

## ARTS &amp; TRAVEL

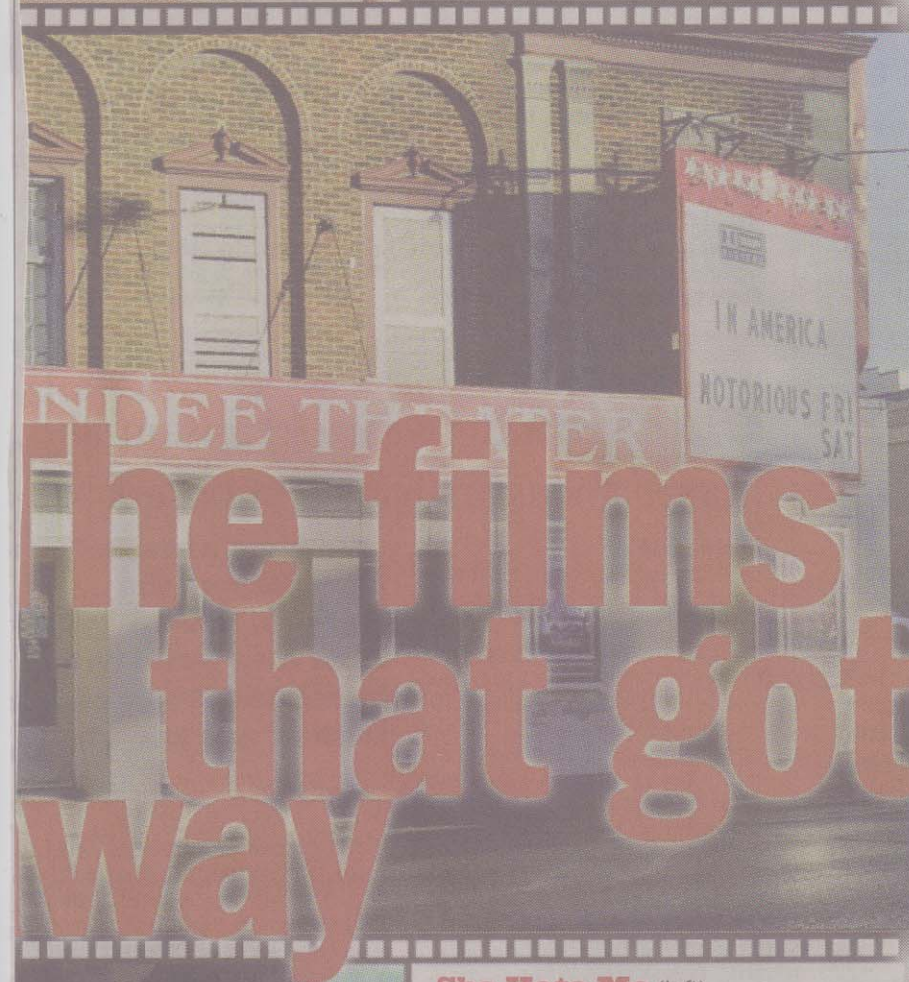
SECTION AT

**The Mother**

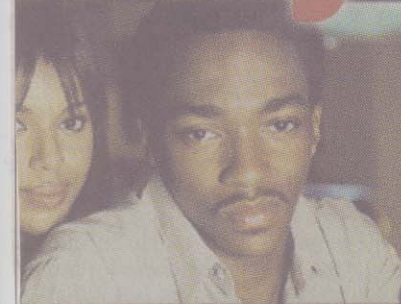
**What:** A British film about relationships between parents and adult children.

**Opened:** Late May in New York and Los Angeles. In late June it reached top markets such as Washington and Boston, garnering more good reviews. Over the summer it expanded to some smaller markets, such as Madison, Wis.

**Arrived in Omaha:** Hasn't come yet.



The films that got way

**She Hate Me** (left)

**What:** Spike Lee's movie about a lot of things, including corporate corruption.

**Opened:** July 26 in New York and L.A. to mixed and negative reviews. Later opened in Philadelphia, Minneapolis and Dallas to more negative reviews.

