

## Music Critic Assignment

You are the music critic for the Pulaski News. Your assignment this week is to review a recording of a professional musician on your instrument and a small ensemble. The editor is asking for a 4 paragraph column, with each paragraph requiring the following information:

### First paragraph (Introduction)

- Introduce yourself as the Pulaski News music reviewer.
- State the title of the two pieces you are reviewing.
- State your rating for each piece.
  - Examples: 4 out of 5 stars, two thumbs up, B+, etc.

### Second paragraph (Solo piece)

- Write the performer's name, title, and composer for the first piece you are reviewing.
- Write 2-3 sentences about what you heard. Be descriptive. Use the ideas below to help choose musical items to talk about.
  - *Describe the melody*
  - *Describe any articulation marking you heard (accents, staccatos, slurs)*
  - *Tempo (speed)*
  - *Instrument range (how high or low the instrument played)*
  - *Dynamics (piano, mezzo piano, mezzo forte, forte)*
  - *Comment on anything interesting you heard or may have questions about.*
- Pick something musical that you enjoyed about the performance and explain why.  
Examples:
  - *I thought the performer did a great job with dynamics. Sometimes he played so quietly, I could barely hear him. That's very hard to do!*
  - *I was impressed with this player's ability to play high notes. I had no idea my instrument could play that high!*

You may pick something you didn't like, but you must mention one positive musical item before criticizing.

### Third paragraph (Ensemble piece)

- Review the second recording using the same requirements as the second paragraph.

### Fourth paragraph (Summary):

- What did you learn about your instrument after listening to these recordings?
- After this experience, would you ever seek out recordings of your instrument on your own?

## Brass and Percussion Recordings

### Trumpet

1. *Carnival of Venice: Variations for Trumpet and Orchestra*.....arranged by Del Staigers  
trumpet: Doc Severinsen  
orchestra: Cincinnati Pops
2. *Sabre Dance*.....Aram Khachaturian  
performed by the brass quintet, Canadian Brass  
(2 trumpets, 1 French horn, 1 trombone, 1 tuba)

### French Horn

3. *Phantasiestücke, Mvt. III* .....Robert Schumann  
Gail Novak, French horn  
John Ericson, piano
4. *Trumpet Voluntary*.....Jeremiah Clark  
performed by the brass quintet, Canadian Brass  
(2 trumpets, 1 French horn, 1 trombone, 1 tuba)

### Trombone

5. *Libiam Ne`Liet Calici, from La Traviata*.....Giuseppe Verdi  
Joseph Alessi, trombone  
Warren Jones, piano
6. *Hungarian Dance*.....Johannes Brahms  
performed by trombonist, Joseph Alessi, and a trombone octet

### Baritone/Euphonium

7. *Flight of the Bumble Bee*.....Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov  
Steven Mead, euphonium with brass ensemble
8. *The Simpsons (theme song)*.....Danny Elfman  
Steven Mead, euphonium  
(Mead recorded all of the parts and put them together to create this recording.)

### Tuba

9. *Etude*..... *Ernst Paudert*  
Arnold Jacobs, tuba
10. *Tuba Polka (Clarinet Polka)*.....traditional  
Chuck Daellenbach, tuba  
performed by the brass quintet, Canadian Brass (2 trumpets, 1 French horn, 1 trombone, 1 tuba)

### Percussion

11. *Hole in the Wall*.....Red Norvo  
Gary Burton, xylophone  
Makato Ozone, piano
12. *Apples*.....Arthur M. Wiggins  
Buddy Rich, drums  
performed by the Buddy Rich Big Band

## Woodwind Recordings

### **Flute**

1. *Baroque and Blue (from Suite for Flute and Jazz Piano Trio)*.....Claude Bolling  
Jean-Pierre Rampal, flute
2. *American Folk Suite*.....Kazimierz Machala  
performed by the Berlin Philharmonic Wind Quintet  
(flute, oboe, clarinet, French horn, bassoon)

### **Oboe**

3. *Sonata 132: Mvt III Allegro*.....C.P.E. Bach  
Francois Leleux, oboe
4. *American Folk Suite*.....Kazimierz Machala  
performed by the Berlin Philharmonic Wind Quintet  
(flute, oboe, clarinet, French horn, bassoon)

### **Clarinet**

5. *Sonata for Clarinet and Piano: Mvt. I. Grazioso*.....Leonard Bernstein  
clarinet, Larry Combs  
piano, Deborah Sobol
6. *Black and White Rag*.....George Botsford  
performed by the Clarinet Quartet of the National Belgian Orchestra  
(3 Bb clarinets and 1 bass clarinet)

### **Saxophone**

7. *Opus De Funk*.....Horace Silver  
alto saxophone, Art Pepper  
performed by Art Pepper + Eleven
8. *Ernie's Tune*.....Dexter Gordon  
tenor saxophone, Dexter Gordon
9. *The Pink Panther*.....Henry Mancini  
performed by the Elision Saxophone Quartet  
(2 alto saxophones, 1 tenor saxophone, and 1 baritone saxophone)

### **Bassoon**

10. *Bassoon Sonata in G Major, Op. 161, Mvt. I*.....Camille Saint-Saens  
Ursula Leveaux, bassoon  
Ian Brown, piano
11. *The Rat*.....Peter Stopschinski  
performed by the Blacklight Bassoon Ensemble  
(2 bassoons, 1 contrabassoon)