

SOUND VIEWS

NATIONAL VIDEO ACADEMY FORMED — The **National Academy of Video Arts and Sciences** announced its formation and held its charter meeting at the Video Expo in New York Oct. 16. The membership of the Academy will consist primarily of independent video producers, and professionals in broadcast television and major production houses will act as advisors. Like the Recording Academy, the Video Academy will hold annual awards, thereby giving the independent video producer recognition for achievement within the industry. A steering committee has already been formed to plan for election of officers and to select a board of judges to view tapes for the proposed awards in the categories of best producer, director, audio, camera, lighting, editing, scriptwriting and Best Production of the Year, with other special awards planned. Tapes will be viewed at the offices of the Independent Video Producers Registry, located at 146 E. 49th St. in New York City.

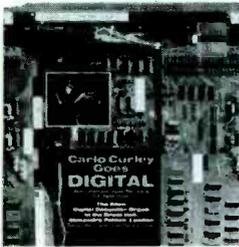
VIDEO JAZZ — Improvising Artists, Inc. of N.Y., a record label started by renowned jazz musician **Paul Bley** and video artist **Carol Goss** which specializes in jazz and avant-garde music, has just released a series of 12 "jazz videos." Available through Invision of Dallas, Tex., a mail-order video firm, the series comprises eight concert videos utilizing realtime video synthesis and four "video image" tapes with integrated soundtracks. The tapes feature such jazz artists as Bley himself, Sun Ra, flutist Marion Brown and vibraphonist Gunter Hampel and the Perry Robinson Trio.

SECOND ANNUAL VIDEO EXPO SLATED FOR S.F. FEB. 19-21 — **Video Expo-San Francisco '80**, the non-broadcast video trade show, is scheduled to be held at the San Francisco Civic Auditorium Feb. 19-21. The 10th anniversary show of the Video Expo is expected to draw some 3,500 participants to view more than 100 exhibits and take part in 39 seminars during the three day event, sponsored by **Knowledge Industry Publications**. Displays will be feature film and cassette systems, cameras, tape recorders, time base correctors, editing systems, pre-packaged programming and other ancillary video equipment. Registration is \$3 by advance mail and \$4 at the door. For more information contact Sheila Frank, Knowledge Industry Publications, 2 Corporate Park Drive, White Plains, N.Y. 10604. The phone number is (800) 431-1880.

VIDEO CLIPS — **Arista Records** appears to be making a solid commitment to the development of software for the home video market. Following the production of a **Kinks** program for **Time-Life Video**, the label now plans to produce a feature length video on artist **Dionne Warwick**, including live performances, which will be available on cassette and distributed to retail outlets via **Creative Image Productions**. According to **Michael Freidman**, executive assistant to Arista president Clive Davis and head of the company's video operations, Arista is currently one of the few labels taking a fairly aggressive stab at cracking the home video market. "It hasn't been very economical in the past for the record labels to become involved in video," said Freidman. "But I think at this point the labels are convinced of the sales potential of the home video market." . . . **Jon Roseman Productions** is presently shooting a video of **Paul McCartney's** "Wonderful Christmastime," a new song for the holiday season, in London. Roseman has also shot a video on **The Boomtown Rats'** new U.K. single "Diamond Smiles." . . . **Keef Co.** is currently editing footage of **The Buddy Holly Memorial Concert** as well as finishing work on a video featuring two tracks from **Genesis** member **Tony Banks'** new solo Polydor LP, "A Curious Feeling." . . . **Matrix Communications** will complete the pilot for its TV show "**Sound Explosion**" (formerly entitled "Let's Hear It") within the next few weeks. According to **Mason Hamlin**, executive director of the program, the series will consist of promotional music videos and vintage concert and studio footage, hosted by air personality **Charlie Tuna**. The syndicated 30-minute shows are designed to reach the teen market and are slated to be aired five days per week between 6-8 p.m. . . . **Motown Records** has shot both a commercial and 4-minute film for "**Stevie Wonder's Journey Through The Secret Life of Plants**," utilizing both animation and live footage. According to **Nancy Leviska** of the label, there are also tentative plans to produce a film for usage in movie theatres on the Wonder LP. The label is currently shooting a commercial on artist **Rick James** featuring the single "Love Gun" off of his new "Fire It Up" LP. . . . **Roger Flint Productions** has wrapped up work on a 3½ minute film of the current single by Casablanca recording artist **Cher**, "Hell On Wheels." The film was written, produced and directed by Roger Flint. . . . **Kramer/Rocklen Studios** has completed filming Warner Bros. recording act **Fleetwood Mac** at the St. Louis Checkerdome, using six

(continued on page 41)

AUDIOPHILE LP REVIEWS



CARLO CURLEY GOES DIGITAL — Chalfont-SDG 303 — Producer: **Brian B. Culverhouse** — Dist.: **Discwasher Group** — List: 15.00

This digital recording of the Allen Digital Computer Organ is a challenge for both audio equipment and your neighbors if you live in an apartment building. Compositions by Mozart, Charles-Marie Widor and Gabriel Pierné are included, but it is the Bach classic "Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor" that fully reveals the awesome majesty and dynamic range of the digital organ on this disc. Recorded in a massive, acoustically superb hall, the extremely low noise level of the digital process can really be appreciated as notes reverberate and decay for almost seven seconds.



