

# The Arts

## DISCUSSIONS

by Michael Argento

### Giant for a Day Gentle Giant

Gentle Giant isn't the band they used to be. Gone are the unusual time signatures and classical influences, but the raw energy of the band remains.

"People were getting the wrong impression of Gentle Giant. We aren't a classical quintet, we're a rock'n'roll band," said lead vocalist Derek Shulman.

The first clue of this change came with the group's last recording, *Missing Piece*. This recording seemed to be the bridge between the "classical" Gentle Giant and the "rock'n'roll" Gentle Giant.

*Giant for a Day* completes this transformation. This recording contains the simplest music I've ever heard from Gentle Giant. They stand to risk losing some of their hardcore fans, but they can pick up an all new presumably larger audience. Some people may call this selling out, but Gentle

Giant just wants to be a "Giant for a Day". After all, they've worked long and hard to develop the cult audience they have today. Gentle Giant just wants the popularity they deserve.

The album contains several cuts that display the group's love for rock'n'roll. "Words from the Wise", the opening cut, is a straight-forward rock'n'roll tune molded into the Gentle Giant style. "Little Brown Bag" and "Rock Climber" follow this same mold. Both songs are based on the hard-driving guitar of Gary Green with Kerry Minnear's keyboards prancing about in the background. John Weathers' drums and Ray Shulman's bass provide a solid rhythm section for the playful guitars and clavinet. "Thank You", "Friends", and "It's Only Goodbye" show the mellow side of Gentle Giant.

Although this album may come as a disappointment to hard-core Gentle Giant fans, Gentle Giant is finally going to be recognized as a rock'n'roll band.

## Youth Ballet Presents "Nutcracker"

New York City Ballet members, Sean Lavery and Lisa de Ribere will dance lead roles in this year's Christmas production of *Nutcracker*. As guest artists of their parent company, the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, they will be this season's Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier.

The youth ballet, headquartered in Carlisle, is under the artistic direction of Marcia Dale Weary. The fourth annual performance will be presented at 1 and 7 pm, Saturday, December 16; and at 2 pm, Sunday, December 17 at the Hershey Community Theatre, Chocolate and Cocoa Avenues.

Lisa, daughter of Andre and Elaine de Ribere, has toured the U.S., the Soviet Union and

Scandinavia as a member of the New York Company, under the direction of the famed George Balanchine.

Sean, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Lavery of Harrisburg, has been a member of the San Francisco Ballet and the Frankfurt Ballet in Germany.

Both were students at the School of the Pennsylvania Ballet Company, under the direction of Barbara Weisberger. Among their instructors were ballet-master Frano Jalencic, Richard Thomas and Barbara Fallis.

Joining them as alumni of the youth ballet will be Clay Miller, Darla Hoover and Corinne Giddings.

Mr. de Ribere, president of the youth ballet, will again

perform the role of the eye-patched, ambivalent Drosselmeier, mechanical wizard and clockmaker, to create a father-daughter team. And adding a father-son team to this unusual cast, the elder Lavery will portray the Grandfather of the Swiss family in this year's production.

Tickets, available now, range from \$15 for supporters for a loge seat, listing in the program and invitation to the Saturday night reception; \$8 loge, \$6 orchestra, \$4 mezzanine, \$3 balcony, and \$2.50 for children in any seat.

Reservation chairperson, Elaine de Ribere, P.O. Box 282, York, Pa 17405, may be reached by calling (717) 252-1715.

## Strong First Novel

By Lyda Baker

Mary Gordon's first novel *Final Payments* explores the protagonist's search for a satisfying life.

For 11 years of her life, Isabel Moore has sacrificed her freedom and identity to nurse her invalid, ultra-conservative Catholic father.

With her father's death she realizes that her life is open to whatever channels she chooses to pursue. "...I wanted something outside myself, and larger. ... I thought of a book I had had as a child. It reminded me of myself: the perfectly empty circle of the child's head and the sickening expanse of potential."

Even though Isabel has limitless choices she must struggle with and conquer her rigid Catholic past.

The novel is full of parochial cliches and symbolisms. Unless

one is familiar with such a background, the references can cause the book to drag in places.

However one does not need the Catholic background to appreciate the wit and humor surrounding these references.

One of the strongest points of *Final Payments* is the suspense Gordon builds into her plot. One is always anticipating what will happen to Isabel next.

The novel gains much force through its ending which contains the horror and impact of a Joyce Carol Oates story.

*Final Payments* is a book which deserves to be read. It is thought provoking and emotionally sensitive.

This novel also marks Mary Gordon as a talented new writer with something worthwhile to offer.

## Music Survey

We know who we are, but we don't know who you are. To help us understand your tastes in music, we would appreciate answers to several questions. Replies may be submitted to the C.C. Reader office, W129, dropped off in our mailbox in the SGA office, or just handed to anyone on the C.C. Reader staff. Your participation will be greatly appreciated.

-What type of music do you listen to when you are driving?  
-What kind of music relaxes you?  
-What kind of music do you

like to hear when you are partying?

-How much money do you spend on records in a month?

-How often do you go to bars?

-How often do you go to bars with Disco?

-How often do you go to bars with a live band?

-Do you appreciate bands that play original music more or less than bands that play other band's music?

-Who are your favorite local bands?

-Who is your favorite recording artist's?

BLACK STUDENT UNION  
and  
THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE  
PRESENT

A HALLOWEEN PARTY

On Sat. October 28  
At the Student Center

DISCO: 9 pm-2 am

MOVIES: 2 am-7 am

PRICE: \$2.50

Dress with or without costume.

PRIZES AWARDED TO:

The Most Original Costume  
The Best Costume  
The Worst Costume

Come to our disco from Phila.  
It's gonna be a groovy night



The  
Other Side  
Of  
**MARABELLA'S**  
Highspire Plaza, Middletown

**LATEST SOUNDS:**  
Mon. Thru Sat. 10 P.M.-2 A.M.

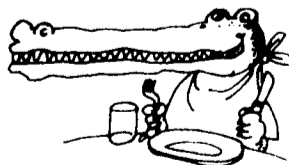
Thursday, October 26 *Afterglow* live on stage  
Friday, October 27 *Afterglow* live on stage  
Saturday, October 28 *Afterglow* live on stage  
Sunday, October 29 *Closed*  
Monday, October 30 *Disco*  
Tuesday, October 31 *Oldies* ladies cocktails half price  
Wednesday, November 1 *Disco* off-campus night, ID's worth draft special prices

**IAA.**

**International Dinner**

**And**

**Folk Dance**



Bring a  
Food Dish  
(and recipe)  
or pay \$2.50



Bring your  
own bottle

Friday, Nov. 3 At 7:30 P.M.

In The Student Center