

## fine arts: sensory response

# THE SENSES OF SOUND & SYMBOL

Students presently submerged in the "rock" beat, aided and abetted by "The Funky Chicken," and "The Push and Pull," consider the beat and themselves the very epitome of current "hipdom" and "abreast-ville." They offer their reactions and responses on this page, to five of modern jazz's all time greats, and despite the students being bred upon and steeped within "rock," they show that all music has certain universal qualities, and that, if listened to with even a faint degree of acuteness, all music has something to say to the senses.

I  
Cecil Taylor, "Call," from Cecil Taylor Live at the Cafe Montmartre, Fantasy 60 40, Jimmy Lyons, alto sax, Arthur Murray, drums.

The music makes me feel lazy. I really don't feel like doing anything, but sitting around. Suddenly, something exciting happens which provokes me to move. This excitement makes me very upset. After the excitement is over, the muscles in my body become relaxed. This means that I can enjoy the rest of the evening in peace, with no one around but me and the stillness of the night.

Joyce Bernard  
This sound reminds me of a quiet nightclub, which overlooks a peaceful ocean. The lights in the club are very dim, and the people appear to be in a deep trance. This would probably be the type of surrounding that a person would enjoy if he were feeling moody.

Cheryl Turner  
This kind of music sounds a little jazzy to me. In a way, it makes me feel unrelaxed in listening to it. It is kind of far out. It seems like a person is on a trip and doing wild, crazy things. It also has some psychedelic touches in it.

Runell Cutts  
This sound reminded me of a dream that would not make sense. It created a confused state within me which made me think of a large city with all its problems and troubles. All types of people began to focus in my mind, chanting prayers for our troubled world.

Howard Austin  
The sound reminded me of a tragedy that was going to happen, as if someone were sneaking up on a person. The playing of horns gave a nightclub air, but without meaning. It sounded odd as the music changed sounds at different, echoing like a ceremony of witch doctors. The theme was ominous, bequeathing horror in a sound which had the audience tense and nervous, anticipating what was going to happen.

IV  
Bud Powell, "Stella by Starlight," from The Amazing Bud Powell, Roost 412.

Lou Rodgers  
This piece sounded very romantic. It sounded as if the recorder was playing to something very dear to him. It makes me think of my boyfriend and wish that he were home. The dominating piano was very effective when played softly.

Ruby Adams  
I picture two, young people who are very much in love as they dance. They are carefree with no problems. The only thing that matters is to be in one another's arms, expressing their warm and deep love.

Joyce Bernard  
I enjoy listening to this kind of music. It makes me ponder my romantic moods. It helps me appreciate beautiful days and warm, soft nights with a loved one.

Ruby McEachin  
This sound reminds me of having a quiet dinner out in a beautiful restaurant with the person you love, where the environment is lovely and the smell of good food is in the air.

II  
Miles Davis, "Solea," from Sketches of Spain, Columbia 8271, arranged and conducted by Gil Evans.

Yvonne Brown  
This type of music makes me think about when I first started to appreciate all types of sounds. In its latter stages, it reminds me of Spaniards or bull fighters, simply because the trumpet in it seems to lean that way. It is really way out.

Tony Lindsey

## GORDON MYERS IN GOD'S TROMBONE

This record has a different sound, better than sound number one. It started off Mexican style. It has style and when the horn was added, it sounded like it had a meaning. The rhythm was pleasurable; the fellow playing the horn played like he was using music and lyrics blended to tell some deep story.

Lou Rodgers

The sound started off quiet, reminding me of a harem and exotic dances. The music sends you into deep meditation, where nothing is really being expressed. It just seems to pass through you as though you were transparent. The mind seems completely blank; you are unable to focus your attention on one particular thing.

George Redmon

III  
Ted Macero, "Sounds of May," from What's New? Columbia 842, with innovations by the composers—Ted Macero and Bob Prince.

This sounds like far-out at first, then come the jazz sounds that are pleasing. It had the catholic sounds of the church at the beginning - incantations like fervent prayer. The jazz and the catholic sounds are then mixed together and put me in a melancholy way. The end sounds like a disaster.

Runell Cutts

This sound makes me think of a very cozy restaurant. The lights are low and the tables are accentuated by soft candlelights. In such a beautiful place as this, I would desire to be with the man I love.

