

# Record



## Corner



Jim Berry

IN THE JAZZ SPOTLIGHT...are, three new LP's I'd like to take a good bit of space to talk about...because they're all very good.

The first is the debut album from a group of jazz musicians who call themselves Spyro Gyra. Their debut album is out on Amherst records.

A total of 12 musicians contributed to the LP...but their leaders are Jay Beckenstein and Jeremy Wall.

These two musicians not only wrote all the songs...but also play some inspirational music...Beckenstein on soprano, alto, and tenor sax, and Wall on piano, organ, fender rhodes, and Synthesizer.

Side One leads with "The Shaker Song," a tune that no doubt will serve as the background theme for some TV show or ad campaign.

It is followed by Opus D'Opus...a fast moving number featuring some fine percussion work.

On Side Two...the musical talents of Beckenstein and Wall really come out. The lead song is "Cascade"...an excellently arranged tune on which Beckenstein's tenor sax takes the lead.

Bravo to all involved in putting this album together...it's a winner.

The freaky deaky man is back...this time...less freaky, and more jazzy. "You Send Me" is the new release from Roy Ayers on Polydor Records.

Roy's success in the past has been largely because of his versatility...and the songs that have earned him the most recognition are the top-40 funk songs.

But there's none of that on this album. It's Ayers at his jazzy best...laid back...cosmopolitan...and progressive.

The title cut is an eight minute version of the old Ray Charles classic. Ayers teams with vocalist Carla Vaughn for a soulful duet.

Ms. Vaughn goes on to make an impressive debut on the album as Ayers' new lead singer.

Besides the title cut...other album highlights include "I Want To Touch You, Baby," on Side One, and "Get On Up, Get On Down (Move Your Body)" on Side Two.

This is the second album Ayers has done without his group Ubiquity...it may be an indication that Ayers may go the route of many jazz musicians...and start mixing his music with a variety of others.

Grant Green must have been inspired by the Commodores on his latest album...he not only named it after one of their hit songs...but recorded two of their hits on it.

However...Green does the songs in a very mellow way...

you can hear how on his new "Easy" album.

Green provides a relaxing version of this tune...and also of the Commodores' "Three Times A Lady."

Surprisingly...I found the strength of the album was not in the recuts of these songs...but in some original tunes Green teamed up to compose with noted saxophonist Hank Crawford.

Green and Crawford had fine help from 17 other musicians on this LP...most notably Sprouse...

# "The Life And Times Of Judge Roy Bean" Is CBS Movie

Paul Newman stars as the legendary Judge Roy Bean in the comedy western directed by John Huston, "The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean," to be rebroadcast on "The CBS Saturday Night Movies," Saturday, September 2 at 9 p.m. on WBTV, Channel 3.

Ava Gardner, Anthony Perkins, Jacqueline Bisset, Ned Beatty, Stacy Keach, Tab Hunter and Roddy McDowall also appear in the film.

The Judge, "the law west of the Pecos," assumed his title after taking over the sleepy Texas town of Vinegaroon, hanging all of its outlaws making him the only non-Mexican in the town) and confiscating their property for "court costs." His confidence as a lawmaker was based

upon his intimate knowledge of the law, "having spent my life in its flagrant disregard."

Upholding the law was not the Judge's only activity-upholding the honor of the lovely actress Miss Lily Langtry (Miss Gardner) was the other. The Judge had never met Miss Langtry, but his adulation of her led him to install her picture over the bar in the courthouse, and to rename the town after her.

A giant, friendly grizzly bear, given to the Judge by an old mountain man (John Huston), becomes his third love, after Miss Langtry and his mistress, Marie Elena (Victoria Principal). The animal, affable as long as there's beer in his belly, becomes the town's official watch bear.

The Judge's wealth grows, as does his power. But there's a snake in the grass-lawyer Gass (McDowall), who claims to have a deed entitling him to the Judge's domain. A skirmish with the watch bear convinces him that he made a mistake, but Gass is not convinced for good.

Twenty years pass. Oil has been found in Langtry, and Judge Bean no longer rules the town; in fact, he had left in disgrace two decades earlier.

Years later, when Miss Langtry visits the town named after her and is taken to the Judge Roy Bean Museum, she looks at the memorabilia-pictures of herself-and remarks "He must have been some man."

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