**Arrived in Omaha:** Hasn't come yet; to be shown this fall in Lincoln's Mary Riepma Ross film series.

# Festival music is new yet classical

■ ARTSaha is seen as a first step in having a more active new music presence locally.

By **ASHLEY HASSEBROEK**  
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

There are two kinds of music, said jazz trumpeter Louis Armstrong.

Good music and bad music.

Not old music and new music.

Local trumpet player and new music proponent Dolf Kamper agrees. In fact, he wishes more Omaha listeners would categorize music this way.

"I don't necessarily look at (new music) much differently than other types of music," Kamper said. "We just need to sit down and listen to music and decide for ourselves whether it's good or bad."

Kamper organized ARTSaha, a three-week music and art festival in Omaha featuring his 4-year-old group, ANALOG arts ensemble.

**Tune in**

Three contemporary composers to listen for at ARTSaha:

The festival began Friday and includes five programs with a variety of music from different periods.

Many of the works are "new music" or, as Kamper's group defines it, music created during the

**Karlheinz Stockhausen:**

German composer born in 1928. A leader of Serialism, an important technique that involved ordering the basic materials of a piece, such as the pitches, in a row, set or series. Created more than 313 works, including pieces that combine natural and electronic instruments.

**Luciano Berio:** Italian

composer born in 1925. Died

# any small, independent movies n't make it to Omaha screens

By **BOB FISCHBACH**  
LD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

the perennial gripe of the film buff: Why are there so few independent, art-house and foreign films on the big screen here? Do we wait, often in vain, for a movie we heard great things about when it opened weeks ago on the big screen?

Omaha, which researchers rank nationally for movie-ticket sales big enough for niche films to be shown?

It says Denny Moran of the Dundee Theatre. Usually, says Gerry Greeno, manages Omaha's Douglas Theatre.

Sometimes, says Rick King of Kan- sas, spokesman for AMC.

He — for a nonprofit, says Lee Ladely, director of Lin- coln Riepma Ross Media Arts

It's all about money. And whom to hire. Distributors in California and New York often decide which mov-

ies make it to Omaha.

Because of their small budgets, independent distributors typically order only a couple dozen prints to open a movie. The prints go to the biggest markets, a tier or two above Omaha.

If the movie does well in cities such as New York, Los Angeles, Denver and Minneapolis, more copies might be made. In secondary markets, those copies go to theaters with established records with independent films.

In Omaha, that's Moran's Dundee, which shows about 90 percent independent and foreign films on its single screen.

**"We know there's a growing appetite among our audiences for independent and art films. It's almost implicit in the megaplex concept that we offer the widest possible selection."**

*Rick King,  
spokesman for AMC*

See Films: Page 2

living composers. It's not music on Top 40 radio stations. Think new classical works created by contemporary composers such as Astor Piazzolla, Luciano Berio, Morton Feldman, and Karlheinz Stockhausen, as well as Nebraska composers Kamper and Stephen Bouma.

Kamper said a festival like ART-Saha is the first step in establishing a more active new music presence in Omaha.

Some local groups, such as the Omaha Symphony and the Omaha Chamber Music Society, program works by 20th century composers on their regular series concerts. And this season, the local orchestra will perform a much-awaited, newly commissioned piano concerto by American composer Philip Glass.

But the number of new works these groups offer regularly is minuscule compared to the number of museum pieces they present by Bach, Beethoven and Mozart. Though the Omaha Symphony's MasterWorks series often includes programs that mix works by Brahms with Stravinsky, it's rare to hear works by Glass or William Bolcom.

ANALOG arts ensemble, which performs about four times a year, is the only local group

in 2003. Major force in post-war experimental music. Created music that compared verbal sound with instrumental sound. Used electronic and theatrical resources. Created arrangements of pieces by composers ranging from Claudio Monteverdi to John Lennon and Paul McCartney.

