is offering this two CD set for the price of one but even if they charged full price these performances would be worth it. In the past I have written about both these symphonies and had recommended the Haitink on London/Decca for the Sixth and Ormandy for the Tenth on Columbia (Coupled along with the Shostakovich Fourth this must be one of the real bargains in the Sony catalog). However, if you want a top notch modern recording this is the one to get. The performances are the best on Delos by the team of Litton and the Dallas Symphony. Litton is not afraid to take chances especially in the Tenth. There is no simple time beating rather you get some really

Chicago Audio Society, P.O. Box 313, Barrington IL 60011, tel. (847) 382-8433

website: www.chicagoaudio.org

We meet on the third Sunday of each month at 2pm at The Dance Building, 1330 Webford Ave., Des Plaines IL, nonmembers are welcome (\$5 fee, may be applied to \$30 annual dues, prorata). CAS is a volunteer, nonprofit organization of audio and music enthusiasts dedicated to having fun. Our constitution and bylaws are available on our website at <http://www.chicagoaudio.org> or in printed form upon request.

exciting playing recorded in great sound of two of Shostakovich' best works. Highly recommended.

On a different note, when you read this article the Chicago Symphony will be selling individual tickets to the general public to CSO concerts. This would make a great evening to get together with some club members and hear a concert (the absolute sound). Gallery tickets are 25 dollars and yes your up in nose bleed country but the sound is good - very good if you can sit in the first four or five rows . The following are some concert highlights that run in a more popular vein :

Oct 28 & 30 Beethoven Sym #5

Nov 8, 9, 10, & 13 Mussorgsky/Ravel Pictures at an Exhibition

Nov 15,16, & 16 Mahler Sym #2

Dec 19,20,21,22, & 23 Tchaikovsky Excerpts from the Nutcracker

Ellington The Nutcracker Suite

Feb 21,22, &23 Dvorak Sym# 7

Mar 28,29,30, & Apr 2 Rimsky-Korsakov Sheherazade

Apr 4, 5, & 6 Beethoven Sym# 7

Hope this whets your appetite to maybe try a concert.

Until next month. Good listening.

Folk Concerts

and the Mammoth Music Mart

Len Cronin

If you enjoy folk music in a unique setting and at a reasonable cost THE MAPLE STREET CHAPEL in Lombard is for you. Right off the bat I can tell you that my wife and myself will be at the September 29th concert featuring the Canadian group Tanglefoot. If you have any interest in contemporary folk music I urge you to attend. Tickets may be purchased at the door and cost 10 dollars. The Maple Street Chapel is located at the corner of Main & Maple in Lombard. Additional information including the 2001 - 2002 concert schedule may be obtained at their website - www.tccafe.com/msc

October 5th through October 14th is the Les Turner Mammoth Music Mart held in the parking lot of the

Old Orchard Center in Skokie. Used vinyl,cd's, audio equipment, sheet music will all be on sale in one large tent. All proceeds help further ALS research. If you would like more information please contact them at www.lesturnerals.org

Industry News

The Super Audio CD has won the endorsement of two more major record labels, according to press releases issued the last week of August. The announcements followed by only a few days one by Universal Music Group that it would begin producing the high resolution recordings for mass distribution.

UK-based EMI and Virgin Records will soon produce and distribute titles in the high-res format. Neither announcement specifies when new discs will appear ("over coming months," reads the EMI announcement), but it seems likely that they will arrive sometime late this year. EMI mentions "successful projects in Germany, UK, and Belgium" that led to the decision to go forward with SACD.

About Universal Music Group (from press release):

Universal Music Group consists of record labels Decca Record Company, Deutsche Grammophon, Interscope Geffen A&M Records, Island Def Jam Music Group, MCA Nashville, MCA Records, Mercury Records, Motown Records, Philips, Polydor, Universal Records, and Verve Music Group as well as a multitude of record labels owned or distributed by its record company subsidiaries around the world. The Universal Music Group owns the most extensive catalog of music in the industry, which is marketed through two distinct divisions, Universal Music Enterprises (in the U.S.) and UM3 (outside the U.S.). Universal Music Group also includes eLabs, its division dedicated to strategy, business development, and management of new businesses in the online and advanced technology space.

Harry Pearson, founder and editor of **The Absolute Sound**, has apparently been moved to one side. The day-to-day editing of the magazine will become the responsibility of **Robert Harley**. According to TAS publisher Mark Fisher, Harry Pearson will take on the new role of "Chairman, editorial strategy board," and will continue contributing his popular "HP's

Workshop" column to The Abso!ute Sound, as well as other writings on audio, music, and cinema.

AUDIO FAIR - Sunday Oct. 7th

Location: American Legion Hall, 1291 Oakwood, Des Plaines. A bit bigger than the Dance Building.

Hours: 11:00am to 3:00pm. Setup starting around 10am.

6 ft. tables available - call or email Brian or Rich for information. NOW is the time to reserve tables. Do

not wait, as several tables are already spoken for. Do everyone a favor, reserve a table ahead of time.

Table rates: \$15 for members, \$25 nonmembers, \$35 commercial.

See the map below!

(Map not in PDF or PS file - see web site)

President

Brian Walsh

(847) 382-8433

bpwalsh@speakeasy.net

Vice President

Rich Sacks

(847) 843-2554

rich2@mediaone.net

Treasurer

Reed Rehorst

(847) 913-9336

iguana_love_you@msn.com

Secretary

Bill Sweet

(847) 593-7790

spindrif@xnet.com