

incredibly fail to list. This is one of the better big band stereo LPs available and quite a contrast to any "Salute" by another band.
R. J. G.

● **CROSS SECTION—SAXES**—HAL McKUSICK (alto saxophone, bass clarinet), Art Farmer (trumpet), Bill Evans (piano), Milt Hinton or Paul Chambers (bass), Charlie Persip or Connie Kay (drums), Barry Galbraith (guitar) on three, Frank Socolow, Dick Hafer, Jay Cameron (reeds) on four. *Whisper Not; Now's The Time; La Rue & 7 others.* Decca Stereo DL 79209 \$5.98

Musical Interest: Very high
Performance: Excellent
Recording: Very good
Stereo Directionality: Very musical
Stereo Depth: First-rate

An uncommonly imaginative album for which everyone deserves credit, especially Decca which has not been noted up to now for adventurous jazz recording. McKusick has commissioned scores from four jazz composer-arrangers in which there's room for improvisation. The pieces, however, are more strongly knit and structurally provocative than most jazz "writing." George Russell and Jimmy Giuffre contribute the most stimulating works.

The playing is consistently expert with pianist Bill Evans an especially personal, probing soloist. This is not so much an "experimental" session as a thoughtfully conceived program by mature writer-players, an album which should interest both newcomers to jazz and post-graduates. Also available monophonically.
N. H.

● **THE BRUSSELS WORLD'S FAIR SALUTES THE BENNY GOODMAN ORCHESTRA AND SEXTET.** Bay Big Band. *Let's Dance; Air Mail Special; Benny Rides Again; Good Bye & 6 others.* Omega OSL-19 \$5.95

Musical Interest: Medium
Performance: Listless
Recording: Excellent
Stereo Directionality: Good
Stereo Depth: Like a ballroom

The trouble here is that Goodman did it too well in the first place for an European band to make a passable copy. The band is okay on the ensemble portions, if listless, but when it comes to the solos, the flesh is willing but the spirit (of jazz) is weak.
R. J. G.

POPS

● **THE BRUSSELS WORLD'S FAIR SALUTES TOMMY DORSEY.** Bay Big Band. *Opus #1; I'll Never Smile Again; Day Break; This Love Of Mine & 6 others.* Omega OSL-16 \$5.95

Musical Interest: So-so
Performance: Inadequate
Recording: Excellent
Stereo Directionality: Good
Stereo Depth: Like a ballroom

The Tommy Dorsey sound is deceptive and an imitation immediately shows up. The arrangements are more difficult than the Goodman charts and the sound blend was unusual so that this set by a European band does not come off very well. And when the soloist tries to play like T. D. the result is disastrous.
R. J. G.

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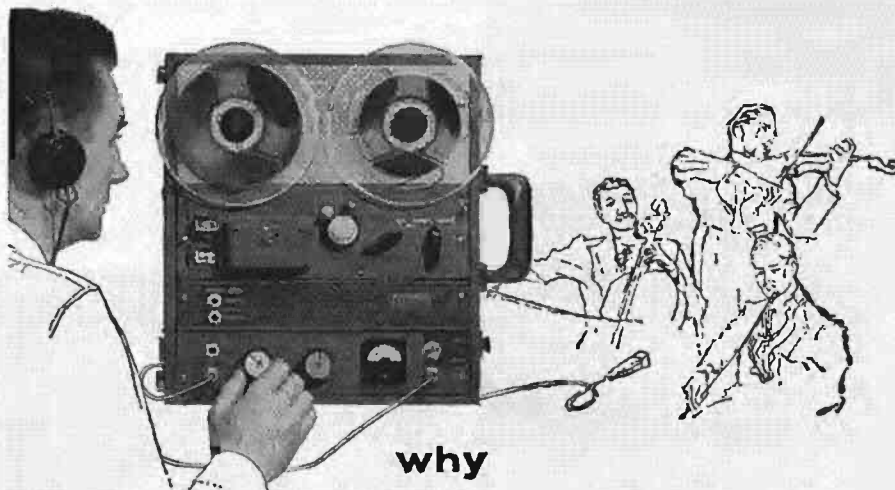
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