

A MUSICAL CREDO



By Stuart Pratt

Nearly everyone has a definite attitude toward modernism in music. Some laymen, and even some professional musicians, are of the opinion that no real music has been composed since the romantic era. Others claim that music of any consequence did not develop until the twentieth century. As is so often the case the solution lies at neither extreme but in a combination of both points of view.

Music is an abstract art and is therefore difficult to discuss factually. Inasmuch as various arts have had a comparable history it is possible to make a comparison between music and a more concrete art such as literature.

All true art expresses the philosophy of the age of its conception. For a composer of today to write in the style of Beethoven would be the same as for a writer to use the language of Shakespeare. Neither the musical style of Beethoven nor the language of Shakespeare is the vehicle for contemporary expression. The use of such a style by any composer or writer in 1940 would be a clear indication of the lack of creative ability or the presence of hypocrisy. But Beethoven's greatness is not diminished by the fact that musical expression has changed since his day, and Shakespeare's works remain supreme literature in spite of the fact that they are not written in modern idiomatic English.

The final and the only certain evaluation of music and of all art is empirical. Of the hundreds of composers of each era only a few have been able to stand the final test of greatness — that of time. Contemporary art has always been accompanied by violent opposition as well as by violent applause. Critics raved for years because Beethoven broke some established rules in the very beginning of his first Symphony. Wagner was vilified in his day. Debussy was figuratively stoned in the streets. And today Stravinsky, Schoenberg, Hindemith, and hundreds of others are undergoing the same treatment. It remains for the future to decide which of them are great composers, but it is becoming increasingly evident that some of them are making a definite contribution to the art of music and that their works will live.

Lest there be any misunderstanding concerning the term 'contemporary music' let me say that any composition that is born, lives, and dies within the space of a month is scarcely worth consideration. This might be expressed mathematically. Stravinsky's "Fire Bird" is to "Oh Johnny Oh" as Maugham's "Of Human Bondage" is to this month's issue of "College Humor". Or Richard Strauss' "Don Juan" is to "Marie Oh Marie" as Huxley's "Eyeless in Gaza" is to this month's issue of "True Romances". Composers are not averse to using extremely rhythmic idioms — for example Debussy's "Golliwog's Cake-Walk"

Maroon And Gold Sponsors Leap Frolic 16, 17, 18

Rush Week Brings Avalanche of Parties

Glamour, fun, and excitement have been the theme of the past few weeks and this week especially. For this is the rushing season for the sororities and fraternities, and the lucky rushees have been fed, entertained, and flattered until their heads are swimming. The whole thing culminates tonight, when the traditional Bid Night will be observed.

The Phi Kappa Tau sorority began the festivities with a breakfast in the "Y. W." on Sunday morning January 14. Miss Lida Muse was guest of honor and 24 people were present.

The Beta Omicron Beta girls also entertained on January 14 with a hamburger fry in the "Y".

A "Poor Man's Party" was given by the Pi Kappa Tau's on the evening of January 18. Pork and beans, brown bread, cheese, crackers, cookies, and coffee were served.

Alpha Pi Delta fraternity began their activities on January 19 with a steak dinner and "bull session" at C. T. I., which about 30 people attended.

On the thirtieth the BOB sorority gave an informal "Toothpick" party in West dormitory. Food was arranged and served on toothpicks in a novel way.

The Pi Kappa's and the Alpha Pi's entertained again on the thirty-first with a hamburger fry at the "Y". Sixty-six people enjoyed the games and dancing. Special guests were Miss Lida Muse, Miss Leonora Davis, and Dr. Hans Rinsen.

The next party was held out at C. T. I. where the Sigma Phi Beta fraternity gave a dinner after the High Point game. It was held in an upstairs dining room and was followed by an informal "Bull session". Special guests were "Benny" Bunock, Howard Smith, and "Husky" Jones, three old members.

The Tau Zeta Phi sorority also entertained on the first in the Y. W. C. A. with a "Roll your own" party at which the food was prepared by the girls and their guests. Tiny rolling pins were used as favors. Among the guests were Mrs. Oma Johnson, sponsor of the sorority, and Misses Madge and Edith Brannock.

