

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT

New albums both delightful and disappointing

By JOHN FIORENTINO

A new group of albums has been released, with some delightful and some unfortunately, disappointing.

Kansas — Masque: This is the third album this talented band, and they're still going strong. It's a good rock album, but nothing stands out except for "It Takes a Woman's Love to Make a Man." Maybe more songs should, considering the talent they have.

Lenny White — Venusian Summer: Lenny White, the phenomenal drummer of Return to Forever, has put out his first solo album, and it's a knockout. This is very funky jazz-rock album with a complete supply of tasty songs. White gets plenty of help from a lot of talented musicians, and they make it a very successful album.

But credit must go to White for his songwriting ability and his powerful drumming, which rivals Billy Cobham on this album. Listen to the interplay between guitars, keyboards and drums, especially on "Mating Drive." This is an extremely good album, one which you could place right up with your Chick Corea collection.

David Bowie — Station to Station: David Bowie has been quite disappointing on his last few albums. He keeps trying to change his image, but he has made a fool of himself, and the public finally is getting tired of it. The music on this record is from a new movie he is working on, another project that might not work out.

The music here isn't too bad; it's about as good as **Diamond Dogs**. The tunes are still somewhat R & B flavored, especially the single "Golden Years," but nowhere near as much as his last album. There are only six songs on this record and three or four of them are fairly

good. While this album doesn't come close to any of his old albums, it's the best thing he's done in a few years.

Deep Purple — Come Taste the Band: After guitarist Ritchie Blackmore left the group to form Rainbow with Elf, Deep Purple had to find a replacement. They found one in Tommy Bolin, a whiz kid known for his work with Billy Cobham and the James Gang. Bolin has been a shot in the arm for Deep Purple.

He has taken over much of the writing responsibilities, so that, while keeping somewhat within Deep Purple's format, he has given them a new sound. This is a very good album.

Joni Mitchell — The Hissing of Summer Lawns: Joni Mitchell has written so many beautiful songs over the years that you might think she would run out of material or ideas. Not so. She just keeps on writing and singing as well as she used to, and it's great to see. It has been a few years since her last studio effort, but she made the wait worthwhile.

It's not as good as **Court and Spark**, but that's a tough act to follow. Her lyrics are very interesting. It's hard to pick any songs out as favorites since they're all good.

Crack the Sky — First Album: Crack the Sky is somewhat of a local group, originating in and around Western Pennsylvania. As their name might indicate, this is a very creative band. They are very complex, smooth and talented. This album is being hailed as a progressive rock classic, and rightfully so.

The lyrics are bizarre but you'll enjoy them when you hear them with the music. Their repertoire of music is so diverse that you can listen to it over and over again

without getting tired of it. You'll want to do just that once you hear **Crack the Sky**.

Roxy Music — Siren: Roxy Music has to be one of the most avantgarde groups around. **Siren** is the fifth album from this brilliant British group, and at least the cover follows the same pattern as the other albums. They are an ever-changing group, yet they have a style which makes them

easily recognizable. They are the kind of group that really grows on you, so if you only hear this album once and you don't enjoy it, don't give up on it. You'll learn to like it.

Kenny Rankin — Inside: This is the third album from Kenny Rankin and it lives up to expectations based on the first two. Kenny Rankin is one of the premier singer-songwriters around today. He plays some excellent acoustic

guitar but it's his vocals that will knock you out. Most of his songs are short, delightful love songs.

He wrote about half of the tunes here, but most interesting are his interpretations of other persons songs, particularly "She's a Lady" (John Sebastian), "Up From the Skies" (Jimi Hendrix), and "Marie" (Randy Newman). This is a wonderfully pleasant album.

Entertainment in Pittsburgh

FILM — The Man Who Would Be King — Forum and Encore Theaters. Story of a man who starts out with nothing and in a very short time becomes ruler of a kingdom. Sean Connery and Michael Caine star in this very enjoyable movie.

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes' Smarter Brother — King's Court Theater. Excellent comedy starring Gene Wilder and Marty Feldman.

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest — Squirrel Hill Theater. Touching story of a man unjustly put into a mental institution. Superb acting by Jack Nicholson.

The Story of O — Fulton Mini Theater. Obedience is carried to its limit by a woman named O.

