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LEND ME YOUR EARS:

American Artist To Sing Before Pope

A RARE HONOR comes the way of American mezzo-soprano **Vera Little**, of Memphis, Tenn on Saturday evening next — she will be a soloist in a concert offered to **Pope John XXIII** by the Italian state-owned radio and TV network. The concert, to be held in the Vatican's Hall of Benedictions, will be televised across Europe in an "Eurovision" hook-up at 4:15 p.m.

With **Vera Little**, as second soloist, is the Finnish bass **Kim Borg**, who is currently a resident of Denmark.

The Rome Radio Orchestra will be conducted by maestro **Vittorio Gui**.

The concert is the second that **Pope John** will attend since his coronation. Earlier this year he watched a concert performance of Pizzetti's "Murder in the Cathedral" based on **T. S. Eliot's** play of the same name.

On Saturday Miss **Little** will be soloist in Bach's Cantata 170. Then she joins with **Borg** and Italian tenor **Carlo Franzini** in Bach's Cantata 159.

Next comes a solo performance by **Borg** in Handel's "Te Deum of Dettingen."

The program also includes the introduction to the second part of Bach's Christmas Oratorio and the "Hallelujah" chorls from Handel's "Messiah."

Happy Birthday . . .

. . . today to Mrs **Evangeline Labin Silenzi** . . . and to the lusty ten-year-old **NATO**.

Ins And Outs

Darryl Zanuck is having a "Grand" time in Rome where he stays for a few days . . . **Benjamin Gurman**, vice-president of the Argentine Senate is due on Monday . . . **Jacques Goddet**, of the French sporting paper Equipe and organizer of the famous cycle race the Tour de France, is staying at the Excelsior. Contrary to reports he did not cycle down from Paris . . . **Juliette Greco**, the existentialist singer-actress who, friends claim, made **Jean Paul Sartre** famous, is holidaying in the Eternal City and may move into the Grand . . . Dr. **Eduardo Santos** former president of Colombia is staying at the Ambasciatori with his family . . . **Gina Lollobrigida** is expected to fly to the U.S. on Friday . . . **Giancarlo Menotti** is due . . . **Louise Page Morris**, well known in Rome and a sister of **Edward Page** who was Minister-Counselor of the U.S. Embassy in Rome, is passing through Italy on her way home from the Near and Far East.

Personalities

Today Admiral **Sir Alexander Noel Campbell Bingley**, C-in-C of the British Mediterranean Fleet arrives in Civitavecchia aboard the despatch vessel "Surprise" for a four-day visit. Admiral **Sir Alexander** and Lady **Bingley** will come up to Rome and stay as guests of British Ambassador Sir **Ashley** and Lady **Clarke**, Saturday morning the admiral and his wife will be received in audience by **Pope John** . . . dropping the cares of government **Queen Juliana** of the Netherlands has come to Carvinia, in the Italian Alps for a week's skiing



Admiral BINGLEY

holiday. And the rest of the Dutch royal family have come with her — **Prince Bernard**, and the four princesses: **Beatrix**, **Irene**, **Margriet** and **Marijke** . . . the **Count** and **Countess of Paris** (pretenders to the French throne) are due in Rome on Monday . . . **Princess Fatima Pahlevi**, sister of the **Shah of Iran**, is at the Excelsior with husband **Vincent Hillyer** . . . **Queen Ingrid of Denmark** and **Princess Benedictine** flew home with SAS.

St. Paul's

The election of a new vestry for St. Paul's American Church takes place this afternoon between the hours of 3 and 8 o'clock. All adult persons who have worshipped at St. Paul's are qualified to vote. Also this will be the occasion for a farewell reception in honor of **Ralph P. Bolton**, Senior Warden for several years, and his wife, soon to return to the States.