The girls of Delta Upsilon Kappa held a dinner in the Lotus at Greensboro on Monday night, February fifth. The food was Chinese, a chow mein dinner being served. The tables were simply arranged, with a centerpiece of white tea roses on each table. Special guests were Dean Oxford, Mrs. Hendrickson, and Nancy Caddell.

Also on February fifth the Kappa Psi Nu fraternity held a feed and get-together at the "Y", among those present were Dr. Jackson and Professor Edwards.

The BOB's and the IJK's combined to give a feed in the Y. W. C. A. on Wednesday, February 7. Special guests were Mr. and Mrs. Edwards and Professor Stewart.

A "Fudge Party" was held by the Pi Kappa Tau's on the same night.

and "Tansman's" "Sonatine Transatlantique." But the result is pure Havana rather than two-for stogies.

In music, as in all phases of culture, too few people would rather be right than President, and far too many would rather be half right than Vice-President.

TO APPEAR HERE WEDNESDAY



NINO MARTINI

Elon students and members of the Cooperative Concert Association will have the privilege of hearing Nino Martini, brilliant lyric tenor of the Metropolitan Opera Concert, radio, and screen, when he appears in the Whitley Auditorium next Wednesday at 8:30 p. m. on a Spring tour following his sixth season at the Metropolitan.

Mr. Martini has a wide repertoire of classical and contemporary music which includes Italian, Spanish, French and English songs and arias, but the handsome tenor, when he is on tour, prefers to sing the songs that his audience enjoys the most.

A skillful program maker, this romantic looking singer who has been a ranking musical star believes that programs should be shaped to please the listener. "I sing just what may please me," he explained recently, "the audiences applaud, but only politely. But when I sing what the audience enjoys, they are happy, and I am happy because I have pleased them."

Simultaneously and meteorically he has risen to fame in the four fields of music — opera, concert, radio and screen. Concert and opera have a slight edge in his favor over the other two fields, because he enjoys seeing his audiences and noting their response. Concert singing he prefers because of its variety.

Mr. Martini believes that singing in concert is the greatest test. In concert an artist has nothing to lean on but his own vocal astuteness and personality, and there are no choruses, costumes, and scenery to hide the defects. The singer has no one to rely on but himself.

Movies, according to Mr. Martini, are the strangest of all. "I never stop wondering," he says, "why something we work on for four days and nights comes on the screen as a flash that a movie patron will miss if he turns his head to sneeze."

Nino Martini's most cherished dream is some day to own a ranch on which he plans to raise, breed, and train horses. Being a confirmed fatalist, he believes that

Honor Roll Dept. Hits Jackpot

Eighty-one Elonites achieved the B, or above, average for their fall semester's work. This puts approximately thirteen per cent of the entire student body on the honor roll.

Those achieving this honor are:

SENIORS

Allen Askew, Jack Basnight, Hall Brooks, Eana Fetch, Violet Hoffman, Kenneth Huffines, Carl Jones, Catherine Lawson, June Leath, L. W. McFarland, Margaret Miller, Martin Noon, Ida Mae Piland, Charles Rawis, James Rogers, Duane Vore.

JUNIORS

Winifred Barney, Helen Boone, Howard Brown, Mary Claytor, Albert Coble, Frances Conard, Christine Eaves, Dorothy Edwards, Clayton Frazier, Dwight Gentry, Evelyn Holmes, Irene Hook, Roger Inman, Wallace Kernode, Camille Kivette, Elizabeth Newton, James Parker, Margaret Pennington, Harold Pown, Shirley Powell, Samuel Rankin, K. D. Register, Paul Secret, Inez Triplett, Mary Walker, Virginia Walker, J. H. Waugh.

SOPHOMORES

Joyce Black, Merman Cheek, Worth Coble, Hazel Doubs, Elsie Donato, Margaret Denton, Louis Arvine, Sarah Forunes, Fred Gilliam, James Heritage, H. Patterson, Marcella Rawis, Ed Sauer, Donald Schlitter, E. F. Shaw, Paul Winard, Davis Phillips.

FRESHMAN

Sarah Boone, Oliver Clark, Helen Clodfelter, Marjorie Copeland, James Dellinger, Kent Denison, J. W. Elder, John Hatt, James Johnston, Malcolm Lareen, Weldon Madren, Ruth Martin, Celestial McClenny, Edith McDade, William Nash, Robert Schultz, Mildred Shook, Inez Triplett, Mary Louise Tuttle, Marjorie Wall, Edwin Watts.

realizing this dream may someday be his luck, but isn't counting on it.

