



"Mental Map: Evasion V" by Franz Ackermann, on display at the Saatchi Gallery



**ART**  
Jackie  
Wullschlager



**MUSIC**  
Andrew Clark

**CDs & DVDs**

**Chávez Ravine**

Ry Cooder  
*Nonesuch*  
This is a real oddity, a defiantly uncommercial album from the perpetual sideman and convenor of the multi-million selling *Buena Vista Social Club*. *Chávez Ravine* is a concept album about a Hispanic community in Los Angeles dispossessed so that the city could build a baseball stadium. It has a heavy LA-noirish tone, at times sounding like a collaboration between John Zorn and Tom Waits, at others delivering flawless Spanish-tinged *conjunto*.  
*David Honigmann*

**Radiance**

Keith Jarrett  
*ECM*  
This double album of solo piano improvisations, recorded live in Japan in 2002, makes austere but rewarding listening. Though undeniably melancholic, Jarrett's strong sense of structure and harmonic knowledge sustain the listener over 17 discrete improvisations of contrasting melodic and textural content. Most of the CD, overwhelmingly classical in tone, is from a concert in Osaka in which each piece was a reaction to what went before. Four tracks from a later Tokyo concert have been added, to make an engrossing, flowingly improvised suite.  
*Mike Hobart*

**Shostakovich: Symphony No 13**

Mariss Jansons  
*EMI Classics*  
One reason Jansons ended his US career was that, thanks to union restrictions on orchestras' media work, he wasn't able to record there. So his Shostakovich cycle – this is the sixth CD – continues with his Munich orchestra, the Bavarian Radio Symphony. In this repertoire it's more important to have a Russian conductor than a Russian orchestra. Jansons' reading is both awe-inspiring and clairvoyant, gaining much from Sergei Aleksashkin's proud declamation of the Yevtushenko poems.  
*Andrew Clark*

**The Door in the Floor**

Dir: Tod Williams, 2004  
*Momentum*  
One of those well-crafted, grown-up movies, based on a John Irving novel, that tend to be swamped by flashier but inferior works. Its essentially introspective theme – a middle-aged couple struggling to deal with the loss of their two sons in a car accident – is brilliantly explored by the ever-reliable Jeff Bridges and Kim Basinger, never more alluring and always intelligent. A scherzo movement two-thirds into the film doesn't quite convince, but the conclusion is sensitively handled and refreshingly lacking in sentimentality.  
*Peter Aspden*

**Impressionism Abroad NEW**

European masterpieces were swept up by the cartload over the past two centuries to hang in American museums – tribute to the discerning American eye for the avant-garde when European taste was still conservative. This exhibition brings to London the celebrated Monets, Manets, Renoirs and Degas from Boston's Museum of Fine Arts, in the company of their American imitators and descendants, including Sargent. Expect a feast. *Royal Academy of Arts, London W1, 020 7300 8000, Saturday July 2 to September 11.*

**Cloud and Vision: William Blake in Lambeth NEW**

Blake lived in Lambeth for 10 years and produced *Songs of Experience* and *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell* there. Now the borough's Museum of Garden History, whose summer mixed-media exhibitions are always eclectic, commissions contemporary artists and writers, including Sarah Woodfine, Tracy Chevalier and Manuela Ribadeneira, to reflect on the visionary poet-painter in their own work. *Museum of Garden History, London SE1, 020 7735 8292, Monday to September 4.*

**The Triumph of Painting (Part Two) NEW**

Triumph of painting, hype or money? Part one of Charles Saatchi's year-long trilogy of exhibitions to display his contemporary painting collection was a recapitulation of celebrated names which was less than exciting. Will part two, concentrating on mostly German emerging artists, offer artistic revelation or media tease? *Saatchi Gallery, London SE1, 020 7823 2363, Tuesday to October 30.*

**Gauguin's Vision NEW**

Gauguin's uneasy, radical "The Vision of the Sermon", one of Scotland's treasures, is the focus of this show, which seeks to put the work in cultural and artistic context by showing it alongside paintings by Gauguin's mentors Cézanne and Degas, and contemporaries Maurice Denis and Henri van de Velde. *Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh, 0131 624 6200, Thursday to October 2.*

**Villazon FOUR NIGHTS ONLY**

It is many years since the Royal Opera ended its season with such a flourish. Not content with Plácido Domingo in *Die Walküre*, it welcomes back Rolando Villazon for his first visit since his outstanding Covent Garden debut last year as Hoffmann. The Mexican tenor sings Rodolfo tonight in *La bohème* and the Duke opposite Dmitri Hvorostovsky's court jester in the final three performances of *Rigoletto*. Also worth noting is the return of Graham Vick's fine 1993 production of Mozart's *Mitridate*, with a cast including David Daniels. *Royal Opera House, London WC2, 020 7304 4000, Saturday July 2 (La bohème); Tuesday to July 17 (Mitridate); Wednesday, July 9, 13 (Rigoletto); Friday, July 12, 15 (Die Walküre).*

**Giulio Cesare NEW**

William Christie returns to Glyndebourne to conduct David McVicar's new Handel production, with Sarah Connolly in the title role. Can McVicar stick to his best principles, or succumb to his baser instincts and go over the top? If the former, this should be the pick of the summer season. *Glyndebourne Festival Opera, East Sussex, 01273 813 813, Sunday July 3 to August 20.*

**Mostly Mozart SHORT RUN**

The Barbican's three-week summer festival kicks off with Haydn's *The Creation*. Interest focuses less on conductors and orchestras, more on up-and-coming soloists such as Emma Bell and Adrian Brendel. *Barbican, London EC2, 0845 120 7550, Friday to July 31.*

**The Female Muse FESTIVAL**

This year's York festival of early music celebrates the role of women as inspirers, patrons, composers and musicians. Among the highlights is a London Baroque concert focusing on Queen Christina of Sweden. But the opening event in York Minster is a 500th-anniversary tribute to Thomas Tallis. *Various venues in York, 01904 658 338, Friday to July 16.*