

ASK ARP

Q. I have used my ARP Odyssey for several film scores; for the recent New York Shakespeare Festival's production of MEASURE FOR MEASURE, produced by Joseph Papp this past summer in Central Park; for Shakespeare scores at the Folger Shakespeare Theater in Washington, D.C.; on record albums; and for a 52-minute planetarium score for the Smithsonian Institution's new ALBERT EINSTEIN SPACEARIUM. The show is called "Cosmic Awakening" and will run through the Spring of 1977 at the Smithsonian.

Bill Penn
Assistant Professor
of Composition and Theory
Eastman School of Music
University of Rochester (NY)

A. *You need a vacation.*

Q. One of my customers has purchased several ARPs from me and is using them to develop communication patterns with killer whales. He goes out to sea with his ARPs and underwater sound equipment to work with them in their natural habitat. My own 2600 probably feels that I'm not making full use of all its talents. I just make music with mine.

Dan Keen, ARP Dealer
Cape May, NJ

A. *In the future, you can expect to see synthesizers used increasingly as communications devices. ARP recently supplied a complete ARP 2500 system and a skilled operator to appear in the upcoming Columbia Pictures film, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind." The film deals with UFOs, and the ARP plays a significant role as a communications tool. We are sworn to secrecy, however, and can only tell you that the ARP is sure to be nominated for an Academy Award.*

Q. Thanks for the ARP newsletter Volume No. 5. I was very happy to read about the new ARP Omni polyphonic synthesizer. How many ARPs does Stevie Wonder own and what are the names? Too bad ARP doesn't give away an ARP synthesizer for those whose full name is ARP. My brother calls me "Arp" sometimes.

Anthony R. Pearson
South Bend, IN



A. *Stevie Wonder owns two ARP 2600s. Just for the record, Stevie first visited ARP in early 1972 and had his first 2600 outfitted with the control function descriptions written in Braille. Since that time, he has appeared all over the world performing "live" on both instruments, including an American tour with the Rolling Stones. In the studio, Stevie produced three consecutive recordings using the ARP 2600: TALKING BOOK, INNERVISIONS and FULFILLINGNESS' FIRST FINALE. Among the more notable selections using the ARP 2600 are "Living for the City," "Superstitious," "Reggae Woman" and "Ten Million Light Years Away." Wonder's latest album is SONGS IN THE KEY OF LIFE, which entered Billboard magazine's LP and tape charts at No. 1. Stevie also used the 2600 on this album and is shown here at Crystal Studios in Los Angeles during the recording of SONGS. Thanks to the folks at MODERN RECORDING magazine for supplying this photograph.*

On Christmas Eve of this past year, a club where my group and I were working, Lander's Chalet, was destroyed by fire.

About two months before this I had purchased an ARP String Ensemble and an ARP Odyssey. Although charred and badly burnt on the outside, when I plugged them in the guts worked like nothing had happened. We had no insurance on our equipment but I was in the process of acquiring some at the time of the fire.

Just thought you'd be interested in knowing how your product came through a fire. Your equipment is great and I have already ordered new equipment from Monti's Music in Berkeley, Illinois and, of course, it's ARP. I thought you might be able to use this information in an advertising program, "ARP is heat and fire resistant."

Paul New & The III Edition
Bartlett, IL

Q. I'm just starting to listen to Camel and my question is what synthesizers does the group use, and who is their keyboardist?

David Poremba
South Bound Brook, NJ



A. *Peter Bardens is his name, and the ARP Odyssey is his favorite synthesizer. Peter worked with THEM, SHOTGUN EXPRESS and VILLAGE prior to forming Camel in 1972. Although the band is not a household word, their music is getting around via Janus Records. Peter says the Odyssey has "a flat sound . . . it could be an oboe, it could be a cello—a very natural sound" when compared with primarily electronic sounds produced by other synthesizers.*

Address all correspondence to
ARPEGGIO, ARP Instruments, Inc.,
45 Hartwell Avenue, Lexington, MA
02173.