**Morton Feldman:** American composer born 1926. Died in 1987. Influenced by composer John Cage. Known for music that's quiet and transparent, with one event following another without a sense of purpose. A well-known work is String Quartet II, a five-hour piece without interruption.

Source: Oxford Companion to Music

# ns often for U2

of U2's lyrics, music's power pen than from ation built by

than ideas or s, pacing the West apart- n view of pop

as, but unless s an essay." rising from a of his time to tually tinged y U2 songs to o get wealthy orld debt. m a different the language nd words are s to allow our a free. That's

when magic happens."

It happens so often for U2 that the group has come closer to matching the quality and mass appeal of the Beatles over the past 25 years than any other band.

This is pop music at its most ambitious — personal and independent enough to satisfy discerning listeners, yet open and accessible enough to pack stadiums.

Although the group has experimented with electronica and other contemporary sounds, the essence of U2 is classic rock 'n' roll.

You won't find lots of humor or party toss-offs in U2. The Irish quartet's flurry of Top 40 hits, including "Pride (In the Name of Love)" and "One," mostly are soaring anthems built around the same message of brotherhood that characterized the Beatles' later years. Yet U2 arrives at songs in a

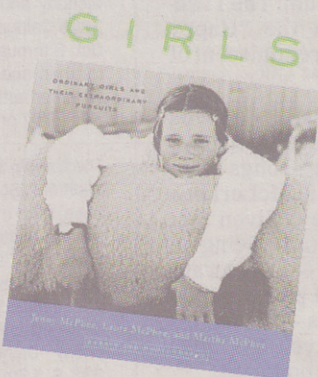
See Band: Page 2

## INSIDE

### BOOKS

Writing is more or less a family affair for the McPhees.

Page 7



### TRAVEL

Want to make one more trip before summer ends? Think Nebraska.

Page 8

### "Star Trek the Original Series: The Complete First Season"

This eight-disc set features all 29 episodes from the ground-breaking science-fiction series' first season, including favorites such as "Miri," "The Conscience of the King," "Where No Man Has Gone Before" and "The City on the Edge of Forever." There are five featurettes, including "Life Beyond Trek: William Shatner" and "Reflections on Spock."

### "Twisted"

Ashley Judd in another thriller. This time, she plays a haunted detective on the hunt for a serial killer, with the help of Samuel L. Jackson and Andy Garcia. The DVD includes a commentary track by director Philip Kaufman, two featurettes on the film and a theatrical trailer.

### "Touched by an Angel: The Complete First Season"

Roma Downey stars as Monica and Della Reese as Tess, an-

gels who masquerade as mortals to help their struggling human flock. The set features four discs, with every episode from the series' first season.

### "Jesus Christ Superstar: Special Edition"

Norman Jewison's 1973 film adaptation of Andrew Lloyd Webber's rock opera gets a new, special-edition release, presumably to capitalize on the release this week of "The Passion." Extras include an audio commentary with Jewison and Ted Neely, who played Jesus, as well as film highlights and photo galleries.

Also new Tuesday: "I Love Lucy — The Complete Second Season," "Lion King 2: Simba's Pride" special edition, "Rocky & Bullwinkle & Friends Complete Second Season," "Chris Rock: Never Scared," "South Park: The Passion of the Jew," "Videodrome."

— Staff writer John Keenan

## Top CDs coming Tuesday

### Pop/rock

Ray Charles, "Genius Loves Company" (Concord); Bjork, "Medulla" (Electra Asylum); Insane Clown Posse, "Hell's Pit" (Psychopathic); Blue Nile, "High" (Sanctuary); the Libertines, "The Libertines" (Sanctuary); Louie Devito, "Dance Factory Level 3" (Dee Vee Music); Danzig, "Circle of Snakes" (Evilvine); Trashcan Sinatras, "Weightlifting" (Spinart); ASIA, "Silent Nation" (Inside Out Music); Caviar, "The Thin Mercury Sound" (Aezra).

