

FILM REVIEW

Yocks, Music, Spies
Make 'Charade' Tops

"Charade," starring Cary Grant and Audrey Hepburn and with music composed and conducted by Henry Mancini, should be as potent a box-office draw as has come along in a good spell, and the resultant sound track album and single (with chorale backing) should do equally well, just cashing in on the film's popularity. This is not giving the music—which is excellent—its proper due.

The score is imaginative, fresh, hauntingly melodic, and does much to build the mood of the flick. Main emphasis, however, is bound to be on the strange combination of chilling mystery and comic suspense that "Charade" manages to convey.

The film contains four mur-

ders — all dramatically illustrated with proper amounts of blood and grimaces of the corpses. But in between, it's filled with laughs (if this anomaly is conceivable). So tastefully is everything blended together, that one gets to the end of the picture scared stiff, but chuckling out of the corner of his mouth. Cary Grant is his usually charming self, Miss Hepburn the coy coquette, the setting is European and the plot involved with spies, counter-spies, Secret Service, OSS and a liberal sprinkling of French gendarmes. It's a delightful—if unnerving — two hours, done in glorious color, and the end result is a solid plus for the motion picture, recording and other lively arts. **NICK BIRO**

IN CHICAGO

After Barbra—What Else?

It would be laboring a cliché to say that Barbra Streisand's first Chicago concert at McCormick Place's Arie Crown Theater last week was a smash success, but in all honesty, what else is there to say? Both the Friday and Saturday evening performances were sellouts, and the one witnessed by this reviewer produced one of the most enthusiastic audience reactions heard in a long time.

The magic that this wispy, seemingly awkward former New York telephone operator has over her audience is difficult to describe. On the one hand, there's her appearance—literally defying imagination. The costumery appears to be taken from a Calvin Coolidge commemorative issue of the New Yorker, and even—believe it or not—coming out in the second half of the concert with a foot-high wig, exotic hairdo and slinky gown.

On the other hand, there's

Barbra's voice — a fabulously wonderful, pure thing—with an equally wonderful personality that has a disarming appeal all its own. Who but a Streisand would or could take a ditty about a "Big Bad Wolf" and make of it a sophisticated cabaret-type rendition. Or a thoroughly worked-over "Coloring Book" and bring to it something creative and new. She did these and "Who Will Buy" and "Lover" and "Cry Me a River," and a funny ditty about getting caught in a dentist's chair and a host of other (some barely recognizable) tunes, all to the delight of the 5,000-some entranced Streisand-ophiles who never did quite seem to want her to stop. Barbra's first Chicago appearance at Mister Kelly's last summer was successful enough, but after last weekend at McCormick Place, you have to say Chicago's her own. **NICK BIRO**

UPSTAIRS

The Party Is Down the Middle

Manhattan's Upstairs at the Downstairs has another bright, funny revue on stage called "Twice Over Nightly." The show, while it does not shimmer with the biting satire of previous

outings, is still a solid two hours of fun.

The cast of five is superb. Jane Alexander and Marie Louise Wilson take care of the distaff duties while Paul Dooley, McIntyre Dixon and Richard Libertini are their male counterparts. All are deft practitioners of deadpan and take, and all enormously versatile switching from one character guise to another. The direction is by George Morrison and the producer is David Shepherd.

Like so many of its forerunners, "Twice Over Nightly" is a fast-paced montage of slices of life looked at through a comic prism. For material, however, Messrs. Shepherd and Morrison have taken general subjects in American life rather than building skits upon the political, psychological and topical items of former shows as produced by Julius Monk and Ronnie Graham.

The show is filled with such subject matter as the contemporary card shop, a capsule history of the theater, the exurbanites' dilemma, and a hilarious five minutes in which four drunks and a drifter sing a mad

Comic Sets
Up Shearing

George Shearing automatically connotes the blending of modern jazz pianistics with Afro-Cuban rhythms. Ronnie Shell may mean nothing now, but with the right breaks, some national TV exposure and an alert record company behind him, the young comic could become a truly important name in show business. He certainly fractured a packed house Saturday (30) with his interpretations of TV commercials, lip syncing on "I Love Paris" disk with appropriate facial expressions and corny wig and fast-paced cameo routines.

When Shell left the stand, the audience which had come initially to hear the Shearing Quintet, couldn't have been in a happier, more receptive mood. And when Shearing opened with Ray Bryant's "Later," a hush filled the large room which earlier had rocked with laughter.

For this engagement in a Los Angeles suburb not far from where George and his wife reside, Shearing hired vibist Gary Burton, drummer Stan Levy while using bassist Al McKibbon and Latin percussionist Armando Peraza. Mike Gutierrez replaced Levy on the Latin numbers on timbales.

On Burton's own composition, "Jazz Bop," described as a canon with bop phrases, the two melody instruments played, polyphonically, which allowed for flashes of Burton romping against the elder pianist. Shearing next followed with a classically chordal solo on "Days of Wine and Roses." From then on, the program held a Latin flavor with Armando Peraza in complete command of his congas and bongos. **ELIOT TIEGEL**

J. Loudermilk
Set for Tour
Of S. Africa

NASHVILLE—John Loudermilk, RCA Victor artist and Acuff-Rose writer, left Thanksgiving morning for a South African tour which will include stops at all of South Africa's major cities. Other Nashvillians who will tour with Loudermilk are Bobby Dyeson and Jimmy Isbell.

