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### Al Hirt trumpet showmen comes to campus

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FOR RELEASE SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

The 6,500 seats in the University of Montana Field House may well be filled by a sell-out crowd when Al Hirt, the greatest of trumpet showmen, comes to the Missoula campus, Saturday, Feb. 5.

He and his jazz sextet, including Joseph "PeeWee" Spitelera on clarinet; Fred H. Crane, piano; Gerald Hirt, Al's brother, on trombone; Jay Cave, bass fiddle; and James H. Zitano, drums, will appear under the auspices of the Associated Students of UM.

All seats will be reserved and range from \$2.50 to \$3.50. Tickets go on sale Monday, Jan. 24, at the UM Field House ticket office.

Hirt, who started out to become a classical musician, attended the Conservatory of Cincinnati on a scholarship. Today he is known as the "King", the most famous trumpet player the world has ever known, with the possible exception of that angelic fellow Gabriel.

In a few short years he has become a full-fledged personality along with Dietrich, Garland, Chevalier, Hope, Crosby, Streisand, Callas, and Sinatra. Hirt calls himself a "pop commercial musician," but music critics have a hard time describing his music.

The music critic of the prestigious New Orleans Times-Picayune once wrote: "Al Hirt may very well be the finest trumpet in the world today, but just what kind of trumpeter he is is not so easy to describe. Definitely not pure Dixieland, but better in many ways. Definitely not classical, though his training in this field shows. Definitely not jazz. Not precisely swing, because swing is a thing of the past and Hirt is not."

(more)

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One of Hirt's biggest thrills was performing with the Boston Pops Orchestra on the invitation of Arthur Fiedler, the Pop's conductor. Among the titles on the album, "Pop Goes the Trumpet" recorded by RCA Victor from this performance, is Haydn's Concerto in D.

His title, "The King," has been attested by countless awards-- a Grammy included - for Best Performance by an Instrumentalist, on his "Java" recording, by which musicians have honored Hirt. Included are an Artist of the Year award from the Music Operators of America, a citation in the two annual Billboard Disc Jockey Polls for 1964 and 1965 for the most played solo instrumentalist and favorite solo instrumentalist, two citations from Billboard's Campus Music Poll, as favorite solo instrumentalist for 1964 and 1965, and four Gold Record Awards from the Recording Industry Association -- three in one year -- for "Java," "Honey in the Horn," "Cotton Candy," and "Sugar Lips," signifying sale of a million copies.

Hirt has made personal appearances at the Dunes Hotel and the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas, Harrah's Club at Lake Tahoe, Basin Street East in New York, The Palmer House in Chicago, Eden Roc Hotel in Miami Beach, The Greek Theatre in Los Angeles and Carnegie Hall in New York.

In television, he has appeared seven times on the Dinah Shore Show, the Jack Parr Show, ten times on the Ed Sullivan Show, the NBC Special, "Home for the Holidays," the Today Show, the Tonight Show, the Bell Telephone Hour, the Andy Williams Show, the Perry Como Show, "The Lively Ones," the Jimmy Dean Show, the Steve Allen Show, the Red Skelton Show, the NBC Thanksgiving Special, and is host of "Fanfare" the CBS Summer Musical Variety Series.

Hirt has made two movies, the "World by Night" and "Lovers Must Learn" which were released by Warner Brothers. He was star of "Carnival" produced by Starlight Theater in Kansas City and has appeared at the Seattle World's Fair, the Minneapolis State Fair, the North Carolina State Fair, the Kansas State Fair, and the Iowa State Fair.