### Country/bluegrass

Shawn Camp, "Live At the Station Inn" (Oh Boy); Melonie Cannon, "Melonie Cannon" (Skaggs Family).

### Rap/hip-hop/R&B

L.L. Cool J, "DEFinition (Def Jam); Positive Flow, "Can U Feel It" (Shanachie).

### Jazz

Charlie Haden, "Land of the Sun" (Verve); Keith Jarrett, "The Out of Towners" (ECM).

— Staff writer Jan DeKnock

## CDs in review

"R.S.V.P. (Rare Songs, Very Personal)"  
Nancy Wilson (MCG Jazz)  
Available now

As she contemplates retirement, 67-year-old Nancy Wilson offers up an elegant, sophisticated collection of 12 songs that are "near and dear" to her but she never got a chance to record before in a career spanning half a century and more than 60 albums.

Wilson has always described herself as a "song stylist and

But the most touching pairing of all comes on the closer "Blame It On My Youth," which pairs Wilson with pianist George Shearing for the first time in a studio since their memorable 1960 album "The Swingin's Mutual."

"Happy People/U Saved Me"  
R. Kelly (Jive)  
Available now

Though R. Kelly is known for writing gorgeous love songs and inspirational, thematic ballads, let's face it — he's also

## Classical: 4-year-old ensemble puts its focus on living composers

Continued from Page 1  
with an ongoing, regular commitment to music by living composers.

"It's true that there is not a lot of new music in Omaha," said Tomm Roland, coordinator of percussion studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. "Certainly not as much as you would find on the coasts."

Roland said concertgoers may perceive that contemporary music is "weird, wacked-out stuff." That viewpoint may stem from earlier 20th century composers such as Stravinsky and Schoenberg, who created new music that reacted to current events, such as World War I.

"The stigma of the composers who were only writing about death and destruction hasn't been erased," said Thomas Kluge, Omaha Symphony principal violist, who will perform in the ARTSaha festival. "For some reason, we associate all modern music with a difficult subject matter. When we listen to Mozart, we don't think of nuclear war... we might think of walking through a park in Austria."

There's also an attitude that the listener must understand the exact message the composer tries to convey — that there's some sort of puzzle to unscramble to enjoy the piece.

### ARTSaha Festival Remaining ANALOG arts ensemble performances:

#### Brass in the Afternoon

Where: First Central Congregational Church, 421 S. 36th St.

When: 11:30 a.m. Friday

Admission: Free

Information: 345-1533

Fields of Sound: an evening of eclectic and rare chamber music

Where: At the Loft gallery, 1105 Howard St.

When: 7:30 p.m. Friday

Admission: \$10 for general admission, \$7 for students and seniors

Information: 505-4100

#### Analogue Project

Where: "At the Loft" gallery, 1105 Howard St.

When: 7:30 p.m. Sept. 11

Admission: \$10 for general admission, \$7 for students and seniors

Information: 505-4100

#### Baltasar and Blimunda

Where: First Central Congregational Church, 421 S. 36th St.

When: 7:30 p.m. Sept. 12

Admission: Free

**"We must always keep playing the classics, but we must also write new music and try to add to the repertoire."**

Composer Stephen Bouma

"Sometimes new music is perceived as elitist," Roland said. "But I think with a festival like Dolf (Kamper) has put together, it can be a lot of different things. You don't have to be part of the intelligentsia to understand it."

By presenting new music in unconventional settings, Kamper hopes to break down some of the stigmas. His festival will take place at a church and a gallery.

Bouma, a local musician and composer who created two pieces that will be performed at the festival, said it's important for groups like ANALOG arts ensemble to push new music.

"We must always keep playing the classics, but we must also write new music and try to add to the repertoire," said Bouma. "Otherwise, we might as well make a definitive recording and quit playing."