

Oscar Peterson presents . . .



Oscar Peterson is the host of a new weekly series which features some of the biggest names in the world of jazz. The show will premiere June 29, 6 p.m., on CFTO-TV.

A man honored numerous times, Oscar also has other interests

Oscar Peterson, Mississauga resident and star of "Oscar Peterson Presents", a show premiering on CFTO-TV on June 29, is not a man without honor in his own country.

In 1971, the city of Toronto, of which he was then a resident, presented Mr. Peterson with the Toronto Civic Medal.

In June 1973, Mr. Peterson received the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, at the annual convocation at Carleton University in Ottawa, and later in the same month, he received the Medal of Service of the Order of Canada at the Investiture of the Order at Government House in Ottawa.

Oscar Emmanuel Peterson, born in Montreal, started to study piano at age five. He also studied trumpet, but had to stop because of a lung ailment.

During his teens he became interested in jazz and at the age of 15 he won first prize at an amateur show. Soon he had his own radio show and a few years later formed his own trio.

His American debut was in 1950 in Carnegie Hall, appearing on the same bill with such jazz artists as Ella Fitzgerald and Ray Brown. Since then it has been an upward climb for Peterson.

His recordings have remained constant sellers throughout the world and he has headed various award winning trios.

Apart from his professional activities, Peterson and his associates formed a school of music in Toronto known as the Advanced School of Contemporary Music

which drew students from all parts of the world. Although the school had to fold because of heavy performing schedules, Peterson still manages to teach by holding seminars in various cities of the world.

As a private citizen, Mr. Peterson lives a quiet residential life in Mississauga. When not involved in his professional duties, he enjoys fishing, boating, photography and is an avid audiophile. He is married to a former nurse, Sandra, who accompanies him on most of his world tours.

Although Peterson retains a deep sense of civic and national pride, he still maintains that his professional duties as perhaps the world's best jazz pianist should remain completely separate from his private life.

Internationally acclaimed jazz pianist Oscar Peterson will be featured in eight half-hour programs premiering June 29, 6 p.m., on CFTO-TV, entitled "Oscar Peterson Presents".

Mr. Peterson, a Mississauga resident, is particularly enthusiastic about the series because he will be appear-

ing with many of his friends from the musical world including County Basie, Dizzy Gillespie, Joe Turner, Zoot Sims and Al Grey.

There will be appearances by Bernie Senen-sky, a talented young Canadian pianist, and by Cleo Laine, an English singer who is well known to European audiences.

The programs will be more than just another musical variety type show.

In addition to in-concert performances by Mr. Peterson and his guests, viewers will be able to see the musicians in conversations, reminiscing about the history and growth of jazz, and giving informal demonstrations of certain facets

of their music.

Each "Oscar Peterson Presents" program will be built around a specific kind of jazz. For example, Joe Turner will be featured in a show about the blues. Norman Granz, the jazz impresario who discovered Mr. Peterson in 1949, will act as co-host of an episode entitled "Jazz at the Philharmonic".