THE GOOD LIFE — Discwasher-DR-004-D — Producer: **Jefery Weber** — Distributor: **Discwasher Group** — List: 15.00

On this Soundstream digitally recorded disc, four talented jazz musicians create an ebullient listening experience. Paul Smith on piano, Frank Capp on drums, Barney Kessel on guitar and Monty Budwig on bass sound as though they have played together for a long time, but this recording captures them jamming beautifully together for the first time. From a spirited up-tempo arrangement of "Someday My Prince Will Come" to the beautiful solo piano performance of Marvin Hamlisch's "What I Did For Love," this disc can be enjoyed for both technical and musical quality.



ALPERT TOUR — A&M artist **Herb Alpert** made a whirlwind tour of Atlanta, New York and Chicago to thank those responsible for making his "Rise" LP a hit. Alpert also did press interviews, TV, radio and in-store visits during his peregrinations. Pictured above are (l-r): **Elliott Mvorah**, owner, **Disc-O-Mat**, New York; **Herb Alpert**; **Ernie Campagna**, vice president, A&M; and **Allen Bailey**, general manager, A&M.

New Ass'n. For Retailers Formed By Webb In Philly

by Aaron Fuchs

PHILADELPHIA — **Bruce Webb**, owner of **Webb's Department Store**, has formed a new organization for record retailers, the **Independent Record Retailers Protective Association (IRRPA)**.

In a nationally circulated letter to retailers, **Webb** wrote that "the IRRPA was organized in Philadelphia as a watchdog organization to right the wrongs that affect the livelihood of the independent record retailers and to see that all are treated fairly by the industry. Never before have the record retailers organized themselves as a lobby."

"IRRPA," the letter continues, "is about changing the unfair and discriminatory practices that are prevalent nationwide in the industry. We are asking all record retailers in the United States to join hands."

According to **Webb**, IRRPA will address itself to the issue of unfair pricing practices. "How is it possible," asked **Webb**, "for some stores to be able to sell records cheaper than we are able to buy them for?" Fluctuating returns policies, and the withholding of deletion lists from small retailers, were other issues the new organization would address, **Webb** said.

"I want it to be clear," he stated, "that we are not like NARM or the BMA who have not been able to represent the retailers to the manufacturers on the bottom line dollars and cents issues."

"IRRPA will select people from its chapters in various cities," **Webb** continued, "to present issues to the manufacturers, to lobby where discriminatory laws are in effect, and to boycott records and/or manufacturers when and where necessary."

NARM Sets Dates For Management Program

NEW YORK—The **NARM Retail Management Certification Program** will hold its first training session in Atlanta January 21-25 at Century Center, an educational facility.

Subsequent workshops in 1980 are scheduled for Chicago (April 21-25), Los Angeles (June 16-20), and Philadelphia (August 11-15). The first **Rack Jobbers Management Certification Program** will be held April 21-25 in Chicago. Locations will be announced at a later date.

Wiggs To Instruct

In each city, the **Retail Management Certification Program** will be conducted Monday through Friday and include both day

Warner Amex Forms Co. For Cable Market

NEW YORK — **American Express Co.** and **Warner Communications Inc.**, have formed a new company, **Warner Amex Satellite Entertainment Corp.**, to distribute programs for the cable television market.

The new company, will be a subsidiary of **Warner Amex Cable Communications Inc.**, the joint venture of **American Express** and **Warner Communications** resulting from the recently announced agreement whereby **American Express** will purchase a 50% interest in **WCI's** cable television subsidiary.

Schneider Named President

John A. Schneider has been named president and chief executive officer of **Warner Amex Satellite**. **Schneider**, who was most recently a full-time consultant for **WCI**, is a former president of the **CBS Broadcast group**, president of the **CBS television network** and executive vice president of **CBS Inc.**

Warner Amex Satellite Entertainment Corp. will distribute programs produced by itself and others to cable television systems across the country via satellite. Initially, **Warner Amex Satellite Entertainment Corp.** will operate **Warner Amex's** satellite-delivered pay cable network, **Star Channel**, which has about 175,000 paid subscribers. It will also produce and distribute via satellite **Warner Amex's** children's program service, **Nickelodeon**, which currently has under contract over one million subscribers.

QUBE Expands

In a related development, the **Warner Cable Corporation** which operates a **Columbus, Ohio-based** audience participation two way cable television system known as **QUBE**, has begun building comparable installations in **Houston** and **suburban Cincinnati**. **Warner** has invested an estimated \$100 million for construction alone and had applied for franchises in **Pittsburgh** and other major cities.

and evening sessions. The principal instructor will be **Dr. Garland D. Wiggs**, a professional educator and member of the **Association for Educational Services**. The curriculum, which was developed by **Dr. Wiggs** in association with **NARM's** Education Committee, will cover areas pertaining to time management, personnel, inventory control, profit and loss concepts, creative merchandising, advertising, and promotion. Guest lecturers will also participate in the program. Registration forms were mailed last week to **NARM** members. Classroom size will be limited to 30 persons in each city.