OUR SYMPATHY

The faculty, student body, and members of the Maroon and Gold staff wish to express their sympathy to George Bullard, a freshman who was home last week because of the death of his sister, and to Albert Coble, a junior, for the loss of his mother, Mrs. J. H. Coble, who died January 31.

They also wish to express their sympathy to Coach Hendrickson in the death of his father in Beaver, Pennsylvania, last Tuesday.

Hear ye, hear ye! Or rather read ye, for you are reading this aren't you, or aren't you? Anyway, this is the proclamation for which a breathless (?) public has long been awaiting.

This—believe it or not—is an announcement of an official leap week (Yippee).

Complete details are given in the rules below, however there are a few additional rules which must be noted. No kicking, no biting, and no pinching in the clinches. Break clean, come out fighting, and may the best man win, poor soul.

- I. It is requested and urged that all girls date at least twice during the three days.
- II. No boy under any circumstances may ask any girl for a date. (If she really wants to date you, she'll ask you.)
- III. The girls must bear all expenses while the date is in progress. This refers to show fares, sodas, coca cola's, gum, etc.
- IV. All courtesies extended to girls, such as opening doors, preceding the boys, seating at table etc. are to be reversed.
- V. The boys are requested not to impose on the girls' good nature. Remember those times you didn't have a nickel in your pocket. (She should do the suggesting when it comes to spending money.)
- VI. The whole celebration is to be consistent with college rules and regulations at all times.
- VII. Remember the weekend following bid night. You'll have 16th, 17th, and 18th of February to date your S. P. Boys, the eyes of feminine Elon will be upon you.

Boys' Request: Girls, don't be bashful!

S. C. A. PLANNING SPRING RETREAT

The main item of business at the last two Student Christian Association meetings of February 25 and January 8 was the planning of a S. C. A. Spring Retreat. At the present neither the place nor the date have been decided upon, although it is hoped that Old Mill Camp, located midway between Burlington and Greensboro, will be it. The cabinets and guests of other colleges have planned to be out in time to set up camp by Friday afternoon. The tentative program for the weekend is as follows:

- Friday 6:00—supper
- 7:30—main speaker
- Saturday 7:00—rising bell
- 7:30—breakfast
- 9:30—discussion groups
- 11:00—main speaker
- 1:00—lunch
- 3:00—recreation
- 6:00—supper
- 7:30—main speaker
- Sunday 7:00—rising bell
- 7:30—breakfast
- 9:30—discussion groups
- 11:00—main speaker
- 1:00—dinner

BULLETIN

As this page of the Maroon and Gold went to press, no official announcement had been made about the new dates for the Appalachian and Catawba basketball games with Elon. While Coach Kirkland of the Catawba Indians told newspapers last Thursday that the Elon came with his team would be played on February 20 here, administration officials at Elon could not confirm this date when interviewed by the Maroon and Gold. There seems to be a possibility that the two postponed games will be held over until the end of the season.

Literary Society Elects New Officers

At the regular meeting of the Dr. Johnson's Literary Society, held in society hall on Wednesday night, January 17, the major part of the time was taken up with the election of new officers. Replacing Dwight Gentry, who has made a very efficient and inspiring president, is Kenneth Utt. Following Henry B. Wise as vice-president is Bill Hilliard. Nathan Cooper was asked to continue to serve as secretary, and Richard Divers is to take over the treasury when Henry Capillary completes some unfinished business, which he is handling very satisfactorily. The society voted to add to its staff the position of reporter. This office was given to Ralph Garner, who succeeded Roy Mansfield.

Elon College Alumni Have Meeting Today

Meetings To Be Followed By Bid Night Activity.

The alumni of Elon College are holding their regular meeting here today. The main speakers for the morning will be Frank Warren of Durham and L. G. Perry of Reidsville, N. C. They will devote most of their time to the teachers present. Mr. Warren and Mr. Perry are both graduates of Elon.

Dr. W. H. Boone, of Durham will preside over the business session in the afternoon. The alumni will discuss general conditions, and future outlooks of the college. Elon's alumni have always been staunch behind her, and great interest should be shown as to outcome of this meeting.

Later that night a tradition of men's social and scholastic life comes to the fore.