

NIGHTOUT

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For the first word on entertainment in Toronto

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SPORTS
JAZZ
ROCK
THEATRE
CLUBS
PRINT
RADIO
FILM
BALLET
AT RANDOM

Another
glass of
champagne
my dear?
The
accomp-
lishments
and the
follies of
1976.

grit, and a pack of songs and stories that must go on forever. And, a more imposing presence you'll never want to ever want to see. Elliott will be holding forth, presumably in varied stages of alcoholic abandonment, for almost two weeks. For him, it's almost like settling down.

He appears at the Riverboat, Jan 4-16 (except Jan 10)

Scarlett Rivera

All we know of Scarlett Rivera is the magical music she makes with her violin on Dylan's *Desire* and what little we could see and hear from The Rolling Thunder Revue. It wasn't much, but it was enough to set off all manner of speculation — the dark-eyed gypsy, adept at the black arts, a lost queen whose tale will cause the rafters to weep; maybe even Maya Deren come back from the grave.

Maybe, no one knows for sure. We just wait for the mystery to be dispelled, or confounded further. For the moment we are struck by her flaming arabesques on *Desire*, waiting for whatever destiny she may bring to town.

Scarlett Rivera appears at the El Mocambo, Jan 3-4.

Winter Pop



After a hiatus of two years, Maple Leaf Gardens will again play host this New Year's Eve to Winter Pop, an evening-long rock concert that has become something of a Toronto tradition.

The revival of Winter Pop is in part the result of the huge success of Rush this year. Rush will be headlining a three-act bill also featuring Wireless and Chilliwack.

The New Year's events started in 1970 and grew quite successful in the three following years. Then, in 1974, Loggins and Messina pulled

out of the show at the last minute because of illness and Winter Pop was cancelled. In 1975, Concert Productions International passed on even trying to put on Winter Pop after losing heavily on a special holiday show, the Labour Day Jefferson Starship concert, earlier in the year. Strangely, CPI is gambling on an all-Canadian programme this year for Winter Pop.

However, they are placing a fair bet on the headliner Rush, Canada's most popular power trio. Rush have this year received two gold albums, one for *2112*, their Ayn Rand — inspired sci-fi concept album, and another for their live double LP. Rush have also toured very extensively in 1976, including a sell-out week at Massey Hall. Winter Pop will serve as a second triumphant homecoming for the Toronto-based band who spent their salad days (and the better part of the soup course, too) on the local high school circuit.

Wireless may not have yet made their 'commercial' mark as have Rush, but their debut album for Atlantic, produced by Jack Richardson, has all the earmarks of a major league outfit at work. Michael Crawford's razor-edged guitar playing, Michael Lalonde's tough vocals and a boogie energy that can modulate into

a stately 'Love The Way You Feel' — these distinguish Wireless as a band that will be kicking up dust, brass tacks and ball bearings in 1977. This will be their first major concert appearance. One hopes, though, that Wireless will keep doing their bar-band trademarks — a steel-clawed version of Don Conway's 'Chain of Fools' and their searing adaptation of the Moody Blues' classic, 'Go Now.'

The Vancouver-based Chilliwack is a band that never quite made it on the first go-round and Winter Pop signals their return from a short semi-retirement under the new banner of Mushroom Records, the feisty little B.C. company that brought Heart up from obscurity in '76. Sight unseen and sound unheard, it is impossible to guess how much of a facelift Chilliwack has undergone. A revitalizing one, it is hoped.

As usual in past years, Winter Pop will probably be a little more than just another concert. Those in attendance may expect some New Year's surprises from the bands and the promoters for whom, as they say in the business, it has been a very good year. Tickets for Winter Pop's three act all-Canadian show are \$7.50. The show begins at 8 pm, New Year's Eve at Maple Leaf Gardens.

Gotham



Gotham has been described as a cross between the Andrew Sisters and the Mills Brothers, but anyone who saw them during their first Toronto appearance at the Colonial Tavern will tell you that they don't wear dresses and they

aren't black.

They are gay but that didn't stop them from impressing the critics or the mixed audiences who came out to see them dish it out, camp it up and harmonize their way through a combination of pop