Cheryl Turner

V  
Jimmie Lunceford, "Chopin's Prelude No. 7," from Lunceford Special, Columbia 104, arrangements by Eddie Durham, Roger Sequire, Lonnie Wilfong, Chappie Willet and Billy Moore.

This sound reminds me of an old time Saturday Night dance or social. It gives me sort of a gay feeling and makes me think of some of the happy times I have had.

Alta Johnson

This sound was another gay piece, and I enjoyed it very much. It made me feel as if I could get up and dance to it and its waltz beat.

Ruby Adams

This sound reminds me of a formal dance given by wealthy people. The people there are all probably over forty years of age and they all enjoy soft, sentimental music.

Cheryl Turner

The sound was one of joy, of people having a good time. Life to them possesses many treasures and they live today for today. Tomorrow and yesterday have no meanings. Everyone's happy and everyone understands the joy of being alive, and as each day passes, he realizes it more and more.

Jacquelin Rogers

A very soothing and relaxing sound. It reminds me of an evening with my favorite drink and my favorite man.

Ruby McEachin

This sound puts me in a mellow mood and reminds me of some show or television movie, centered around the 1930's when there was a big dance. The dance floor is full and everyone is doing a slow waltz. The movie pictures a guy dancing with a lovely, young lady. This guy looks cool and is wrapping on the beautiful woman. The woman digs his wrap and gets very thrilled. At the end of the song, the woman kisses while they are in the middle of the dance floor. The others look and applaud. The guy stops kissing her and looks around with an embarrassed smile.

William Smith

The sound is the type of music that you don't hear anymore. Its musicians carry a style of the late 20's or 30's. There is a great difference between musicians of yesterday and today.

Olene Solomon

EDITOR'S NOTE: The world relation of sounds to the ears of all is more than apparent here. Regardless of certain changes in patterns, volumes, harsher and sweeter sounds and a hundred other nuances. Key words in analysis of each sound, pointing toward oneness of mood, serve to point out the universality of sounds.

In Cecil Taylor's "Call," all three listeners refer to way out excitement and a club or trip atmosphere which in reality, the score suggests.

Of Miles' "Solea", two listeners mention Spaniards or bull fighters, while the third mentions "harem and exotic dances," the first, the Moslem influence in old Granada, the second, the very essence of the dance in Spain. Is this startling from an allium called Sketches of Spain?

Fayetteville State University will present its fifth and final Lyceum series on Wednesday, April 14, at 8:00 p.m., in the J. W. Seabrook Auditorium. The University choir will perform with Gordon Myers, baritone/composer as soloist in his own setting of James Weldon Johnson's poem, "God's Trombone" (a prayer and seven Negro sermons). Gordon Myers is filling a unique role—that of performing artist in his own composition.

Gordon Myers is a graduate of Cornell College (Iowa), and was a fellow in voice at Juilliard. He was baritone soloist with the internationally famous New York Pro Musica for six years and created the role of "Kind Darius" in their production of the 12th century "The Play of Daniel." He researched and developed and performs his very successful lecture - recital, "Songs of Early Americans" for audiences across the country.

Gordon Myers is an associate - professor in voice in Trenton State College in New Jersey.

About his work Mr. Johnson says: "The old-time Negro preacher of parts was above all an orator and in good measure an actor. He had the power to sweep his hearers before him; and so himself was often swept away. At such times his language was not prose but poetry. Or was from memories of such preachers there grew the idea of this book of poems."

"The old-time Negro preacher is rapidly passing. I have tried to find something of him."

About the music, Dr. Myers says: "In composing the music for "God's Trombones", I have tried to picture in my mind the dramatic situation of a preacher preaching to his congregation. As a result, I have set the book for baritone solo as the preacher and mixed chorus as the congregation."

"The listener may detect the sound of a church choir, the lilt of a folk song, or the expressiveness of Negro Spirituals and so he should for I have attempted to blend these elements into a single idiom for presentation in concert form."

From the University choir appearing as soloists are: Amanda Scott, mezzo soprano, from Newark, New Jersey, Thelma Mitchell, soprano, from Clayton, North Carolina.

The program is offered to the public free of charge.

- Patricia Crain

