

With Loretta Manago

ENTERTAINING THOUGHTS



Loretta

Stephanie Mills' Latest Album Is Exceptional

Before I get started about what's happening on your Zenith, Sony or Quasar, indulge me a few minutes to sound off about Stephanie Mills and her newly released album. Every since this young lady performed in the musical, "The Wiz" I have taken a special interest in her work and have come to the conclusion that to say she is talented is an extreme underestimation. She proves this by her third album.

Those of you who listen to the radio have probably touched bases with her album. Stephanie and Teddy Pendergrass get together to sing, "Two Hearts." Their blend of music magic makes any non-believer believe in love. On that same side, the cuts range from a moderate to an upbeat tempo; "Winner," "Keep On Doing What Cha Do," and "Top Of My List" each has its own individual style that has been stamped "Stephanie."

Flip the album over and become amazed at the depth in which an artist can involve herself in her work. Although I found myself mellowing over the tunes, "I Believe In Love Songs" and "My Love's Been Good To You" her excellence as an artist is revealed in "Night Games" and "Magic," written by Ms. Mills and her husband Jeffrey Daniels.

Both pieces are slow and deal with love, both lost and gained. And if they don't move you, you can't be touched. It's rare when I buy an album and don't omit a couple of the tunes; but Stephanie's album is a definite "Winner" and it's on "The Top Of My List."

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Who will America's favorite blue-eyed doll be for 1981? For thirty years judges have gathered to choose the "most" of America's beauties from the fifty states. Join Bob Barker and Elke Sommer as they co-host the 1981 Miss USA Pageant, Thursday, May 21, at 9 p.m. on Channel 3.

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A lot is being said about these ladies, maybe because they're a lot of them. They're Two Tons of Fun, and they'll be appearing on "Dance Fever" Friday, May 22, at 11:30 on Channel 3.

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"Salem's Lot," a chilling horror story of vampirism running rampant in modern day New England will be airing Saturday, May 23, on Channel 3 at 8 p.m. Do you dare?

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Whenever they're together it means laughter, side-splitting laughter. Gene Wilder and Richard Pryor will be "doing their thing" in "Silver Streak," Sunday, May 24, at 8 p.m. on Channel 3.

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Vrrooom!! Vrrooom!! ABC Sports will air exclusive coverage of the greatest auto race in the world in a same-day, prime time presentation from the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Sunday, beginning at 9 p.m.

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This Sunday Tony Brown will interview Lionel Hampton and discuss his dedication to the development of housing in Harlem for poor blacks. It sounds interesting. "Tony Brown's Journal" airs Sunday, May 24, at 11:30 p.m. on Channel 3.

Steve Martin Spoofs Ads

Steve Martin spoofs products from "Truman Copete jeans" to "Schnitzel Malt Liquor beer," in "All Commercials," to be rebroadcast on NBC-TV Friday, May 22.

Robert Klein guest-stars in "All Commercials." Louis Nye, Anne Lockhart, Avery Schreiber, Antonio Fargas, Julie McWhirter Dees, Julann Griffin and Paul Reubens make up the comedy ensemble joining Martin in sketches. The Dirt Band performs in a musical interlude.

Martin cavorts as Morris the Cat in a "nightclub act" paying posthumous tribute to the beloved finicky feline. As Emmet Kreisel, a used car dealer hooked up to a crude lie detector machine, he sports a plaid suit and mustache and promises easy credit. Strolling down a supermarket aisle with Anne Lockhart, he reveals shocking preferences - stuffing to potatoes - in a TV survey. Martin and Antonio Fargas demonstrate an unusual way to save face at business meetings.

The entire cast is featured in a hilarious behind-the-scenes look at an ad agency's campaign and commercial for "Okra Cola"; Avery Schreiber, as Orson Welles, lends prestige to a familiar commercial; Louis Nye is Lee Cockamamie of Crassler Motors and Dr. Robert Zinder, a semi-authority promoting his books, "Winning Through Humiliation" and "Kill, If You Have To."

Julie McWhirter Dees is hard-as-

nails in a spoof of a familiar perfume commercial. Anne Lockhart is pristine, promoting "You Know" feminine hygiene spray. And the pair join forces in a TV promo for "Emergency Room Cheerleaders."

Martin takes a walk through the Commercial Hall of Fame; presents the Best Foreign Commercial and foreign adaptations of American commercials.

Marty Klein and Ken Suddleson are the executive producers for Martin's 40 Share Productions. Joseph Cates is the producer; Walter Miller, the director. Steve Martin and Neil Israel are head writers. Additional writers are Jeffery Barron, Earl Brown, Carmen Finestra, Denny Johnston, Sean Kelly, Pat McCormick, Michael McManus, Pat Proft and Mason Williams.

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