



by Rick Mitz

There's a new music—newer than Joni Mitchell, American Pie, the Taylor Family, and Mrs. King's rock Queen Carole.

There's a new neon-lighted music that makes Janis Joplin seem like just another pretty voice and makes Frank Zappa the boy next door.

This new multi-dimensional music is gaining impetus like the sound of umbilical cords snapping all around the country.

In an era of environmental health, health foods and mental health, it's only natural that there should be Health Music.

Music often has been used as a means toward health. For more than twenty years, psychologists have used music as a tool in treatment of mentally handicapped patients. Opera is well-known for its Mad Scenes. And many songs—from Deutschland Uber Alles to On, Wisconsin — have provoked an emotional reaction in their listeners. But now, music is changing its tune.

Two new songwriters are writing creatively cathartic music as they reveal and reveal through musically "meaningful" experiences.

It all began about five years ago with Arthur Janov's controversial Primal Scream therapy. Neurosis, Janov says, is frozen childhood pain. All neuroses are symptoms for releasing that Primal Pain, brought about by unfulfilling childhood experiences relating to parents. He points to a single cure: The neurotic person must dismantle his defenses and return to where he made the decisions to act out expectations of others rather than his own feelings. Janov's theory is complex but, briefly, the Primal patient must relieve pain to remove the "curse" in order to understand his neurotic tensions. Naturally, Mother and Father are an integral part of the therapy. The Primal patient is urged to call out his parents and, as he does so, the patient often begins screaming long and sorrowful sobs. This is the Primal Scream.

But now, Primal Scream Mothers and Fathers have found their way to the phonograph. Dr. Janov's best-known patient is John Lennon, former Beatle. Lennon's latest two albums underscore his therapeutic

involvements. In a song called "Mother," he musically writhes in pain, screaming: "Mother, you had me, but I never had you/I wanted you, but you didn't want me . . . Good-byeeee." He ends the album with a short and snappy song to the tune of Three Blind Mice: "My Mummy's dead/I can't get it through my head/I can't explain/so much pain/my Mummy's dead."

In his album, Lennon has creatively attempted to work out his Mother Thing, yelling at and for her at the beginning of the record . . . putting her to rest forever at the end. There is a blurred photograph of Lennon as a young boy on the album cover.

Dory Previn's music is of the same genre. When her husband, Andre Previn, left her for Mia Farrow, Dory's psyche cracked. She was institutionalized. "While I was in the hospital," she has said, "I started writing to get some order out of chaos. What I've tried to do is bring the madness out in the open."

And she's succeeded. Maybe too well. Her three albums contain more Mad Songs than all opera combined. In one song she relives her four-month long sanitarium experience. But mostly she sings about her parents.

"Damn you, Mother/ how I hate you/ you will never know how deep/ I must cling till you release me/ I could kill you in your sleep/ I would smile to watch your life blood creep across your wretched hair yes, of course I love you, Mother/ I'll never leave you . . . I swear."

But behind each element of Dory's madness is an element of sadness that passes through the listener's ears and straight to the heart.

This song is dedicated to her father: "The telephone rang/ my sister calling/ Dad is dead?/ when did it happen?/ six a.m. she said/ did he ask for me?/ what did you say?/ never mind . . . God is kind."

Songs about parents have changed somewhat since the days of "I want a girl, just like the girl . . ."

Health Music affects the listener, too. It's easier to work out our own problems through someone else's efforts. And sing along. We can easily play audio voyeurs and eavesdrop on other people working out their neuroses. And some of ours surely overlap. This Health Music has been called names from Freudian to Fraudulant—but it's a music that can teach us something. Between Previn and Lennon, there are five albums to show for it. Might just be the perfect gift for your parent's anniversary.

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CANDIDATES SPEAK OUT

Editor's note: All the candidates for SGA offices were asked to answer the following question: What do you consider your qualifications for this office; what do you consider the true potential of this office and how do you propose to make this potential a reality if elected to the office.

S.G.A. PRESIDENT



Christina Spence

If elected President of the Student Government Association I will look forward to being my fellow students' mediator with the faculty and administration in a new century for our unique Salem. I will try to be more than a mediator between the student body and faculty and administration in an effort to be a channel through which students can work more effectively with other students. I would like to see completed an accurate and complete evaluation of the social, academic, and organizational changes that have become part of life at Salem in the past year. The true potential of this office lies in the ability of the President to be THE integral part of Student Government that will keep positive directional action foremost in the minds of her fellow students. I have seen from a close vantage point many of the problems of this year remedied and know that some of the same problems that have not been solved will be with us in the coming year and that many new ones will arise. I cannot solve all problems but do believe that as a result of my experience as Interdorm Council Chairman this year I will be able to help avoid past pitfalls. I hope to see more student involvement in campus organizations and activi-

ties through an increase in the number of freshmen and sophomores holding major offices. I would like to see Legislative Board become a more active body. I see possibilities for the improvement of our legislative body in the area of an enlarged Leg. Board (ex. more freshman representation). Student Government meetings can be more effective in alleviating the communication breakdown among and between students, faculty, and administration. I support action toward student representation on the Board of Trustees—without us there would be no Board of Trustees and vice versa. Change and growth are inevitable and can be good for Salem. I believe that we should view and utilize more fully what we have already. Let's have fewer meetings and more action (outward and inward).

I can promise you that I would find it a great privilege to be your DETERMINED, OPTIMISTIC, HARD WORKING, and OPEN-MINDED mediator.



Sarah Dorrier

Two words sum up my conception of the office of SGA President—communication and coordination.

Students complain because they "don't know what's going on." Part of this may be due to student apathy but some of the fault must lie with student government. Advances have been made: for instance the calendar in the refectory. Other improvements are anticipated, such as printed notices posted on each hall. The "trivia" of student government should be handled by methods such as these. SGA meetings could then be used not merely for endless announcements but for keeping the student body abreast of current changes and plans.

Communication must exist on many levels in a community such as Salem. Our smallness provides the perfect opportunity for students, faculty, administration, and trustees to work as a cohesive unit. The president of SGA could implement this cohesion in many ways. Why not have a general resume of faculty meetings published in the Salemite? It need not be detailed, it need not tell everything, but on matters concerning the whole Salem community students would benefit from faculty opinions and suggestions. I was really impressed with Dr. Chandler's "fireside chat" in Babcock terrace last fall. Why not continue something similar to this? Traditionally, the trustees are an omnipotent but unseen group. Why not make them an even more vital part of life at Salem by inviting them to campus events or for informal discussions. Better yet, why not have at least one student member of the board?

I see the president of SGA not as a power symbol but as a coordinator. She need not make the decisions, she need not do all the work; but by fulfilling her role as executive she should see that the decisions are made and that the work is done. I liked Dr. Silber's idea of committees of one, and I believe in streamlining the machinery of SGA so that it will function at maximum efficiency in both the academic and social spheres.

My foremost qualification is desire. I would like the opportunity to use whatever executive and organizational talents I may possess to serve the student body as president of SGA. I have worked with various phases of student government—in the dorm as house president, on student-faculty committees, and as a member of Interdorm Council. As a result, I believe strongly that student government can and should be a vital, moving force within the Salem community.