STEARNS 2 + 2 + 2 FALL LECTURE SERIES

September 9, 1990
School of Music Recital Hall
"THE PIANOLA RETURNS"
Mike Montgomery

October 14, 1990
School of Music Recital Hall
"THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN PERCUSSION MUSIC"
William F. Ludwig, Jr.

On Sunday, September 9th at 2 p.m. in the Recital Hall of the School of Music the good times are literally going to roll. Mr. Mike Montgomery will present his enlightening and entertaining lecture/demonstration entitled, "They All Played Piano Rolls."

He will "play" the 1901 Pianola he donated to the Stearns Collection along with its precious rolls. Unplug your walkman, come to The Stearns, and hear the "real stuff" that started the mechanical music craze in America.

What is a Pianola? It was the first model of the piano roll player. You roll it up to a regular piano and by pumping the pedals, you get its wooden fingers to play the keys. The fidelity of early phonograph records and (Continued on page 2)

YOU have the chance to take part in a radio drama on Sunday, October 14, 1990, at 2 p.m. in the School of Music Recital Hall!

At that time the history and sound of American percussion music from the revolution to the present day will be presented by Mr. William F. Ludwig, Jr.

Our speaker is a member of that same Ludwig family who have been the leading manufacturers of American percussion instruments and materials since the founding of their company in 1909. Mr. Ludwig has enriched his distinguished heritage with extensive and devoted research on the history of percussion music in the United States.

His 2 + 2 + 2 presentation on October 14th will illustrate the significance and development of per- (Continued on page 2)
2 + 2 + 2 FALL SERIES

"The Planola Returns"
(Continued from page 1)

radios could not compete with the sound of a real piano, even if the action was generated by pneumatic action. The heyday of the Planola was from 1897 until World War I. The reproducing piano and the radio replaced the Planola, but the piano roll tradition remains special.

Mike Montgomery is certainly the man to lead us through piano roll music, its social and business history, and its mechanical system. His collection of over 7,000 piano rolls coupled with his personal skill at playing old time piano are clear reflections of over thirty years of devotion to the topic. Knowledge and talent will be combined on September 9th with slides and piano rolls to trace the tradition, from rare old piano rolls to computer discs on the modern Yamaha disc clavier.

For many, the question period and reception will be as important as the lecture. Montgomery will answer any question about piano rolls from their repair and playing to their history and value. During the reception that follows you may try out the Stearns Planola, recently restored through funds from the Friends.

Mike Montgomery has special treats for both former and new members of the Friends. He has recorded from rare piano rolls a cassette of Michigan songs including "The Victors," Louis Elbel's own performance of "Coquette with a fan" and modern roll pieces composed and played by our own William Bolcom. The cassette may be bought for $11 by audience members but is only $5 for a member of the Friends of Stearns. (If a new membership is begun September 9th the cassette will be free!) The first five new members on that day will each receive a free new roll made from a vintage copy of the Victors.

What a way to start the Stearns 2 + 2 + 2 season! Join us for music, instruments, information, food and fun.

"The History of American Percussion Music"
(Continued from page 1)

cussion music in our country since the late 18th century.

Highlights from Mr. Ludwig's audio-visual presentation will include:

- illustrated examples of early instruction for army drummers of 1777-1783.
- a discussion of the role of Colonial village drummers in times of danger
- examples of various signals for call to arms
- an explanation and demonstration of the role of the percussionist in accompanying silent movies, complete with vintage sound effects.

But what about the radio drama? Perhaps the most entertaining part of Mr. Ludwig's presentation will be his demonstration of another use of these sound effects, as he will lead the audience through a performance of an episode of a Western story using an authentic radio script from the early 20th century. Your participation during this part of the presentation promises to be memorable.

This is a lecture not to be missed. Put Sunday, October 14th, 2 p.m. on your calendar right now!

PLEASE NOTE: The annual Friends of the Stearns business meeting will take place in the Recital Hall on Sunday, September 9 at 1:15 p.m., immediately before Mr. Montgomery's 2 + 2 + 2 presentation. Items on the agenda include the status of the Stearns collection and exciting future plans—what they are and how you may participate. The results of the election of Board members will be announced at this time. The Board generates much of the energy that helps the collection grow. Remember that it is elected by members of the Friends. If you are unable to attend the meeting please mail your ballot to arrive at The Stearns Collection before September 9.

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Missed A Stearns Lecture? Want To Hear One Again?
Buy The Video Tape!

Have you missed Stearns' 2 + 2 + 2 presentations in the past? Would you like to enjoy your favorite presentations again? We have good news for you! Now, thanks to the support of the members of the Friends of the Stearns, several of the Stearns 2 + 2 + 2 lectures are available on video tape. Popular presentations now available for purchase include:

- The Return of the Green Hornet
- Vaudeville Revisited
- Creating the Moog Synthesizer
- Computer Secrets of Musical Soundwaves

**Friends of Stearns Earn Discount**

The Stearns 2 + 2 + 2 lecture videos are available from the Stearns Office in the School of Music for a minimal cost of $16.00 for members and $22.00 for non-members; another good reason to become a Friend of the Stearns.

2 + 2 + 2 = 2 p.m. on the 2nd Sunday of the first 2 months of each semester.
2 + 2 + 2 FALL SERIES

"The Pianola Returns"
(Continued from page 1)

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**How Do I Get to The Stearns?**

The Stearns Collection of Musical Instruments is located in the new Margaret Dow Towsley wing at the south end of the Earl V. Moore School of Music on Baits Drive in the University of Michigan North campus area. Enter through the doors nearest to the parking lot. The MacIntosh Vocal Arts Center is just across the hall and to the right of the entrance, and The Stearns galleries are down the stairs at the end of the hall to the right.

**Admission:** Free at all times.

**Exhibit Hours:** Thurs., Fri. 10-5 Sat., Sun. 1-8

**Group Visits and Tours:** To arrange for group visits or guided tours by members of The Stearns collection staff, please call (313) 763-4389.

**Parking:** Metered parking is available south of the entrance doors.

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**New Sights at the Old Sites**

The Stearns case in the main entrance of the School of Music and the case in the music library were in use long before the new wing of the school was built. This summer Paula Survilla was busy providing new displays for you to enjoy at these standard locations. In the lobby you will see "All Trumpets Great and Small." This display includes instruments as long as a 14 foot Alpine Horn and as short as a 1 foot post horn. In the Music Library the new exhibit is "Music from a Persian Garden," a set of rare, handsome instruments acquired from Iran by Mr. Stearns in the late 19th century. The exhibit also contains Persian music and art and will be complete with a rug courtesy of the Persian House of Imports in Ann Arbor.

There is also a brand new site for you to visit. The lobby of the MacIntosh Theater now has Stearns cases in which you will find instruments from many parts of the world. Enjoy all our exhibits. Enjoy their sheer physical beauty as well as their historical significance. They are gifts to you from the Friends of the Stearns Collection.

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*Mouthpiece receiver for ivory trumpet. Stearns Coll. 768.*

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**The Stearns**
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