

SPRING EVENT fr pg. 9

maintained despite the company's involvement with Polydor Records, which, Roy Rifkind notes, involves a "very loose agreement, since we sell and promote our own product." "We are provided with a recording budget with which we can cut any number of acts. Polydor really acts as a selling agent, with distribution rights in the U.S. and worldwide."

Apparently, the arrangement has worked out to both party's satisfaction. A year ago, a new five year deal was negotiated, continuing an association that started in 1970.

The two Rifkinds and Spitalsky have been partners for the past seven years. They started in 1967 with a production company, Guardian Productions, which is now the parent entity of Spring/Event. The trio formed Event Records after a good deal of dissatisfaction in the manner in which their master deals were being handled. Soon after, a hit single was born, "Medicine Man" by the Buchanan Bros. Spring Records was part of a deal to bring black product to MGM through a deal arranged by Jerry Schoenbaum, who held a key exec post in the MGM organization. After "the bottom fell out" at MGM, the deal was made with Polydor, again under the aegis of Schoenbaum, who had joined the company as president.

Looking ahead, Roy Rifkind sums up the company's future philosophy as "to continue to prove the viability of the black market by selling more acts to this market in album form."

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to maintain the highest degree of self-sufficiency possible. Our copyrights will be efficiently managed as to take full advantage of our creative thrust."

Diamond emphasized that he hoped to see Bicycle perform all the activities needed to nurture new talent "that some of the publishing firms I was associated with at the start of my career ignored — either out of indifference or lack of knowledge."

First appointment to Bicycle's professional staff is Tom Gantz, who was trained as a concert pianist and switched to pop-rock music in the '60s. He has been a professional musician in Los Angeles and New York and has toured with various groups before switching to the publishing/production field several years ago. "He is both a professional musical person and a business executive," Rosner emphasized, "and knows how to deal and empathize with both essential elements in our business." Gantz comes to Bicycle after 2½ years with (Snuff) Garrett Music Enterprises.

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the various countries in the Common Market as a contributor to the difficulty of mechanical royalty calculations. Export from one country to various of its neighbors of printed music is also an additional complicating factor in the picture.

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New Label Formed

Last July, Peters International started their own label in this country, Cosmoa, which will be devoted solely to progressive continental music. They currently have six albums in their catalog by some of the bigger European acts, such as: Osanna (Italy), Equinox (Sweden), Sahara (Germany), and Secret Oyster (Denmark). These albums have also been distributed to record shops that do not specialize in imports.

Stocker travels extensively throughout Germany, Italy, and Scandinavia each year in search of talent for Peters.

UA PUB can't fr pg. 9

Reminiscing briefly, UA Music Publishing has been nominated in each of the past ten years for the song of the year Oscar, winning in 1955 with "Love Is A Many Splendored Thing," in 1954 with "3 Coins In The Fountain," "The Shadow of Your Smile" in 1965 and "Talk To The Animals" in 1967.

One of the key facets of the UA Music Publishing Group is its print division headquartered in New York and run by music veteran Herman Steiger. This division, which last year billed over \$5 million, handles not only all of the United Artists catalog print business, but the Aberbach group, all Jim Croce material, Beachwood Publishing, Wes Farrell Organization's publishing, Combine, and Tree International.

It is the responsibility of the UA Music Publishing print division to publish music books ("how-to books," for instance), sheet music, lead sheets for orchestras, school marching bands, etc. and, even with the rising costs of paper and other materials, this cog in the machine continues to show steady profit, as does the entire firm.

But the success story of the United Artists Music Publishing Group is told in much the way a Tolstoy novel is written — in many complex yet interweaving levels. Certainly the collaboration of veteran geniuses such as Stewart and Schuster are the cornerstones, but when you consider the contributions of a Dominic Frontiere who wrote the WFL football theme, the TVS game of the week, theme for the premiere college basketball game of the week (to air Dec. 13) and the NBC hockey theme for 1976, you begin to get the picture of total dedication and professionalism that for years has earmarked the success of one of the driving forces in music publishing. Excitement is the key word, and Stewart and Schuster together put the necessary ingredients into play that ensure the continued growth of United Artists Music Publishing Group as a major force in the future.

SHELTER VISION fr pg. 9

The Lone Star Music Specials will feature Willie Nelson as host and the tentative list of his guests includes: Willis Alan Ramsey, Jimmy Buffet, Jerry Jeff Walker, B. W. Stevenson, Michael Murphy, Rusty Weir, Steve Fromholtz, Kenneth Threadgill, Sami Smith, Ray Wiley Hubbard, Greasy Wheels, Kinky Friedman, Asleep at the Wheel, and Silver City Saddle Tramps.

The video taping will take place on location at Nelson's ranch as well as other sites in and around Austin, Texas, and will feature candid conversation with the artists in the series. The intent of the programs is to capture the essence of the Austin music scene and to spotlight its many nationally acclaimed performers. One of the shows will be taped in an Austin recording studio (Odyssey Recording Studio), while in the process of recording an album. ShelterVision's four channel video tape recorder will enable the viewer to observe all stages of the recording simultaneously.

Lone Star Beer has taken a very innovative stance in presenting the Cross Country Music Specials for they will air without commercial breaks. Lone Star believes that commercials tend to interrupt the flow and dynamics of music programming; therefore the only form of advertising on their behalf will be the long-necked Lone Star beer bottles as they naturally appear at any Texas music event.



GOT ANY PANAMA RED? — Columbia recording group New Riders of the Purple Sage recently visited New York for a special four-show engagement at the Academy of Music. The concerts came in the middle of an east coast tour for the New Riders. The group, whose most recent album, "Brujo," is currently on the charts, was given a special reception at Luchows Restaurant prior to their opening night performance. Shown above at the affair are (l to r): Bruce Lundvall, vice president and general manager at Columbia Records; Buddy Cage (pedal steel); Dave Nelson (guitar, vocals); John "Marmaduke" Dawson (vocals, guitar); Skip Battin (bass, vocals); Irwin Segelstein, president of CBS Records; Spencer Dryden (drums, vocals); Don Ellis, vice president of west coast a&r; and Joe Kerr, the group's manager.

Atlantic Earns Seven Art Awards

NEW YORK — Bob Defrin, art director for Atlantic/ATCO records has announced that seven Atlantic album covers have won awards in the 17th Annual Society of Illustrators exhibition. Those albums designated for awards were: "The Mad Twenties" by Bobby Short, "Magic Dragon" by Hanson, "Experience And Judgment" by Andy Bey, "School Punks" by Brownsville Station, "Fanfare For The Warriors" by the Art Ensemble of Chicago, "Is It In" by Eddie Harris, and "Herbie Mann Reggae" by Herbie Mann.

Joni Mitchell Ships Gold

LOS ANGELES — "Miles of Aisles," Joni Mitchell's eighth album and third to be recorded for the Asylum label, has been certified as a Gold Album by the R.I.A.A.; the new two-record set, the first live album recorded by Mitchell, shipped Gold.

With the certification for "Miles of Aisles," Joni Mitchell has earned five gold albums to date. Earlier awards went to "Ladies of the Canyon" and "Blue," recorded for Reprise Records, and to "For The Roses" and "Court and Spark," both released by Asylum Records.

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