The Hindenburg — Stanley Theatre. Movie based on the true story of the disaster of the Hindenburg. Starring George C. Scott.

Lucky Lady — Fulton Theater. A movie about bootlegging in the '30s. The cast includes Burt Reynolds, Gene Hackman and Liza Minnelli.

Hustle — Warner Theater. Burt Reynolds plays the tough cop role in this one.

Dog Day Afternoon — Fiesta Theater. Everything seems to go wrong for a bank robber. Starring Al Pacino.

And Now My Love — Chatham Cinema. Movie of French romance directed by Claude LeLouch.

Killer Force — Gateway Theater. A crime drama of revenge. Starring Telly Savalas and O.J. Simpson.

Nashville — Manor Theater. Story about the lives of some top country rock singers.

THEATER — Camelot Productions presents 1776 Feb. 6-29 in the Plaza Theater. The play dramatizes John Adams and the second Continental Congress in their fight for a formal separation from the British Crown.

Hurok presents the Mazowsze Polish Song and Dance Company direct from Warsaw Feb. 6 at 8:30

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p.m. in the Syria Mosque.

The Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre presents **La Sylphide** Feb. 6-8 in Heinz Hall. Performances are at 8 p.m. on the 6th and 7th and 2:30 p.m. on the 8th.

The Pittsburgh Playhouse presents **The Interview** Feb. 5-15 in the

the world's greatest composer-conductors in concert at the Stanley Theater Feb. 7. The performance, which also includes a 36 piece symphony orchestra and guest vocalist Laury Shelley, will begin at 8 p.m.

WDVE presents the following



DOM DeLUISE and MADELINE KAHN star in **The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes' Younger Brother**, now appearing at the Kings Court Theater.

Performing Arts Center. The world premiere play is directed by Jose Ferrer.

The C-MU Drama Department presents Stephen Sondheim's musical **Follies** Feb. 5-7 and 9-14 in the Kresge Theater on Carnegie Mellon Campus.

The Pittsburgh Musical Theater presents **South Pacific** Feb. 13-21 in the Chatham College Theater. The cast includes George Eisenhaur and Jack Kelly.

The dramatic performance of **Man of LaMancha** is scheduled for Heinz Hall Feb. 9-11. The cast includes David Atkinson from the original Broadway production.

The play **Me and Mrs. Jones** will be performed at the Hill House Center Auditorium Feb. 7 at 8 p.m.

The Red Masquers of Duquesne University present a double bill in conjunction with the Pittsburgh Poor Players Feb. 5-7. The first is a one act play entitled **Off The Track** and the second is **The Cat's In The Bag**. Performances are at 8:30 p.m. in the Union Ballroom.

CONCERTS — The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra will perform on Penn State University Campus Feb. 6-8. Sarah Caldwell, founder and artistic director of the Opera Company of Boston, will be the conductor and artistic director of this bicentennial performance. Featured will be the celebrated singers Richard Lewis, David Lloyd and Donald Gramm.

DiCesare-Engler Productions

presents Michael Legrand, one of concerts: The O'Jays with special guest The Commodores at the Civic Arena on Feb. 13 at 8 p.m.

Foghat with special guests Rory Gallagher and Ace at the Civic Arena on Feb. 12 at 8 p.m.

Sweet with special guests Eric Carmen and Artful Dodger on Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Stanley Theater.

Joni Mitchell and the L.A. Express Feb. 14 at 8 p.m. in the Civic Arena.

Dick Clark Concerts presents Bette Midler in concert at the Syria Mosque Feb. 11-13 at 8 p.m.

DINNER-SHOWS — The comedy team of Brockett and Barbara will be performing a show entitled **Razzle Dazzle** at the Ben Gross Restaurant until April.

The Five Satins will be performing two shows only at the Anthony House on Feb. 8 at 8 and 10 p.m.

The Temptations will be performing at the Holiday House Feb. 5-7.

MISCELLANEOUS — The Duquesne University Film Committee presents a film in their Foreign Film Series entitled **Jules and Jim** on Feb. 13 at 8 p.m. in Mellon Hall. French film directed by Francois Truffaut. The pre-World War I period is the setting for this romantic tale of a woman's love for two fraternal friends.

Comedian Steve Allen will appear on stage in Rea Auditorium, Sewickley Academy Feb. 7 at 8:15 p.m.

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