Art, Music

There is a spate of new shows in the galleries this week and one or two that have been running for some time that we have missed and include here. At the Galleria Libreria d'Arte **Ugo Rambaldi**, who was born at Spoleto 49 years ago, is holding a one-man-show . . . the Galleria Appia Antica opens tomorrow with selections from the works of **Agostino Bonalumi**, **Enrico Castellani** and **Piero Manzoni** . . . today Lo Zodiaco have an opening ceremony in the presence of **Giuseppe Medico**, the minister of education for an exhibition, in lighter vein, by **Mino Maccari**. It stays open through April 18 . . . Budget Minister **Tambroni** opened an exhibition of art by Roman and "Marchigiani" artists at the Centro per la Valorizzazione delle Marche in the Piazza Cavour. It is a delightful exhibition with both modern and ancient pictures and, if the weather continues as it is, it is an excellent rendezvous for an afternoon of browsing . . . the La Cassapanca, in via del Babuino, is showing a collection of canvases by **Fausta Beer** . . . and for the ear instead of the eye there is a concert this evening at 9:15 at the Teatro Ateneo of the Rome University by violinist **Uto Ughi**. He will play works by Mozart, Tartini, Bach, Wieniawski and Paganini . . . the American Academy announces a concert on Thursday April 9, at the Villa Aurelia, of compositions by members of the Academy. Starts at 5:30 punctually.

If you have any news for "Lend Me Your Ears," please telephone Rome: 587.115 between 1 and 5 p.m. or write to 8 Via Dandolo, Rome, Italy.



TO WED — Christine Jorgensen (left), the boy-turned-girl, and Howard J. Knox, 33, of Waukegan, Ill., pose in New York's Municipal Building as they sought to obtain a marriage license. Issue of the license was postponed due to a technical detail concerning the prospective groom's Illinois divorce. (AP photo)



SISTERS — This unusual picture of the three Fontana Sisters shows (left to right) Micol, Giovanna and Zoe. On Sunday morning next the sisters will receive a gold medal at the Eliseo Theater from Rome's Chamber of Commerce and Industry for "faithfulness to work and economic progress."

All These Girls Want To Take An Oscar Home

HOLLYWOOD, April 1 (AP) — Hollywood's annual spring madness—the Academy Awards—sets in next Monday night.

The campaigning has ended, for last Friday was the final deadline for mailing of the 2,000-odd ballots to the members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

All that is left is the big night, its joys and its heartaches. Nearly every big name in the business—even Debbie Reynolds and Liz Taylor on the same program—will take part in a two-hour show that will be telecast locally and broadcast throughout the world.

But the big stars, as always, will be the winners. Until the envelopes are opened on the stage of the Pantages Theater, no one but an accountant from Price Waterhouse, Inc., will know who takes "Oscar" home.

It's one of the tightest races in years, especially among the women. Any one of the five nominated for the top actress award could win without the least ripple of surprise.

The experts are divided. Associated Press writer Bob Thomas picks Shirley MacLaine, the girl of "Some Came Running." This writer picks Liz Taylor, the sexy Maggie of "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof."

And Rosalind Russell, the one and only "Auntie Mame," could take it all on this, her fourth nomination.

And then there's Susan Hayward of "I Want to Live," up for her fifth try for the big money. Working against her is a gruesome theme in which, as murderess Barbara Graham, the camera follows her gasp by gasp through the ordeal of execution in the gas chamber. Some squeamish Academy voters have admitted that reports on this scene have kept them from seeing Miss Hayward's remarkable performance.

Deborah Kerr, also a consistent nominee, played a drab spinster in "Separate Tables." It was an Oscar bait role.

Among the men, there's a favorite — David Niven. Niven played a role—a pathetic woman molester—that is so unlike his previous portrayals that he looks like a "natural" for the top actor Oscar. The fact that members neglected to even nominate him two years ago for "Around the World in 80 Days" will help him.

Spencer Tracy, up for his third Oscar, is the second choice, but the experts figure him far behind Niven. Sidney Poitier, the brilliant Negro actor, could be the first of his race to win the top acting award were it not for the fact that Tony Curtis, his handcuffer co-star of "The Defiant Ones" also is nominated. In the past two stars from the same picture have tended to cancel each other.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I'm sorry I lost my temper. But I'm sick and tired of him calling liver 'crab bait'!"

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