Cities to be visited in Africa include Johannesburg, Durham, Port Elizabeth, New London and Capetown. Loudermilk will headline the tour with Duane Eddy.

The group has stops scheduled in London, Paris, Milan, Rome and Cairo, where RCA staffers will take them on tours of each location. The group will return to Music City after Christmas.

CHICAGO — The Caravelles are following up their currently hot single, "You Don't Have to Be a Baby to Cry" with an album of the same title. It's the first LP for the English duo. Included in the LP are eight standards and four original tunes.

There is, too, a very funny lecture, with appropriate demonstration, of late-to-work excuses. In all, "Twice Over Nightly" is a happy, middle-of-the-road show that plants many laughs in its two-hour running time. **JACK MAHER**

ARTISTS' BIOGRAPHIES

For your programming use here are pertinent facts about hot disk artists. If clipped and pasted on 3 by 5 cards these biographies will help you build a convenient file of such data.

THE KINGSMEN
(Wand)

NAMES: Lynn Easton, Gary Abbott, Don Gallucci, Mike Mitchell, Norm Sundholm. **AGES:** Lynn, 19; Gary, 20; Don, 16; Mike, 19; Norm, 17. **HOME TOWN:** Portland, Ore. **BACKGROUND:** Lynn Easton organized the Kingsmen as soon as he entered Portland's David Douglas High School. The group originally consisted of three members (Lynn, Gary and Mike).

They worked a great deal this past six years in a variety of mediums in the Northwest, such as fairs, fashion shows, TV commercials, dances and one-night tours. For the past year the group has been the house band for Portland's teen-age night spot, the Chase. Their first album was recorded at the Chase by producer Jerry Dennon. Though the boys keep pretty busy with their music, Gary is also a barber and Mike is a clothing salesman.

LATEST SINGLE: "Louie Louie" mad-dashed it to the No. 2 spot on Billboard's Hot 100 in its sixth chart week.

MUSIC AS WRITTEN

HOLLYWOOD

Good Time Singers failed to appear for their Saturday (30) seg at the Troubadour. Folksters were taping an **Andy Williams** TV seg and failed to notify the club that they'd be late... **John Green** is the music director for the 36th annual Oscar show set for April 13... **Jack Jones** taped a **Judy Garland** TV show last week. He opens at the Diplomat Hotel, Miami, December 26... **Mercury** held a small trade-press bash to introduce new artist **Lee Hazlewood's** "Trouble" album... **Gerald Wilson** started work on his next World Pacific big band album... **Brook Benton** brought his husky voice to Basin St. West last Wednesday. **ELIOT TIEGEL**

MEMPHIS

Edward J. Kissack, a.&r. director for London Records' American group, did some good-natured leg-pulling the other day when he came in to sign a distribution contract with Pen Records to handle records on artists **Martha Gaye** ("a young Dinah Washington") and **Sherry Jenkins**. London also distributes for Hi Records of Memphis. Kissack told **Robert Johnson**, columnist of The Memphis Press-Scimitar, that he wished **Joe Cuoghi**, president of Hi, would record some singers as well as the highly successful instrumentals Cuoghi turns out with **Bill Black's** Combo and **Ace Cannon** and his combo. Johnson put it in his column—

and they're waiting to hear what Cuoghi's reaction is.

TALENT
TOPICS

CHICAGO

Gene Autry's Sahara Inn is becoming a mecca for WBBM performers. **Ollie Raymond's** orchestra has long been a standard. And last week, the **Arbors**, who filled in for ailing **Harry Richmond**, were extended for an indefinite period... The **Thunderbirds**, five local boys, have their first single coming this week on Ermine... **Betty Johnson** has an interesting Christmas tune that was grabbed up by World Artist. It's "Wednesday's Child," and was aired by Betty locally when she appeared here last month... **Jean O'Brien**, who recently left her agency position with Associated Booking Corporation here, is now settled in her new Walton Street offices. She heads her own personal management firm and just signed **Will Mercer** to a recording pact with **Ewart Abner's** Constellation label... **Cliff Duphiney**, Decora-Amphora artist, is at Gene Autry's Celebrity Room... **Dick Gregory** helps Mister Kelly's celebrate its 11th year in business this week. With Dick is **Vicki Frazier**, making her Chicago debut. Kelly's will have **George Kirby** and **Claiborne Cary** coming December 30. **NICK BIRO**

TALENT ON TOUR

(Top record talent in top record towns this week)

EAST

Peter, Paul and Mary can be seen this week in Manchester, N. H. (12), Hartford (13), Boston (14), and Pittsfield, Mass. (15)... **Della Reese** and **Alan Sherman** share the spotlight at the Latin Casino in Camden, N. J., for one week starting December 11... **Jonah Jones** and the **Lee Shore Trio** are at the Embers... On December 9, the **Gaslight Singers** go into the Shadows in Washington for the remainder of the month.

... **Leon Bibb** will finish out the year at the Village Gate.

MIDWEST

Shirley Horn opens December 10 at Chicago's Sheraton O'Hare Inn.

WEST

Headliners at the Riverside in Reno are the **Travelers 3**... **Jerry Van Dyke** and the **Paris Sisters** will be on stage through Sunday... Also in Hollywood, hypnotist **Pat Collins** returns to the Interlude for a long winter's stay.

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